

**BARNWELL COUNTY COUNCIL**  
**Special Called Council Meeting and Retreat**  
**January 13, 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 January 13, 2017 at 6 pm for a Special Called Council Meeting and Retreat. Attending were Chairman Lowell Jowers Sr., Vice Chairman Ben Kinlaw, Councilman Harold Buckmon, Councilman Jerry Creech, Councilman Don Harper, Councilman Freddie Houston Sr., and Administrator Pickens Williams Jr. Also in attendance were Claire Hall with Parker Poe and Laura McKenzie with the People Sentinel. Unable to attend were Councilman David Kenner, County Attorney JD Mosteller, and Clerk to Council Kim Futrell.

The meeting was called to order, the invocation given, and a quorum was declared. Chairman Jowers welcomed everyone to the meeting and asked for public comments. There were none.

**Old Business**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading of Ordinances to Amend the FILOT Agreements for Barnwell Solar, Blackville Solar I & II, Richardson Solar, Elko Solar, and Edison Solar**

A motion was made and seconded to collectively approve the 2<sup>nd</sup> readings of these Ordinances. A roll call vote was requested.

Chairman Jowers-Yes	Councilman Creech-Yes	Councilman Houston-Yes	Councilman Kinlaw-Yes
Councilman Buckmon-Yes	Councilman Harper-Yes	Councilman Kenner-Absent	

The motion passed.

**Retreat - Council Goals for 2017**

**Councilman Buckmon**

- Set aside recycling revenue for replacing Landfill equipment
- Improve Recycling Program
- Move agencies per 10 year space needs plan
- Apply for Animal Shelter grant
- Improve relations with communities
- Reduce legal fees
- Continue paving dirt Roads

**Councilman Creech**

- Career Center – Focus on training for trades, vocations and Medshore EMS Classes
- Work on plan to demolish Shuron building
- Government Committee and City work on cleanup funds for Shuron
- Work on a pool for YMCA

**Councilman Houston**

- Improve Council etiquette in dealing with discussing issues with each other
- Work for things that will benefit the County
- Plan to replace/repair old equipment
- Work with schools and understand their roles
- Increase salaries for all employees

**Chairman Jowers**

- Re-evaluate Boards and Commissions
- County wide water, police system
- County wide railroad
- Review Departments for cost savings
- Increase employees salaries
- Health Care for the County

**Councilman Kinlaw**

- Improve relationships between County and Cities
- Simplify reports for Sheriffs, etc.
- Give Sheriff resources to perform his job
- Keep board members and citizens updated
- Combine elections (County, School Boards)
- Research before making changes

**Councilman Harper**

- Increase employees salaries
- Improve Career Center
- Open convenience sites on alternate days
- Have more railroad access


**Councilman Kenner (by email)**

- Sustainable salary increase for employees
- Proper handling of 1% CPST
- Attention to Blackville industrial development
- Build community relations and support with the Towns, Denmark Tech., USC Salk., Boys & Girls Club, and DIG Stem
- Pursue establishment of standalone ER or hospital


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

The meeting adjourned at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Pickens Williams Jr., Administrator



  
Lowell Jowers Sr., Council Chairman