

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, APRIL 9, 2013

6:00 PM

CHAIR	DR. CAROLYN PRINCE
VICE-CHAIR	RON MUNNERLYN
ADMINISTRATOR	JIM HAYNES
COUNTY ATTORNEY	HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN, RON MUNNERLYN, DR. CAROLYN PRINCE, STEVE BLACKMON, AND	WILLIE GLADDEN, CORRIE H. PLATO, KEN ALLEN, ANTHONY WOODS
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* Absent

EXECUTIVE SESSION – DISCUSSION OF PERSONNEL MATTER

Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to enter into executive session for the discussion of a personnel matter. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden to leave executive session and re-enter open session. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Dr. Prince, Chair, advised no votes had been taken and no decisions were made during the Executive Session.

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

No items were added.

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munneryn, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE # 716 – AN AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCES DESIGNED TO AID IN THE SITING OF TELE-COMMUNICATION TOWERS AND ANTENNAE IN MARLBORO COUNTY AND TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NUMBERS 580 AND 580 A

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair addressed the public for comments. There were no comments from the public.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS GRANT TO PURCHASE A NEW BOOKMOBILE FOR THE LIBRARY AS REQUIRED BY GRANT AGENCY

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair addressed the public for comments. There were no comments from the public.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS TRAILS GRANT APPLICATION AS REQUIRED BY GRANT AGENCY

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair addressed the public for comments. There were no comments from the public.

The Public Hearing was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 12, 2013

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the minutes of March 12, 2013 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Ms. Corrie Plato, Dr. Carolyn Prince, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Anthony Woods. Abstain: Mr. Ken Allen (Mr. Ken Allen was absent from the March 12, 2013 meeting). Vote: 7/0/1. Motion Carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – MARCH 18, 2013

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the minutes of the March 18, 2013 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Mr. Willie Gladden, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Ken Allen, Mr. Anthony Woods, and Dr. Carolyn Prince. Abstain: Mr. Steve Blackmon (Mr. Steve Blackmon was absent at the March 18, 2013 meeting). Vote: 7/0/1. Motion Carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 716 - AN AMENDMENT TO THE ORDINANCES DESIGNED TO AID IN THE SITING OF TELE-COMMUNICATION TOWERS AND ANTENNAE IN MARLBORO COUNTY AND TO REPEAL ORDINANCE NUMBERS 580 AND 580 A – SECOND READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that this ordinance was necessary due to a request for a taller tower to be built which would exceed the height requirements of our current ordinances.

Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, stated that this ordinance would repeal the existing Ordinance Numbers 580 and 580 A and included a variance clause. He advised that a company had requested to build a tower of 480 feet, which was taller than our existing ordinance would allow. Our existing ordinance would limit the height of a tower to be 300 feet. This ordinance would allow a tower not to exceed 500 feet.

Mr. Harry Easterling, Jr., County Attorney, stated that this ordinance would also include a variance clause so that future towers would be able to be considered on a case by case basis, as well increase the height limit to 500 feet.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve the second reading of Ordinance # 716 – An Amendment to the Ordinances Designed to Aid in the Siting of Tele-Communication Towers and Antennae in Marlboro County and to Repeal Ordinance Numbers 580 and 580 A. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 717 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2013 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2014 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that a budget workshop would be scheduled shortly.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 717 – An Ordinance to adopt the annual budget and to make appropriations for Marlboro County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2013 and ending June 30, 2014. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 718 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2014 – FY 2018 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that this was standard procedure.

Motion made Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 718 – An Ordinance to approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Marlboro County for the Period of FY 2014 – FY 2018. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 04-13-01 – A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE MONTH OF APRIL AS THE SOUTH CAROLINA FAIR HOUSING MONTH FOR 2013

Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, stated that Council had before them a revised Resolution # 04-13-01 which included the correct language to designate April as the South Carolina Fair Housing Month for 2013.

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve Resolution # 04-13-01 – A Resolution Designating the Month of April as the South Carolina Fair Housing Month for 2013. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REQUEST FOR APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH OUR INDEPENDENT AUDITORS, HILL AND JORDAN, LLC. THE CONTRACT IS FOR THE AUDITING SERVICE FOR THE COUNTY FIRE DEPARTMENTS FOR THE YEAR 2011-2012. THIS IS AUDITING WORK THAT IS REQUIRED. THE COST OF THIS WORK IS \$2,000.00

Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, stated that this was a contract for auditing service for the year 2011-2012; that the auditing work is a little behind and needed to be done so that the contract could be updated.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods to approve the contract with our independent Auditors, Hill and Jordan, LLC, for auditing services for the County fire departments for the years 2011-2012 at a cost of \$2,000.00. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn stated that the Library Board had requested that Ms. Ella Reese Hinson be named as Chair of the Library Board but that Council would need to recommend and confirm the appointment.

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, confirmed that to be procedure.

Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden to approve the appointment of Ms. Ella Reese Hinson as Chair of the Library Board. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.

STAFF REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE/FINANCIAL REPORT – JIM HAYNES, INTERIM COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Recognition of Employees – Employees recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of March included: Annie Ruth Caulder (37 years),

Betty G. David (9 years), James J. Irons (8 years), Judy N. McQueen (8 years), and Cathy C. Pearson (24 years). Mr. Haynes also took this opportunity to introduce Ainsley Atkinson as the new Finance Officer for Marlboro County, who was present at the meeting. Council members acknowledged Ms. Atkinson who was present and welcomed her as well.

Expenditure & Revenue – The County expenditure and revenue report was distributed to Council members. Expenditures were at 73%, while Revenue was at 87% through the end of March.

GRANT UPDATES:

Marlboro County Interagency Council – Mr. Haynes advised that Ms. Susan Rivers, Grant Coordinator, assisted with the application process and was successful in getting the application submitted by the March 22, 2013 deadline.

Library Bookmobile – Mr. Haynes advised that all required documents had been submitted. Ms. Susan Rivers, Grant Coordinator, had advised that she ordered the Affidavits of Publication from the newspaper and would forward the same to Kimm McKithen of Rural Development today. Ms. McKithen of Rural Development had reviewed the information forwarded to date and once the Affidavits of Publication is received by her, she will continue the application process. A copy of the minutes from tonight's public hearing and Council meeting for the Public Hearing will be forwarded to Ms. McKithen once they are prepared.

Trails Grant – Mr. Haynes advised that we have submitted the Intent to Apply. Only those counties who receive "Invites" may submit applications which will be placed on their website at the end of April. As of today, no type notice had been received.

PARD – Mr. Haynes stated that we have submitted the "INTENT" to Apply. We requested the Endorsement from the Delegation on February 27, 2013 which "must" accompany applications. He advised that as of today, we had not received the required endorsement and have not been able to submit any application. The initial \$6,412.52 for the baseball fields are required to be allocated by May 31, 2013 or the funds will be returned to the PARD General Fund.

USED OIL & WASTE TIRE GRANTS – Both applications are due May 3, 2013. He stated that he was currently gathering information and Ms. Susan Rivers, Grant Coordinator, would work with Mr. Sidney Wallace and Mr. Lewis Cooper on April 22nd to go over the application and their needs.

QUARTERLY REPORTS – Mr. Haynes stated that quarterly reports for the various grants are due no later than April 15th; however, that due to the moving of our computer system on April 11th, Ms. Susan Rivers, Grant Coordinator, was working to complete all necessary reports by April 10th. A 30 day extension had been requested for the LEMPG (Local Emergency Management Performance Grant) to insure that it is properly submitted. There

would be some revisions that would need to be addressed before the report could be submitted.

“WELCOME TO MARLBORO COUNTY” SIGNS – Mr. Haynes advised that he contacted the sign folks and was advised that the signs should be installed in the brick structures within the next two weeks. He stated that there was no structure on 38 North, so this one still has to be done.

BUDGET FOR FY 2013-2014 – Mr. Haynes stated that he has begun putting together the budget for 2013-2014 and based upon his current information, the Revenues would be down from this year. Information was provided to Council to reflect that we were struggling to reach the 2011-2012 FILOT revenues for the current year. He confirmed that all payments were in and that it had been taken into consideration the large increase in the FILOT paid by Aladdin. He stated that there was a great need for additional revenues. He advised that not only were revenues which were anticipated running short, but he also recognized that Council had been dipping into the fund balance (last audited year [2011-12] for \$204,428.00), which was at least partially created by a net \$342,262.00 Decrease in revenues during this same year. He advised that these facts along with the knowledge that Council budgeted \$487,000.00 last July to balance the 2012-13 budget caused him to feel obligated to warn Council that things were not getting any better. He stated that as Council knew, taking from the fund balance is like using your savings account to make your monthly expenses and after being forced to do this for one month, you have to continue to take out of savings unless the income or your expenses change. He advised that in government, once funds are taken from the fund balance, we can almost be assured, if all else remains equal, that we will have to take that much or more out in the next year. He stated that the problem is that additional revenues come from the taxpayers in the form of taxes.

Administration Building Move – Mr. Haynes stated that all offices would be moving next week into the back hallway of the Administration building. He advised that the computer server would be moved Thursday of this week to insure that we would be able to operate once the move is made. He stated that renovations would begin immediately on the front hallway of the Administration building after the offices are vacated. He stated that provisions would be made for getting staff as well as the public through the front doors and into their offices. He stated that he hoped that all would understand and bear with us during this transition.

Harbor Freight Expansion Announcement – Mr. Haynes advised that he, along with Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, and Mr. Ron King attended the Harbor Freight expansion announcement last Thursday afternoon which took place at the Dillon Wellness Center. He stated that it was cold and rainy, but that most of the speakers mentioned that it was a good day in the Pee Dee area of South Carolina. He stated that the 60 million dollar investment and the 200+ jobs were welcomed additions to the area. He advised that the Dillon Wellness Center was a very impressive establishment, with multiple meeting rooms, basketball courts, aerobic areas, a walking area around the perimeter inside the building, as well as weight/workout rooms. He advised that Council should consider looking at this facility, as Council has had discussion in Recreation and what might be offered.

PROPOSED CONTRACT BETWEEN COUNTY AND CITY OF BENNETTSVILLE

– Mr. Haynes stated that a proposed contract between the City and County was sent to the City of Bennettsville. He advised that this year's contract costs out the services provided by the County to the City at an accurate dollar figure of \$486,397.44. This compared to last year's contract figure of \$201,050.00.

FREEZE ON SPENDING – Mr. Haynes, Interim Administrator, stated that he had sent a spending "freeze" memo to all departments. He stated that this was done to prevent stocking up for next year and giving us as much appropriated but unspent money as possible to kick off the new budget year on July 1.

ROOF LEAKS – Mr. Haynes, Interim Administrator, stated that the Administration office had made it through the last two rain events with the new roof without any leaks, and that as a result, Hal Fuller, the Architect had processed the final payment for Nunnery Roofing and that payment had been authorized.

STATEMENT OF ECONOMIC INTEREST (ETHICS) FORM – Mr. Haynes, Interim Administrator reminded Council that this form should be completed by April 15.

COUNCIL RESPONSE

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that she appreciated Mr. Jim Haynes' details as we enter into our budget year discussions. She stated that we must stop spending and cannot continue to "rob Peter to pay Paul".

Dr. Prince inquired of Council members as to when might be a good time to schedule a budget workshop meeting and it was decided to schedule the first budget workshop meeting for Monday, May 6, 2013 at 5:30 p.m. at the Administration office at a place to be determined.

Dr. Prince stated that the Dillon Wellness Center was a very nice facility and that Council, along with the City Council, should visit and view the facility.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that the City of Bennettsville had considered a facility with the same floor plan as Dillon Wellness Center and he advised Council that he has a copy of the plan if anyone wished to look at them. He advised that Mr. Dennis Miller gave them to him when the City was looking to build such a facility years ago.

Dr. Prince stated that she really appreciated the work done by Mr. Haynes, Interim Administrator, in reflecting the actual costs with Detention Center. She advised that we can now see that this is a lot of money and she hoped that Mr. Haynes and Mr. Max Alderman, City Administrator, could come to terms with a fair contract. She stated that Marlboro County had been carrying the weight for years because we did not know the true costs. She stated that Mr. Haynes' report reflects the true costs.

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Mr. Willie Gladden stated that the Solicitor had notified him that the Detention Center number is down to 45 and it usually stays around 82.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn stated that even if Council had to raise taxes, that Council is limited as to how much. He stated that Council cannot continue to use reserve funds. He stated that we were also using Railroad Funds which are also reserve funds. He also stated that he wanted to see the City contract be worked out to be something fair.

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that Council may look at fire millage rates. She stated that we should not use those reserve funds because the Fire Departments are in need of equipment and other services that will require a good bit of these funds.

Mr. Jason Steen stated that a certain reserve is required to be kept in the fund.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Stephanie Rawlinson – stated that she was a Representative from Congressman Tom Rice' office and that the Congressman Rice sends his greetings to all. She stated that she appreciated their being able to use the beautiful Economic Development office building to meet with constituents to discuss their various issues. She stated that the Pee Dee Regional office is located in the BB&T office on third floor, Suite 300, on West Evans Street in Florence, SC, and the telephone number is 843-679-9781. She advised that Congressman Rice' office can help with any issues that constituents may have with any federal agencies, such as Veteran benefits, social security, federal grants, infrastructure, or any legislative matters. She stated that they had a full time case worker in the office. She asked that anyone never hesitate to call.

Roderick Hancock – stated that he was appearing to speak with regard to the Veterans Affairs job in Marlboro County and the way it was handled. He advised that he felt that the job was not advertised or a qualified veteran would have gotten the job. He advised that he felt that the new director was selected without any advertising at all. He felt that a veteran should have had that position. He stated that he saw where three of the Delegation members appointed her but the job should have been advertised and not just selected. He also stated that he did not feel that the job should be appointed by the Delegation. He stated that he felt that County Council should have input rather than just the Delegation.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Anthony Woods – welcomed Ms. Ainsley Atkinson as the new Finance Officer for Marlboro County and advised that Mr. Haynes would guide her in the right direction. Mr. Woods announced that Dollar General had opened in Clio and that all of the citizens were overwhelmed, excited and uplifted about the great things happening in Clio. He also mentioned a business with gas and diesel that were looking at Clio and stated that Clio was moving forward and all were happy.

Ms. Corrie Plato – No comments.

Mr. Jason Steen – Mr. Steen stated that the Fire Departments have been working very hard on the ISO reports and getting them out. He advised that these reports have everything to do with the premiums quoted for homeowners insurance. He stated that for properties 1,000 feet away from a fire hydrant, it is very hard to get rates down. He stated that the Fire Departments were trying to get the entire county rated as a Class 5 which would be a great potential savings to the citizens of Marlboro County. He stated that the Fire Departments continue to work hard for the citizens of Marlboro.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn – No comments.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – stated that the Blenheim Middle School had their ribbon cutting and open house recently and all went well. He stated that everyone was very proud of this school and thanked everyone that helped get this accomplished.

Mr. Ken Allen – No comments.

Mr. Willie Gladden – thanked everyone for coming out. He stated that the County had several problems with the Veterans Affairs position of Director and how it was handled. He thanked Representative Elizabeth Munnerlyn who brought everyone aware of how she felt the procedures for hiring should be handled. Mr. Gladden advised that we needed to find a qualified veteran for this position and this did not take place. He stated that the current Director was hired out of favoritism. He advised that he had nothing against the current director but that a qualified veteran should have received the job. He advised that he was not done with it yet and he intended to let the Delegation know that this was not handled properly. He advised that Post 213 was scheduled to meet tonight about this matter. He stated that he would personally continue to fight for a qualified veteran to receive this position.

Mr. Gladden also stated that Brightsville/Adamsville has a great day coming. He announced and discussed the plans for proposed recreation field layout for the Brightsville/Adamsville area and mentioned the countywide archery program that would be available to all children in the county with certified instructors being available.

Mr. Gladden went on to say that we really needed the grant for the walking trail. He stated that all of the fencing around the park would be portable and would be easily moved to accommodate all activities. He mentioned a projected date of May 25, 2013 for grand opening of the recreation field and stated that although they would miss offering baseball and softball, the park should be able to have soccer and football teams for the fall.

He also asked that all remember to contribute to the Brightsville Park by making donations to Brightsville Park, P. O. Box 404, Bennettsville, SC 29512. He also stated that they had opened an account for this purpose at First Citizens and that anyone could simply go the bank and make a deposit into this account. The account is titled "Brightsville Park".

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Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair – advised that all Council Members received a form from Parks and Recreation and she challenged each Council Member to help with sponsorships in some way.

NON AGENDA ITEMS

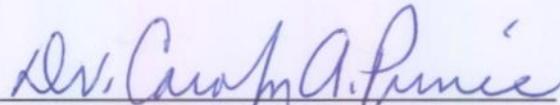
No items were heard.

ADJOURN

No further discussion was heard. The meeting was adjourned.

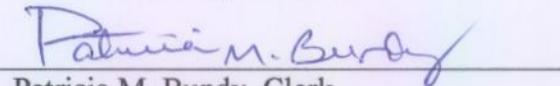
Motion made by Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

(SEAL)



Dr. Carolyn A. Prince, Chair
Marlboro County Council

ATTEST:



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Date Adopted: May 14, 2013