

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
REGULAR MEETING

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 13, 2022

6 PM

CHAIRMAN

CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR

VICE CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

CLERK TO COUNCIL

SUSAN RIVERS

COUNTY ATTORNEY

ANDREW MCLEOD

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN

DR. DAMIEN JOHNSON

CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.

CORRIE H. PLATO

KENNETH STROMAN

VERD ODOM

STEVE BLACKMON, AND

ANTHONY WOODS

- Absent

Others Present: Ms. Doris Sumpter, Administrative Services Director; Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director; Mr. Wes Park, Finance Director; and Ms. Jacqueline Hough, Herald Advocate.

A copy of the Regular Meeting Notice and agenda were posted on the front door of the William P. Wallace, Sr. Administration Building and on the Marlboro County Website. A copy of the agenda was provided to Ms. Jacqueline Hough, Herald Advocate prior to the meeting.

CALL TO ORDER – Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. Chairman called the meeting to order at 6 p.m.

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato to approve the Agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance # 832 – An Ordinance to provide for the issuance and sale of a not to exceed one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,250,000) General Obligation Bond of Marlboro County, South Carolina, to prescribe the purposes for which the proceeds of said Bond shall be expended,

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to provide for the payment of said Bond, and other matters relating thereto.

Discussed in the Work Session prior to the Council Meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

NOVEMBER 13, 2022 – COUNCIL “WORKSHOP” MEETING

**Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, to approve the November 13, 2022 Council “Workshop” Meeting as written. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

NOVEMBER 13, 2022 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

**Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to approve the November 13, 2022 Council Meeting as written. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 832 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A NOT TO EXCEED ONE MILLION TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$1,250,000) 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 RELATING THERETO. THIRD READING

Council discussed in the Work Session prior to the Council Meeting.

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the Third Reading of - Ordinance # 832 – An Ordinance to provide for the issuance and sale of a not to exceed one million two hundred fifty thousand dollars (\$1,250,000) 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 relating thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 12-22-01- A RESOLUTION TO APPROVE AMENDMENTS TO THE 2022-2023 BUDGET WITH REGARDS TO INCREASED REVENUES FROM STATE AID TO LIBRARY AND CORRESPONDING COSTS FOR OPERATIONS, BOOKS AND INFORMATION RESOURCES.

Mr. Munnerlyn advised the State provides partial funding every year for operations.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, to approve**

**Resolution # 12-22-01- A Resolution to approve amendments to the 2022-2023 Budget with regards to increased revenues from State Aid to Library and corresponding costs for operations, books and information resources. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.**

RESOLUTION # 12-22-02 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED FY 2022-23 BUDGET TO ESTABLISH AN OPERATING BUDGET FOR THE OPERATION OF A COUNTY OWNED GOLF COURSE AND TO SET FORTH A CAPITAL BUDGET FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE COURSE.

Mr. Munneryn advised this was discussed in the Work Session prior to the Council Meeting with the amounts discussed. Staff recommended approval.

**Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom to approve Resolution # 12-22-02 – A Resolution approving an amendment to the approved FY 2022-23 budget to establish an Operating Budget for the operation of a county owned golf course and to set forth a Capital Budget for improvements to the course. Vote in favor: Mr. Anthony Woods, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Kenneth Stroman, Mr. Charles P. Midgley Jr., Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Verd Odom. Abstain: Dr. Damien Johnson. Vote: 8/0/1. Motion carried.**

**Note: Dr. Johnson requested the minutes reflect that he did not vote because the Chairman did not call for an opposing vote. After reviewing the recording of the meeting, he was correct.**

RESOLUTION # 12-22-03 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED FY 2022-23 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF THE LAKE PAUL WALLACE BOARDWALK PROJECT AND TO AUTHORIZE STAFF TO DEVELOP FORMAL PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENTS OR OTHER NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE PROJECT.

Mr. Munneryn advised this is a formality to allow staff to work with the Lake Paul Wallace Authority and to move forward.

**Motion made by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve Resolution # 12-22-03 - A Resolution approving an amendment to the approved FY 2022-23 budget to provide for the development and construction of the Lake Paul Wallace Boardwalk project and to authorize staff to develop formal partnership agreements or other necessary arrangements to move forward with the project. Vote in favor: Mr. Anthony Woods, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Kenneth Stroman, Mr. Charles P. Midgley Jr., Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Verd Odom. Abstain: Dr. Damien Johnson. Vote: 8/0/1. Motion carried.**

**Note: After reviewing the recording the vote was: Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 12-22-04- A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED FY 2022-2023 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF A REST STOP AND FOOD TRUCK COURT ON BROAD STREET IN BENNETTSVILLE AND TO FORMALLY PROPOSE A 50-50 PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF BENNETTSVILLE WITH REGARDS TO THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE FACILITY.

Mr. Munnerlyn advised Council had approved \$650,000 toward the project. This is required to formally authorize staff to move forward and directs staff to take whatever action is needed.

**Motion made by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen to approve Resolution # 12-22-04 - A Resolution approving an amendment to the approved FY 2022-2023 budget to provide for the development and construction of a rest stop and food truck court on Broad Street in Bennettsville and to formally propose a 50-50 partnership with the City of Bennettsville with regards to the construction of the facility. Vote in favor: Mr. Anthony Woods, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Kenneth Stroman, Mr. Charles P. Midgley Jr., Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Verd Odom. Abstain: Dr. Damien Johnson. Vote: 8/0/1. Motion carried.**

**Note: Dr. Johnson requested the minutes reflect that he did not vote because the Chairman did not call for an opposing vote. After reviewing the recording of the meeting, he was correct.**

RESOLUTION # 12-22-05 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE APPROPRIATION OF AMERICAN RESCUE ACT FUNDS TO ASSIST WITH THE ABATEMENT OF IMAGE AND PUBLIC APPEARANCE CONCERNS IN THE TOWNS OF BLENHEIM, CLIO, AND MCCOLL.

Mr. Munnerlyn advised this would help the towns without match funds to apply for the CDBG funds. The County will provide the matching funds from the ARPA funds.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom to approve Resolution # 12-22-05 – A Resolution approving the appropriation of American Rescue Act Funds to assist with the Abatement of Image and Public appearance concerns in the Towns of Blenheim, Clio, and McColl. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 12-22-06 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING AN AMENDMENT TO THE APPROVED FY 2022 – 2023 BUDGET TO PROVIDE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION OF A SPLASH PAD AND RELATED IMPROVEMENTS TO BE LOCATED ADJACENT TO THE EXISTING BENNETTSVILLE COMMUNITY CENTER AND FORMALLY PROPOSE A 50-50 PARTNERSHIP WITH THE CITY OF BENNETTSVILLE WITH REGARDS TO THE PROJECT.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom to approve Resolution**

**# 12-22-06 – A Resolution approving an amendment to the approved FY 2022 – 2023 Budget to provide for the development and construction of a splash pad and related improvements to be located adjacent to the existing Bennettsville Community Center and formally propose a 50-50 partnership with the City of Bennettsville with regards to the project. Vote in favor: Mr. Anthony Woods, Ms. Corrie Plato, Mr. Kenneth Stroman, Mr. Charles P. Midgley Jr., Mr. Jason Steen, Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Verd Odom. Abstain: Dr. Damien Johnson. Vote: 8/0/1. Motion carried.**

**Note: After reviewing the recording the vote was: Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

APPROVAL OF HOLIDAY SCHEDULE FY 2023.

Mr. Munneryn advised the observed holidays are the same with the addition of Juneteenth (June 19<sup>th</sup>) being added for FY 2023.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen to approve the Holiday Schedule for FY 2023. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

REQUEST FOR \$6,500 CONTRIBUTION TO TRINITY BEHAVIORAL CARE TO OFFSET LOCAL PERMITTING FEES.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Dr. Damien Johnson, approving the request for \$6,500 contribution to Trinity Behavioral Care to offset local permitting fees. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Mr. Munneryn distributed a new list of Board vacancies per Council request. A list was also provided to Ms. Pearly Lawson who will be sworn in at the January Council Meeting to represent District 4.

Mr. Munneryn advised Council that some of the boards require board members that are certified.

Dr. Damien Johnson questioned the Economic Development Board. He stated some had been there for a long time and needed to be replaced.

Mr. Munneryn advised there were a few members on the board appointed by Council.

ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS

APPROVAL OF AIRPORT ENGINEERING SERVICES.

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Mr. Munnerlyn advised this is a formality required every 5 years. Staff recommends approving the continuation of Talbert & Bright for the Marlboro County Airport Engineering Services.

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen to approve the continuation of Talbert & Bright for the Marlboro County Airport Engineering Services. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

### REPORTS

#### FINANCE REPORT – MR. WES PARK, FINANCE DIRECTOR

General Fund revenues for the five months ending November 30, 2022 total \$3,227,023 in comparison to \$2,433,811 for the five months ending November 30, 2021. General fund expenditures through November 30, 2022 total \$5,584,748 of a \$13,854,125 budget of 40.31% of budget year to date. General fund expenditures totaled \$4,759,142 for the same five months ending November 30, 2021. In conclusion revenues are up in comparison to the prior year but so are expenditures as well.

#### ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT – MR. RON MUNNERLYN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

#### **EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES**

The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of November: April Driggers (8 years); Lisa Hood (16 years); and Channing Covington (18 years).

#### **ADMINISTRATION**

##### **County Christmas Party**

Mr. Munnerlyn said the Annual Employee Christmas Dinner was held on December 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm at the Prince Recreation Center. More than 175 persons were in attendance and the addition of singing and activities added to the event. Thanks to the employee committee responsible for the event and to Ms. Doris Sumpter and others that went the extra miles to ensure the event was a success.

##### **Christmas Caroling and Decorating Contests**

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the Caroling was rescheduled due to possible rain and a new time/date would be sent out for the next week. Also, employees could participate in an “ugly Christmas sweater” contest and an office door decorating contest.

##### **New Employees**

Mr. Adairius Williams, Recreation Director - Mr. Munnerlyn was excited to announce that Mr. Williams has joined the organization as the county’s new Recreation Director. Mr. Williams brings a wealth of experience, training and skills to the position. In addition to his experience

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related to athletic programming, facility management and recreation administration, he has experience with community outreach and mentoring programs – something everyone could agree is needed here. Mr. Williams was in attendance.

Megan Robinson, Accounting Manager - Mr. Munneryn advised Meagan Robinson has also joined the organization in our Finance Department. Megan comes to the county from the school district. She has 11 years of experience within the financial field and is in the process of completing her bachelor's degree in Business Administration with concentration in accounting. She has an interest and expertise in analyzing data to guide decision making something Mr. Munneryn believes in strongly.

### **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

#### **Meeting with Richmond Community College.**

Mr. Munneryn stated members of the Economic Development Partnership and it's workforce committee as well as some county council members were scheduled to attend a presentation Thursday, December 15<sup>th</sup> on the campus of Richmond Community College regarding their vocational training programs. The meeting is in response to the desire to enhance vocational training for the citizens of Marlboro County in an attempt to build a local economy of trades and to prepare citizens for work in existing industries and business. The meeting would hopefully expose attendees to some successful programs that may either serve the needs of our industries and citizens as well as offer models for programs that can be developed locally.

#### **Follow-up meeting with SC Department of Employment and Workforce**

Mr. Munneryn said SCDEW has requested a follow-up meeting to the gathering held a couple months ago after the Mohawk closing. The meeting would include stakeholders in the workforce development efforts. Mr. Munneryn advised SCDEW that members of the Partnership workforce Committee would be invited as well as county council persons. The meeting would be scheduled for January with dates sent out soon.

#### **Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership Drop-in**

The Partnership's annual Christmas Drop-in was scheduled the following day, December 14<sup>th</sup> from 4:00 to 6:00 pm in the Economic Development Building.

### **RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL**

**Deacon Willie Bright** – provided information to Council Members and Mr. Munneryn in reference to problems at the Brightsville Park located on Highway 38, North in District 2.

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for the park:

- A larger sign for the park so it can be noticed before getting there, A need to improve the driveway and the grounds of the parking area. They need paving.
- Back dirt roads need to be widened and leveled. They are a safety hazard.

New Equipment Needed:

- Baseball Field needs a dugout and more bleachers
- Half court basketball courts
- T-Ball Equipment
- More swings and slides for the children
- Larger sheds for cookouts

Some of the Brightsville Park Special Occasions:

- Brightsville Family Reunions
- Brightsville Flea Market
- Veterans Day Celebration
- October Community Fun Day, and more
- Fourth of July Cookout
- Fourth of July Fireworks
- T-ball Teams
- Coach Pitch Teams

Deacon Bright wanted to know who builds a park without a basketball court.

### RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Mr. Anthony Woods** thanked Deacon Bright for his passion for recreation. He welcomed Mr. Adairius Williams as Marlboro County's new Recreation Director. He introduced Mr. Adam Pate, the new Mayor of Clio who was present. He stated that the new mayor had already begun making a difference with the Christmas trees down Hwy 9 in Clio. He wished Ms. Plato best wishes after her retirement. He wished all present Happy Holidays.

**Ms. Corrie Plato** stated it was her last night and she had enjoyed every meeting with the county. She wanted the Council to continue doing like they were doing. She said she "would miss everyone". She wished all present a Merry Christmas and offered her help if ever needed to anyone. She recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Ms. Doris Sumpter, and Ms. Susan Rivers for all the help they had provided her during her years on Council. She also welcomed Mr. Williams as the new Recreation Director.



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keep the Sheriff's Officers, EMS, and all First Responders in their prayers. He asked all to give the First Responders the right of way, pull over if seen.

Mr. Odom said the County had accomplished a lot in the last few years to include: New Spec Building and Fiber Optic. He said "Marlboro County was the only county out of 46 counties to be fully funded for expanding the Fiber Optic". This was just a couple of accomplishments. He said there was a lot of leadership from all of the Council Members.

The Chairman recognized Sheriff Larry McNeil and asked him to up-date council.

Sheriff McNeil stated the Sheriff's Office is experiencing a lot of over time which they have no control over. He said staff is looking at the possibility of grant funds through the S. C. Highway Safety Grant Program for Over Time Pay. He advised they now have the contract and may start bringing in Federal Inmates.

**Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Chairman** welcomed Mr. Williams as the new Recreation Director and wished Ms. Corrie Plato well in her retirement.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

ADJOURN


**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.**


The minutes were amended to include Dr. Johnson's request of January 10, 2023 for the minutes to reflect that he did not vote on several items because the Chairman did not ask for an opposing vote.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:

Adopted: 2/14/2023

  
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Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Chairman  
Marlboro County Council

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Susan Rivers, Clerk  
Marlboro County Council