

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 8, 2019

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN JASON STEEN

ADMINISTRATOR RON MUNNERLYN
CLERK TO COUNCIL PATRICIA BUNDY
COUNTY ATTORNEY ANDREW McLEOD

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN,
CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.
DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE,
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

WILLIE GLADDEN,
CORRIE H. PLATO,
VERD ODOM,
ANTHONY WOODS

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* Absent

Others Present: Ms. Jackie Hough of the Herald-Advocate, Ms. Doris Sumpter, Marlboro County Administrative Services Director; Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director; Mr. Doug Carabo, Marlboro County Public Services Director; and Mr. Brian Watts, EMS Director.

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jacqueline Hough and Mr. Dan McNeil of the Herald Advocate, and posted on the front door of the William P. Wallace, Sr. Administration Building and on the county's website (www.marlbocounty.sc.gov).

The Invocation was presented by Mr. Anthony Woods prior to the work session which was held at 5 pm.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 10, 2019 – Regular Council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were no recommended changes.

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes from September 10, 2019 as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

October 8, 2019 County Council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated the title to an item 4.c. under Old Business, "Ordinance # 789 – an Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance # 579 and to Establish Marlboro County Personnel Policies and Procedures" needed to be amended to reflect a new title of "Ordinance 789 – an Ordinance to Establish Marlboro County Personnel Policies and Procedures" and requested a motion for the same.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to amend the title of Ordinance # 789 from "Ordinance # 789 - an Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance # 579 and to Establish Marlboro County Personnel Policies and Procedures" to read "Ordinance # 789 – an Ordinance to Establish Marlboro County Personnel Policies and Procedures". Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 788 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE BUILDING CODES ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE LATEST AND FUTURE EDITIONS OF THE BUILDING, FIRE, PLUMBING, MECHANICAL, GAS, ELECTRICAL, ENERGY, AND RESIDENTIAL CODES AS MANDATED BY THE SOUTH CAROLINA BUILDING CODES COUNCIL – SECOND READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Carabo stated that staff recommended Ordinance # 788 be approved for second reading in order to update the existing Building Codes Ordinance to adopt the latest and future editions of the Building, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, Gas, Electrical, Energy, and Residential Codes, as required by law.

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

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve second reading in title only of Ordinance # 788 – an Ordinance to Amend the Building Codes Ordinance to Adopt the Latest and Future Editions of the Building, Fire, Plumbing, Mechanical, Gas, Electrical, Energy, and Residential Codes as Mandated by the South Carolina Building Codes Council. Vote was in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 789 – AN ORDINANCE TO ESTABLISH MARLBORO COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES – SECOND READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Ms. Doris Sumpter, Director of Administrative Services, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Ms. Sumpter provided to each member of Council a working draft copy of the Personnel Policies and Procedures and asked that they review. She stated staff would discuss in further detail at the upcoming called meeting which was scheduled for later in the month.

October 8, 2019 County Council Meeting

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, suggested that Council approve the second reading and staff would go over the drafted policies and procedures in detail at the October 28, 2019 called meeting.

Chair Prince stated that staff had many things going on and confirmed that a called meeting had been scheduled for Monday, October 28, 2019 at 4:30 pm.

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

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve second reading of Ordinance # 789 – an Ordinance to Establish Marlboro County Personnel Policies and Procedures. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 790 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND A PROJECT NAME TO BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY, WHEREBY SUCH PROPERTY WILL BE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN FEES-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES, INCLUDING THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated a new project was in the works that will produce more capital investment for the county. He stated more information would be provided on the project at the next reading and suggested Council approve first reading of the ordinance in title only.

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

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve first reading in title only of Ordinance # 790 – an Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes and Special Source Revenue Credit Agreement by and between Marlboro County, South Carolina and a Project Name to be Announced at a Later Date with Respect to Certain Economic Development Property in the County, Whereby such Property will be Subject to Certain Fees-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes, Including the Provision of Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

FUNDING REQUEST TO EXPAND MARTI SERVICE TO WALLACE AREA

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that she really liked the word “expand” in this new action of business. She recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this request.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the MARTi service has been very successful and there was a need for the service to expand to the Wallace area. He stated the proposed route would not be full service to the entire Wallace area but could possibly include service to an area of Chesterfield County. He stated the County’s cost to expand the service to the Wallace area would be \$2,000 per year for three years and those funds could be paid from the Economic Development. He stated there would be funds available from Federal Transportation Authority for this project which would help a great deal.

Chair Prince asked if there were any questions or comments. Mr. Jason Steen stated that he was very happy to have the service expanded and made available to the Wallace area.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the expansion of the MARTi Service to the Wallace area with the County contributing the sum of \$2,000 per year for a three year period towards the cost to fund the service. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no appointments made.

REPORTS

EMS UPDATE – MR. BRIAN WATTS, EMS DIRECTOR

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Brian Watts, EMS Director, for his report.

Mr. Brian Watts provided a quarterly report for the EMS service through September 30, 2019. He stated since the County had taken over the EMS service, which has been a total of 92 days as of September 30th, they had responded to 1,404 calls which averages 16 calls per day. He stated the service has made 971 transports (69%) which averaged about 10 per day.

Mr. Watts provided a graph of response types and estimated calls for the responses. He stated there were about 21 types of responses: sick people; traffic accident responses; respiratory distress; fall victims; chest pain-cardiac origin; unconscious/fainting; abdominal pain; unknown problems; psychiatric problems; traumatic injury; diabetic problems; convulsions/seizures; hemorrhage/laceration; assault; general illness; back pain; stroke/CVA; medical alarm (false calls); cardiac arrests; heart problems; and other.

Mr. Watts stated most of the transports were to Scotland Memorial (approximately 416) and to McLeod Cheraw (approximately 345). The other transports were to McLeod Dillon (approximately 57), McLeod Florence (approximately 26), and other places (approximately 18).

Mr. Watts stated response times were measured from dispatch to arrival on scene. He stated the goal was to respond to 80% of the calls in less than 12 minutes and to date the department is averaging a response time of less than 9 minutes. He stated the response times according to the EMS Taskforce Report dated December, 2018 indicated the average response time at that time was 11:14.

Mr. Watts stated the department continued to have issues filling positions. He stated there were four open paramedic positions and that staff continues to recruit and utilize a combination of part-time and overtime. He stated they had staffed a 4th unit with a paramedic instead of EMT-Advanced personnel.

Mr. Watts mentioned spare vehicles and stated since the last update provided in July, the department lost a unit for hours due to problems with their spare unit. He stated the department had purchased another spare unit which would be in service by mid-October.

Mr. Watts asked if there were any questions.

Chair Prince stated that she was happy to see that the department continued to make good progress and the response times were now under previous times. She stated she felt the EMS department was doing a great job.

FINANCE REPORT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

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

Ms. Moore stated for the month of September, expenditures were at 23% of the budgeted amount which was slightly under budget for this point in the fiscal year. She reported that revenues were trending consistently with prior fiscal years and felt they would increase over the next few months as property tax revenue would begin to be received.

Ms. Moore stated the annual financial audit was progressing well. She stated the auditors spent two weeks in September with the finance staff doing fieldwork and gathering information and were on track with a timely completion of the FY 19 audit.

Ms. Moore stated one of the items that was discussed while the auditors were here was the LOST credit. She stated the County Auditor, Treasurer and staff have worked with our external auditors and have decided that an additional \$400,000 would be given back to the taxpayers on the upcoming tax bills. She stated this credit would show on each tax bill to reduce the total amount owed on the bill.

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

Chair Prince asked if there would be a pie-chart on the tax bills like there have been in previous years. Ms. Moore stated the pie-charts would be included. Chair Prince asked if they would be in color. Ms. Moore stated she was unsure about that but would check and let her know.

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

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

EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of September: Kaye Liner (17 years); Lee McQueen (19 years); Ray Kelly (17 years); D.T. Turner (7 years), Hosea Lemon (12 years); and Candis Pate (8 years).

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **Lunch provided at the Community Kitchen** – Mr. Munneryn stated Marlboro County employees and Council representatives were scheduled to serve lunch at the Community Kitchen on Wednesday, October 9th. He stated this would be the county's fourth month serving and Ms. Patricia Bundy would be leading the group. The menu included grilled chicken, baked beans, slaw, rolls and pudding cups.
2. **SC Association of Counties Fall Meeting and Institute of Government** – The SC Association of Counties scheduled its Fall Meeting of the County Council Coalition for Thursday, October 24 beginning at 10 am. The Institute of Government will offer classes on Wednesday, October 23rd beginning at 10 am. He stated the events would take place at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia and the deadline for the guaranteed room rate at the Embassy Suites was October 3rd which had already passed. He stated that if any Council member wished to attend, to please see Ms. Bundy to see if arrangements could be made.
3. **2019 Industry Appreciation Day Event** – Mr. Munneryn stated that the Industry Appreciation Day event was been scheduled for Wednesday, October 30, 2019 at the Arris Manufacturing site in Clio. He stated there would be a Happy Hour beginning at 4:30 pm with plant tours available at that time to be followed by a BBQ dinner and all the trimmings at 6:00 pm.
4. **Veterans Affairs Dinner Party and Dance** – Mr. Munneryn stated the Veterans Affairs Annual Dinner Party and Dance has been scheduled for Friday, November 22, 2019 from 5:30 – 8:30 pm at the Bennettsville Community Center. He requested that all those planning to attend RSVP by calling Amber Goings at 843-479-5622.
5. **City of Bennettsville/Marlboro County Trunk or Treat** – Mr. Munneryn stated that the City of Bennettsville/Marlboro County's Trunk or Treat event was scheduled for Saturday, October 26th from 2 – 4 pm on the courthouse square. He stated the Trunk or Treating would take place from 2 – 4 pm and end with a Costume Contest.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

New County Trash Service Mailing – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff had sent all county residents a letter regarding the new County trash service which would take effect beginning February, 2020. He stated that staff had tried to answer questions which folks may have regarding the new service so as to avoid any confusion when residents receive their tax notices and see Roll-Cart Trash Collection Fees on their bills.

Training for New Planning Committee Members – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Mr. Donald Hamilton had arranged for tentative training for the newly appointed members of the Planning Commission for November 18th and November 21st from 5:30 – 8:30 pm at the Bennettsville City Council Chambers.

Preliminary Audit Findings – Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the external auditors had finished their preliminary work and would be finalizing their findings over the coming month. He reported that initial findings were good with a continued reduction in spending that staff believes would bring the county in under budget. He stated that he had worked with someone in the past who always reminded his employees to “Plan your work and work your plan”. He stated the audit results were a testament to Council and staff’s work to have more accurate budgets and stick to the plan during the year.

Chair Prince stated she was pleased to know that the county was having a good audit. She stated members of Council take their job seriously about how tax payers’ funds are spent and stated she knew that many residents in the county struggle. She thanked the Finance Director and the finance staff, as well as the County Administrator, for all their hard work with the audit. She thanked Council members for their work in having a plan in place and knowing the amount of funds that were available to be spent and sticking to the proposed plan. She stated that Council and staff worked really hard fitting everything in that was done with the strategic plan which was established. She stated Marlboro County Council cared about the county and its citizens. She stated it was good to know that tax payers’ funds were being spent wisely.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN’S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that no citizens had signed up to address council.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Verd Odom – stated everything was good in McColl. He stated he received a call from Mr. Terry Jordan, Manager of Graceland Buildings, who advised that their company had taken over another region. He stated right now the company was building 50-60 buildings a week and that number would increase to approximately 120 buildings per week. He stated Mr. Jordan advised that the company needed painters, carpenters, and two licensed CDL drivers. He stated that anyone interested in working with Graceland should call Mr. Terry Jordan at 843-523-5502.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – thanked staff for the good audit report and stated that citizens trust council with their funds and he appreciated staff helping them to ensure that monies were being spent wisely.

Mr. Jason Steen – stated that he was very excited to have the MARTi transport service expand to the Wallace area. He stated it was a great tool that folks could depend on to get to work, doctor’s offices, and for other needs.

Mr. Steen mentioned the tragic accident which occurred in Wallace last week in which three youth from the High School were involved. He stated that one student died as a result of injuries from the accident and asked that everyone please continue to keep the other two students in their prayers as well as their families. He stated that they were related (brother, sister and cousin). He stated that rescue units from Clio, McColl and Bennettsville all responded and everyone worked really well together. He stated the service for the deceased student was scheduled for Saturday.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – commended Mr. Brian Watts, EMS Director, for the good job being done with EMS. Mr. Midgley also thanked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, and staff for their hard work with the new trash service that will be coming to the county soon.

Mr. Anthony Woods – stated that everything in Clio was going well. He stated that the Cotton Festival went well last weekend but that there were many other events going on in the County which kept the crowd down some. He stated the weather was pleasant.

Ms. Corrie Plato – thanked Mr. Munnerlyn and staff for all that they do for the county.

Ms. Plato stated that the Trunk or Treat was scheduled for October 26 and she was looking forward to participating in the event. She stated that she wanted her County Council members to back her up and help with this event. She stated that she really hoped that everyone would support the event to make it the best event ever. She asked that folks decorate their trunks with candy for this event and that Oriental Trading had kits that could be ordered to make it easy.

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Sheriff Charles Lemon and asked if he had any comments.

Sheriff Charles Lemon – stated that he appreciated the work that members of Council do for him individually and as a team.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – thanked Sheriff Lemon for all that he does for the county.

Dr. Prince mentioned the Fly-In event which was held last Saturday and stated that it was a great event. She stated there were 9-10 vintage air planes. She stated she had an interest in learning to fly at one point and time but stated that she had decided not to pursue that.

Dr. Prince echoed Mr. Jason Steen’s comments about the tragic accident involving the three youth at the Marlboro County High School. She stated that the High School family would work together to pull the survivors through this difficult time.

October 8, 2019 County Council Meeting

Dr. Prince thanked EMS for their service and stated that they were six months in and were doing a great job.

Dr. Prince mentioned the new trash service and stated she had received calls on this. She stated that all members of Council want to see Marlboro County cleaned up and she hoped that this new service would help by ensuring that every household would have a cart.

Dr. Prince stated that she had participated earlier this afternoon in the STEM demonstration at the Bennettsville Intermediate School. She stated that as everyone knew STEM stood for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. She stated the demonstration this afternoon was targeted to the 4th, 5th and 6th grade students and provided hands-on activities. She stated that they worked with robots and drones and the program helped to prepare students for the global economy. Dr. Prince stated the Superintendent was looking into implementing this program to all students soon. She stated that technology was the way for the future.

Dr. Prince reminded everyone of the called work session meeting scheduled for October 28th at 4:30 pm.

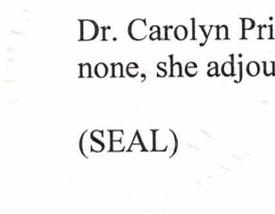
NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

ADJOURN

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any other comments or business. There being none, she adjourned the meeting at 6:47 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: November 12, 2019