

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL
MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING
COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 2022

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.

VICE CHAIRMAN
ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK TO COUNCIL
COUNTY ATTORNEY

JASON STEEN
RON MUNNERLYN
PATRICIA BUNDY
ANDREW MCLEOD

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN
CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.
KENNETH STROMAN *
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

DR. DAMIEN JOHNSON
CORRIE H. PLATO *
VERD ODOM
ANTHONY WOODS

- Absent

Others Present: Ms. Doris Sumpter, Administrative Services Director; Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director; Mr. Wes Park, Finance Director; Mr. Steve Pollard, IT Director; and Ms. Jaqueline Hough of the Herald Advocate.

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jacqueline Hough 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.marlbtorocounty.sc.gov).

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Chairman, opened the meeting at 6:00 pm and stated that Councilman Kenneth Stroman had notified staff that he would be unable to attend the meeting tonight due to an emergency.

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PUBLIC HEARING

ORDINANCE # 825 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REDISTRICTING PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL REDEFINING THE EIGHT SINGLE-MEMBER COUNCIL DISTRICTS REAPPORTIONED AS TO POPULATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2020 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS AND APPLICABLE LAWS AND REQUIREMENTS

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Chairman, opened the public hearing and recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on Ordinance # 825.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated Council has reviewed the maps which have been drafted in accordance with guidelines provided by the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs office. He stated there have been no big changes made in the racial demographics and there has been no gerrymandering involved. He stated the final version of the redistricting plan has a population deviation of 3.88% and the County was required to have no more than 5% deviation. Mr. Munnerlyn stated if the ordinance approving the revised district lines are approved by Council, the next step would be to forward the approved Ordinance and maps to the folks at the SC Revenue and Fiscal Affairs office to review and then proceed with educating citizens of any changes to make them aware of the council/school districts in which they reside. He stated staff would also notify the Voter Registration office staff of the revised districts and provide copies of the maps to them so that they may issue revised voter registration cards to any citizens that may be impacted by the revised district lines.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked if Council were to approve the Ordinance and revised maps tonight how long would it before the state would issue final approval. Mr. Munnerlyn stated if Council approves the Ordinance and revised maps tonight, the information would be shared with the folks at the South Carolina Revenue and Fiscal Affairs office, but it would take effect immediately. He stated once Council approves, it is done.

Mr. Jason Steen asked if this was the absolute final plan. Mr. Munnerlyn stated it was, based on conversations with members of Council.

Mr. Verd Odom stated once Council approves the plan, staff of Voter Registration office will take the changes and send our new voter registration cards to let folks know in what districts they now reside.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated staff would also upload the revised Council district maps to the GIS website. He stated the proposed maps have been placed in the courthouse and in the local library for folks to review. He stated there have been no comments from the public and no one has attended the meeting to voice any concerns.

Mr. Damien Johnson asked what the likelihood would be that the GIS would have information on its system incorrectly. He stated the GIS maps did not reveal accurate district lines a while

back. Mr. Munnerlyn stated it is often difficult to get the lines correct on GIS because it is really a map on top of another map. He stated the system has a disclaimer for this reason since we cannot guarantee its accuracy.

Chairman Midgley asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

The public hearing was closed.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 825 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REDISTRICTING PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL REDEFINING THE EIGHT SINGLE-MEMBER COUNCIL DISTRICTS REAPPORTIONED AS TO POPULATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE 2020 FEDERAL DECENNIAL CENSUS AND APPLICABLE LAWS AND REQUIREMENTS – THIRD READING

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., Chairman, stated the public hearing was just held on this Ordinance and asked if there were any questions or comments.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked if the County Administrator would check with the Voter Registration office to make sure they have enough employees to get the work that needed to be done completed in a timely fashion. He stated it was very important that folks know what district they are in as soon as possible.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated staff had included funds in the Voter Registration office's budget to provide additional staff for this purpose.

Mr. Verd Odom asked members of Council to please remember Ms. Lori Moses as she will be out of the office for about three months due to health issues. He asked that everyone please remember her in their prayers.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve third reading of Ordinance # 825 – an Ordinance Adopting a Redistricting Plan for Marlboro County Council Redefining the Eight Single-Member Council Districts Reapportioned as to Population in Accordance with the 2020 Federal Decennial Census and Applicable Laws and Requirements. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

February 28, 2022 "Called" County Council Meeting

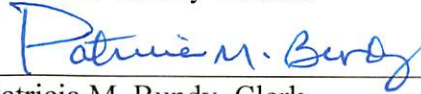
The meeting adjourned at 6:09 pm.

(SEAL)



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

ATTEST:



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: March 8, 2022