

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2017

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

VICE-CHAIRMAN

WILLIE GLADDEN

ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK TO COUNCIL
COUNTY ATTORNEY

RON MUNNERLYN
PATRICIA BUNDY
HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

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. Lynn McQueen, Marlboro Herald-Advocate, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Lynn McQueen 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).

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.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE # 755 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, opened the public hearing and recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on Ordinance # 755.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that a copy of the proposed budget had been presented to members of Council and stated that the budget reflects expenses of more than \$11.1 million with \$400,000 being used from the reserve fund. He stated that the budget does include a tax increase and a \$40 solid waste fee on all county dwellings.

Mr. Munnerlyn mentioned that a total of \$1.1 million was estimated to be used from reserve funds last year which would mean that we would be required to raise taxes by 18 mils to balance the budget. He stated that staff has found cuts that could be made and increased user fees so as to reduce the use of the reserve fund by \$405,000 and in effect reducing the reliance on property tax revenue by \$705,000 or approximately 12 tax mils.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the final drafted budget proposes a 1.70 tax mil increase to recover unfunded state mandates which includes the state retirement increase, a .90 tax mil increase to recover the deficit from last year, as well as a .40 tax mil increase for reassessment adjustment for a total of increase in tax millage of 3 tax mils. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the final drafted budget also includes a Solid Waste Fee to be imposed of \$40 on all dwellings that are not located in municipalities throughout the county. He stated that most municipalities already impose a similar fee and he did not feel that they should be hit twice. He stated that this fee would be collected annually on the tax bills.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that with the tax millage increase, the cuts and the increase in user fees, the amount needed to be used from reserve funds would be estimated at \$400,000.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any comments or questions from the public or council members on this Ordinance. There were no comments.

ORDINANCE # 756 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2018 TO FY 2022

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, opened the public hearing and recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on Ordinance # 756.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the Capital Improvement Plan for Council's review was a five year plan guideline for capital improvements. He stated that it has always been very general and not very specific.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any comments or questions from the public or council members on this Ordinance. There were no comments.

ORDINANCE # 757 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOT EXCEEDING ONE MILLION DOLLAR (\$1,000,000) GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OF MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF SAID BOND SHALL

BE EXPENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID BOND, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, opened the public hearing and recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on Ordinance # 757.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance was a part of the budget presentation. He stated that the county has millage dedicated for debt to make repairs to buildings in the county and stated that staff has been able to refinance and borrow additional funds up to the original amount of the General Obligation Bond. He stated that by doing this, the county would be able to obtain an additional \$750,000 - \$1,000,000 in funds to make repairs to the courthouse roof and other buildings and help keep the budget expenses to a minimum. He stated that this would in no way affect the term of the initial loan or the interest rate.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any comments or questions from the public or council members on this Ordinance. There were no comments.

The Public Hearing was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 9, 2017 – Budget Work Session

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were no recommended changes.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the Budget Work Session minutes of May 9, 2017 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., and Mr. Anthony Woods. Abstain: Mr. Steve Blackmon and Mr. Verd Odom (not present at Budget Work Session meeting). Vote: 5/0/2. Motion carried.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any comments or questions from the public or council members on this Ordinance. There were no comments.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 9, 2017 – Regular Council Meeting

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested change or additions. There were no recommended changes,

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes of May 9, 2017 as presented. Vote in favor: Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Mr. Verd Odom, and Mr. Anthony Woods. Abstain: Mr. Steve Blackmon (not present at the Council meeting). Vote: 6/0/1. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 755 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2017 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2018 – THIRD READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munneryn stated that he had explained the proposed budget during the public hearing and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 755 – an Ordinance to adopt the annual budget and to make appropriations for Marlboro County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2017 and ending June 30, 2018. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 756 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2018 TO FY 2022 – THIRD READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator, had made comments on this Ordinance during the public hearing and asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 756 – an Ordinance to approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Marlboro County for the period of FY 2018 to FY 2022. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 757 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOT EXCEEDING ONE MILLION DOLLAR (\$1,000,000) GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND OF MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, TO PRESCRIBE THE PURPOSES FOR WHICH THE PROCEEDS OF SAID BOND SHALL BE EXPENDED, TO PROVIDE FOR THE PAYMENT OF SAID BOND, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – THIRD READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that this was the third and final reading on this Ordinance and that Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator, had made comments on this Ordinance during the public hearing. He asked if there were any questions or comments. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 757 - an Ordinance to provide for the issuance and sale of a not exceeding one million dollar (\$1,000,000) general obligation bond of Marlboro County, South Carolina, to prescribe the purposes for which the proceeds of said bond shall be expended, to provide for the payment of said bond, and other matters related thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 758 – AN ORDINANCE OF MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA TO AMEND AN AMENDED RESTATED AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF JOINT-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BY AND AMONG MARLBORO COUNTY, DILLON COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, AND MARION COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, SO AS TO ENLARGE THE PARK AND MODIFY THE DISTRIBUTION OF PARK REVENUES IN THE EVENT OF THE ISSUANCE BY DILLON COUNTY OF CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE BONDS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED TO THE FOREGOING – SECOND READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munneryn stated that this Ordinance was a good thing for Marlboro County. He stated that Marlboro County Council was wise enough 20 years ago to join in with Dillon and Marion Counties to create an Industrial Park and it was finally paying off. He stated that Harbor Freight was planning another very large expansion and that it would cost a lot of money but that in a year or so Marlboro County would begin to see a return on this expansion. He stated that this was the second reading on this Ordinance and recommended that Council approve the same.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the second reading of Ordinance # 758 – an Ordinance of Marlboro County, South Carolina to amend an amended Restated Agreement for development of joint-county Industrial and Business Park by and among Marlboro County, Dillon County, South Carolina, and Marion County, South Carolina, so as to enlarge the park and modify the distribution of park revenues in the event of the issuance by Dillon County of certain special source revenue bonds; and other matters related to the foregoing. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 759 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR AN ANNUAL SOLID WASTE FEE – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munneryn stated that this Ordinance was in title only and that the county attorney, Mr. Harry R. Easterling, Jr., was drafting an Ordinance for review by Council and would have it available for the second reading and more discussion would be available at that time.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 759 – an Ordinance to provide for an annual Solid Waste Fee. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 06-17-02 – A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE FY 2018 WASTE TIRE/AUTOMOTIVE DISMANTLER RECYCLING GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$3,750

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was a routine Resolution that we do each year for recycling grant funds which require no match.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve Resolution # 06-17-02 – a Resolution to accept the FY 2018 Waste Tire/Automotive Dismantler Recycling Grant in the amount of \$3,750. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 06-17-03 – A RESOLUTION TO ACCEPT THE FY 2018 USED OIL GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$17,758

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was also a Resolution that we do each year for used oil grant funds and stated that no match was required for these funds.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve Resolution # 06-17-03 – a Resolution to accept the FY 2018 Used Oil Grant in the amount of \$17,758. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 06-17-04 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE 2016-2017 BUDGET AS REQUESTED BY THE MARLBORO COUNTY ADMINISTATOR

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn asked Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, to make comments. Ms. Moore stated that this budget amendment was for fiscal year 2016-2017 to move funds from one department to another to compensate for shortfalls. She stated that staff had attempted to plan accordingly for the upcoming budget.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato to approve Resolution # 06-17-04 – a Resolution approving a budget amendment to the 2016-2017 budget as requested by the Marlboro County Administrator. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 06-17-05 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION BY MARLBORO COUNTY TO THE S.C. EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICE FOR THE FY 2017 LOCAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PERFORMANCE GRANT (LEMPG) AND AUTHORIZATION TO ACCEPT GRANT IF AWARDED

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Resolution authorizes staff to apply for grant funds in an approximate amount of \$58,000 to be used in the county's budget for the Emergency Management office and requires no match.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to approve Resolution # 06-17-05 – a Resolution authorizing the submission of an application by Marlboro County to the S.C. Emergency Management Office for the FY 2017 Local Emergency Management Performance Grant (LEMPG) and authorization to accept grant if awarded. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any appointments to any boards or commission.

Chairman Steen stated that he would like to recommend that Ms. Patsy Kimrey Driggers be appointed from his district (District 1) to the Library Board.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to appoint Ms. Patsy Kimrey Driggers to the Library Board to represent District 1. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Steen stated that he had received notification that Mr. Cam Stone was interested in serving on the Lake Paul Wallace Authority Board and asked if Council would consider recommending him for this Board.

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to recommend to the Marlboro County Legislative Delegation that Mr. Cam Stone be considered for appointment to the Lake Paul Wallace Authority Board. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any other appointments. There were none.

Chairman Steen stated that staff would get us an up to date list of Boards and Commissions with vacancies so that members of Council could review and make recommendations for appointments as needed. He stated that this could be reviewed at the July Council meeting.

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

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

Ms. Moore reported that expenditures were at 85% of the budgeted amount and revenues were at 84% of the budgeted amount for the fiscal year. Ms. Moore provided a bar graph and stated that the county's revenues and expenses continue to trend consistently for this fiscal year as they have in prior years.

Ms. Moore stated that according to the SC Association of Counties, the House and Senate Budget Conferees have completed their work on the FY 17-18 budget. She stated that she understood that the conference committee increased the Local Government Fund base funding level by \$10 million and adopted the House proposal for funding government employer pension increases. She stated that this appropriation would pay for the full 2% state government employer increase and 1% of the local government employers' increase. She stated that together this would represent a \$44 million recurring increase for local government.

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

Chairman Steen thanked Ms. Moore for her report.

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

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerylyn, County Administrator.

Mr. Munnerylyn stated that his report was as follows:

EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES - The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of May: Jackie Baldwin (13 years); Keith Bingham (8 years); Cindy Deaver (6 years); Johnny Fair (12 years); Adam Foard (6 years); Tonya Harmon (12 years); Edward Odom (11 years); Charles Peterkin (10 years); and Deborah Weldon (17 years).

1. **SCAC'S 50th Annual Conference** – stated that the SCAC's 50th Annual Conference was scheduled for July 30 – August 2, 2017 at the Hilton Head Marriott. There will also be classes offered by the Institute of Government on Saturday and Sunday, July 29th and 30th.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Industrial Park – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that work continues to develop and improve the “product” we have to offer. County crews have been working to clean up the MC Industrial Park on SC 38 as well as at the BORO site. Staff has been working to identify possible new industrial sites and to reevaluate existing buildings in our County.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he met earlier this week with the Executive Director of NESAs regarding future economic development efforts, or role in NESAs and NESAs’s role with Marlboro County. He stated that there will be a follow up meeting with me and NESAs staff in the near future to align our efforts.

Tri-County Industrial Park –Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the industrial expansion in the Tri-County Industrial Park is on schedule, hopefully with an announcement soon. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that we should keep in mind that there are 246 acres remaining in the park for future projects. He stated that Marlboro, Marion and Dillon are partners in the park and all were working to insure the details of the arrangement are met and the structure of the managing organization is up-to-date.

ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT

Recreation- Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this department was perhaps the most visible function of county government and one that touches the most people in our community. He stated that work will begin soon towards developing a questionnaire for coaches, parents and players in order to receive input about what is working well and what needs improvement. He stated that similarly, our recreation facilities were in poor condition and some work has already begun with regards to repairing structure, clearing debris and vegetation.

PARD Grant – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that by now you have already received a letter from Senator Gerald Malloy regarding the outstanding PARD grant request. He stated that he sent Representative Pat Henegan a letter inquiring as to the \$20,000 which came from a reduction in a 2015 Marlboro County grant request for the Blenheim Gymnasium project. He stated that the county did receive a grant that year, but the amount was reduced by Rep. Hengan in order to fund a project at the Walker Park owned by the School District. The School District, per PARD rules, could not receive the grant, so there has been discussion by Rep. Hengan, the schools and Mayor Heath Harpe as to how to meet the requirements for receipt of the grant perhaps “through” the City.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that in the past, unused grant money “expired” at the end of May and that his letter/request was that if no arrangement had been made with the school district and City of Bennettsville, the County would like to re-request the money as opposed to the money being turned back over to the State.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that according to Senator Malloy’s letter and a phone call, as well as a visit from Rep Henegan, the deadline could be extended. He advised that he also understood that the City Council last night discussed the matter and the Mayor had asked City Council

to enter into a legal agreement with the school district with which the \$20,000 could be routed through the City to the schools.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the bottom line was that if this occurs then the \$20,000 would be used and not returned to the State.

Solid Waste Enforcement- Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Mr. Keith Williams, our Solid Waste Enforcement officer, recently took part in a sting operation in Darlington County. Officer Williams did a “stake-out” of heavily littered areas and ultimately charged a number of individuals with littering and other charges that some of the offenders had pending. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that everyone should look for this sort of activity here in our County soon.

Budget thanks- Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he wanted to thank publically Ms. Ainsley Moore, the Finance staff and ALL department heads for their assistance in preparing the budget for next year. He stated that this year’s approach was a bit different than years past and he appreciated the open-mindedness of staff with the budget and going forward.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that he wanted to mention the PARD funds which Mr. Munnerlyn discussed earlier. He stated that he understood that the \$20,000 PARD funds would expire on May 31, 2017 if not used by that date but he attended a City of Bennettsville workshop meeting last night and found out that a “back door deal” was being done between Mayor Heath Harpe, Representative Pat Henegan, and Dr. Helena Tillar. He stated that this matter came up and it was discussed that the City would run the funds through their account for Walker Park on behalf of the School District and the School District would agree to keep the park up and maintain the same. Mr. Gladden stated that this is a 20 year plan and that there was no guarantee that Dr. Tillar would be in her position for 20 years. Mr. Gladden understood that the City’s attorney had contacted the School Board’s attorney but no conversations were had as of yet. Mr. Gladden stated that Mayor Harpe insists that this will be done. Mr. Gladden stated that he felt this was a real problem and did not like the way that it was being handled. He stated that these funds are being used by one group and all the other children in the county are not being considered. Mr. Gladden stated that he wanted Mr. Munnerlyn to look into this matter.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had written a letter to Representative Henegan about the \$20,000 in PARD funds which he understood would be lost if not awarded by May 31st. He stated that Marlboro County had applied for the full \$67,000 for repairs and improvements to the Blenheim Gym but only received \$47,000 and was told that the remaining \$20,000 would be used for the Walker Park. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that there are other funds that Marlboro County can apply for and this would be done.

Mr. Gladden stated that he understood that there was a deadline of May 31st for the funds to be awarded and now he understands that the deadline has changed. He stated that he wanted to know when the deadline was changed and why no one was notified.

Chairman Steen asked if Marlboro County usually got the PARD funds and Mr. Munnerlyn responded that we have almost every year.

Mr. Anthony Woods stated that it was at the discretion of the Marlboro County Legislative Delegation as to how much and who gets the PARD funds.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that it is very political but that a certain amount is allocated within the boundaries of Marlboro County. He stated that the funds have to go to someone who has operated a recreation program for 12 months and stated that the School District does not qualify but the County and City would. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the \$20,000 is the old money but there were new funds available. He stated that it is distributed in accordance with the Delegation's discretion and there are rules.

Mr. Woods stated that years ago when the City and County ran one park together there was not a problem getting the funds. He stated that since the City and County split and went in separate directions things were different. He stated that not all parks have to be athletic parks.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he would get a copy of the rules for Council's review.

Mr. Gladden stated that this was something that was not going away. He mentioned the \$340,000 which was spent at the lake. Mr. Gladden stated that this action needed to go public 100%.

Mr. Woods asked if the \$47,000 which the County received had been spent. Mr. Munnerlyn advised that the funds had been spent on improvements to the Blenheim Gym.

Chairman Steen thanked Mr. Munnerlyn for his report and thanked staff for their hard work with the budget. He stated that he knew that there had been a lot of hard work put into searching for cuts and ways to help the bottom line and he really appreciated all of the hard work.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that two citizens had signed up to speak and recognized them.

Vikki Harris – thanked Council for allowing her to speak. She stated that a flyer had been prepared noting events for the next couple of months and stated that she wanted to provide an update as to what was going on in the Veterans Affairs office. She stated that a copy of the flyer would be provided to each Council member.

Ms. Harris stated that he appreciated her position and that she wanted her office to be transparent.

John Jefferson – stated that he understood that he only had three minutes to speak but stated that the truth could not be spoken in three minutes. He stated that his property was taken from him and stated that no one at the meeting understood what that was like. He stated that the folks that took his property should check their spiritual value. He stated that

could not even vote in Marlboro County. He stated that he would be back to address Council again.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Anthony Woods – thanked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, for their hard work with the budget. He stated that they did an excellent job and that this was one of the easiest ones to follow and understand with all the graphs and charts that were provided and shown to Council.

Mr. Woods stated that schools were out for the summer and that Clio had many activities scheduled. He stated that the kids needed to be involved in activities on a daily basis. He mentioned the Blenheim Gym and stated that he hoped that it would be made available for the children to use this summer.

Ms. Corrie Plato – thanked Mr. Munnerlyn and Ms. Moore for a great job with the budget. She stated that it takes cooperation and pulling together to make things happen and that the county has its ups and downs but through it all we would prevail.

Ms. Plato thanked Ms. Vikki Harris for the splendid job that she continues to do for the veterans in the county and stated that no one has ever done this much for the veterans in our county. She stated that she really appreciated the great job that she is doing.

Ms. Plato thanked Sheriff Lemon for the excellent job that he continues to do.

Ms. Plato mentioned the kids being out of school for the summer and stated that the children needed to be busy in activities so that they would not have time to just hang around in the streets.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – commended Mr. Ron Munnerlyn and Ms. Ainsley Moore on all the hard work with the budget. He thanked members of Council for making difficult decisions. He stated that there were programs that Council was not able to fund this year but hoped that next year would be a better year and that they could consider funding more programs.

Mr. Midgley mentioned Lake Paul Wallace and stated that the spillway was in the process of being repaired and looked forward to having the lake filled up again for the citizens to enjoy.

Mr. Willie Gladden – thanked Ms. Vikki Harris for the job that she does in the Veterans Affairs office. He stated that no one has ever done the things that she is doing for the veterans in our county and he appreciated her.

Mr. Gladden stated that the Brightsville-Adamsville Park would have their annual Fourth of July celebration on the Friday before the fourth which would be on June 30th. He stated that more information on this would be provided later but that they would have a day of events with fireworks that night. He stated that the City of Bennettsville would have their annual fireworks display on Saturday, July 1st.

Mr. Gladden stated that it takes money for the kids in the county to have something to do.

Mr. Steve Blackmon - stated that for years Blenheim received no funds because there was no land for recreation. He stated that now Blenheim has the old Blenheim gym and he hopes that they can catch up with continuing to improve the recreation in the Blenheim area. Mr. Blackmon thanked Mr. Munnerlyn for the letter which was written to Representative Henegan in an attempt to get the \$20,000 PARD funds. He stated that in the past Blenheim had lost a lot of years and funding but now that there is a facility and land in Blenheim that he hoped that things could be done to improve the recreation activities in his area.

Mr. Verd Odom – thanked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn and Ms. Ainsley Moore for their work on the budget. He stated that with the large deficit that the county has, the work that has been done has been good and though were many cuts were made, he felt that down the road the citizens would benefit from it all.

Mr. Odom thanked Ms. Patricia Bundy for everything that she does with reminding members of Council of meetings and other things going on in the County. He also thanked Ms. Lynn McQueen for all that she does in covering the meetings.

Mr. Odom stated that there were a lot of kids out of school for the summer that many are on bicycles and in the streets. He stated that he has always been concerned about kids on bikes in the streets and stated that we should all take extra caution and look out for these children.

Mr. Odom thanked Sheriff Lemon for all that he continues to do to keep our county safe.

Mr. Jason Steen – thanked everyone for all that they do for the county. He thanked Sheriff Lemon for attending the meeting and stated that last month was the first month that he had missed attending the council meetings and that was because of the investigation and work related to the two deaths in the county.

Mr. Steen stated that a lot goes into the budget but hopefully that the amount that we receive from the Local Government Fund would be increased. He stated that it seemed that the Local Government Fund gets funded less each year.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

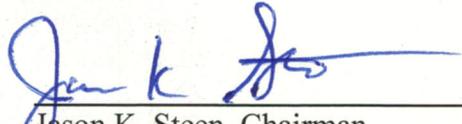
ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

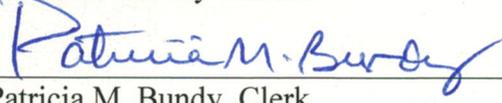
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:00 pm.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Jason K. Steen, Chairman
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: July 11, 2017