

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

“CALLED MEETING”

MONDAY, JUNE 24, 2019

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

Dr. CAROLYN A. PRINCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

ADMINISTRATOR  
CLERK TO COUNCIL  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

RON MUNNERLYN  
PATRICIA BUNDY  
ANDREW F. 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, Herald-Advocate, Ms. Doris Sumpter, Marlboro County Administrative Services Director, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director.

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jackie Hough and Mr. Dan McNiel of the Herald Advocate; posted on the front door of the William P. Wallace, Sr. Administration Building; and on the county's website ([www.marlbocounty.sc.gov](http://www.marlbocounty.sc.gov)).

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

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

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 781 – AN ORDINANCE TO PROVIDE FOR THE FRANCHISING PROCEDURES AND STANDARDS FOR AMBULANCE SERVICE IN MARLBORO COUNTY – THIRD READING

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the third reading of an Ordinance which sets forth standards for transport ambulances that operate in Marlboro County. He stated the ordinance was modeled after Georgetown County and would also apply to Wallace Rescue who will be assisting the county with backup. He stated that the staff and the county's special counsel had reviewed the ordinance. Mr. Munnerlyn also asked that Council consider empowering the EMS Director, Mr. Brian Watts, to enter into an agreement with Wallace Rescue which would require them to comply with the same type terms contained in this Ordinance. He stated that Wallace Rescue currently has an agreement with Marlboro County Rescue but that agreement would expire at the end of June and Marlboro County EMS would need to have one in place when it begins on July 1<sup>st</sup> within the confines of this Ordinance.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked if Wallace would be funded differently for their services as back up for Marlboro County EMS. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that in the past the County has provided Wallace Rescue with a subsidy in the amount of somewhere between \$25,000 and \$30,000 and this would continue to be handled the same way. He stated that Wallace Rescue would be required to follow the same rules and standards as other ambulance service providers and they had already secured the services of Dr. Doug Nederostek as their Medical Control Director which is the same Medical Control Director that the county has hired.

Chair Prince asked if Wallace Rescue would be required to pay the franchise fee. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that they would be required to pay the same type fee and keep the same standards as any other ambulance service. He stated that the Franchise would be effective July 1<sup>st</sup> but that certainly the current ambulance service providers would be given a grace period to allow them time to apply and pay their fees. He stated that once the Ordinance was adopted that letters would be provided to the ambulance services providers in the county notifying them of the county's new requirements and procedures.

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

**Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 781 – an Ordinance to Provide for the Franchising Procedures and Standards for Ambulance Service in Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 782 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2019 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2020 – THIRD READING

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



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Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff had worked hard on the proposed general fund budget. He stated that a copy of the budget was included in the agenda packets as well as a worksheet which would highlight details of the budget.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that notable cost changes for next year included in the proposed budget were as follows:

Employer portion of Health Insurance increased by \$225,000.00  
Vehicle and property liability insurance increased by \$25,000.00  
Watercraft software resulting in unfunded mandates will cost \$15,000  
State mandated retirement contributions have increased by \$50,000  
2% cost of living increase for employees will cost \$145,000  
Changes in Magistrate salary per statute will cost \$30,000  
One additional Deputy for Sheriff’s Office will cost \$60,000

He stated that staff had cost reductions in efficiency gains, process improvement and absorbed positions in the amount of \$375,000 which were also included in the proposed budget. He stated that the only increase in millage would be a 1 mil increase to recover unfunded state mandate costs for the additional retirement. He stated that the total proposed budget was \$11,842,920 and reserve funds of \$343,620 would be needed to balance the budget. He stated that this number was much lower than the amount discussed in prior budget discussions which was more than \$500,000.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that EMS and Rural Fire were separate funds but were also included in the packets.

Chair Prince stated that she appreciated the extra effort provided by the County Administrator, Finance Department and other department heads in order to help bring down the amount of funds needed from reserves. She stated that \$343,000 was much better than the \$500,000 which was mentioned in earlier meetings. She stated that she appreciated their due diligence.

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

**Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 782 – an Ordinance to Adopt the Annual Budget and to Make Appropriations for Marlboro County for the Fiscal Year Beginning July 1, 2019 and Ending June 30, 2020. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 783 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2020-2024 – THIRD READING

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

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Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance would approve the county’s Capital Improvement Plan which is done every year along with the budget. He stated that the plan was simply a guideline for the next five years and was not written in stone like the budget but simply estimates of what department needs might be in the coming years. He stated that the Enterprise lease rental arrangement was included in the current year’s budget and a more specific working plan would be provided next year.

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

**Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve third reading of Ordinance # 783 – an Ordinance to Approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Marlboro County for the Period of FY 2020-2024. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 784 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING PURCHASING POLICIES OF MARLBORO COUNTY – THIRD READING

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance would approve purchasing policies and procedures and that changes had been made from the first and second reading which dealt mainly with how it flowed. He stated that the purchasing policies had not been updated in about 10 to 13 years and these new policies and procedures were taken from a model provided by the Budget and Control Board and changed to work for us.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the purchasing policies would still allow for the local preference which Council adopted some years ago to help the local folks who live here in our county as follows: for amounts less than \$10,000, a 10% local preference would be provided; for amounts \$10,000 to \$25,000, a 7.5% local preference would be provided; for amounts \$25,000 to \$50,000, a 5% local preference would be provided; and anything over \$50,000, a 2% local preference would be provided.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the policies would allow for Request for Proposals in some cases rather than bids. He stated that a request for proposal would be done for the trash service which would be published in the local paper on Thursday. He stated that with RFPs, staff could judge and provide more details about the service being requested.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the current purchasing policy required that anything more than \$10,000 be voted on by Council and this new policy would allow staff lead way in an amount up to \$25,0000, which would require formal bids.

Chair Prince was curious as to why the document began with Section 2-26. Mr. Munnerlyn stated there was no specific reason just the way it was formatted.

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



**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 784 – an Ordinance Establishing Purchasing Policies of Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 786 – AN ORDINANCE TO IDENTIFY AND INDUCE THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROJECT IN MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE "COUNTY") BY A CERTAIN COMPANY FOR THE TIME BEING IDENTIFIED AS "PROJECT BEETHOVEN"; TO AUTHORIZE PURSUANT TO TITLE 12, CHAPTER 44 OF THE CODE OF LAWS OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1976, AS AMENDED, THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAX AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE COUNTY AND PROJECT BEETHOVEN; TO PROVIDE FOR FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAX INCENTIVES AND CERTAIN SPECIAL REVENUE CREDITS; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY).

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this Ordinance was regarding an economic development solar farm project. He stated about five or six entities have recently inquired about solar projects and these projects were a little different in that their industry does would not need the fire services or the schools in our area so in return the projects would expect a larger tax break.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the County's Economic Development attorney, Sam Moses of Parker-Poe, had looked into this and checked with other counties around us to see what they were offering, including Chesterfield. He stated that this would give us some parameters that would be normal for these type of projects. He stated once the county goes through this process, it will provide staff with some guidelines as to what the county could offer for these type of projects. He stated that Chesterfield is allowed to handle the distribution like similar to the way we handle our filots and this could be a good source of revenue for the county.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked what kind of arrangement companies were requiring for these solar projects. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that some companies lease land for anywhere from \$600-\$900 per acre for a term of 20 years and some actually want to purchase the property. He stated that it could be very lucrative.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that staff would need to look into zoning so that we would not have these projects in areas where they were not needed. He stated that this particular project would be located on a 40-50 acre site.

Chair Prince asked if the Planning Commission would be meeting and if guidelines for this would be provided to them. Mr. Munnerlyn agreed that would be done.

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 the first reading in title only of Ordinance # 786 – An Ordinance to Identify and Induce the Economic Development Project in Marlboro County, South Carolina (The "County") by a Certain Company for the Time Being Identified as "Project Beethoven"; to Authorize Pursuant to Title 12, Chapter 44 of the Code of Laws of South Carolina, 1976, as Amended, the Execution and Delivery of a Fee-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Tax Agreement by and Between the County and Project Beethoven; to Provide for Fee-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Tax Incentives and Certain Special Revenue Credits; and Other Related Matters. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that she had just left the Bicentennial meeting and she was asked to thank Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, as well as any county staff that worked on the Gulf dedication and street dance, as well as the Shiny Ribs concert. She stated that the committee was very excited to have the Shiny Ribs concert in the Murchison auditorium.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the Murchison Auditorium and the Prince Recreation Center were facilities that were very important to the county and that renovations to these facilities would be made as monies were made available.

Mr. Willie Gladden mentioned the firework celebration which was scheduled at the Brightsville Park on Friday, June 28th from 6 – 9 pm. He stated that there would be free hotdogs and nachos & cheese for all the children. He asked everyone to come out and have a great time.

ADJOURN

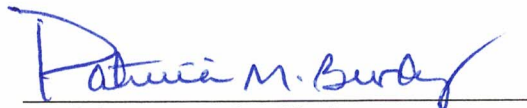
Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any other comments or business. There being none, she adjourned the meeting at 6:22 pm

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Dr. Carolyn A. Prince, Chair  
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk  
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: July 16, 2019