

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL  
MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING  
COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
“CALLED MEETING”

WEDNESDAY, MAY 16, 2023

11:30 A.M.

CHAIRMAN

CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR

VICE CHAIRMAN  
ADMINISTRATOR  
CLERK TO COUNCIL  
COUNTY ATTORNEY

JASON STEEN  
RON MUNNERLYN \*  
SUSAN RIVERS  
ANDREW MCLEOD \*

COUNCIL:

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

DR. DAMIEN JOHNSON \*  
PEARLY LAWSON  
VERD ODOM  
ANTHONY WOODS \*

- Absent

Others Present: Mr. Stephen Pollock, IT Director; and Ms. Jacqueline Hough, Herald Advocate.

A copy of the Called 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 11:30 a.m.

INVOCATION – Mr. Jason Steen

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Chairman Midgley advised an item needed to be added to the agenda “Discussion of Boards, Commissions, and Committee appointees”.

**Motion made by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon to add “Discussion of Boards, Commissions, and Committee appointees” to agenda and approve the agenda items as amended. Vote in favor: Ms. Pearly Lawson, Mr. Kenneth Stroman, Mr. Charles**

**P. Midgely, Jr., Mr. Steve Blackmon, and Mr. Verd Odom. Opposed: Mr. Jason Steen. Vote: 5/1/0. Motion Carried.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION FOR PERSONNEL MATTERS RELATED TO COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR AND CLERK TO COUNCIL SEARCH.

**Motion made by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, seconded by Ms. Pearly Lawson, to enter Executive Session for the discussion of personnel matters related to County Administrator and Clerk to Council Search. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.**

**Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to leave Executive Session and reenter open session. Vote in Favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.**

DISCUSSION OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEE ORDINANCES AS AGENDA AMENDED BY MOTION

Ms. Lawson said one of her concerns regarding Economic Development is: does the person have to live in Marlboro County. Some of the Council members discussed that the current ordinance for Economic Development Partnership Board is unclear as to whether the Chairman must live in Marlboro County. Chairman Midgley advised the last Ordinance adopted by Council (803) was written to be more inclusive of those living out of the county. He explained the wording from the last Ordinance (457D) stating they had to live in the county was left out to do this. Ms. Lawson said it was her concern that the same people had served on the same boards for years and that there were too many committees under the Economic Development Partnership Board. She felt that the new Administrator should have a say on who's on the boards when he is hired.

Mr. Verd Odom recused himself for another appointment at 12:30 p.m.

Chairman Midgley advised Ms. Lawson that she could offer names for appointees. Ms. Lawson questioned if they could have an application process like Darlington and Florence Counties for persons interested in serving on the various boards. The read from a sample application she had created of what she would like to see for possible appointees:

- Why would you like to serve?
- Education
- Experience
- List of Previous Boards served on
- If appointed, pledge by signature that they will attend the meetings
- Have you been convicted of a felony?

Mr. Jason Steen said he thought there were procedures set up for council to go by when selecting appointees regarding districts, etc. Mr. Kenneth Stroman said he thought it was council's privilege to be able to nominate anyone. He didn't know about the application. Chairman Midgley said

May 16, 2023 Council Meeting Minutes

that even though someone may be interested, they may be someone better qualified. He didn't know that an application was needed, it was each council members appointment.

Mr. Stroman said "To Recap" – it was his understanding that all council members agreed that the Chairman of the Economic Development Partnership Board did not have to reside within Marlboro County. Chairman Midgley stated "Yes, per the Ordinance". There was no negative responses from any other council members.

Mr. Steen stated that with that being said, council is in a County Administrator and Clerk to Council Search. He questioned whether they would also be in search of an Economic Developer. He said he knew the boards where important, however, they need to fill the vacancies they have and let them move forward. Then they could come back and make changes if necessary. He asked the rest of the council members to at least move forward with all of their board. At present, they do not need to bite off more than they can chew. Just need to move forward. Mr. Steen advised Ms. Lawson that she could make any of her appointments at any meeting. Ms. Lawson requested that when the board vacancies were filled and they started having meeting, she would like to request that reports of the meetings be provided to them. Chairman Midgley advised that could be done.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

NONE.

ADJOURN

**Motion made by Mr. Kenneth Stroman, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion Carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 1 p.m.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



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



Susan Rivers, Clerk  
Marlboro County Clerk

Adopted: June 13, 2023