

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**May 31, 2018 at 6 pm**  
**Special Called Council Meeting Minutes**

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, the news media was notified & notice was posted 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Barnwell County Council met for a Special Called Council meeting on May 31, 2018 at 6 pm. Attending were Chairman Lowell Jowers Sr., Vice Chairman Ben Kinlaw, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Don Harper, Councilman Freddie Houston Sr., Councilman David Kenner, Administrator Tim Bennett and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. County Attorney JD Mosteller did not need to attend. Debbie Fickling and Laura McKenzie with the People Sentinel were also in attendance.

The meeting was called to order and a quorum was declared. Councilman Houston moved to approve the agenda. Vice Chairman Kinlaw seconded the motion and it passed.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of the FY 18-19 Budget Ordinance**

Administrator Bennett reviewed the attached budget briefing with Council. Council discussed the need to reduce expenditures and the possibility of receiving reimbursement from the Pax Ice Storm which could be used to give employees a salary increase. Council discussed requesting each Department reduce their budget by a certain percentage and leaving it up to the Department on where to make the reductions.

Councilman Houston moved to approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the FY 18-19 Budget Ordinance. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Business Manager Fickling reviewed the attached salary increase proposal and discussed the three options listed. Her recommendation was to proceed with option B in January if the County received the Pax Ice Storm reimbursement.

Councilman Houston moved to proceed with option B when funds became available. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed.

The meeting adjourned at 7:15 pm.



Kim A. Futrell, Clerk to Council



Charles Lowell Jowers Sr., Council Chairman

5/31/18  
Bennett

**Budget Briefing**  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading 5/31/18**  
**Barnwell County, SC**

1. First of all, I would like to thank former county Administrator Pickens Williams, county Business Manager Debbie Fickling, county Finance Director Maria Williams, and county Clerk to Council Kim Futrell for their assistance in preparing the budget.
2. This is the second reading of the FY18-19 county budget.
3. The budget's property tax forecast is based upon a millage rate increase of 2.8968, allowable by the cap of 2.13 percent. Please see the attached document for specifics.
4. Proposed Expenditures \$15,500,993  
Forecasted Revenues - 15,023,855  
\$ 477,138 Deficit

As you can see, we have more in proposed expenditures than we have in forecasted revenues.

5. Expenditure increases include:
  - Medical Indigent proposed increase to \$268,285 from the FY17-18 budgeted amount of \$189,810 – difference of \$78,475.
  - Air Methods proposed increase to \$64,035 from \$56,600 – difference of \$7,435.
  - Magistrates proposed increase to \$474,218 from \$437,017 – difference of \$37,201.
  - Detention Center proposed increase to \$1,717,945 from \$1,607,525 – difference of \$110,420.
  - Sheriff's Department proposed increase to \$2,054,685 from \$1,939,390 – difference of \$115,295.
  - Assessor proposed increase to 244,275 from \$231,372 – difference of \$12,903.
  - Auditor proposed increase to \$194,960 from \$187,885 – difference of \$7,075.
  - Buildings and Grounds proposed increase to \$286,180 from \$274,695 – difference of \$11,485.
  - Business Office proposed increase to \$92,260 from \$82,775 – difference of \$9,485.
  - Clerk of Court proposed increase to \$378,620 from \$360,471 – difference of \$18,149.
  - Coroner proposed increase of \$79,245 from \$71,550 – difference of \$7,695.
6. Revenues decreases include:
  - Motor Carrier tax down to \$70,000 from \$110,000 – difference of \$40,000.
  - At this time, no Pax Ice Storm reimbursement for FY18-19. Budgeted \$232,000 in FY17-18.
7. County staff will continue to address the individual departmental budgets to bring expenditures in line with revenues.



Bennett  
5/21/18  
FY18-19  
Millage Calculation  
File:

**Millage Calculation  
Barnwell County, SC  
FY18-19**

**FY18-19**

136 Mills currently in place  
x .0213 Millage cap (CPI 2.13)  
2.8968 Increase in millage allowed  
+ 136.0000 Mills currently in place  
138.8968 Potential new millage rate  
x \$55,850 Value of mill  
**\$7,757,386.28** Amount of property tax (real and personal) forecasted to be received from millage

**FY17-18**

136 Mills currently in place  
x \$55,850 Value of mill  
**\$7,595,600** Amount of property tax (real and personal) forecasted to be received from millage

**Comparison**

\$7,757,386.28 FY18-19 forecasted property tax  
- 7,595,600.00 FY17-19 forecasted property tax  
\$ 161,786.28 Forecasted additional dollars through the increase in millage

**Barnwell County**  
**2018/19 FY Budget**  
**Proposed Salary Increase**

**Option A**

\$750 to each Full-Time Employee (less Elected Officials)

X162 Full-Time Employees

\$121,500 + fringe of \$27,410 = \$148,910

+ 2.5% to Part-Time Employees

\$5,083 + fringe of \$1,147 = \$6,230

\$6,341 = Grade Adjustments + fringe of \$1,431 = \$7,772

**Option A = \$162,912**

This option would not increase Elected Officials Salary

This option would not increase entry level salary

**Option B**

3% = 1.5% Cola and 1.5% Merit

\$79,557 COLA

\$75,165 MERIT

\$154,722 + fringe of \$34,905 = \$189,627

+ 3% to Part-Time Employees

\$6,100 + fringe of \$1,376 = \$7,476

\$6,341 = Grade Adjustments + fringe of \$1,431 = \$7,772

**Option A = \$204,875**

This option would increase Elected Officials salary by 1.5%

This option would increase entry level salary by 1.5%

**Option C**

2% = 1% Cola and 1% Merit

\$65,106 COLA

\$61,517 MERIT

\$126,623 + fringe of \$28,566 = 155,189

+ 2% to Part-Time Employees

\$4,067 + fringe of \$918 = \$4,985

\$6,341 = Grade Adjustments + fringe of \$1,431 = \$7,772

**Option C = \$167,546**

This option would increase Elected Officials salary by 1%

This option would increase entry level salary by 1%