

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 10, 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: Mr. Dan McNiel of the Herald-Advocate, Ms. Doris Sumpter, Marlboro County Administrative Services Director; Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance 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 Herald Advocate, and posted on the front door of the William P. Wallace, Sr. Administration Building and on the county's website (www.marlborocounty.sc.gov).

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, shared condolences to the Hicks family who lost their son, a student at the Marlboro County High School, over the weekend. She stated that anytime was tough to lose a family member but it seemed much harder when it occurred during the holidays.

INVOCATION- Mr. Anthony Woods

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated an executive session meeting was needed to discuss a contractual matter and that it should be held at the beginning of the meeting rather than at the end.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISCUSSION OF A CONTRACTUAL MATTER PURSUANT TO SC CODE SECTION 30-4-70

Motion made at 6:04 pm by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to enter into executive session to discuss a contractual matter pursuant to SC Code Section 30-4-70. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion made at 6:35 pm by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to leave executive session and return to open session. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chair Prince advised that no votes were taken and no decisions were made during the executive session.

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.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE # 791 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN AGREEMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK (2016 PARK) OF DILLON AND MARLBORO COUNTIES SO AS TO ENLARGE THE PARK

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated this was a project that would provide benefits for incentives for a company in Dillon County known as Huber Engineered Woods, LLC. He stated the company would operate to manufacture engineered wood products but more specifically the company plans to operate the facility to produce a new kraft paper overlay.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the project would be located in Dillon County and the company would be provided incentives by being included in an Industrial Park which would allow Marlboro County to receive 1% of the tax revenue.

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

The Public Hearing was closed.

STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

REVIEW OF UPDATED 2017 STRATEGIC INITIATIVES

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to provide an update on the 2017 Strategic Initiatives.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated staff had taken notes, along with input provided by Council, for the Strategic Initiatives that were discussed during 2017 and have come up with some ideas

which include five key initiatives that impact the community. He stated these five initiatives were included in the original strategic planning process which was discussed back in 2017 but have been updated. He stated with the guidance from members of County Council, the County has partnered with the Marlboro Chamber of Commerce for a Business after Hours event scheduled for Monday, December 16, 2019 from 4:30 – 6:30 pm at The Skye, located on East Main Street, Bennettsville, SC. He stated that all leaders in the county have been invited and the five updated initiatives will be introduced and available throughout the room on 6' x 2' boards. Folks will have the opportunity to discuss the initiatives and talk about ways to partner together to help make the initiatives a reality as they affect every citizen in the county. Mr. Munnerlyn discussed the five initiatives: (1) Hospital Alternative; (2) Four-Lane Connection to US 74 in NC; (3) Community Clean-up; (4) Recreation; and (5) #Destination Marlboro. Mr. Munnerlyn stated there would be no long speeches or presentations at the meeting and encouraged everyone to attend.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none. Chair Prince stated a lot had been accomplished since 2017 and great strides had been made for the future. She stated the strategic planning was simply another testament of what working together can accomplish.

Plaza Building Update

Mr. Munnerlyn stated he wanted to update members of Council on county-owned buildings and provide comments on that as well. He stated that one question that came up during the last few meetings was the use of the Plaza building. He stated the CDC was currently housed in the building but the County actually has ownership of the building. He stated the County maintains the building and it consisted of three floors. He stated Chair Prince had mentioned the possibility of considering having an elevator added to the building. He stated staff did learn that an elevator was not needed for offices but there was a need for cosmetic renovations such as painting, lighting and new carpet. He stated the renovations that will be needed have been estimated to cost about \$50,000 but the costs to include adding an elevator would bring that renovation cost up to about \$175,000. He suggested that an entire county department could be moved to Plaza building or suggested an outside agency may consider renting some of the offices in the building. He asked if there were any questions or comments.

Chair Prince stated she felt the Plaza building was a great resource to the County as it was the only building that the County owned on the courthouse square. She stated the CDC folks have utilized the building for years but she agreed that an entire department or outside renting agency would be a good idea for the facility. She suggested a glass doorway be included when renovating the building because it felt like a tunnel when entering the building as it exists currently. She asked that the glass entranceway be included in the cosmetic renovation planning. She stated she felt the building would generate some income if rented to an outside agency.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated he agreed and stated the building was not being utilized as he felt it should and the building was in good shape and space could be provided to those that need it. He stated it was his understanding that only about 30% of the building was being used.

He asked if the folks that use it currently were paying rent. Mr. Munnerlyn stated he did not know of anyone currently renting the building and stated that the Bennettsville Downtown Development were allowed to store some of their things there for a while and he understood that they had worked it out with the folks of CDC to help contribute toward the utility costs in exchange for allowing them to have the storage space which might have been referred to as rent but he would look into that. Chair Prince stated that the CDC folks use the building but they have no authority to rent any portion of the building out to others.

Mr. Anthony Woods suggested that the internet service for the Plaza building be checked out before offering it for rent to an outside agency. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he felt the internet service for the Plaza building would be as good as anywhere else.

Relocation of the Recreation Department

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that members of Council had requested that staff discuss with the Library Director about the possibility of relocating the Recreation Department to the back portion of the library which was formerly housed by Northeastern Tech. This is due to the condition of current area where recreation is located. He stated there were three large rooms in the area. He stated one was a flex meeting room that housed rolling/folding tables which had room available to the public. He stated he was unsure how the library was scheduling the use of the room and if any fees were collected for the use of the room. He stated there was a second large computer room in the area which was used less than the meeting room but it also included rolling tables that could move the computers to the rear of the room. He stated there was one other large room which was being used by Friends of the Library for a bookstore on Tuesdays. Mr. Munnerlyn stated library staff also used the rear outside area for parking.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the plan was to move recreation by the middle of next week to the flex meeting room and provide use of the circular reception desk for the area. He stated that the budget included renovations for the Murchison building and renovations were underway and the plan would be to eventually move recreation to that building.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the locks would be changed in the area where recreation would be housed because the locks had not been changed since the County took possession from NETC. He also mentioned adding a fence to increase security of the parking lot and adding a gate at the front area where the bookmobile is located for additional security which was suggested by Ms. Bobbie Grooms.

Dr. Prince suggested that the parking area in the rear may need a few spaces designated and marked for handicapped folks and also suggested that the additional lighting in the back parking area be considered for additional security. She stated the County owned that area and stated that any funds generated for services or funds received for use of the rooms should be included in the county's budget and not be retained by the library. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he could discuss that with the Library Director. He stated he works with the library as they are a county department and he was unsure about the bookstore funds as it may be a part of the Friends of the Library.

Other county buildings

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Mr. Munneryn mentioned the Department of Juvenile Justice and EOC offices that are housed on the first floor of the Administration building behind 911. He stated the DJJ office was a state agency and the county is required to provide them with office space. He stated their offices were in need of some renovations.

Mr. Munneryn suggested the area where recreation was currently located needed some major renovations but could be a nice area. He suggested once recreation is moved from the area that renovations could begin and once completed, possibly moving the office of DJJ and EOC to that area which would free up that space so that renovations may be made for an improved 911 Emergency Operations Center. He stated that the current 911 Emergency Operations Center needed improvements due to water issues in their current location. He also mentioned that FEMA funds would be available to fund renovations for that project.

Chair Prince thanked staff for their hard work on providing the county-owned buildings' update.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 28, 2019 – Work Session 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. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the Work Session meeting minutes from October 28, 2019 as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – 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 Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the Regular meeting minutes from November 12, 2019 as presented. Vote in favor: Dr. Carolyn Prince, Mr. Anthony Woods, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Mr. Willie Gladden, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Verd Odom. Abstain: Mr. Jason Steen (not present at the November 12, 2019 regular meeting). Vote: 7/0/1. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 791 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN AGREEMENT FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK (2016 PARK) OF DILLON AND MARLBORO COUNTIES SO AS TO ENLARGE THE PARK – SECOND READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that comments were made earlier during the Public Hearing on this Ordinance and asked if there were any questions. There were none.

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Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve second reading of Ordinance # 791 – an Ordinance to Amend an Agreement for the Development of a Joint County Industrial and Business Park (2016 Park) of Dillon and Marlboro Counties so as to Enlarge the Park. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 12-19-01 – A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE FOR HER YEARS OF SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARLBORO COUNTY

Mr. Jason Steen, Vice-Chairman, asked Chair Prince to allow him to present the next item of business. Chair Steen thanked Chair Prince for all that she had done over the years for the citizens of Marlboro County. He read the Resolution aloud and presented the same to Chair Prince.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve Resolution # 12-19-01 – a Resolution Recognizing Dr. Carolyn A. Prince for her Years of Service and Contributions to Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Vice-Chairman Steen also presented to Chair Prince a gavel plaque which he stated he felt was appropriate since this was the last meeting that Dr. Prince would attend as a member of County Council.

APPROVAL OF COUNCIL'S REGULAR MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2020

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated the proposed meeting schedule was included in the agenda packet and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve Council's Regular Meeting Schedule for 2020 as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments made.

REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, for the finance report.

Ms. Moore stated for the month of November, expenditures were at 39% of the budgeted amount which was about 2.5% under budget for this point in the fiscal year. She stated

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revenues appeared to be much higher this month, but this was due to a LOST credit accounting change that was made per the County's external auditors' direction. She stated in the past this had been done with a monthly posting, but it is now being posted annually. She stated that aside from that transaction, revenues were trending consistently with this same month in prior fiscal years as staff is beginning to collect property tax revenues.

Ms. Moore asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Chair Prince thanked Ms. Moore for her report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. RON MUNNERLYN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator, for his report.

EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

The following employees are recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of November: Channing Covington (15 years); April Driggers (5 years) and Lisa Hood (13 years).

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **Town of Clio Christmas Parade** – Mr. Munneryn stated the Town of Clio Christmas Parade was scheduled for Friday, December 13th at 4 pm and a float had been reserved for Council.
2. **City of Bennettsville Christmas Parade** – Mr. Munneryn stated the City of Bennettsville Christmas Parade was scheduled for Saturday, December 14th at 4 pm and a float had been reserved for Council.
3. **Business After Hours** – Mr. Munneryn stated the County had partnered with the Marlboro Chamber of Commerce to host a meeting to include all leaders in the county regarding strategic initiatives and opportunities to work together for the betterment of our community. He stated the meeting was scheduled for Monday, December 16th from 4:30 – 6:30 pm at The Skye located at 310 East Main Street, Bennettsville, SC.
4. **Marlboro County Drop-In Luncheon** – Mr. Munneryn stated the annual Marlboro County Drop-In Luncheon was scheduled for Thursday, December 19, 2019 from 11 am – 1 pm at the Marlboro County Administration Building, 205 E. Market Street, Bennettsville, SC. He stated this was a time where everyone brings their favorite pick up food and dish. He stated Ms. Melissa Brock of 911 has asked everyone to please let her know what they plan to bring and that all goodies be delivered to the Administration office by 10 am on the morning of the luncheon. He stated a prize would be given for the most popular dish!

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Delta

Mr. Munnerlyn stated environmental testing and clean-up has continued at the Delta site. He reported that engineers advised that this work should “speed up” in the next 90 days. He also stated Public Works has cleared access to the sites of test wells and other testing areas.

Partnership Drop-in

Mr. Munnerlyn stated there was a good turnout for the Partnership drop-in yesterday. He stated it was always good to see representation from our local industries and other employers. He stated that the Partnership was looking forward to a lot of good things in 2020.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Introduction of New Recreation Director –

Mr. Munnerlyn introduced Mr. Fred Lowery, the County’s new Recreation Director who was present at the meeting, to members of Council.

Solid Waste update-

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the new trash collection vendor, Waste Connections, was on schedule to begin service in early February. He reported that the company has ordered three brand new trucks to be delivered in the middle of January as well as new roll-carts. He stated the company was mapping the routes for their trucks, utilizing computer software to create the best path for the best service to citizens.

Extended hours of Convenience Centers

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the hours of operation of the county’s solid waste centers in Wallace and Red Hill have been extended due to increasing complaints regarding the current service. He stated that staff was prepared to do the same in McColl and Blenheim if necessary.

\$10 fee in towns and City of Bennettsville

Mr. Munnerlyn reminded folks in the towns and cities, that the \$10 fee on their tax bill means that they can take their junk, construction debris, old appliances, tires, etc. to the county convenience centers. He stated when the City of Bennettsville stopped their roadside collection of these items last year, staff saw a tremendous amount of dumping in the county. He stated also that staff received a great deal of calls from City residents requesting a flat fee instead of having to pay every time they went to our convenience centers. He stated Council could certainly consider removing the \$10 fee in the future should the City re-establish that service.

Old Wire Road and Academy Road

Mr. Munnerlyn stated citizens were obviously very concerned that these two roads that have not been reopened since the hurricane that occurred more than a year ago. He stated that he knew that members of Council were also concerned. He reminded everyone that the two roads were State roads.

Mr. Munnerlyn confirmed that the County collects a \$35 fee on all vehicles registered in the County which brought in \$636,000 last year. He stated the County “owns’ over 185 miles

of unpaved, dirt roads and it takes every penny of the road fee and more to maintain those dirt roads. He stated the current year's budget for that work is \$855,261.

Mr. Munnerlyn reminded folks that the State of South Carolina collects 23 cents on every gallon of gasoline sold in the County. He stated at an annual average of 450 gallons per household, citizens could be paying far more than \$35 a year to the state for road maintenance. He stated those and other state funds were for the maintenance of state-owned, paved roads in the county, such as Old Wire Road and Academy Road.

Clean-up of state-line area of SC Highway 15-401 in McColl

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff was finally moving forward with the clean-up of the old casino buildings near the state line in McColl. He stated the initiative was a pet project of Councilman Verd Odom's. He stated the county now has an agreement with the surrounding land owner to clean up the area in exchange for a piece of land to build a brick "Welcome to Marlboro County" sign there after cleanup is complete. He stated the work would begin at the end of this week, weather permitting.

Mr. Munnerlyn recognized Mr. Verd Odom and asked if he had anything to add regarding the clean-up of the state line area.

Mr. Verd Odom stated that he and County staff had been working on the clean-up of the state line area for about three years and the two hurricanes slowed things down some. He stated Mr. and Mrs. McCormick had been great to work with the county on helping make this clean-up a reality. Mr. Odom stated the area had also become a safety hazard for folks due the grown up trees and underbrush. He stated that trees are being taken down in the area for the clean-up and stated Mr. Tim McGee of the SC Department of Transportation had helped a good bit with cleaning the underbrush on the sides of the road of 15-401 and he appreciated his help on that. He stated that folks coming into the county from Charlotte and other areas will use this entrance into our county and the clean-up will make a huge impact on the appearance of our county. He stated once the area was cleaned up, a nice brick welcome sign would be erected like the ones located at other entrance points of the county.

Mr. Munnerlyn thanked Chair Prince for her support of the project as well.

Mr. Munnerlyn asked if there were any questions or comments. Chair Prince asked staff to please draft a letter to the citizen that had written a letter about the two roads that were still not repaired and that all parties included in the citizen's letter be copied. She stated that when folks write letters to staff that it was important that they receive a written response.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that one citizen had signed up to address council.

Mr. Gino Russ – Mr. Russ stated that he was not in the state often but he owned a home on Willamette Road. He stated he was very concerned about trash service in Marlboro County but stated he did not use the current contractor. He stated there was no way that he would save \$110 with the new company because he doesn't use trash pick-up service at all and did not feel that it was fair to impose the charge on folks that do not use the service.

PRESENTATION OF GIFTS TO VIDEOGRAPHY STAFF

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, provided gifts of appreciation to the videography staff for their help during the year on behalf of Marlboro County Council. Chair Prince stated that it was a true testament to council's determination to be transparent by videoing these meeting and making them available to the public. She stated it allows folks to know what is going on if they cannot attend the meetings.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Verd Odom – wished all members of Council and the Administration staff a Merry Christmas and safe holiday. He reminded everyone to keep a look out for neighbors' homes who may be leaving for the holidays. He thanked the Sheriff's Department for all the hours they work to make sure everyone is safe.

Mr. Odom reminded everyone of the clean-up which would begin on Thursday at 1 pm at the State line and entrance to McColl.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – wished everyone a Merry Christmas and thanked Dr. Prince for her help over the years and asked that she not forget County Council when she transitioned over to her position as Mayor for the City of Bennettsville.

Mr. Willie Gladden – addressed Chair Prince and stated that he was very proud of her. He stated Dr. Prince always gets the job done and he had enjoyed working with her for the past eight years. He stated many great things had been accomplished and he looked forward to working with her in her position as Mayor for the City of Bennettsville.

Mr. Jason Steen – stated that he talked with DOT staff regarding Old Wire Road which is still closed due to damages received from the hurricane which occurred almost two years ago. The folks at DOT advised him that they had plans to repair the road next year. Mr. Steen stated that repairs were being planned two years too late but at least they were on the list of roads to be paved for 2020. Mr. Steen suggested that a letter be drafted about the delay in repairing the road. He stated the state receives gas taxes that are to be used for the upkeep of these roads and the closing of the road has caused a safety issue with EMS transports and fire response times.

Mr. Steen stated he was excited about the strategic plan. He stated council had stayed the course and kept moving. He mentioned Highway 38 and stated that a four lane road was needed to NC 74. He stated that the road has become very dangerous especially in the summer time.

Mr. Steen wished everyone a Merry Christmas.

Mr. Steen addressed Dr. Carolyn Prince and thanked her for all of her help over the years. He stated he had learned a lot from her and stated that Marlboro County Council was better because of her. He stated that he looked forward to moving forward with her and

congratulated her on her position as Mayor-Elect for the City of Bennettsville. He stated that everyone on Council would certainly miss her.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – wished everyone a Merry Christmas and stated the Partnership drop-in which was held on Monday was very nice. He commended Dr. Carolyn Prince on a job well done.

Ms. Corrie Plato – wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She encouraged everyone to be safe if traveling and to remember the reason for the season and to be sure and do for others.

Ms. Plato stated that she had enjoyed serving on Council with Dr. Prince over the years. She stated they had always been friends and hoped they would continue. She stated she knew that Dr. Prince would do a great job and she looked forward to moving forward but that could only be done by putting God first. She advised Dr. Prince that she would need to do a lot of praying but that God would guide her.

Mr. Anthony Woods – welcomed Mr. Fred Lowery as the County's new Recreation Director. He advised Mr. Lowery that recreation was very important and to please let the County Administrator or members of Council know of anything that he needed and stated they would support him 100%.

Mr. Woods wished everyone Happy Holidays.

Mr. Woods thanked Dr. Prince for all of her service over the years and stated that she was a true pioneer. He stated that Dr. Prince was always the same and was getting ready to do something that had never been done before. He stated that Dr. Prince would be the first African American Mayor for Bennettsville. He stated that young ladies whether black or white could look up to Dr. Prince and see that she is a strong leader. He stated with hard work, good things could be accomplished. Mr. Woods stated that he had been serving with Dr. Prince since 2006 and she had taught him many things and he has followed her leadership.

Mr. Woods stated 2020 would be a challenging year but stated that County Council served as a team and although one member would be moving to another post another person would step up to serve with them on County Council. He stated that he looked forward to embracing the new member of council.

Sheriff Charles Lemon – stated that he appreciated all that staff and members of Council have done for him personally and for his entire department in 2019. He stated that it has been a job well done and he appreciated all the hard work they continue to do.

Sheriff Lemon addressed Dr. Carolyn Prince and told her that she had been a pillar in the county for a long time and would continue to serve in that capacity. He asked Dr. Prince to call him if he or his department could help her in any way.

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Sheriff Lemon advised everyone to be safe during the holiday season. He stated there were many scams going on with folks trying to get over on others. He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Sheriff Lemon, on behalf of Mr. Tommy Parker, invited members of Council and Administration staff to Mr. Parker's annual Christmas dinner on December 18th at 12 noon.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – stated she was very moved by all the comments that have been made. She thanked the citizens of District 5 for electing her for four terms.

Dr. Prince stated all that knew her knew that she was a private person. She stated she felt she was a public servant and that she knew how to serve and explained that she did that by putting folks' interest first.

Dr. Prince thanked council for coming together as a team. She stated that discussions were made and good decisions were made by focusing on the citizens' interest first.

Dr. Prince stated she had been a lightning rod all of her life in everything that she has done. She stated that most folks remember the life of her father who was truly a public servant but stated that her mother taught her many things on a daily basis and she was very blessed.

Dr. Prince thanked Mr. Munnerlyn and members of Council for all that they have done for her, as well as members of the senior staff, Mr. Doug Carabo, Ms. Ainsley Moore, and Ms. Doris Sumpter. She also thanked Sheriff Lemon for all that he and his department continues to do and also thanked Ms. Patricia Bundy for all that she had done.

Dr. Prince stated she felt that being obedient to her calling and with the help and support of others along with determination, good things will happen. She stated the city residents have said they wanted a change.

Dr. Prince announced her swearing-in ceremony scheduled for January 2, 2020 at 12 noon at the Bennettsville Community Center and invited everyone to attend. She stated the bicentennial year had ended with her being elected as Mayor for the City of Bennettsville. Dr. Prince stated she wanted to echo what Ms. Corrie Plato had mentioned earlier which was to go to DSS and bring joy to a child this Christmas and to please share and give back to those less fortunate.

Dr. Prince thanked the videography staff and stated that County Council had set the bar high.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

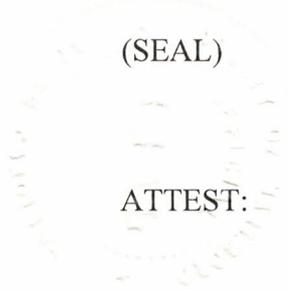
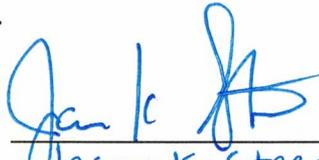
There were no non-agenda items.

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ADJOURN

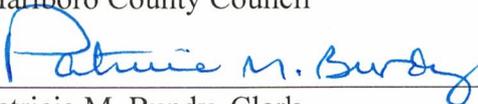
Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any other comments or business. There being none, she adjourned the meeting at 7:34 pm.

(SEAL)

Jason K. Steen, Chairman Vice-Chairman
Marlboro County Council

ATTEST:



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: January 14, 2020