

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 2014

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN	RON MUNNERLYN
VICE-CHAIR	DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE
ADMINISTRATOR	JIM HAYNES
COUNTY ATTORNEY	HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN, RON MUNNERLYN, DR. CAROLYN PRINCE, STEVE BLACKMON, AND	WILLIE GLADDEN, CORRIE H. PLATO, KEN ALLEN, ANTHONY WOODS
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* Absent

Work session was held at 5:00 p.m. with all Council members present.

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, suggested that item 4.b. under Old Business be removed from the agenda. He stated that Mr. Ron King, Executive Director of the Economic Development Partnership, is making this request for funds from railroad funds and he suggested that the item be put off until Mr. King is present to answer questions on this. He reminded Council that Mr. King is out recuperating from knee replacement.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, suggested that items 5.b. and 5.c. under New Business be amended to refer to “undisclosed” party rather than “unnamed” party.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, suggested that a new item be added under New Business as item 5.e. “Consideration of financial support to Pee Dee Coalition”.

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the agenda with item 4.b. under Old Business being removed, with items 5.b and 5.c. under New Business to be amended to refer to “undisclosed” party rather than “unnamed” party, and with a new item be added under New Business as item 5.e. Consideration of financial support to Pee Dee Coalition. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

PRESENTATIONS

MR. GROVER MCQUEEN, HUMAN RESOURCES DIRECTOR – PRESENTATION REGARDING NACO DRUG CARD PROGRAM

Mr. Grover McQueen, Human Resources Director for Marlboro County, appeared and stated that he was present to discuss the NACo Drug Card program and how it would affect the citizens of Marlboro County. Mr. McQueen stated that a copy of the actual brochure was included in Council’s packets for review and that he had confirmed that about 25-30 counties in South Carolina currently participate in the drug card program. He stated that the program was free to the citizens through NACo and would not cost the county anything to start up. He also stated that there was no commitment if citizens signed up for the program and decided not to use it. Mr. McQueen stated that NACo would provide advertising information through media, churches, etc., and assist with distribution of the cards. Mr. McQueen stated that this was a win-win situation. He stated that some citizens may save up to \$2.00-\$3.00 on a prescription and if you save any money, it helps in this day and time. Mr. McQueen stated that if Council wishes to participate, he will be happy to contact NACo and let them know that Marlboro County wishes to join the program.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, thanked Mr. McQueen for his presentation on the NACo Drug Card program and also thanked Dr. Carolyn Prince for requesting this presentation. He asked Council if they had any questions. No questions were heard. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Council would discuss this and take it up as an item of business at a future meeting to discuss whether or not they wish to participate.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES - August 12, 2014

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the minutes of August 12, 2014 as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 728 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND CLARIFYING ORDINANCE # 700, TO ALLOCATE TEN PERCENT OF ALL FEE REVENUES DERIVED FROM ASSETS LOCATED WITHIN A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK TO THE MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT FUND; AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – THIRD READING

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Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to comment on this Ordinance.

Mr. Haynes stated that this Ordinance accomplishes what Council thought was already in place which was to contribute 10% of all fee revenues derived from assets within any multi-county industrial park to the Marlboro County Economic Development fund. Mr. Haynes stated that this was already in effect for the Marlboro, Dillon, Marion Multi-Park arrangement but this Ordinance would ensure that all other tri-county industrial parks work the same way.

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve the third reading of Ordinance # 728 – An Ordinance amending and clarifying Ordinance #700, to allocate ten percent of all fee revenues derived from assets located within a Multi-County Industrial Park to the Marlboro County Economic Development Fund; and other matters related thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 729 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT WITH WILLIAM COOLEY FOR FARMLAND AROUND THE AIRPORT – FIRST READING

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to comment on this Ordinance.

Mr. Haynes stated that Dr. William Cooley had been subleasing the property located around the airport, which was originally leased to Dr. J. K. Kennedy, who is now deceased. Mr. Haynes stated that Dr. Cooley wished to continue the existing lease arrangement with no changes. Mr. Haynes stated that this really helps the county in that all of the property around the airport would be kept mowed and vegetation would not be allowed to grow into the flight path which is what the county needed.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the first reading of Ordinance # 729 – An Ordinance to approve the lease agreement with William Cooley for farmland around the airport. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 730 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY AND AN UNDISCLOSED PARTY OF PROPERTY ON MAPLE STREET (FORMERLY BORO PROPERTY) – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that this was a first reading in title only to start the process and that more information would certainly be made available as more information is learned by staff. He stated that in most cases these type leases need to be moved on pretty

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quickly and this is simply just that since we are required to have three readings in order for it to become effective. He also stated that Council could certainly vote against it and not take any action as more information is provided.

Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, stated that a lot of the details on this still needed to be worked out and that more information would be available at the next reading.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 730 – An Ordinance to approve the lease agreement between Marlboro County and an undisclosed party of property on Maple Street (formerly Boro property). Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 731 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE SALE OF THE PROPERTY NEAR THE FARMER’S MARKET TO AN UNDISCLOSED PARTY AND TO PROVIDE ECONOMIC INCENTIVES – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that again this is an Ordinance for first reading in title only regarding the property near the railroad right of way which is located near the Farmer’s Market. He stated that we do not have all the details on this matter but that more information would be provided once it is received.

Dr. Carolyn Prince suggested that “and to provide economic incentives” be struck from the title.

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen to amend the title of Ordinance to be Ordinance # 731 – An Ordinance authorizing the sale of the property near the Farmer’s Market to an undisclosed party. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 731 – An Ordinance authorizing the sale of the property near the Farmer’s Market to an undisclosed party. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 09-14-01 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING FINANCING TERMS THROUGH FIRST CITIZENS BANK AND TRUST COMPANY, INC. (“FCB”) FOR CAPITAL EXPENSES

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Haynes stated that as Council discussed during the budget process, staff is trying to pinch pennies with equipment that has a life span of three to five years by working out a lease type agreement rather than purchasing the vehicles. This would be primarily for road maintenance equipment and deputy vehicles for the Sheriff’s office. Mr. Haynes stated that

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in discussing lease type arrangements with various banks that First Citizens Bank had the best rates and they have worked with us a great deal in getting things moving on this quickly. Mr. Haynes stated that although the county will be leasing certain equipment that the bank considers this to be a loan with financing terms and the bank is requiring a Resolution from Council to confirm that we are authorized to go forward on this.

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve Resolution # 09-14-01 – A Resolution approving financing terms through First Citizens Bank and Trust Company, Inc. (“FCB”) for Capital Expenses. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT TO PEE DEE COALITION

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that a few individuals had appeared at the last meeting seeking financial support for the Pee Dee Coalition. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Marlboro County had not made any financial donations to this group for several years and he understood the necessity in supporting this group. He stated that he agreed with Ms. Brenda Dixon that supporting the Pee Dee Coalition financially was the right thing to do and could result in a liability to county if they do not receive the support to keep the program running. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that it had been suggested that a donation of \$5,000.00 be made and he understood that is was a stretch to the budget but that he, along with Councilman Gladden, felt it was a very worthy cause since no support had been given for some time.

Mr. Willie Gladden agreed that the Pee Dee Coalition is very dear to him and that it was a good decision to assist them financially. He stated that he realized that Council had dug deep in their pockets but that the Coalition was very worthwhile to the community and its citizens.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to provide a financial contribution of \$5,000.00 to the Pee Dee Coalition. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

APPOINTMENTS OF MEMBERS TO MARLBORO COUNTY GRIEVANCE COMMITTEE

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to make comments on the appointments of members to the Marlboro County Grievance Committee.

Mr. Haynes reported that the terms for the current members on the Marlboro County Grievance Committee will expire on September 13, 2014, and that he recommended that all current members to be reappointed to serve another three year term, along with the two current alternates to continue serving as alternates.

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Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to appoint the following employees to serve on the Marlboro County Grievance Committee: Mr. Mark Heath, Mr. Roy Allison, Mr. Lewis Cooper, Ms. Kathea Pegues, Ms. Beverly McKiver, with the two alternates being Ms. Judy McQueen and Mr. Gary Harrington. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PEE DEE WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR'S RECOMMENDATION OF APPOINTMENTS OF MR. JAMES ROBERTS AND MR. BILLY BUNDY TO THE PEE DEE WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that both Mr. James Roberts and Mr. Billy Bundy are currently serving on the Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board but that Ms. Joette R. Dukes, Director of the Pee Dee Workforce Development is requesting that the terms of service representation be adjusted.

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve Pee Dee Workforce Development Director's recommendations of appointments of Mr. James Roberts and Mr. Billy Bundy to the Pee Dee Workforce Investment Board. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REPORTS

ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCE REPORT - MR. JIM HAYNES COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Recognition of Employees – The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of August: Stephen Akers (16 years); Michael Brigman (8 years); Patricia English (6 years), Benetrice Ferguson (16 years); Ashley Hamer (7 years); Ricky Knight (5 years); Terry Malloy (8 years); Beverly McKiver (14 years); Joan Parker (5 years); Celia Patterson (9 years); Susan Rivers (14 years); Jeremy Steen (5 years); John Walters (9 years); Janilla Williams (8 years); Sharon Wilson (14 years); Bobbie Cox (37 years); and Jeff Dudley (30 years).

Expenditure and Revenue Reports - the expense and revenue reports for the month of August, 2014 were provided for Council's review. Expenses were at 18% or \$1,782,465.28 while revenues were at 9% or \$941,108.81.

MRR Sandhills vs. Marlboro County - a copy of the Remittitur from the SC Court of Appeals on the MRR Sandhills vs. Marlboro County case which confirms that the case has been remitted to the lower court was recently received.

Local Government Fund - some SC Lawmakers are planning to raid the Local Government Fund to the point of elimination of the fund. A copy of an article received on this as well as information from the SC Association of Counties was provided to Council which urges all

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counties to work to preserve the LGF. It seems that the good stewardship of the public trust is working against local governments since the amount of money in fund balances across the state has been cited as a reason that the Local Government Fund is no longer important to cities and counties.

Request from Marlboro County School District - a letter was received from the Marlboro County School District Superintendent requesting that we consider partnering with the school district and the City Council on a quarterly basis to discuss establishing a partnership to work together for the benefit of our citizens. I have responded and advised Dr. Tillar that Council is always willing and available to meet at a date and time convenient for all members of councils and School District and have offered our assistance in bringing the parties together for a meeting.

Request for Road Access for Wallace School - we have received an email from Mr. Wes Park at the School District advising that the school district is no longer in need of the road access to the county property at the site of the construction in Wallace. He stated that as a part of the value engineering for the project a lower cost alternative had been developed.

Demolition of Kinney and Brogdon Buildings - all documents in the Brogdon building have been shredded for a cost of \$794.40 and we are now ready to proceed on the demolition of both the Brogdon building and the Kinney building. The company to which the bid was awarded has been notified and demolition should begin soon. We have been given the week of the 15th of this month (next week) as the time when the demolition will take place.

New Animal Shelter Facility - A meeting at the Olive Graham center recently purchased by the County with some members of the Humane Society was held recently in an effort to begin the process of renovating the building for use as an Animal Control Facility.

SCAC Fall Meeting - The SCAC Fall Meeting of the County Council Coalition has been scheduled at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia for October 16 – 17, 2014. A copy of the meeting brochure and agenda were provided to Council members and the members were asked to notify Ms. Patricia Bundy to assist with the registration and reservations if they planned to attend.

Industry Appreciation Day – Reminded Council that Industry Appreciation Day was scheduled for Thursday, September 11, 2014 with daytime activities beginning at 11:00 a.m. at the Marlboro Country Club to include a bag lunch, as well as the evening program beginning at 5:00 p.m. at the Bennettsville Community Center.

Blenheim Gymnasium Property – Reported that since the property had been transferred to the County that a lot of work has been made to improve the property. He stated that about 17 windows which were broken have been replaced, repairs have been made to the gym floor to make it more even in places that had some buckling,

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replaced lights in the gym area with a few of them still needing some work, and cleaned classrooms in front of the building. Staff is working on painting the front entrance and making some repairs to the restrooms. Staff is working towards opening the property a few days soon so as to get some activities scheduled.

Duties as County Administrator – thanked Council for the vote of confidence at the last Council meeting in making him the permanent County Administrator. He stated that more than two years ago he met in an interview type environment and agreed to serve as interim administrator until Council could find someone they thought would work with him on a permanent basis. He stated two years later that he was still here and now will be serving as County Administrator. He stated that he looked at this as a two year trial period and that apparently things are working pretty well. He assured Council that he would continue to work hard to accomplish the things that were in the best interests of the citizens of Marlboro County. He assured Council that he would execute decisions the best way he knew how.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that two individuals had signed up to speak to Council and he recognized them as follows:

Ms. Ida Ridges – stated that she had two concerns to speak to Council on; the first being the old abandoned houses on Maple Street across from the old Boro property. She stated that people are living in these abandoned homes with no water and no utilities. They also leave garbage and trash in the front of the property. She reported this to be health hazard and asked that the county do something with the abandoned properties because people should not have to live that way.

The second concern was the garbage pick up provided by USA Waste. She stated that often times her trash is not picked up on time and when she calls the company, the lady is very rude and not very professional. She asked the City why they could not pick up her trash but never receives an answer. She asked that Council look into these two matters and see what could be done.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn thanked Ms. Ridges for appearing before Council and stated that staff would check on the issues and let her know something.

Mr. Tom Wood – thanked Council for their ongoing support in opposition of the landfill. He stated that he had signed up to ask a question about the status of the landfill lawsuit, but that his question had already been answered. He again thanked Council for their hard work in opposing the landfill.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Willie Gladden – stated that he was very concerned about the Veterans Office. He stated that the lady currently working in that office has been doing the work with no help at all and feels that she should be compensated for it. He stated that Council needed to look at that. He stated that he understood that Council could not appoint a Director for the office but suggested that staff or Council write a letter to the Senate and House asking them to move on this matter and make an appointment as soon as possible.

Mr. Ken Allen – No comments.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – thanked Council and staff for all their help with the Blenheim gymnasium property.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – wanted to thank all of the efforts of the Marlboro County Public Library; she stated that Marlboro was one of three counties in the State that received a Community Spotlight Award to improve childhood literacy. This proves that libraries are about more than just books. She stated that Ms. Lynn McQueen had well written the article that was in the paper about a week ago and encouraged all to read it.

Dr. Prince also shared with Council that the Pee Dee COG (Council on Government) has a Revolving Loan Fund which is available to industrial, commercial, and service firms in our area for the purchase of land and buildings; construction of new or renovations to existing structures; provide funds for the purchase of machinery and equipment; and to provide funds for permanent working capital. The interest rate is a little above the prime and could be a great benefit for start up companies. Council and staff should keep this in mind and refer some businesses to check it out.

Dr. Prince thanked Mr. Grover McQueen for his report on the NACo Drug Card program and stated that she thought Council should support participation in this program.

Dr. Prince mentioned as a final note that Local Government Fund. She stated that we are again under threat and asked that all call anyone in Columbia in the House and Senate to stress the importance of continuing this funding. She stated that small counties suffer the greatest and really depend on this funding.

Dr. Prince also thanked Chief Larry McNeil of the Bennettsville Police Department for stepping things up and catching all those speeding on Broad Street and Cheraw Street. She stated that sometimes it looks like a drag strip with all the speeding and is happy that something is being done. She stated that she hope that the tickets will continue to be written to anyone speeding in the area.

2014 Statement of Economic Interests Report - Mr. Haynes reminded each Council member again this month that the 2014 Statement of Economic Interests (SEI) Report (Ethics Report) should be filed by each of them as an elected official on or before March 30, 2014. He stated that in the past, the deadline to file these forms were April 15th, but the deadline had been changed to March 30th and asked that they please keep this in mind and file prior to the deadline date. He provided instructions for filing the form electronically and stated that all must be file electronically – no exceptions.

Draft Hazardous Waste Permit from DHEC by Beazer East, Inc. for Koppers, Inc. – A Public Notice of a Draft Hazardous Waste Permit from DHEC regarding a renewal permit application for hazardous waste activities submitted by Beazer East, Inc. for Koppers, Inc. located at 280 Koppers Road, Florence, SC has been received. The permit application and draft permit are open for public comment from January 15, 2014 to March 3, 2014. Written comments or requests for a formal public hearing must be submitted no later than March 3, 2014. A copy of the notice addressed to Dr. Carolyn Prince was provided for review by each Council member.

Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program – the County received a Memorandum from the SC Department of Parks, Recreation & Tourism regarding 2014 Requests for Letters of Intent for the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) Grant Program. The letter invites interested eligible entities to submit a “Letter of Intent” form for grant assistance from the Land & Water Conservation Fund (LWCF). The deadline for submission is March 3, 2014. The LWCF is a Federal program that provides matching funds for the acquisition or development of outdoor recreation areas and facilities. This is a reimbursable grant program requiring a 50% match with a minimum of \$50,000.00 and only state and local government agencies may apply. The first to throw us out was a requirement for this grant that the recipient shall have received a grant from the LWCF Grant Program in the past.

SNOW AND ICE STORM - The snow and ice storm hit the county pretty hard and one of the hardest decisions he had to make as Interim Administrator was to figure out when offices should closed or operations delayed due to weather conditions. He stated that the county offices did close at 11:00 a.m. on Tuesday, February 11th and re-opened on Friday, February 14th at 9:30 a.m. with a one hour delay. The delays gave the maintenance staff a chance to clear sidewalks and walkways for the employees to make it as safe as possible.

PARKING LOT/RETAINING WALL – Sandy Watkins, the Engineer with the Council of Governments is working on a draft specification that will allow us to bid on the tearing down and leveling of the lot just across the street that was the Kinney property. She is also working on drafting final specifications for some paving at the Clio Fire Department.

BUDGET DISCUSSIONS – We have sent to our departments the budget request forms for the 2014-15 budget. This officially begins the budget preparation for the coming year’s