

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2019

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN JASON STEEN

ADMINISTRATOR  
CLERK TO COUNCIL  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

RON MUNNERLYN  
PATRICIA BUNDY  
ANDREW McLEOD

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN,  
CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.  
DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE,  
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

WILLIE GLADDEN,  
CORRIE H. PLATO,  
VERD ODOM,  
ANTHONY WOODS

\* Absent

Others Present: Ms. Jackie Hough of Marlboro Herald-Advocate, Ms. Doris Sumpter, Marlboro County Administrative Services Director; Mr. Brian Watts, EMS Director; and Mr. Doug Carabo, Marlboro County Public Services Director.

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jacqueline Hough and Mr. Dan McNiel of the Marlboro 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](http://www.marlbocounty.sc.gov)).

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

PRESENTATIONS

AWARD FOR WC LAG TIME REPORTING – MR. VAN HENSON, SOUTH CAROLINA ASSOCIATION OF COUNTIES

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Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Van Henson, of the SC Association of Counties to make the presentation.

Mr. Henson stated that he was the Risk Manager for SC Association of Counties. He stated that the SC Association of Counties administers the Workers Compensation Trust Fund of which Marlboro County serves as a member. He stated that the SC Association of Counties was grateful for the county's support and the reason for his visit tonight was to present the county with an award for placing second place in best lag time for reporting workers compensation claims for the year 2018. He stated that Marlboro County ranked .09 which represented a quick response time in reporting workers compensation accidents after the time that the injury occurred. He stated that this was an exceptional response time.

Mr. Henson stated that quick reporting of accidents on the job was important for many reasons. He stated that quick response times allow employees to receive a quick response from the case worker, which helps to ensure that they receive the medical treatment they need in a timely manner, and ensures that the case is settled in a timely fashion.

Mr. Henson presented the award to Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, and thanked the county for the support that they provide to the SC Association of Counties. He stated that if he could ever help the county in any way to please reach out to him.

Chair Prince thanked the County Administrator and staff for their help in all that they do for the employees.

#### PUBLIC HEARINGS

#### ORDINANCE # 779 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CONVEYANCE OF A 30 FOOT WIDE EASEMENT AND LEASE AGREEMENT TO DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, LLC

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was an Ordinance regarding the granting of an easement and lease by the county to Duke Energy for property located next to the Delta property which would allow them to access their electrical substation. He stated that Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director, worked with Duke in getting these documents drawn up to allow Duke Energy legal access to their utility station and lines. He stated that these were standard agreements.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments from the public or members of Council. There were none.

#### ORDINANCE # 781 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE FRANCHISING PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR PRIVATE AMBULANCE SERVICES IN MARLBORO COUNTY (POSTPONEMENT REQUESTED)

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Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that staff has requested that the public hearing on this Ordinance be postponed.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff needed to review the Ordinance a little further and requested that the public hearing be postponed until the next council meeting.

RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING/ZONING DEPARTMENT TO AUTHORIZE VERIZON WIRELESS TO CONSTRUCT A 215 FOOT SELF-SUPPORTING ANTENNA AND SUPPORT STRUCTURE AT 121 MARLBORO ROAD, BENNETTSVILLE, SC

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Donald Hamilton, Planning/Zoning Director, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Hamilton stated that Verizon Wireless has requested authorization to build a 215 foot self-supporting antenna and support structure for a cell phone tower within a 100 foot x 100 foot area located at 121 Marlboro Road, Bennettsville, SC. He stated that this was being referred to as the Crooked Creek location and was located near Highway 912 and Marlboro Road. He stated that the lease agreement with the property owner had been filed and that this system upgrade would allow for better cell phone coverage in the area.

Mr. Hamilton stated that all conditions required by the county's Ordinances have been met and the \$2,500 required fee had been paid by Verizon Wireless. He stated that the proper notice was published in the local newspaper and all property owners within the required area had been notified with no response being received.

Mr. Hamilton stated that pursuant to the applicable law, he was requesting that members of County Council approve the construction of this cell phone tower until the new members of the Planning Commission Board could be seated and receive their required training.

Chair Prince stated that it was good to hear that a new tower would be constructed in that area of the county and that it would be an asset for the folks in that area.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments from the public or members of Council. There were none.

The Public Hearings were closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 12, 2019 - Regular Council meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were no recommended changes.

**Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes from March 12, 2019 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Verd Odom, Mr. Steve Blackmon, Mr. Willie Gladden, Dr. Carolyn Prince, Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. and Mr. Anthony Woods. Abstain: Ms. Corrie Plato (she was not present at the March 12, 2019 meeting) Vote: 7/0/1. Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 779 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CONVEYANCE OF A 30 FOOT WIDE EASEMENT AND LEASE AGREEMENT TO DUKE ENERGY PROGRESS, LLC – THIRD READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that members of Council had heard comments on this Ordinance earlier and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 779 – an Ordinance to Approve the Conveyance of a 30 foot wide Easement and Lease Agreement to Duke Energy Progress, LLC. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 780 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A MUNICIPAL ELECTION TRANSFER AND COSTS FEE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY AND THE TOWN OF MCCOLL – THIRD READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the final reading on this Ordinance which would allow Marlboro County to handle the municipal elections for the Town of McColl. He stated that this agreement was the same as the county had with other municipalities in the county and recommended approval of the Ordinance.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 780 – an Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of Municipal Election Transfer and Costs Fee Agreement between Marlboro County and the Town of McColl. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 782 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the first reading in title only of the budget Ordinance and recommended that a work session be scheduled to discuss the budget for the upcoming year. He stated that he and finance staff would be meeting with department heads next week to discuss their needs and suggested that the work session be planned after these meetings were

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completed so that staff would know about any particular needs that each department may have. He stated that staff would provide council members with some possible dates for a work session to make sure that all schedules were accommodated.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 782 – an Ordinance to Adopt the Annual Budget and to Make Appropriations for Marlboro County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019 and Ending June 30, 2020. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 783 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2020-2024 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the companion document to the budget for capital improvements for each department and more information would be provided and discussed during the budget work session to be scheduled in the coming weeks.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 783 – an Ordinance to Approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Marlboro County for the Period of FY 2020-2024. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 04-18-01 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS THROUGH FIRST CITIZENS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, INC. (“FCB”) FOR CAPITAL EXPENSES FOR THE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES (EMS) DEPARTMENT

Dr. Carolyn A. Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the final document needed to execute the lease purchase agreement with First Citizens Bank for EMS capital expenses. He stated that the amount of the lease purchase was \$850,000 with an interest rate of 3.01% for a five year term. He stated that members of Council had already voted to take this action but the bank needed a more formal document for their files.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve Resolution # 04-19-01 – a Resolution Approving Financing Terms Through First**

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**Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Inc. (“FCB”) for Capital Expenses for the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Department. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RECOMMENDATION OF PLANNING/ZONING DEPARTMENT TO AUTHORIZE VERIZON WIRELESS TO CONSTRUCT A 215 FOOT SELF-SUPPORTING ANTENNA AND SUPPORT STRUCTURE AT 121 MARLBORO ROAD, BENNETTSVILLE, SC

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that comments on this item had been heard earlier and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the request by Verizon Wireless to construct a 215 foot self-supporting antenna and support structure at 121 Marlboro Road, Bennettsville, SC. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

CONSIDERATION OF THE PURCHASE OF A 2014 MOBILE HOME FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN EMS STATION IN THE WALLACE AREA

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that council had already approved the purchase of these type of items with the budget amendment which was approved recently but thought it was good to have council bless the purchase of the 2014 mobile home which was currently being used by Marlboro County Rescue for EMS in the Wallace area. He stated that if approved, the mobile home would be purchased and moved to another parcel of land which the county is purchasing to be utilized for the Wallace EMS station.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the purchase of a 2014 Mobile Home for the Establishment of an EMS Station in the Wallace Area. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

CONSIDERATION OF THE PURCHASE OF A 2017 FORD AMBULANCE FOR EMS DEPARTMENT

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this ambulance would serve as the county’s 5<sup>th</sup> unit for EMS and would be purchased from Marlboro County Rescue with possession to be taken immediately. He stated that the ambulance would be available for use by Marlboro County Rescue if needed for EMS until June 30, 2019. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this unit would serve as a back-up unit.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to approve the purchase of a 2017 Ford Ambulance for EMS Department. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

OPTIONS FOR SOLID WASTE COLLECTION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2019-20 AND SUBSEQUENT YEARS

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the current solid waste contract with the current contractor would expire in January, 2020 and staff needed to be prepared to make a decision about how to go forward with a new contract for services. He stated that a sheet providing several solid waste collection options had been provided to each member of Council and he would try to be brief in explaining the options. He stated that he apologized for the complicated document but that it was a complicated matter that needed to be discussed in further detail as budget discussions take place. He stated that that sheet provided has several options for council to consider.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that state laws require that household trash be taken to a manned site like the county's convenience centers or placed in a roll cart. He stated that the issue would be how to collect fees and how much should be collected from folks for the service and what type of service should be provided.

Mr. Munnerlyn provided four options and briefed council on each of them.

OPTION 1 – CONVENIENCE CENTERS ONLY

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that with this option, all trash would go to the convenience centers and no roll carts would be provided. He stated that the annual cost for the service would need to be determined and at least one additional convenience center would need to be added for the Brightsville area. He also stated that the centers would need to have staff available at the convenience centers 40 hours a week. He stated that the cost could be added to dwellings not located in a town or city OR could be added to ALL properties not located in a town or city.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that for the upcoming year, a small fee should be considered for ALL properties (including towns and cities) to cover the use of the convenience centers for debris, furniture and other materials due to the change in the City of Bennettsville's rules about roadside junk pickup.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the pros on this option would be that the annual fee would be slightly less than the current roll-cart service. He stated that the cons would be that this option would not address the litter issue the county currently has and many residents have limited transportation and may not be able to take their items to a convenience center.

OPTION 2 – ROLL CARTS – CONTRACTOR OPERATES SERVICE, BILLS & COLLECTS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that with this option, the county would contract with a company to operate service, bill citizens and collect fees just as the existing system is currently operating.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the fee for the current service provided is \$20 monthly per cart or \$240/annually. He stated that the company would bill citizens monthly and collect fees.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the pros on this option would be that there would be no investment by the county to start the system. He stated that the cons would be (1) difficulty in collecting from citizens; (2) billed to property owners since renters change frequently and this makes it difficult to track the folks down; (3) non-payment folks end up with no cart which causes a litter issue; and (4) issues listed above limit the number of contractors willing to bid for this type of service.

OPTION 3 – ROLL CARTS – COUNTY DEPARTMENT, COUNTY BILLS CITIZENS & COLLECTS FEES

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that with this option, the county would need to create a department to operate the system, and provide services to bill the citizens and collect the fees.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the fee for this option would be comparable to the current system's cost of \$20/month or \$240/year. He stated that the fee could be added to property tax bills for dwellings only and the county would bill the citizens and collect fees monthly. He stated that past due amounts would be collected using the "set-off debt" program at the end of the year which recovers past due amounts from citizens' income tax refunds.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the pros on this option would be (1) everyone would have a cart and should help with current litter issues; (2) a reduced monthly fee compared to current system's cost; (3) collection of fees would not be an issue for contractor; and (4) reduced use of convenience centers. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the cons would be (1) one payment per year for service would add money to the tax bill all at one time; (2) billed monthly would result in significant cash flow issues requiring the county to pay contractor even if fees are not collected from citizens; (3) monthly billing would require additional staff and the need for collection facilities; (4) would require a large capital investment by county for the costs of carts and trucks, etc. (\$1.3 million). Mr. Munnerlyn stated that a reduced rate for this service and roll cart pickup frequency could be considered for the elderly and disabled but stated that 47% of Marlboro County residents were on Homestead Exemption.

OPTION 4 – ROLL CARTS – CONTRACTOR OPERATES SERVICE, COUNTY BILLS & COLLECTS FROM CITIZENS

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that with this option, the county would contract with a company to operate the system but the county would bill citizens, collect fees and pay the contractor. He stated that the estimated cost for this option would be estimated to be less than \$20/month or \$240/year. He stated that Marion County currently operates in this manner and charges its citizens \$15.75/month or \$189/year. He stated that the fee could be added to property tax bills for dwellings only OR County could bill citizens and collect fees monthly. He stated that past due amounts could be collected using "set-off debt" program at the end of the year which recovers past due amounts from citizens' income tax refunds.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the pros on this option would be (1) everyone would have a cart and should help the current litter issue; (2) reduced monthly amount compared to current system; (3) collection of fees would not be an issue for the contractor; (4) reduced use of convenience centers. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the cons would be (1) one payment per year adds money to tax bills at one time; (2) billed monthly would result in significant cash flow issues with the county having to pay the contractor even if fees are not collected from citizens; and (3) monthly billing would require additional county staff and collection facilities. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that a reduced rate for this option could be considered for the elderly and disabled but again stated that 47% of Marlboro County residents were on Homestead Exemption.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that those were the options to be considered and that he understood that this would take a lot of thought and consideration but he wanted to share this to allow time for careful consideration.

Chair Prince thanked Mr. Munnerlyn for his work in presenting the options that he found available. She stated that there was much work to be done in making a decision on this issue.

#### APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments recommended.

#### REPORTS

#### FINANCE & ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. RON MUNNERLYN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, for his reports.

#### **FINANCE REPORT**

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that expenses for the month of March were at 73% of the total budgeted amount and revenues were on track as expected for this time of the year.

#### **EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES**

The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of March: Patricia Bundy (6 years), Martha McQuage (17 years); Luther Brown (17 years), and Don Driggers (8 years).

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

1. Retirement Drop-In for Cindy Deaver is scheduled for Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup> from 1 – 3 pm at the Tax Assessor's Office. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Ms. Deaver has worked for the county for approximately 8 years and her last day would be Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Munnerlyn invited everyone to attend the drop-in to wish her well in her retirement.

2. County-wide “Clean-Up Day” – Scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> from 8:00 am to Noon. Mr. Munnerlyn asked members of Council to please forward any suggested areas for clean-up or groups interested in participating to Ms. Bundy. Mr. Munnerlyn reminded citizens that while the event is actually scheduled for Saturday morning, that folks may pick up supplies and complete their area clean-up duties anytime on Friday or Saturday. He stated that any and all help would be greatly appreciated.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT**

1. Active projects – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that there were two active projects totaling approximately \$35 million in new investments. He stated that staff has had multiple visits with each project and things appeared to be moving in the right direction. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that one of the projects was at the Delta site and staff was working long hours to understand the improvements and clean-up needed to meet the project’s timeline. He stated that folks that ride by the area would notice clean-up being done around the facility.
2. Arris – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Arris would be announcing the dates for a job fair to be held in the next few weeks. He stated that the company was moving along with renovations and plans to be hiring staff soon.

### **ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT**

FY 2019-20 Budget – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that a budget workshop would be scheduled in the coming weeks. He stated that several date options would be presented to the Chair and council members would be contacted individually to ensure that the best date is determined for all. He stated that this workshop would include a detailed analysis of the trash collection system alternatives.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that department meetings would begin next week to discuss budget requests for each individual department.

### **UPDATE ON FREE STANDING EMERGENCY ROOMS**

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that he had a question. He asked if there was any update on the Free Standing Emergency Room request that had been made. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that meetings had occurred with Senator Gerald Malloy to discuss this issue and that another meeting was being scheduled with additional parties being invited. He stated that staff had forwarded a copy of the Resolution which Marlboro County Council adopted requesting that they support the fight in supporting a similar Resolution but that no one had responded with the exception of the Town of Blenheim. Mr. Gladden asked if the City of Bennettsville had responded and Mr. Munnerlyn advised that he had not heard from anyone at the City regarding the county’s request for support.

Mr. Gladden stated that he understood that Senator Malloy was working on this issue but asked if any of the other legislative delegation members were helping with the issue. Chair Prince stated that the Administrative Board met with Senator Gerald Malloy after not having any response from Representative Henegan on the issue last year. She stated that Senator Malloy was showing an interest in assisting the county on this issue and stated that he had 17 years of experience and many contacts that were discussing options with the county. She stated that she, along with Mr. Jason Steen, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, as well as

a couple of members from the Marlboro County General Hospital Charities Trust Board had met with Senator Malloy on two occasions to discuss this issue. She stated that Senator Malloy had invited representatives from Health and Human Services, Department of Health and Environmental Control and the Hospital Association. She stated that a third meeting was being scheduled to include folks from McLeod and MUSC.

Chair Prince stated that our county was in a unique situation because in order for a hospital to build a free standing ER in Marlboro County, the hospital must have a hospital in operation within a 35 miles distance of our area. She stated that McLeod would be the only hospital in SC that is located within the required distance. She stated that North Carolina hospitals are prohibited by law from building a free standing ER here unless they have a hospital already in service in South Carolina. She stated that the laws could possibly be amended to allow an established North Carolina hospital to build a free standing ER in our area and that was what was being discussed.

Mr. Gladden stated that he was aware of actions taken by members of Marlboro County Council but asked if anyone else in the county was showing any support and helping with this effort. He stated that he understood that the City of Bennettsville was not helping and stated that this really needed to be a group effort. He stated that everyone needed to come together to show support on this issue and that the public needed to help too. Chair Prince stated that she was planning to attend the City of Bennettsville Council meeting scheduled for next week to ask for support on this issue and stated that any members of County Council were welcome to join her.

Chair Prince stated that Senator General Malloy was taking the lead in these discussions as Chairman of the Marlboro County Legislative Delegation and stated that she understood that he was updating other members of the delegation as things progress.

#### RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that 3 citizens had signed up to address Council.

**Maria Stuckey** – stated that she was a 5<sup>th</sup> grader at Bennettsville Intermediate School in Bennettsville and she had won the spelling bee for her school making her a school champion. She stated that she went on to Marlboro County School District spelling bee in Blenheim and won the overall 5<sup>th</sup> grade championship for the school district. She stated that she continued to compete in the district spelling bee and won third place over an eighth grader. She stated that she felt that was not bad for her first spelling bee. She also went to the Pee Dee Regional Spelling Bee with spellers across the Pee Dee Region and competed at the Francis Marion University Pee Dee Education Center and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> out of 53 children from grades 5-8.

Miss Stuckey stated that she felt she had accomplished a lot and looked forward to doing even greater things. She stated that she planned to compete for her school and county in the National Spelling Bee in Washington, DC which was scheduled for May 26-31, 2019. She asked those present to please consider sponsoring her in this task and stated that more information could be obtained by contacting her mom, Ms. Brittany Stuckey at 678-468-7568.

**Rev. James Smith** – thanked members of Council for allowing him to speak. He stated that he was appearing as a voice for the Pee Dee Coalition. He thanked Marlboro County Council for their past generous donations to the Pee Dee Coalition and encouraged them to continue making those donations.

Rev. Smith stated that April was Sexual Awareness and Child Abuse Prevention month. He provided many statistics about the number of sexual abuse victims and child abuse victims and stated that one person sexually abused or one child suffering abuse was one too many.

**Ms. Brenda Dixon** – stated that she was also appearing on behalf of Pee Dee Coalition. She thanked members of Council for their continued support. She stated that the Pee Dee Coalition was working to keep the Crises Center open in Bennettsville, as well as the shelter. She stated that the shelter was now available for victims for up to 18 months. She stated that the shelter was currently full. She requested individual support in raising funds to keep the Marlboro County Crises Center and Shelter open. She stated that they held a fundraiser last year and was successful in raising \$10,000 but that much more was needed. She stated that the Durant Center, Crises Center and Shelter were available to citizens in Marlboro County and they needed all the support they could get. She stated that they were also looking for new Board members and asked that anyone interested in getting involved should contact her. She stated that it was truly an active board.

**Dr. Greg McCord** – stated that he was a resident of Marlboro County and also served as Superintendent of the Marlboro County School District. He stated that he wanted to speak to Council regarding their working relationship. He stated that he felt that the recent article in the newspaper did not reflect the way he would have liked. He stated that he really appreciated the great relationship that he has with Sheriff Lemon and his staff and he really enjoyed conversations that he has had recently with Sheriff Lemon and Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, the County Administrator. He stated that the School District was currently in the middle of their budget discussions and he wanted to let members of Council know that he really appreciated the working relationship that he has with all of them and appreciated all of their support.

**Sheriff Charles Lemon** – thanked members of Council for all that they continue to do for his department and himself personally.

#### RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Mr. Anthony Woods** – stated that everyone is excited about the new plant coming to Clio and folks want to know how to contact them about employment. He stated that this was big news for Clio and the county in general.

Mr. Woods mentioned the cell phone towers and stated that additional towers were needed in the Clio area to assist with Verizon service. He stated that Marlboro County is behind on things but we were catching up.

**Ms. Corrie Plato** – No comments.

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**Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr.** – congratulated Miss Maria Stuckey on her accomplishments and wished her well. He stated that he was very impressed with her and stated he was sure that folks would hear great things from her in the future.

**Mr. Jason Steen** – No Comments.

**Mr. Willie Gladden** – congratulated Miss Maria Stuckey on her achievements and stated that he hoped that council could help her on her trip to Washington, D.C.

**Mr. Steve Blackmon** – mentioned the Wade H. Prince Recreation Center dedication and stated that the event was really nice. He stated that he appreciated everyone coming out and that it meant a lot to him and to Dr. Carolyn Prince. He stated that the gym looked really great and stated that it was very clean. He stated that he hoped that folks would keep it clean.

**Mr. Verd Odom** – stated that the McColl May Fest was scheduled for May 4<sup>th</sup> which was the same date as the county's cleanup event. He stated that May Fest would begin around 10 am and he hoped that folks would come out and help with the cleanup event before attending the May Fest.

Mr. Odom mentioned the 381 bridge and stated that it had been two weeks since the SC Department of Transportation had received everything they needed to review the project and he had hoped that the SC Department of Transportation would let him know what the status was but he had not heard from them.

Mr. Odom stated that the cleanup of the three old video poker buildings had begun on the property near the state line in McColl. He stated that this cleanup would be great for that area.

Mr. Odom mentioned the new CareSouth facility in McColl and stated that the parking lot was being marked and he thought that the facility would open sometime in May.

Mr. Odom stated that Cape Fear would be providing a helicopter to Scotland Hospital on May 1<sup>st</sup>. He stated that currently the county uses the helicopter from Marion which takes about 15 minutes to get here. He stated that having a helicopter at Scotland Hospital will help us a great deal. He stated that a few minutes means a lot in emergency situations.

**Dr. Carolyn Prince** – thanked staff and Ms. Patricia Bundy, the Clerk to Council, for their help in getting the gym and grounds in Blenheim ready for the ribbon cutting and dedication of the former Wright School for her dad. She stated that the event was a success and she was aware of the fact that she had huge shoes to fill. She stated that children model what they see. She stated that plans were being made for more activities to be scheduled at the facility for adults, girls and the community. She thanked the School District for donating the building to the county. She stated that the dedication and ribbon cutting ceremony was videoed and would be uploaded to YouTube and the county's website in a few days.

Dr. Prince stated that a committee has been organized to solicit donations for the Wade H. Prince Recreation Center for renovations to the bathrooms in the gym area. She stated that

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these repairs were needed badly and asked everyone to consider contributing funds to the county to be earmarked for this purpose. She stated that she would be the first to commit to donate to this cause and would be getting a check to the county in the next few days.

Dr. Prince stated that she spoke with Ms. Lindsay Privette at the Pee Dee Council of Governments meeting recently and she shared information about a one day training event that would be available to members of our Planning and Zoning Board. She wanted to be sure that staff was aware of this training so that they could take advantage of this for the new members of the Planning Commission that had been recently appointed.

Dr. Prince congratulated Miss Maria Stuckey on her accomplishments and stated that she thought that a donation could be provided to her by County Council.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

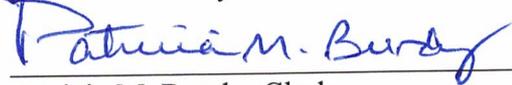
ADJOURN

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any other comments or business. There being none, she adjourned the meeting at 6:56 pm.

(SEAL)

  
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Dr. Carolyn A. Prince, Chair  
Marlboro County Council

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk  
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: May 14, 2019