

STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA)
)
COUNTY OF BARNWELL)

A RESOLUTION WHOSE PURPOSE IS TO RECOGNIZE, ACKNOWLEDGE AND PRAISE THE LEADERSHIP OF COUNCILMAN BEN KINLAW, WHO SERVED AS CHAIRMAN OF THE BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL, SOUTH CAROLINA, FROM 2019 TO 2020

WHEREAS, Ben Kinlaw served two years as Barnwell County Council chairman, leading a team of councilmembers and county staff to accomplish goals and priorities that ran the gamut from improving relationships with the county’s municipalities to continuing county services during the COVID-19 pandemic to improving the county’s fiscal sustainability; and

WHEREAS, upon becoming chairman of the Barnwell County Council, Chairman Kinlaw and a team of councilmembers sat down face-to-face with municipal mayors and resolved a long-standing legal dispute, thereby eliminating a contentious relationship between the county and municipal leaders; and

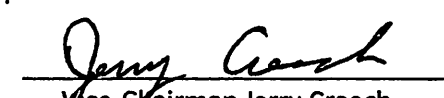
WHEREAS, Chairman Kinlaw and his fellow councilmembers supported the Barnwell County staff’s wide-ranging efforts during the COVID-19 pandemic to protect the health and safety of county employees and the citizens they serve by implementing measures to reduce exposure to COVID, yet simultaneously continuing county services through innovation and best practices; and

WHEREAS, through Chairman Kinlaw’s teamwork approach in fiscal matters, County Council facilitated the difficult transition from one county Treasurer to another; refinanced bonds to save taxpayer dollars; reduced the impact of the Medically Indigent Assistance Program on the county’s budget; acquired additional funds for the county’s budget through the Federal Inmate Program; emphasized workplace safety to promote employee safety and a reduction in personnel costs; and sought an equitable settlement of the Department of Energy/Savannah River Site Plutonium litigation; and

WHEREAS, Chairman Kinlaw focused on data-based decision-making regarding all issues mentioned above and including other initiatives such as Emergency Medical Services, Transportation, Bond Ratings, Landfill Efficiency, Cemetery Matters, Capital Project Sales Tax, and Recreation Commission.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of Barnwell County, in a meeting duly assembled, passed, and approved this Resolution on this 12th day of January 2021, recognizing the many accomplishments of Ben Kinlaw, outgoing chairman of Barnwell County Council from 2019 to 2020, and expresses its appreciation for his service; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be included in the official Minutes of Barnwell County Council as a fitting recognition of Chairman Kinlaw’s many contributions to Barnwell County.

 Chairman Harold Buckmon	 Vice-Chairman Jerry Creech	 Councilman Daniel Alexander	 Councilman Don Harper
 Councilman Freddie Houston, Sr.	 Councilman David Kenner	 Administrator Timothy R. Bennett	