

BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL
August 8, 2017 - 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 on August 8, 2017 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 Pickens Williams Jr., County Attorney JD Mosteller, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell. Also in attendance were John Fleming, Harry Johnson and Laura McKenzie with the People Sentinel.

A public hearing was held to receive comments prior to the 3rd reading of an ordinance related to Project Lodgepole. Harry Johnson with Cypress Creek Renewables said Project Lodgepole would create an additional \$150,000 annually in property tax revenues for Barnwell County and confirmed that Project Beacon, which Council had previously approved, was in operation delivering power to Barnwell County. The meeting was called to order, the pledge of allegiance and invocation were given and a quorum was declared. Councilman Kenner moved to amend the agenda by adding a resolution regarding financing landfill equipment through BB&T. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and it passed. Councilman Creech moved to approve the July 11th Council meeting minutes. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed. Chairman Jowers welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. There were no public comments.

Southern Carolina Alliance

John Fleming said region-wide, there had been \$110.5 million in investments with 154 jobs created and he reviewed the ongoing projects and leads listed in the SCA update.

Financial Update

Administrator Williams reviewed the financial report.

Administrator's Update

Administrator Williams said the Fire Commission was purchasing 2 new tankers which would help in maintaining the County's ISO rating and that a 500 gallon water tank was in the back of the Fire Coordinator's truck which would help in extinguishing small brush fires. Details were being finalized with the successful bidder for the construction of the transfer station. While under construction, the County would haul its waste to Bamberg County. Elections for the 4 precincts would no longer be able to be held at the National Guard and instead would be at the Health Department.

Committee Reports

Boards and Commissions

Chairman Jowers appointed David Dangerfield to the Museum Board, District 6 / Term Expires 2020.
Vice Chairman Kinlaw appointed Anne Loadholt to the Fire Commission, District 5 / Term Expires 2019.

Government, Science / Tech. & Regulatory Matters, Transportation, Safety, Finance, Housing, Economic Development Commission, Personnel - No reports were given.

Judicial

Councilman Buckmon said the Detention Center was losing employees due to low wages.

Services

Councilman Buckmon said all 4 schools would be participating 100% in the recycling program.

Health Care

Councilman Creech said there had been a groundbreaking for the RMC ER Facility to be built and that the urgent care center was in operation.

Old Business

3rd Reading of an Ordinance Related to Project Lodgepole

Councilman Creech moved to approve the 3rd reading of this Ordinance. The motion was seconded and it passed.

New Business

Resolution to Add Property to Park III of Amended and related Master Agreement for the Establishment of the Quad-County Industrial Park I, Park II, and Park III

Councilman Creech moved to approve this Resolution. Councilman Buckmon seconded the motion and it passed.

Resolution Regarding Financing Landfill Crawler through BB&T

Councilman Kenner moved to approve this Resolution. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and it passed.

Councilman Kenner moved to enter into Executive Session to discuss personnel matters related to Buildings and Grounds, the Sheriff's Department, and the Magistrate's Offices. Councilman Houston seconded the motion and it passed.

Executive Session

No action was taken in Executive Session.

Open Session

Councilman Creech moved to increase the salary rates for 4 employees. The motion was seconded. Councilman Houston clarified that it was the pay grade that had been increased. The motion passed.

A motion was made to adjourn. The motion was seconded and it passed. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 pm.



Kim Futrell, Clerk of Council



Charles Lowell Jowers, Sr., Council Chairman

