

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2018

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN JASON STEEN

ADMINISTRATOR RON MUNNERLYN
CLERK TO COUNCIL PATRICIA BUNDY
COUNTY ATTORNEY 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: Jacquelyn Hough of the Marlboro Herald-Advocate, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director

A copy of the agenda was emailed to 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).

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Anthony Woods to give the invocation and asked that he please remember the family of Jiheem Prince, a young student, who recently died. Dr. Prince stated that Jiheem was a former member of the videography crew and had lost his battle to leukemia on February 9, 2018. She stated that his funeral service was scheduled for February 14th at 1:00 pm at the Shiloh Baptist Church on Cheraw Street in Bennettsville, SC.

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

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

PRESENTATIONS

NETC VOCATIONAL TRAINING CENTER UPDATE – DR. MARK BUNCH, NETC DEAN OF CONTINUING EDUCATION AND WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Dr. Mark Bunch to provide an update on the NETC Vocational Training Center.

Dr. Bunch thanked the Chair and members of Council for allowing him the opportunity to come and update them on the vocational training center. He stated that he wanted to share some information regarding the dual enrollment program and need for their college to pull their resources together with government entities to create a trained group of people that could be employed and continue to live in the county.

Dr. Bunch presented a power point slide and discussed several things. He first mentioned the RUS Grant and announced that NETC had been awarded an Allied Health Distance Learning grant in the amount of \$500,000 that would provide virtual connections to classrooms in Dillon, Lake View and Latta. He also mentioned that NETC had also been awarded Advanced Manufacturing 4.0 Distance Learning Award grant in the amount of \$415,256 would be used to help create a distance learning network in Marlboro and Chesterfield Counties. He stated that the Bennettsville and Pageland NETC campus would be the hub/end-user sites He stated that the these user-end sites would expand course offerings which would include core courses, dual-credit courses and advanced placement course in the local high schools, as well as provide a community resource for workforce development, job training, community meetings and continued education for first responders.

Dr. Bunch stated that NETC currently had a total of 311 students registered in the Dual Enrollment program for Chesterfield, Marlboro and Dillon Counties, He stated that Marlboro County High School had the largest number of dual-enrollment students of 102.

Dr. Bunchy mentioned the Accelerated Dual Credit Program and stated that students could begin taking these classes in the 9th grade which meant that a student could have as much as 12 hours between their 9th and 11th grades and High School seniors would be allowed to take eight classes and two labs for a total of 26 hours. He stated that High School seniors may be on a NETC campus for all of their classes during their senior year.

Dr. Bunch stated that future partnership opportunities with school districts would allow for expanded distance learning course offerings, CATE classes to be added to dual enrollment and stated that students could graduate high school with an Associate's Degree.

Dr. Bunch stated that the Marlboro County CATE Program would allow students to be assigned to two (2) AM or PM classes. He stated that students, with school district approval, may be allowed to ride buses or drive and would return to the high school. He stated that School District teachers would be paid by the School Districts and the School District would manage their funds, maintain their records and manage students.

Dr. Bunch then provided an update on the new Marlboro County Campus (old Winn-Dixie building). He stated that Phase I had been approved and that bids exceeded the \$1.1 million budget. He stated that the lowest bid received was \$1.56 million and that the NETC Area Commission would be using College Funds (NETC Reserve) of \$461,000 to continue the project. He stated that this would need to be approved by the state before NETC could proceed. He stated that after March 8, 2018 approval, the intent to award would be issued to the lowest bidder. Dr. Bunch stated that the campus would have designated training areas for welding, machine tools, culinary arts, cosmetology and nursing programs. Dr. Bunch stated that the gates have been ordered and that staff was receiving quotes on other sign work. He also stated that equipment had been purchased and would be moved to the campus after renovations were completed.

Dr. Bunch stated that there were workforce development challenges and that business and school communities were very interest in partnerships between NETC, School Districts, and Economic Development. He stated that there was definitely a need for skilled workforce and seamless transition from high school to higher education to workforce. Dr. Bunch stated that the NETC's students have aspirations; that the local industries had aspirations; and that local folks have a desire to learn and a desire to work. He stated that all these were positive things for Marlboro County.

Dr. Bunch asked if there were any questions.

Chair Prince stated that she had heard all of the plans for the Winn-Dixie building but asked why NETC would have a duplication CATE program since the High School already has one. She stated that she saw no need for duplication and no need for the students to have to go to the NETC campus since this was already provided at the High School. Dr. Bunch stated that this would be a decision of the School District but stated that the new campus would have up to date equipment and class settings. He also stated that the High School has limited space and more space would be available at the new NETC site.

Chair Prince stated that she understood that there would programs available for adults and asked what the time line on the availability of these programs would be. Dr. Bunch stated that programs would be made available to adults in late August of this year due to renovations that were being made.

Chair Prince asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 9, 2018 – Regular council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the minutes of Regular Council meeting minutes of January 9, 2018 as presented. Vote in favor: Dr. Carolyn Prince, Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Willie Gladden, Mr. Anthony Woods, Mr. Steve Blackmon, Mr. Charles P. Midgley, and Mr. Verd Odom. Abstain: Ms. Corrie Plato (not present at the meeting). Vote: 7/0/1. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - January 30, 2018 – “Called” Council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the minutes of the “Called” meeting minutes of January 30, 2018 as presented. Vote in favor: Dr. Carolyn Prince, Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Anthony Woods, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. Abstain: Mr. Willie Gladden, Ms. Corrie Plato and Mr. Verd Odom (not present at the meeting). Vote: 5/0/3. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 765 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND A COMPANY KNOWN TO THE COUNTY AT THIS TIME AS PROJECT TOM WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY, WHEREBY SUCH PROPERTY WILL BE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN PAYMENTS IN LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – THIRD READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that this was the third reading on this Ordinance and the final draft of the Ordinance had just been provided to Council for review. Chair Prince asked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, if he and the attorneys had an opportunity to review the final documents and Mr. Munnerlyn confirmed that he did, as well as Attorney Harry Easterling and Attorney Sam Moses.

Chair Prince 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 third reading of Ordinance # 765 – an Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes Agreement by and Between Marlboro County, South Carolina and a Company Known to the County at this time as Project Tom with Respect to Certain Economic Development Property in

the County, Whereby such Property will be Subject to Certain Payments in Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 766 – AN ORDINANCE ENLARGING THE BOUNDARIES OF THAT JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK WITH DILLON COUNTY AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO (PROJECT UNIQUE) – FIRST READING – TITLE ONLY

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Ordinance related to a new project in Dillon County and the property for the project would be added as a part of the Joint County Industrial and Business Park which Marlboro County has with Dillon County. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was a good thing.

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

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to authorize County Administrator to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 766 –An Ordinance Enlarging the Boundaries of that Joint County Industrial and Business Park with Dillon County and Other Matters Related Thereto (Project Unique). Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OPENING & ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS

BRIGHTSVILLE TRAIL FENCING PROJECT

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that seven bids had been received for the Brightsville Trail Fencing Project but that Henley's Construction of Cheraw provided the low bid in the amount of \$13,325. He stated that the bids varied from \$13,325 to \$23,800 but stated that he felt that Henley's may have provided the lower bid because they were closer to the project site than the others. He stated that all of them received the same bid package.

Chair Prince asked if staff had a recommendation. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff would suggest that the low bid from Henley's Construction Co. in the amount of \$13,325 be accepted.

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

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Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to award the Brightsville Trail Fencing Project to Henley's Construction Co. in the amount of \$13,325. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF MS. ELLA ROSS TO SERVE ON THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF MARLBORO COUNTY BOARD TO REPLACE MR. B. H. GUINN

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this recommendation came directly from the Housing and Community Redevelopment Authority of Marlboro County Board and they are asking that we confirm that appointment.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the appointment of Ms. Ella Ross to serve on the Housing and Community Redevelopment Authority of Marlboro County Board to replace Mr. B. H. Guinn. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. RON KING AND MS. BOBBIE JO GROOMS TO SERVE ON THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY RE-DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF MARLBORO COUNTY BOARD

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to reappoint Mr. Ron King and Ms. Bobbie Jo Grooms to serve on the Housing and Community Redevelopment Authority of Marlboro County Board. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director.

Ms. Moore stated that the expenses for the month of January were at 56% of the budgeted amount which were slightly under budget for this point in the fiscal year. She stated that revenues for January increased significantly and actually doubled since last month due to collections of taxes. Ms. Moore stated that revenues were also the results of increased millage as well as fees, both of which were crucial in covering County-provided services.

Ms. Moore stated that staff had been working closely with the auditors over the last several weeks to prepare the final audit report. She stated that the auditors would be prepared to present the audit at the next Council meeting.

Ms. Moore stated that the updated withholding guidelines from the recent tax reform bill were implemented earlier in February and stated that as a result that many employees were able to see increases in their paychecks.

Ms. Moore stated that staff would begin working on the upcoming fiscal year's budget and budget request forms would be distributed to the department heads. She stated that meetings would be scheduled with department heads to discuss regular funding needs and any additional requests and any capital needs.

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

Chair Prince thanked Ms. Moore for the financial report.

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

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

Mr. Munneryn stated that his report was as follows:

EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES - The following employees are recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of January: Councilman Steve Blackmon (11 years); Coroner Tim Brown (33 years); Councilman Willie Gladden (9 years); Fred Knight (13 years); Sheriff Charles Lemon (13 years); Judge Ronald McDonald (25 years); Grover McQueen (15 years); Ron Munneryn (9 years); Councilwoman Corrie Plato (19 years); Tracy Polson (5 years); Nikki Pruitt (9 years); Melissa Skipper (23 years); Councilman Jason Steen (7 years); Sidney Wallace (43 years); Joy Williams (5 years); and Councilman Anthony Woods (13 years).

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **SC Association of Counties Mid-Year Conference-** The SC Association of Counties' 31st Annual Mid-Year Conference will be held on Wednesday, February 21, 2018, at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia, SC. with the Institute of Government classes scheduled for Thursday, February 22, 2018.
2. **2018 Statement of Economic Interests Report Deadline-** The "ethics report" must be filed by all elected officials and some employees not later than 12:00 noon on March 30, 2018. This form must be filed electronically with a \$100 late filing penalty if not filed by the deadline date. A copy of the requirements is attached to this report for Council's information.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Project Phoenix

Staff has been hard at work on Project Phoenix. There are a great deal of legal and other details to work out and we expect to have an announcement in the next 30 days.

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Project Tom

Tonight, County Council approved the final reading for Project Tom. We will be making an announcement in the next week regarding the project which involves an existing industry in the county.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Strategic Plan Presentations

We welcome any opportunity to present council's strategic plan. I am scheduled to present the plan to the Clio Town Council this Thursday at 6 pm in Clio. If you are interested in attending, please let me know. Their meeting will be held in the old depot in Clio at 6 pm.

Second Place Award from SC Counties Workers' Compensation Trust

Marlboro County was presented a framed certificate for second place in prompt reporting of workers' compensation claims for the year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. This award was the result of a group effort by our department heads and personnel in ensuring that claims are reported as soon as accidents happen. We appreciate these efforts.

Department Head Meeting

On the Wednesday after each County Council meeting I meet with department heads and staff to review what happened in the Council meeting and to discuss other items of interest to the group. Beginning tomorrow, I have included the elected officials in these meetings.

I feel very strongly that department heads and elected officials need to hear first-hand about council actions and other items that affect their departments. We are all on the same team and by communicating well we can eliminate unnecessary drama and misunderstandings.

Facebook Live

For a number of years now, County Council meetings have been videoed and the videos posted on YouTube. Tonight, we are also broadcasting the meeting on Facebook Live. This allows people on Facebook to see our meetings in real time.

Council and staff believe very strongly that the actions of council are public and the business of the people should be out in the open for everyone to see. Additionally, we are proud of the way our meetings are conducted, the respect shown to all viewpoints and the civility that council members show to each other. Hopefully by adding the Facebook Live feature citizens can see this for themselves.

EMS Task Force

The EMS Task force held their first meeting this afternoon. (I will update council verbally in the council meeting on what happened since this report is printed before the meeting)

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

Chair Prince stated that she had received a letter from Ms. Vikki Harris along with an update of the actions taken by her as Veterans Affairs officer. Chair Prince stated that Ms. Harris

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does a great job in her position and that she goes far beyond anything that has ever been done in that office.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

No citizens signed up to address Council.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Anthony Woods – stated that February was Black History Month and stated that Clio would sponsor a Freedom Walk/March on Saturday, February 24, 2018 at 12:00 noon. He stated that Clio was a very historical place and that it was very important that the young folks understand where folks have been and how far we've come.

Mr. Woods stated that basketball had come to an end and that Clio had great participation this year. He stated that there was an instructional league for 4, 5 and 6 year olds.

Mr. Woods stated that he along with Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, the County Administrator, would be presenting Council's strategic plan to Clio Town Council. He stated that each town needs the county's support and the county needs the towns' support.

Ms. Corrie Plato – stated that she was not able to attend the last meeting due to sickness but she stated that she felt that Council was moving in the right direction and improving things in Marlboro County. She stated that Council had a great leader and Chair. She stated that folks in the county needed to work together to move forward in the county.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – stated that he was excited to hear about things that NETC has planned for the new campus at the old Winn-Dixie building and stated that Dr. Mark Bunch did a great job. He stated that the vocational training opportunities that are being made available to students are vital to our area.

Mr. Jason Steen – thanked Dr. Mark Bunch for his update.

Mr. Steen also mentioned that the Litter Control Officer could not patrol the entire county and that he was only one person. He mentioned that he was behind another vehicle recently that threw trash from their car window into someone's yard. He stated that he took the tab number and reported it. Mr. Steen stated that folks are coming from North Carolina and throwing trash out in our area and that these folks need to stop. He stated that everyone has to get involved to help stop this from happening and encouraged folks to call 911 when they see this happening. He stated that it takes everyone working together.

Mr. Willie Gladden – stated that he was unable to attend the called meeting which was held on January 30th but he understood that the contract which the county has with the city was mentioned. He stated that this contract needed to be discussed and reviewed very carefully. Mr. Gladden mentioned that one guy was controlling the entire group and that it was very upsetting to him. He stated that the city was getting money back from the coop which should be used to help reduce the utility rates for the citizens but stated that was not happening. He stated that the city's utility rates were as high as monthly rent on homes and

mortgage payments. He mentioned that the city terminated the municipal judge and the assistant judge and hired folks that were not qualified. He stated that the contracts that the county has with city needed to be looked at real close.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, stated that the county currently has a contract with the city for fire service, jail and 911. He stated that if the contract was cancelled that there would be folks in the county without fire service. He stated that staff was looking at developing a contingency plan.

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, addressed Mr. Willie Gladden and stated that there was no real discussion about the contract that the county has with the city at the January 30th called meeting but that it was brought up.

Mr. Gladden stated that Marlboro County Council has four members that represent folks inside the city limits and stated that they should be involved in decisions that are being made.

Mr. Gladden also mentioned the \$350,000 which the County Transportation Committee provided to Lake Paul Wallace Authority and stated that this should not have been done according to the Attorney General's opinion. He stated that he wanted someone to find out if these monies were going to be repaid to the CTC and used on the roads for the citizens.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – stated that he felt that Northeastern Technical College was moving things in the right direction for the county. Mr. Blackmon stated that there was a time when it seemed that nothing was being accomplished in the county but stated that he could see things coming together and things were getting done. He stated that folks needed to work together to get things done.

Mr. Verd Odom – thanked Dr. Mark Bunch for his update on the vocational training center and stated that he did a great job presenting the update. Mr. Odom stated that industries needed skilled workforce.

Mr. Odom also mentioned the problems with litter in the McColl area and stated that folks from Public Works actually helped clean up one area that was in bad shape. He stated that folks needed to come together and take an interest in keeping our county clean and challenged everyone to do just that. He stated that when folks see someone littering, that they please call 911 and report it.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

ADJOURN

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that since there was no other business that the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 pm.

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(SEAL)



Dr. Carolyn A. Prince

Dr. Carolyn A. Prince, Chair
Marlboro County Council

ATTEST:

Patricia M. Bundy

Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: March 13, 2018