

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 8, 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.marlbtorocounty.sc.gov).

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, advised that Ms. Corrie Plato was unable to attend the meeting due to sickness.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

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

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES – February 9, 2016

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

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the minutes of February 9, 2016 as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

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 – THIRD READING

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

Mr. Haynes stated that two previous readings and a public hearing had been held on this Ordinance and that this was the third and final reading for this Ordinance. He stated that the Ordinance provides for a written agreement with Dillon County to develop a joint county and business park. Mr. Haynes stated that there was one typographical change on the original document since the agenda packets were sent out to members of Council. He stated that in the “Now, Therefore” section on the first page of the Ordinance, the word “Dillon” was changed to “Marlboro” since Marlboro County Council is the party taking action in the Ordinance.

Dr. Carolyn Prince stated that she has looked at the Ordinance more closely since the previous readings and asked why Council was doing this if the only benefit was to receive 1% of the tax benefit from the properties in the park and binding Marlboro to the Ordinance for 35 years. Mr. Haynes stated that this Ordinance provides Dillon County better incentives to join with another county to create a joint industrial park.

Mr. Ron Munnery asked if there was anything that Marlboro County is giving away to join the park and Mr. Haynes stated that Marlboro is not expending any monies and the only way that Marlboro County would be affected by this Industrial Park would be to receive 1% of the tax revenues from the properties in the park.

Dr. Prince asked if Marlboro would have the opportunity to place properties in this park and Mr. Haynes stated that Marlboro could develop or create a joint industrial park similar to this and have Dillon join us to gain incentives to industries in our area. He stated that it

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would not be in Marlboro County's best interest to seek to have industries to join this park since Dillon County would be obtaining all of the benefits with the exception of 1% of the tax revenues.

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

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the third reading 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: Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Mr. Ken Allen, Mr. Steve Blackmon and Mr. Anthony Woods. Opposed: Dr. Carolyn Prince. Vote: 6/1/0. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 744 – AN ORDINANCE MODIFYING ORDINANCE NOS. 706 AND 737 AUTHORIZING MARLBORO COUNTY TO CONTINUE AN AGREEMENT WITH THE MARLBORO COUNTY RESCUE SQUAD PROVIDING PARAMEDIC LEVEL EMERGENCY SERVICE AND TRANSFER SERVICE THROUGHOUT MARLBORO COUNTY – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

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

Mr. Haynes stated that Marlboro County has had an Ordinance with Marlboro County Rescue Squad for about nine to ten years or more to provide paramedic level emergency service and transfer service for the citizens of Marlboro County. He stated that last year the Ordinance approved an agreement to continue under the same previous terms for one year to allow Marlboro County Rescue an opportunity to see how their service and costs would be affected by the closing of the local hospital. Mr. Haynes explained that since the current agreement in effect will expire June 30, 2016, he wanted to go ahead and take the necessary action to at least get things rolling to approve an agreement with the details to be worked out along with the new budget for the upcoming year and this is the reason that members of Council are being asked to approve a first reading in title only. Mr. Haynes stated that he met with Captain Jeff Boan of Marlboro Rescue earlier in the week and it appears that Marlboro Rescue will need an increase in funds for the new agreement that can be worked out with new budget.

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

Motion made by Mr. Ken Allen, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 744 – an Ordinance modifying Ordinance Nos. 706 and 737 authorizing Marlboro County to continue an agreement with the Marlboro

County Rescue Squad providing paramedic level emergency service and transfer service throughout Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 03-16-01 – A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS THE SOUTH CAROLINA FAIR HOUSING MONTH FOR 2016

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, read the Resolution aloud and stated that this Resolution is done on an annual basis. He asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none. **Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve Resolution # 03-16-01 – A Resolution Designating the Month of April as the South Carolina Fair Housing Month for 2016. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments made.

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 February expenses were at 62% of the budgeted amount which was approximately 4% under budget for this point in the year. She stated that revenues were at 69% of the budgeted amount for the fiscal year. She stated that revenues increased 25% from January and staff is finally seeing results in the much anticipated tax collections.

Ms. Moore stated that staff met with the auditor, Mr. Robert Jordan, last week regarding the audit and he stated that he is continuing to work on a preliminary draft. Mr. Jordan stated that due to recent turnover in his office, he is now short-staffed and could not yet provide a definite completion date.

Ms. Moore stated that budget request forms were sent out to department heads and should be returned to the Finance office not later than Monday, March 14th. She stated that staff will begin scheduling meetings with department heads to discuss funding needs and discuss any capital needs.

Ms. Moore stated that there had been some interesting news in the Local Government Funding legislation, and according to the SC Association of Counties' website, the state budget's projected recurring General Fund grown this year is 8.7%. She stated that the total additional funds available to the General Assembly this year would be equal to \$1.3 billion and fully funding the LGF, as required by the statute, would require less than 9% of that new revenue. She stated that the Governor included \$113 million in her executive budget to fully fund the LGF with recurring revenue but that the House Ways and Means Committee has

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failed to provide any increased funding to the LGF. She stated that the failure of the General Assembly to increase the LGF caused counties such as Marlboro to be forced to increase millage rates to be able to operate state mandated departments and that such millage rate increases might not be necessary if the LGF was funded in accordance with the statute.

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 were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of February: Delorice Barrington (29 years); Dwan Bostic (13 years); Lawrence Brand (14 years); Ronald Covington (21 years); Vanessa Dowdy (6 years); Anna Frye (17 years); Barbara Latham (12 years); Dr. Carolyn Prince (15 years); and Kevin Thomas (27 years).

Historical Markers - The Historical Markers which we had contracted with Carolina Sign to blast, prime and paint have been completed. There were about eight signs total. These signs have all been placed in their original places.

Animal Shelter Report - Mr. Josh Cohoon, the Animal Shelter Director, has provided a report for the months of January and February, 2016 of the work that has been done at the shelter. He reports that there were six euthanasia procedures; two adoptions; and 105 animals transferred out. He also reported that 134 stray dogs and 43 cats were picked up for the two months with 79 being from the Bennettsville area, 21 being from the McColl area, 25 being from the Blenheim area, 29 being from the Clio area, and 23 being from the Wallace area. As you all know, there has been a distemper breakout at the animal shelter and the shelter is currently quarantined and closed for intake. Mr. Cohoon has been in contact with Clemson University and the State Humane Society.

Ad for E-911/Emergency Preparedness Director - The Marlboro County Personnel Department has advertised the E-911/Emergency Preparedness Director since our current Director, Mr. Roy Allison, is quickly reaching his limit in working years. The position was advertised in the local paper and has also been posted on our Marlboro County website.

Draft letter to Attorney General - A draft letter to the SC Attorney General has been placed at your desk for review. Please review and let me know of any questions, changes, additions or deletions, or any other thoughts you may have. Harry, Jr. and I will be available after the meeting to discuss this if you have any questions.

Letter to SCDOT regarding roundabouts on Highway 38 - A letter has been forwarded to the Secretary of SC Department of Transportation regarding the round-about on Highway

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38. We have asked for a review of these plans and stated that the roundabouts will not serve as safety improvements as was intended but will actually be a hazard and will serve to damage economic opportunities in the county due to truck traffic attempting to avoid the intersections. The letter was mailed out on Monday and we have not yet received a response.

Brightsville Park Walking Trail - The Brightsville Park Walking Trail grant has been submitted. We will now wait to see if the grant is awarded.

AC/Heating Units for Blenheim Gym - We have obtained authorization to get seven ac/heating units from the Wallace School. These units will be used for the Blenheim Gymnasium.

2016-2017 Budget - Budget worksheets and planning documents have been provided to the department heads. We are scheduled to begin to receive the budget requests in the next week or so.

Lee County Landfill Tipping Increase - We have received notification from Lee County Landfill that our there will be an increase in our tipping fee on municipal waste from \$28.49 to \$31.41. This increase will be effective April 1, 2016.

Comment Period for Hazard Mitigation Grant Program - We received an email from Charlotte Foster of SC Emergency Management stating that that the comment period on the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program (HMGP) has been extended until April 1, 2016. I've attached the notice and HMGP prioritization list as it currently stands for review and ask that if you have any comments that they emailed to mitigationteam@emd.sc.gov.

2016 Ethics Report Filing - Please remember 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.

Planning Commission Meeting on Monday, March 14th – A Planning Commission meeting has been scheduled for Monday, March 14, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. There remains a vacancy for District #6 and the appointee from District #5, Mr. Ronald Brown, has not been very active in attending the meetings. Staff will have an attendance record available for members of Council at the next meeting so that you will know what members' attendance are and you can determine if any need to be replaced.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Lorenzo Adams who signed up to address members of Council.

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Mr. Adams thanked members of Council for allowing him the opportunity to speak. He stated that he was the new President of the Marlboro Area Arts Council and has been in this position since December, 2015. He stated that the Council has many new art teachers who are now members of the Council.

Mr. Adams stated that his purpose for attending the meeting was to notify the members of Council and the public of the Marlboro Area Arts Council 1st Annual St. Patrick's Day Festival to be held on Thursday, March 17th, from 3:00 – 7:00 p.m. on the grounds of the Courthouse square. He stated that staff had been most helpful to him in coordinating use of the grounds and he appreciated all of the help. Mr. Adams stated that the Council will be planning more events this year to bring arts back to the elderly and young folks in the county. He asked that members of Council and the public please join them in making the upcoming St. Patrick's Day Festival a success.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Anthony Woods – thanked the Public Works Department for all of their help with roads in the Clio area and throughout the county. He stated that Mr. Sidney Wallace and his team did what they could to assist with the roads that were in bad shape due to poor drainage and much rain. He stated that the citizens in Clio seem to be content but not “happy”.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn – stated that he had met with members of Bennettsville City Council to discuss the community recreation project and many of the members had questions. He stated that he has learned that the Bennettsville City Council approved a letter of support for the project which is great news. He stated that staff has had several meetings with an architect regarding a draft plan and that hopefully a draft plan will be available in the next couple of weeks for folks to review.

Mr. Munnerlyn also mentioned the round-about on Highway 38. He stated that he has noticed that the curbs are made so that vehicles may run up on them. He stated that race tracks are made this way and he has been driving through the roundabouts using his racing skills.

Mr. Willie Gladden – stated that he attended the Winter conference sponsored by the SC Association of Counties. He learned many things at the Chairman's Workshop and stated that a strong council consists of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Administrator, Clerk to Council and Attorney working well together. He stated that Marlboro County Council is strong because of these folks. He stated that the workshops were very important to him. He also mentioned that Committee meetings were also important and that the information discussed at these meetings should be shared with other members of Council to keep everyone involved. He stated that Legislators are very important to County Council and that we all needed to work together to pool our resources to move forward. He stated that all town mayors and councils as well as School Board should meet occasionally and make every effort to work well together.

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Mr. Gladden mentioned the veterans in our area and stated that Marlboro County has many homeless veterans. Mr. Gladden suggested a committee be formed to work with the Veteran's Affairs office to assist veterans with the various needs that they have due to their service for our country. He mentioned that many of our veterans suffer from PTSD (Post Traumatic Stress Disorder) and that the members of the committee might be able to work together with law enforcement folks to assist veterans.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – stated that she attended the Rural Summit meeting in Clemson recently and that this meeting was different from the past meetings. She stated that the focus on this meeting was on interpersonal skills regarding economic development in rural areas and they discussed interviews with media and that you should always be prepared to answer any question at any given time even when you are not sure of the correct answers. She stated that media can be a friend to you but that some may not be so friendly. She agreed with Councilman Gladden and encouraged all to attend meetings when given the opportunity.

Dr. Prince mentioned a Health and Wellness Fair at the Community Center on Friday, April 29th from 8:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m. She stated that this fair is being sponsored by the Marlboro County Coordinating Council and comprehensive screenings would be available for those who have fasted. She also mentioned that the McLeod Mobile Mammography Unit would be available for the ladies. Dr. Prince stated that she did not have a flyer with her but that she would email the same to the Clerk for distribution to members of Council and sharing with the employees.

Dr. Prince thanked Mr. Jim Haynes, the County Administrator, for all of his help with determining the 20' fall in elevation from Highway #9 to the Knollwood subdivision area. She stated that this is a problem for which there is no such remedy. She stated that she understands that some residents in the area will have runoff from neighbors regardless of what is done to the roads due to the fall in elevation from the state roads. She recognized Mr. Ronnie Smith who was in attendance at the meeting and stated that if he had any questions regarding this to please see her after the meeting but that there was simply nothing that the county could do to remedy this problem.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – thanked Mr. Lorenzo Adams for the work that he is doing with the Marlboro Area Arts Council.

Mr. Ken Allen – extended a thank you to the Public Works department and stated that things were getting back to normal now so that school buses and rescue squads could enter the roads that were so bad at one time. He stated that Public Works worked hard to do all that they could and things were better but that the grounds were still wet.

Mr. Jason Steen – stated that he attended the winter conference sponsored by the SC Association of Counties and the Local Government Funding was discussed. He stated that he learned that all counties including larger counties like Horry are suffering due to the Local Government Funding not being fully funded. He learned at the meeting that counties

should not look for any changes in funding the Local Government Fund and that this will be an ongoing fight for months to come.

Chairman Steen stated that there are many things to do in year 2016 and that a retreat will be planned hopefully towards the end of April so that members of Council can get together to discuss the upcoming budget and other ideas of how things may be moved forward.

Chairman Steen also stated that Dr. Carolyn Prince had put a lot of time and effort in to seeking ways to help the folks in the Knollwood Acres Subdivision but that there does not seem to be a remedy for the problems that they have going on due to the large fall from Highway # 9 to the subdivision.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No items were heard.

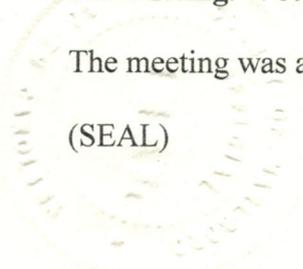
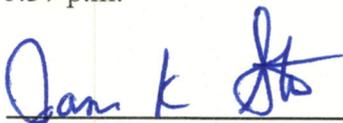
ADJOURN

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

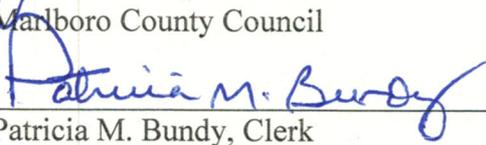
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:37 p.m.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Jason K. Steen, Chairman
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: April 12, 2016