

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, MARCH 13, 2018

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN JASON STEEN

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: Jacqueline Hough of the Marlboro Herald-Advocate, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jacqueline Hough and Mr. Dan McNiell 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 Councilwoman Corrie Plato, for the invocation and stated that Councilman Anthony Woods was unable to be at the meeting due to a 24 hour stomach virus.

INVOCATION – Ms. Corrie Plato

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, proposed some changes to the agenda, to move item 5.f., Proclamation honoring Sidney Wallace to 1.a., and add a new item as 1.c., Announcement Regarding Project Phoenix.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to amend the agenda to move item 5.f., Proclamation Recognizing and Honoring Mr. Sidney

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Wallace for his Years of Service and Contributions to Marlboro County, to Item 1.a., and adding a new item 1.a. Announcement Regarding Project Phoenix. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to approve the agenda with the changes as noted above. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mayor Heath Harpe for coming to the meeting and asked if he had comments that he would like to make. Mayor Heath Harpe thanked Chair Prince for recognizing him and the warm welcome and stated that he would like to introduce the new Fire Chief to Marlboro County Council. Mayor Harpe introduced the new Fire Chief, Mr. James Jackson, which appeared at the meeting with him. Mayor Harpe stated that he looked forward to continuing the relationship with the county which the City of Bennettsville currently has. Chair Prince congratulated and welcomed the Mr. James Jackson as the new Fire Chief for the City of Bennettsville.

PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING AND HONORING MR. SIDNEY WALLACE FOR HIS YEARS OF SERVICE AND CONTRIBUTIONS TO MARLBORO COUNTY

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked that Mr. Sidney Wallace come forward to accept the Proclamation from Marlboro County Council. Chair Price thanked Mr. Wallace for all of the years and hard work done for the County and stated that Mr. Wallace would be missed.

Chair Prince read the Proclamation aloud and presented the same to Mr. Wallace. Mr. Wallace thanked Council and stated that he would miss everyone at the County as well.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING PROJECT PHOENIX

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make the announcement regarding Project Phoenix.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Council had taken action at a called meeting a couple of meetings ago regarding Project Phoenix and stated that he had eluded to the fact that the project was a rehabilitation of an existing industry site. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he was pleased to announce that Marlboro County was now the owner of the Delta Plant in Wallace. He stated that the County was able to apply for grant funds and has economic development funds available to clean up the property which would be in line with the clean-up efforts which Council had discussed as a part of their strategic planning and which will make the site a viable economic development industry site. He stated that Councilman Jason Steen had pushed for the clean-up of this property even before he became a member of Council. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the County was very excited about this project.

Mr. Jason Steen thanked members of Council and the County Administrator for working hard to make the clean-up of this property become a reality. He stated that this property has looked bad for a long time but that we could now move forward with cleaning it up. He stated that he looked forward to great things happening at this site.

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Chair Prince stated that great things were going to happen at this site and to stay tuned for more information about this to come later.

PRESENTATIONS

AUDIT REPORT ENDING JUNE 30, 2017 – SHEHEEN, HANCOCK & GODWIN, LLP

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Mark Wood of Sheheen, Hancock & Godwin, LLP, to provide the report for the audit ending June 30, 2017.

Mr. Mark Wood thanked Council for allowing his firm to handle the auditing services for Marlboro County and stated that this was the second year that they had done so. He stated that he had provided a one-page summary of the audit to members of Council and that these were matters that he would highlight.

Mr. Wood stated that the County received an unmodified opinion of the Financial Statements which is the highest opinion that could be given and stated that they should be very proud of that fact.

Mr. Wood stated that the Outline of the Audit Report included (1) Management Discussion and Analysis; (2) Basic Financial Statements (Government Wide & Fund); (3) Notes to the Financial Statements; (4) Supplemental Information & Schedules; and (5) Compliance Section.

Mr. Woods then introduced section 2 of his summary which listed the types of funds (1) Governmental which consisted of the general fund, special revenue funds, debt service funds and capital projects fund; and (2) Fiduciary Funds which were agency funds and trust funds.

Mr. Woods then discussed the remaining sections of his summary and stated that they all were related to the General Fund. He stated that section 3 of his summary – Analysis of Financial Position, showed the total assets of the general fund to be \$7,561,190 and the total liabilities/deferred inflows of (\$2,068,885) for a total fund balance/net position of \$5,492,305.

Mr. Wood discussed section 4 of his summary – Analysis of Fund Balance/Net Position and stated that the non-spendable funds totaled \$94,200; restricted funds totaled \$1,138,384; the unassigned funds totaled \$4,259,721; and the total funds balance was \$5,492,308.

Mr. Woods then discussed section 5 of his summary – Analysis of Activity and stated that the total revenues were \$11,098,423 and the operating expenditures totaled (\$11,193,155) for a total deficiency of (\$94,672) and after transfers and other sources in an amount of \$3,999, the total change in fund balance for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2017 was (\$90,673).

Mr. Woods stated that last year was the first year that his firm had performed the audit for Marlboro County and there were some findings last year. He stated that he was happy to report that there were no findings in the County's audit report and stated that this was very good.

Mr. Woods thanked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, the County Administrator, as well as Ms. Ainsley Moore and Ms. Kaye Liner for their hard work. He stated that his folks were at the county offices for about two weeks straight and the county folks worked really hard and asked a lot of questions. He stated that he appreciated the questions and that it shows that they are concerned about where the tax dollars are going and how the funds are accounted for. He stated that County Council should be proud of the work that their staff does in making sure all funds are accounting for and spent wisely.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, stated that the county spent less than the amount which was budgeted but stated that some of these would not repeat but some would. He stated that there was some use of 911 funds which are paid from Bellsouth used for salaries rather than from the general funds which helped keep expenses down.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that revenues taken in were more than budgeted and included \$200,000 more from Harbor Freight than expected. He stated that the budget called for \$1.1 million to be used from the fund balance but only \$900,000 was used in the end.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff works hard to use taxpayers' funds wisely and appreciated the support which they receive from Council.

Chair Prince thanked Mr. Mark Wood for the audit report and for their services. She also thanked the County Administrator and the Finance Manager and her staff for their efforts in reorganizing line items so that Council could better understand and see where monies are being spent and for what. Chair Prince stated that it was very important to Council.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - February 13, 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. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the minutes of February 13, 2018 Regular Council meeting as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD 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) – SECOND READING

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

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Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the second reading of Ordinance # 766 and stated that it related to a project in Dillon called "Project Unique" which would provide a \$15 million investment and create about 40 new jobs. He stated that this project would be located near the new inland port. He stated that this company will be located within the joint county industrial and business park which Marlboro has with Dillon county.

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

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to authorize County Administrator to approve the second reading 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.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 767 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY AND CITY OF BENNETTSVILLE FOR EXCHANGE SERVICES – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was an agreement that is approved each year by County Council as a Resolution but is being done by an Ordinance this year and would add an element to allow the County to collect tax liens in addition to property taxes for the City of Bennettsville which they have requested. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that there would be more information available at the next reading.

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

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to authorize County Administrator to approve the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 767 –An Ordinance Approving an Agreement by and Between Marlboro County and City of Bennettsville for Exchange Services. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 768 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY AND DRUG FREE COALITION – FIRST READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that in reviewing the agreement, she has found that the Drug Free Coalition will be adding new dimensions to their services to include counseling services. She stated that she was happy to see that the coalition was expanding their services and that this was a good thing.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

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Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Marlboro County has handled the funds for Drug Free Coalition for three to five years and that staff had met with the folks from Drug Free and were moving things forward.

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

Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to approve the first reading of Ordinance # 768 – an Ordinance Approving an Agreement by and Between Marlboro County and Drug Free Coalition. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 769 – AN ORDINANCE APPROVING AN AGREEMENT WITH SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MARLBORO COUNTY FOR SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS FOR BLENHEIM AND WALLACE SCHOOLS – FIRST READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that this was a very important move. She stated that with all that is going on in the world, it was important to keep the school students and staff protected. She stated that she appreciated staff moving quickly on this matter.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, stated that the Agreement drafted was taken from the School District and was the same agreement they have with the City of Bennettsville and he thought that it would work for the County. He stated that the School District would reimburse the county for all expenses including vehicles and stated that this was a good thing.

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

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the first reading of Ordinance # 769 – an Ordinance Approving an Agreement with School District of Marlboro County for School Resource Officers for Blenheim and Wallace Schools. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 03-18-01 – A RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF I-73 (SUBMITTED BY MR. RONALD HENEGAN FOR CONSIDERATION

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, requested that Council table Resolution # 03-18-01 at this time. She stated that it was her opinion that council did not have enough information to bring forth a resolution in support of I-73 at this time and recommended that a motion be made to table the Resolution in support of I-73 .

Mr. Jason Steen stated that he felt that there were a lot of folks in the County that did not support I-73.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to table Resolution # 03-18-01 – a Resolution in Support of I-73 which was submitted by Mr. Ronald Henegan for consideration. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

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RESOLUTION # 03-18-02 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE 2017-2018 BUDGET WITH REGARDS TO SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICERS

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if this Resolution was with regard to the current year's budget and Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, confirmed that it was. He requested that if there were any over runs in expense budget that staff be allowed to use out of reserve funds and pay back as the reimbursements were received.

Chair Prince stated that the agreement refers to School Resource Officer Supervisor and asked if the School District would provide this Supervisor or if the Sheriff's office would hire this person to act as Supervisor. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he understood that the Sheriff would use existing staff to serve as the Supervisor.

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

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve Resolution # 03-18-02 – a Resolution approving a budget amendment to the 2017-2018 Budget with regards to School Resource Officers. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MARCH, 2018 AS AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked Solicitor Will Rogers to come forward to accept the Proclamation on behalf of the American Red Cross.

Chair Prince read the Proclamation aloud and thanked Solicitor Rogers and all volunteers of the American Red Cross for their service.

Solicitor Rogers thanked Council for the Proclamation.

WASTE TIRE AMNESTY PROGRAM PROPOSAL

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that this program was a part of the "Keep Marlboro County Clean" program. She stated that this was a good way to serve Marlboro County and City residents.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, stated that the Waste Tire Amnesty Program was the next step in the clean-up efforts. He stated that this proposal would allow county residents outside of the city limits to take their tires to the Red Hill Convenience Center for free for the month of April. He stated that if folks had more than 25 tires that they wished to dispose of that they could check with Mr. Keith Williams to make special arrangements for pre-approval. He stated that if a business or group wanted to dispose of tires during the month of April, the cost would be \$1 per tire, but that staff would consider special requests on a case by case basis.

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Mr. Munnerlyn stated that an offer would be made to the City of Bennettsville to have them participate in the program for the actual cost to dispose of the tires which is about .85¢ per tire.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that if Council approved the program proposal, that the program would be pushed forward for the month of April. He stated that tires were a problem and that snakes were beginning to crawl and he wanted to get as much as possible cleaned up before its gets too hot. He estimated a cost of about \$15,000 to dump the tires.

Mr. Jason Steen asked what the hours of operation would be for the Red Hill Convenience Center to take these tires. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the center would take the tires during regular operation hours but that this issue would be worked out and the hours would be announced.

Chair Prince asked if any municipalities were invited to participate. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had talked with Mayor Heath Harpe about participating but that the county would have to collect only the cost of the tire disposal which is estimated to be .85¢ per tire.

Mr. Willie Gladden asked Mr. Munnerlyn how the City felt about participating. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had spoken to Mayor Harpe informally about this program but that he would contact Mr. Max Alderman, the City Administrator, and provide him with a formal invitation for the City to participate. Mr. Gladden stated that he would like to see the City's participation in the program. He stated that both the County and the City could work together since the City is located in the County.

Mr. Jason Steen stated that he felt the program was a good thing. He stated that Council and staff are moving forward with the plan to clean-up the county and this should let folks know that County Council is serious about the clean-up of the county.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the bookend of all of this is that the County will begin enforcing the litter laws. He stated that Mr. Brad Leviner and Mr. Keith Williams picked up about 60 tires recently and it has to stop.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon to authorize the County Administrator to move forward with the Waste Tire Amnesty Program Proposal as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

CONSIDERATION OF REAPPOINTMENT OF MR. ED McCRAW TO THE HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION AS DISTRICT 6 REPRESENTATIVE (RECOMMENDATION MADE BY COUNCILMAN VERD ODOM, DISTRICT 6)

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to reappoint Mr. Ed McCraw to the Historic Preservation Commission as District 6 Representative. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF MS. TRACY STUBBS TO THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AS DISTRICT 3 REPRESENTATIVE (RECOMMENDATION MADE BY COUNCILMAN CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR., DISTRICT 3)

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the appointment of Ms. Tracy Stubbs to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board as District 3 Representative. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF APPOINTMENT OF MR. BRYAN SWEATT TO THE PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD AS DISTRICT 1 REPRESENTATIVE (RECOMMENDATION MADE BY COUNCILMAN JASON STEEN)

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the appointment of Mr. Brian Sweatt to the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board as District 1 Representative. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chair Prince asked if there were any other appointments.

Parks & Recreation Advisory Board

District 2	Willie Bright	New Appointment
District 4	Thomas C. Brown, Sr.	New Appointment
District 5	Yolanda DuPree	New Appointment

Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve the appointments for the Parks & Recreation Advisory Board as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous.

REPORTS

EMS TASK FORCE

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to provide an update after several meetings of the EMS Task Force. She stated that the committee was still in process but wanted to keep citizens aware that County Council is concerned and continues to look out for their best interests in terms of their health care service.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the committee had two meetings and are currently having an annual audit performed by an external auditor pursuant to the terms of the current contract and are awaiting the results of the audit. He stated that the committee was working to understand what it takes to operate the EMS system and reviewing the response times.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

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

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Ms. Moore stated that the expenses for the month of February were at 63% of the budgeted amount and revenues were in line with the expenses and slightly over the budgeted amount for this point in the fiscal year.

Ms. Moore stated that budget request forms had been distributed to all the department heads and stated that budget meetings would be scheduled in the next couple of weeks with the department heads to discuss regular funding needs, any additional requests, or any capital needs.

Ms. Moore asked if there were any questions or comments.

Chair Prince asked Ms. Moore if she had any information from the General Assembly regarding the Local Government Fund and whether or not the County would receive any additional funds this year. Ms. Moore stated that she had heard that the budget process had begun but no news about the Local Government Fund. Ms. Moore stated that she would continue to monitor the issue.

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

Chair Prince thanked Ms. Moore for the financial report.

ROAD MAINTENANCE PROGRAM – MR. DOUG CARABO, PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director, to provide his report.

Mr. Carabo stated that Marlboro County currently has 320 roads that consisted of 185 miles. He stated that 70 miles were gravel and 115 miles were dirt.

Mr. Carabo stated that the county has limited resources to maintain roads and that the current fee collected was not generating enough to properly maintain the occupied roads. He stated that there were miles of roads that have no residences or businesses but the County was still legally required to maintain. He also stated that litter problems exists on many of the roads.

Mr. Carabo stated that he prepared an analysis of all county roads. He stated that he had discussed with Public Works staff and had conducted visual inspection in some cases and had ranked roads using a point system. He stated that roads with residences, businesses, churches, etc. received more points. He stated that the results were that 255 roads had residences, businesses or churches which had become top priority. He stated that these 255 roads represent 125 miles of which approximately 55 miles are dirt only.

Mr. Carabo stated that has a recommendation to implement a 5 year plan. The plan was as follows: (1) to gravel top priority dirt roads consisting of approximately 55 miles; (2) limit maintenance on low priority roads and approach land owners about accepting these roads; (3) use current allocation of gravel which is provided by the County Transportation Committee and the County's budget to maintain current roads; (4) estimated 5 year cost of

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\$1.2 million to get enough rock on the priority roads; (5) work on funding sources which are currently the Marlboro County Transportation Committee, the county's road maintenance fund, and other sources yet to be identified.

Mr. Carabo stated that he had ranked all of the county roads but the print was too fine to read. He stated that he would work on this and get it sent out to members of Council.

Chair Prince thanked Mr. Carabo for his report and stated that he had worked very hard on preparing the report.

Mr. Jason Steen asked how Marlboro compared to other counties with respect to dirt roads. Mr. Carabo stated that Chesterfield had more than Marlboro.

Chair Prince stated that she heard Mr. Carabo mention ranking the roads and asked about the roads that have school buses travel on, as well as EMS. Mr. Carabo stated all those issues were considered when the ranking was done.

Mr. Verd Odom stated that he had a landowner contact him about closing a road with which all of the surrounding land was owned by this landowner. He asked how this could be done. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff will take the information and look at the rules. He stated that the rules needed to be looked at carefully so that staff would know exactly how to go about getting some of these roads closed by landowners.

Mr. Doug Carabo thanked Mr. Sidney Wallace for all of his hard work and for his help in making the transition so smooth.

Mr. Willie Gladden asked if staff had spoken to the CTC yet about obtaining additional rock for the roads. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had talked to Mr. Joe Breeden and discussed the need with him. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Mr. Breeden had told him that the CTC had voted not to pave any roads but that they would assist with providing rock to maintain roads.

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

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

Mr. Munnerlyn 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 February: Dwan Bostic (15 years); Lawrence Brand (16 years); Ronald Covington (24 years); Vanessa Dowdy (8 years); Anna Frye (20 years); Barbara Latham (14 years); and Kevin Thomas (29 years).

UPCOMING EVENTS:

- 1. 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.

2. **Drop-in for Sidney Wallace** - A Retirement Drop-In has been scheduled for Mr. Sidney Wallace for tomorrow, Wednesday, March 14th from 11 am until 1 pm here at the Partnership office. Mr. Wallace is retiring at the end of the March after 43 years of service.
3. **Tri-County Stakeholder's Meeting** - Tri-County Mental Health will be holding a Community Forum on Friday, March 23rd from 10 – 11:30 am at the Bennettsville office located at 1035 Cheraw Street and all members of Council have been invited to attend. This meeting is held to deliver information about the services Tri-County provides and to offer an opportunity for community members to have input into the center's strategic planning process. We have been asked to get a head-count of all council members planning to attend.
4. **Bennettsville Bicentennial Celebration** - Bennettsville Bicentennial Steering Committee is having a planning session regarding the upcoming Bicentennial celebration this afternoon from 6 – 8 pm at McArthur Farms located at 1708 Highway 38 South, Bennettsville, SC.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had already had (2) prospect inquiries this month or RFP's – Requests for Proposals. He stated that there continues to be interest in the Baldor Building in Mr. Woods' district and that they were moving very close to a sale on that building that would result in new jobs.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the Workforce and Education Committee of the Partnership met and decided that it should organize small group meetings at local industries to learn first-hand from supervisors which programs they'd like to see in NETC's new Bennettsville Campus. The first such meeting was scheduled for the upcoming Thursday at Mohawk.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that it was agreed that he should moderate a meeting of original supporters of the Eastside project which became the Winn –Dixie project. He stated that he was hopeful that the meeting would allow the groups to discuss any misunderstandings or misinformation regarding the overall initiative.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Action to Close a Portion of Hayfield Road Owned by Marlboro County

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Wateree Holdings, LLC had filed an action to close a road known as "Hayfield Road" of which the county owns a portion measuring approximately 56 feet which was located between New Bridge Road and that portion of Hayfield Road which was surrounded by property owned by Wateree Holdings.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that after discussions with the County Attorney Harry R. Easterling, Jr., staff had consented to the closing of this road since it had not been maintained for years and was surrounded by property owned by Wateree Holdings.

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Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the Road Maintenance Plan presented tonight would give staff direction for future requests.

Clean-up Day – April 14th

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that sign up packets for the Clean-Up Day on April 14th had been provided to each Council member.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that 36 different groups had signed up and that many more expressed an interest.

Mr. Munnerlyn asked that everyone help identify more groups and obtain contact information so that staff could communicate the details to the groups. He stated that Ms. Brandi Ritter in the MCEDP was in charge of organizing the volunteers and Ms. Bundy could also assist members of Council with the process.

Chair Prince thanked Mr. Munnerlyn for his reports.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Chair Prince stated that two citizens had signed up to address Council. She recognized them as follows:

Mr. Tom Wood – wished everyone a good afternoon and thanked Council for their efforts in litter control. He stated that it was a big problem in Marlboro County and throughout the entire state of South Carolina. He stated that he was concerned about not having any “no littering” signs on the county roads. He stated that there was one sign on Highway 52 going North but he has not seen any other signs up anywhere. He mentioned the fact that that Mr. Lou Holtz had once told his wife that folks in South Carolina must have clean cars because all the trash on the roads.

Mr. Wood mentioned the salaries of the law enforcement officers in the County. He stated that he understood that the average deputy sheriff's salary was anywhere between \$19,000 - \$24,000/year. He stated that no one could raise a family on that salary and that the county needed to offer folks more money. He stated that if more money was offered for these positions, there may be more officers on duty in the evening.

Ms. Pearlle Lawson – stated that she appeared to simply commend Council on the clean-up effort and stated that she was working in her position as Counselor at the High School and with the NAACP to get folks involved. She stated that she has shared the information provided and was working to get students involved to participate on the clean-up day scheduled for April 14th. She stated that there were several groups involved and she was working hard not to have duplicate names on the various sign up lists. She stated that she would be getting the sign up lists together and asked where the designated areas for pick up were located. She stated that she lived in the Firestone area and that area desperately needed some help. She stated that she was also working to get churches involved to help with this effort.

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Ms. Lawson stated that she also wanted to thank Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, for allowing the NAACP to have a vigil on the courthouse square on April 4th at 5:30 pm which will mark the 50th year of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, asked Ms. Lawson to let staff know of any preferred area which she and her groups would like to pick up trash on April 14th. He stated that if they did not have a preferred area, that an area could be assigned to the groups.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Verd Odom – stated that he was looking forward to the clean-up day scheduled for April 14th and stated that folks were really getting interested in the event. He stated that he thought that the event would be a big success. He stated that the county may need to have more events scheduled for the future. He stated that it was really important for our county to look good when folks travel through.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – thanked everyone's efforts in seeing that School Resource Officers would be placed in the Blenheim and Wallace Schools. He stated that these schools were out in the county and they really need these officers present.

Mr. Blackmon stated that he was pleased to hear that the audit went well and appreciated the efforts of the staff in seeing that the monies of the county were watched close.

Mr. Willie Gladden – stated that he was excited about the great things happening in Marlboro County and stated that he was excited about the clean-up program. He stated the ad in the paper was great and that all the comments on Facebook were positive. He stated that his goal was to hand out packets about the clean-up day to at least 50 churches and he had given out 14 so far. Mr. Gladden stated that this was a great thing for folks to work together on.

Mr. Gladden mentioned the Brightsville-Adamsville Park and stated that the walking trail was completely finished. He invited grandparents, moms and dads to go and take their children for walks to enjoy the park. He stated that it was a secure place and the best park in Marlboro County. He stated the Veterans Memorial was also a part of the park which made it even more special.

Mr. Jason Steen – stated that all of the ball parks in the county were looking good and thanked staff for their hard work on this.

Mr. Steen welcomed Chief Deputy Steve Weaver to the meeting and stated that he was happy to see that he was feeling better. Mr. Steen also thanked Sheriff Lemon for coming to the meeting and for all of his hard work. Mr. Steen stated that he was happy to see that there would be School Resource Officers at the Blenheim and Wallace schools.

Mr. Steen mentioned the Delta Plant project and stated that this was a great thing for Marlboro County and he appreciated Council's support on the project. He stated that this would be a great industrial park and that the area had things available to it that no other park had which would be a great benefit.

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Mr. Steen mentioned the clean-up day coming up and stated that folks were saying that they were already paying the \$40 Solid Waste fee and did not understand why folks were being asked to help pick up the trash in the county. Mr. Steen stated that he wanted folks to know that the County will have to pay for every bag of trash which will be picked up to be disposed of. The proceeds from the solid waste fee will be paying for this and more. Mr. Steen stated that Council worked very hard to put the strategic plan in place and now they were working hard to have things accomplished.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – commended Mr. Sidney Wallace on his retirement after 43 years with Marlboro County and wished him the best.

Mr. Midgley thanked Sheriff Lemon and Council for their work in securing School Resource Officers in Wallace and Blenheim Schools.

Mr. Midgley mentioned the clean-up day and stated that he was looking forward to it and hoped that folks would get involved with this event.

Ms. Corrie Plato – thanked Sheriff Lemon for attending the Council meeting.

Ms. Plato wished Mr. Sidney Wallace the best in his retirement and stated that he was always willing to help her since she's been on Council. She stated even when he knew he could not help her with something he would at least listen to her concerns. She stated that she appreciated his help and advice over the years.

Ms. Plato mentioned the clean-up day and stated that she was really excited about the event. She stated that she started to church Sunday morning but never made it to church but instead went from church to church giving out packets to folks to encourage participation. She stated that a clean-up day in Marlboro County was well over due.

Ms. Plato thanked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, for all of his hard work and what he continues to do for the county.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – stated that she wanted to echo the things that had been said about Mr. Sidney Wallace. She stated that Mr. Wallace has always been a big help to her since she first came on Council. She stated that she appreciated Mr. Wallace and his love for the county.

Dr. Prince stated that the clean-up of the county was a long time coming. She stated that good things come to those who wait. She stated that she appreciated all of the efforts by everyone.

Dr. Prince stated that she would like to challenge the Legislative Delegation to consider a introducing a bill that would require at point of purchase a deposit on all aluminum cans and bottles and when those are returned the money would be returned. She stated that she remembered when this was done years ago and a deposit of \$.30 was paid when bottled and canned cokes were purchased and when returned the bottles and cans you got your \$.30 back. She stated that it was a good program and there were never any cans or bottles found

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anywhere around. She stated that this type of program would be something that would benefit the state and generate some jobs.

Dr. Prince asked that folks contact their Representatives and Senators about the Local Government Fund. She stated that she was tired of asking and begging for them to do what they know they should do for the counties in the state. She stated that the legislature continues to ignore the rural counties in particular and the more wealthy counties were also feeling the pinch from not getting the full funding which was passed a number of years ago. Dr. Prince stated that Representative Jackie Hayes is on House' Budget Committee and he has a vested interest in this issue.

Dr. Prince mentioned the bill, H. 3796, which dealt with lot clean-up legislation. She stated that this bill dealt with clean-up for municipalities for which the fee for the clean-up could be included on a resident's tax bill. She stated that this particular bill has passed the Senate that would allow the counties to do the same if they choose to which would help to a certain extent.

Dr. Prince stated that Jennings Street which is a state road is scheduled to be paved from West Main Street to 15-401, and Highway 385 which is from West Main Street at the intersection of Business # 9 which is Cheraw Street down to the blinking light going towards Society Hill will be re-paved. She stated that these road re-paving were the result of some guide share federal funding that were allocated to all of the COGs so often and back in 2015 she was on the Transportation Committee for the COG and she put these requests in to be considered for resurfacing and they were finally coming forward. She stated that the next round of money would come sometime in July.

Dr. Prince stated that someone approached her about interest in having a martial arts class to be added to the recreation opportunities for children and adults.

Dr. Prince thanked everyone for taking time out of their busy schedules for coming out to be present and see how County government works. She stated that County Council prides themselves with the good working relationship that they have.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

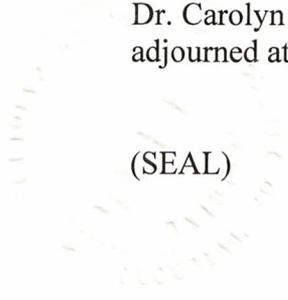
There were no non-agenda items.

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ADJOURN

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that since there was no other business that the meeting was adjourned at 7:13 pm.

(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: April 10, 2018