

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12, 2016

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

VICE-CHAIRMAN

WILLIE GLADDEN

ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK TO COUNCIL
COUNTY ATTORNEY

JIM HAYNES
PATRICIA BUNDY
HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN,
RON MUNNERLYN,
DR. CAROLYN PRINCE,
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

WILLIE GLADDEN,
CORRIE H. PLATO,
KEN ALLEN,
ANTHONY WOODS

* Absent

Others Present: Ms. Lynn McQueen, Herald-Advocate, Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director, and Mr. Ron King, Director of Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Lynn McQueen of the Herald Advocate, and posted on the front door of the William P. Wallace, Sr. Administration Building and on the county's website (www.marlbocounty.sc.gov).

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, thanked everyone for attending the Council meeting and stated that a new Chairman would be elected tonight for Council. He stated that it had been a great two years but that it was time to pass the duties on to another member of Council. Chairman Munnerlyn stated that Council worked well together that even when members have different views, that members can handle meetings and speak with a common voice.

Page Two – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

Chairman Munnerlyn stated that he would handle the election of officers and then hand the meeting over to the new Chairman if this was suitable with all members. All agreed.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS

Nominations & Election of Chair

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, asked for nominations for Chairman of Council.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Ken Allen, to nominate Mr. Jason Steen as Chairman to Council. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Munnerlyn asked if there were any more nominations and there were none.

Nominations and Election of Vice-Chair

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, asked for nominations for Vice-Chairman of Council.

Motion made by Mr. Ken Allen, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to nominate Mr. Willie Gladden as Vice-Chairman to Council. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Munnerlyn asked if there were any more nominations and there were none.

Since no other nominations were made, Mr. Jason Steen was recognized as Chairman and Mr. Willie Gladden was recognized as Vice-Chairman to County Council for FY 2016.

Chairman Steen took over the meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – December 1, 2015

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the minutes of December 1, 2015 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Ken Allen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Steve Blackmon and Mr. Anthony Woods. Abstain: Dr. Carolyn Prince (not present at meeting). Vote: 7/0/1. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 743 – AN ORDINANCE TO DEVELOP A JOINT COUNTY AND BUSINESS PARK IN CONJUNCTION WITH DILLON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, PURSUANT TO ARTICLE VIII SECTION 13 OF THE SOUTH CAROLINA

CONSTITUTION, AND SOUTH CAROLINA CODE OF LAWS OF 1976 4-1-170, ET SEQUITUR, AS AMENDED; TO PROVIDE FOR A WRITEN AGREEMENT WITH DILLON COUNTY TO DEVELOP THE PARK; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Haynes stated that this was an Ordinance which Dillon County has requested and provides incentives to Dillon County for an industrial park which includes property in Dillon county around the Harbor Freight Retail store. Mr. Haynes stated that this Ordinance provides certain tax incentives to Dillon County to have Marlboro participate in this and Marlboro County will get 1% of any taxes paid on properties in the park and that Marlboro would not bear any expenses for this this park.

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked if this park would include new property and Mr. Haynes advised that it would. He stated that it would include the Harbor Freight retail store as well as the Marlboro Electric shell building which is now in use, which is located across the road from the actual Harbor Freight manufacturing facility.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any more questions and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 743 – an Ordinance to develop a joint county industrial and business park in conjunction with Dillon County, South Carolina, pursuant to Article VIII Section 13 of the South Carolina Constitution, and South Carolina Code of Laws of 1976 4-1-170, et sequitur, as amended; to provide for a written agreement with Dillon County to develop the park; and other matters related thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

GIS DEMONSTRATION

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to discuss the GIS demonstration.

Mr. Haynes stated that the GIS system is basically a map of the county on the computer. He stated that it was a very powerful tool and that county offices as well as citizens would benefit from this program. Mr. Haynes stated that staff is almost ready to make the program available to everyone but that there were problems that still needed attention before having it available to the public. Mr. Haynes stated that this program will be constantly updating due to transactions happening daily and updates would be made each night to the system. Mr. Haynes stated that this program will have many different layers of information that may be beneficial to different folks and that the program would allow you to turn off and turn on these layers. He stated that a few of the layers would include fire department boundaries and what is not covered, water lines, fire hydrants, ponds, etc.

Page Four – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked if the system would show the Council district lines and Mr. Haynes stated that it could be set up to do that. He stated that the program could have as much information to the public as staff might want them to have available to them. Mr. Haynes stated that Economic Development could locate any tracts that contained 100 or more acres in the county that may be available for purchase. Mr. Haynes stated that you could locate a piece of property in Marlboro County and find out the owner's name, the address of the parcel, and much more information.

Mr. Haynes stated that presently Marlboro County has worked as separate departments but for this system to work, information would need to be gathered from the Tax Assessor's office, the Clerk of Court's office, the Delinquent Tax office, the 911 office and other offices. He stated that in doing this, the departments are working together to benefit one another and the public. He stated that when someone comes in for a new address which 911 has to provide, the information can be entered and be readily available to every department in the county. He stated that this was a tool that would require all departments to share information.

Mr. Haynes recognized Ms. Lisa Hood of the Tax Assessor's office and stated that she would show how the program will work from on-line which will be available to everyone by simply logging on to the website. Mr. Haynes stated that Lisa is the county's mapping official and has been with the years for nine years and volunteered to take on this project. He stated that she has taken courses in school and has done a lot of extra work to get this program up and running.

Ms. Lisa Hood stated that she had provided each member of Council with a quick start guide to the GIS system and discussed briefly and browsed on her monitor the various benefits the program will provide to anyone logged in on-line. She mentioned the zoon in and zoom out features and search feature. She also stated that once a particular map or tax card is found that it can be emailed directly from the site by copying and pasting. She explained how different layers of information could be turned on and off, as well as how elevation levels can be viewed or printed. She mentioned that parcels could be measured in feet or miles to find acreage of particular tracts.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn stated that he thought this program was better than the program that North Carolina had some years back and Mr. Haynes agreed.

Mr. Haynes stated that this system would serve as our mapping program as well and had Lisa show some of the maps and the condition of the maps due to folks pulling and reviewing often. He stated that hard copy maps would still be required but that the necessity of pulling them would not be as great with this system in effect.

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked if the link to this website was on the county's website and Mr. Haynes stated that it was not yet but would be once the system was up and running and available to the public.

Page Five – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

Mr. Haynes stated that someone could view maps from 2005 to the present to see if any buildings have been erected on property or any changes in ownership.

Chairman Steen stated that he thought this would free up employees in the Tax Assessor's office once this is available to the public. He stated that when folks have questions now, they walk in and the employees have to find the information for the citizen.

Mr. Haynes stated that the system would benefit many people but that there were problems that still needed to be worked on before it goes "live".

Mr. Anthony Woods asked when the program would go "live" and Mr. Haynes stated that he would hope that all problems would be fixed and the program would certainly go "live" by the end of the month.

Chairman Steen stated that this program is one way that Marlboro can catch up to what surrounding counties are offering. He stated that he liked the fact that all county departments are involved with making this program a success and requires them to work together. He stated that although there are many different departments that we are all here to benefit the citizens of the county and that is our one goal. Chairman Steen thanked everyone for their help on this program and stated she was certain this would be a great asset to Marlboro County.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL'S REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR FY 2016

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that staff had prepared a list of meetings for FY 2016 and asked if there were any questions or suggested changes.

Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, stated that after the schedule was prepared he realized that the primary election which is scheduled for June 14th falls on a meeting night for Council. He stated that the meeting date could be changed now or changed later closer to that meeting date.

Motion made by Mr. Ken Allen, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the Council's Regular Meeting Schedule for FY 2016. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any appointments to Boards and Commissions.

There were no appointments made.

Page Six – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

He stated that it was a new year and that members of Council might want to review the various boards and commissions and begin thinking about appointments to any vacant boards and commissions.

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director.

Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, reported that for the month of December, expenditures were at 48% of the budgeted amount and that was approximately 2% under budget for this point in the year. She stated that revenues were under budget by approximately 16% for the fiscal year. She stated that tax revenue is increasing monthly and that January should be the best month for tax collections. She stated that staff should see a significant increase in revenues for January which should be more in line with the expenditures.

Ms. Moore stated that the annual financial audit was still underway and that she looked forward to receiving the report at any time.

Ms. Moore stated that she was still monitoring the legislation on Local Government Funding but that there had been no change noted in the last several months in viewing the SC Association of Counties' website.

Ms. Moore asked members of Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Chairman Steen thanked Ms. Moore for her report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. JIM HAYNES, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator.

Recognition of employees - The following employees was recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of December: Kenneth Allen (17 years); Mark Heath (14 years); William A. Parker (8 years); Walter Pratt (16 years).

SCDOT Bridge Inspections – Mr. Spencer Coxe of SC Department of Transportation delivered to my office copies of the inspection forms for the crooked creek bridges. The results of these two bridges were good to fair.

Animal Shelter Progress Report - Mr. Josh Cohoon, the Animal Shelter Director, has provided a report for the months of November and December of the work that has been done at the shelter. He reports that there were four euthanasia procedures; three adoptions; and 151 animals transferred out. He also reported that around 129 stray dogs and 36 feral cats

Page Seven – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

were picked up for the months of November and December with 22 being from the Wallace area, 14 being from the McColl area, 5 being from the Clio area 11 being from the Blenheim area, one from the Tatum area, and 112 being from the Bennettsville area.

Surplus Sale of Old Vehicles - the Surplus Sale of surplus vehicles has been concluded and we have received total funds in the amount of \$5,797.00.

Tri-County Mental Health Center Update of Services – the Administration and Finance Committee met with Mr. Christian Barnes-Young, the Executive Director of Tri-County Mental Health last Monday, January 4th, for an update of services offered by Tri-County Mental Health. For those members of Council that did not attend this meeting, I have attached a fact sheet and brochure for your review.

Former Employee – Alta Brown’s Passing – I wanted to call to your attention that one of our former employees, Alta Brown, who worked with the County for at least 42 years has died. Ms. Brown last worked with in the Clerk of Court’s office and was a loyal and dedicated employee who took care of many people.

Clerk to Council’s SC Association of Counties Conference - As information to Council, Ms. Patricia Bundy will be attending the SC Clerk to Council’s Winter Conference at Grand Shores/Horizon in Myrtle Beach on February 4th – 7th. It appears that this is the most productive meeting for the Clerks and this will allow her to continue the Certification program available for the Clerks to Council.

SC Association of Counties 29th Annual Mid-Year Conference – the SCAC 29th annual Mid-Year Conference is scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia, SC. The deadline for registering for this conference is Friday, February 5th. Please let Ms. Patricia Bundy, our Clerk to Council, know if you plan to attend so that she may get you registered. Also, the Institute of Government will have classes available for Thursday, February 18th. I attach a list of the classes offered. Again, please let Ms. Bundy know if you plan to attend any of these classes so that she may get you registered. The deadline to register for these classes is also February 5th.

2016 Ethics Report Filing - It is time to file the 2016 Statement of Economic Interests Report which we refer to as the Ethics form. All elected officials and a few employees must file this form electronically not later than 12:00 noon on March 30, 2016. There will be a late filing penalty of at least \$100.00 after March 30, 2016 at 12:00 noon. I have attached the forms for your review.

Country Star Artist Clint Black to perform at Marlboro Civic Center – Clint Black will be performing at the Marlboro Civic Center on February 25, 2016.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN’S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that no citizens had signed up to speak before Council.

Page Eight – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that there was a citizen present that would like to speak before Council but the citizen did not realize that he needed to sign in to speak.

Chairman Steen stated that to keep things in line with procedure, since he did not sign up to speak that he would be happy to talk with the citizen after the meeting. He stated that if we allow someone to speak without signing up prior to the meeting that we may begin to see a trend in allowing this to happen and stated that that is what procedures are for.

Mr. Gladden agreed.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Willie Gladden – stated that it was a new year. He stated that last year was a really good year and that many new programs had been placed into effect. He recognized Dr. Carolyn Prince for the program, “Our Children – Their Future” and stated that this was a great project.

Mr. Gladden stated that the recreation project which was headed up by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn was a great program.

Mr. Gladden stated that he felt it was very important to have a close working relationship with the members of City Council and members of the School Board. He stated that the members of County Council needed to work with others to make things happen for Marlboro County and that we could not get ahead without one another’s help. He suggested setting up workshops with members of the City Council, School Board and the members of the Legislative Delegation. He stated that we needed to work out our differences and learn to work together.

Mr. Gladden also mentioned the homeless and stated that there are more homeless folks that ever around us and the county needed to do something for these folks. He mentioned a homeless shelter and stated that some of these homeless folks are veterans which are people that touch his heart.

Ken Allen – stated that he wanted to thank all county employees for the work for Marlboro County. He stated that it had been a long time coming but that he felt that the county had done more for its employees last year and he would like to see that trend continue. He stated that when you hear of folks working for the county for 42 years, it really means a lot.

Steve Blackmon – stated that he wanted to also thank everyone for all the hard work done for the county. He stated that a lot had been done in the last eight years and that he hoped this year will be just as good. He stated that he felt that members of Council worked well together and sometimes we get ideas from each other when discussions are had and sometimes we change our minds when we hear one another out.

Page Nine – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince – stated that it was a new year and that we had much to be thankful for. She stated the program “Our Children – Their Future” and stated that they are beginning with three schools this month and a fourth school was in the works. She thanked everyone for any donations made to this worthy cause.

Dr. Prince stated that the meeting with Mr. Christian Barnes-Young of Tri-County was very informative and encouraged members of Council that did not attend to review the fact sheet and brochure provided to them.

Dr. Prince mentioned the county’s webpage and suggested that it be updated. She mentioned that Cecil Kimrey’s picture is still up on the webpage with Council and that that should not be the case.

Dr. Prince mentioned that Monday, January 18th was Martin Luther King Day and that the annual breakfast would be held at the Community Center on King Street beginning at 8:30 a.m. and that you could purchase a really nice buffet breakfast for \$7.00. She also mentioned that a program would be held at St. Paul’s Church on King Street at 6:00 p.m. in the afternoon.

Ron Munnerlyn – congratulated Mr. Gladden as Council’s Vice-Chair and Mr. Steen as Council’s Chair, and stated that it was nice to see a change.

Mr. Munnerlyn mentioned the ribbon-cutting of the Marlboro Medical Complex through Scotland Hospital and stated that Ms. Plato, Mr. Steen and Mr. Gladden attended the ribbon cutting with him and stated that it was a very nice complex. He thanked Scotland Hospital for their efforts and stated that we should support this complex since we lost our local hospital and Scotland has stepped up to at least offer these new services. He stated that we need our legislators to work on changing the law that prohibits Scotland from coming to across the state line to build us a stand-alone hospital. He says the laws require certain licensing which Scotland cannot meet and this simply should be changed. He mentioned that Representative Henegan had introduced a bill to change the requirements on this but that nothing happened since it was so close to the ending session of House of Representatives. He stated that he hoped that Representative Henegan would push for this change in the law.

Mr. Munnerlyn mentioned the traffic circle off Beauty Spot Road and stated that it was almost impossible for an 18-wheeler to go around the circle and enter the industrial park. He said the large trucks have to slow down to about 10 mph and run all over the curbs to make the turn and that this needed to be looked into. He says that the work for the second traffic circle at Oakwood Street has started and he hoped that this would be looked at before completion.

Dr. Carolyn Prince stated that she would contact Pee Dee Council of Governments on this issue and have them look at it.

Page Ten – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that it affects all traffic and he is afraid that the google alerts will have beach traffic going through town just to get to 38 so as to avoid the backup.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that he agreed that it was a real problem and stated that it was just a matter of time before major accidents occur because of this traffic circle.

Corrie Plato – thanked all employees of the county for the job that they have done and that the job they will continue to do. She stated that it was a new year and she was looking forward to bigger and better things for Marlboro County. She stated that all must keep their heads above water.

Ms. Plato stated that she enjoyed working with members of Council and that although they all don't agree on every issue, the members continue to work together well. She stated that we must put Christ first and the county will be able to go anywhere we want to go. She stated that the sky was the limit.

Anthony Woods – stated that the other members of Council had said it all. He thanked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn for all of his hard work for the past couple of years and thanked him for his leadership, wisdom and knowledge. He stated that he felt that Mr. Munnerlyn was one of the smartest people that he knew. He recognized Mr. Jason Steen as Chairman and stated that he will have a great team behind him.

Mr. Woods mentioned that the Town Mayors also needed to be included in discussions and their input was very important. He stated that it took small towns to make the county work and counties to make the state work. He stated that we all need to be involved with future planning and that the local mayors needed to be included in any discussions with the City of Bennettsville, School District and Legislative Delegation members.

Mr. Woods stated that everyone did a great job in 2015 and that 2016 looked real promising.

Jason Steen – stated that as of January 1st, all areas of Marlboro County received an ISO rating of at least 5 and he felt great about this accomplishment. He stated that the fire departments had a vision and brought it to the county and it has been accomplished now. He stated that he looked forward to continuing to work with the members of Council and that 2016 would hopefully be better than 2015.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No items were heard.

Page Eleven – January 12, 2016 County Council Meeting

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:02 p.m.

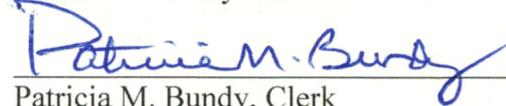
(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Adopted: February 9, 2016



Jason K. Steen, Chairman
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council