

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

VICE-CHAIRMAN

WILLIE GLADDEN

ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK TO COUNCIL
COUNTY ATTORNEY

JIM HAYNES
PATRICIA BUNDY
HARRY EASTERLING, JR.

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN,
DISTRICT 3 (VACANT)
DR. CAROLYN PRINCE,
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

WILLIE GLADDEN,
* CORRIE H. PLATO,
KEN ALLEN,
ANTHONY WOODS *

* Absent

Others Present: Ms. Lynn McQueen, Herald-Advocate, and Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director.

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Lynn McQueen 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.marlbocounty.sc.gov).

INVOCATION – Dr. Carolyn Prince

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any requested changes to the agenda and there were none.

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES – September 13, 2016

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were no changes suggested.

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve the minutes of the September 13, 2016 meeting as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

RESOLUTION # 10-16-01 – A RESOLUTION APPROVING A BUDGET AMENDMENT TO THE 2016-2017 BUDGET AS REQUESTED BY THE MARLBORO COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Haynes stated that this was an issue that we needed to address with regards to payment of our annual dues which are due to the Tri-County Industrial Park with Dillon County. He stated that the dues prior to 2015 had been paid annually by the Marlboro Electric Cooperative through economic development funding and we were able to make these payments those funds. He stated that the 2015 and 2016 dues are now due and they are \$50,000.00 per year. He stated that he had budgeted some funds for payment of the 2016 annual dues but this Resolution for the budget amendment will allow funds to be moved from FILOT funds which will be received from the Tri-County Park which will far exceed the amount needed for the dues and he is requesting that this Resolution be approved which will allow the dues to be paid for both years, 2015 and 2016.

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked if the funds would be pulled from the contingency fund and Mr. Haynes advised that the fund would be coming from the Economic Development funds.

Chairman Steen asked if there were any additional questions or comments. There were none.

Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve Resolution # 10-16-01 – A Resolution approving a budget amendment to the 2016-2017 budget as requested by the Marlboro County Administrator. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REVIEW AND APPROVAL OF ONE YEAR EXTENSION OF MCDANIEL SUPPLY COMPANY'S SERVICE AGREEMENT FOR INMATE COMMISSARY SERVICES WHICH RENEWS ANNUALLY ON DECEMBER 31ST UNLESS TERMINATED BY PROVIDING 60 DAYS' WRITTEN NOTICE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Haynes stated that when this agreement was approved last year this time, members of Council asked that we re-visit in a year to review and see how things were going and if we wanted to continue the contract. Mr. Haynes stated that since the budget for 2016 has not yet been completed, that it is hard to really tell how things are going number wise but he felt that the contract should continue for at least an additional year to allow the new Sheriff time to see how things are going with the company. Mr. Haynes also advised that Mr. Earl Hood, the Warden, had written a letter requesting that the contract continue.

Motion made by Mr. Ken Allen, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the one year extension of McDaniel Supply Company's Service Agreement for inmate commissary services which renews annually on December 31st unless terminated by providing 60 days' written notice.. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION REGARDING ORDINANCE # 722 WHICH APPROVED THE FRANCHISE AGREEMENT WITH J. DAVIS ENTERPRISE, INC. DBA USA WASTE & RECYCLING AND WHICH WILL EXPIRE ON FEBRUARY 8, 2017

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator, to make comments on this item.

Mr. Haynes stated that he would recommend a first reading to continue the Franchise Agreement with J. Davis Enterprise, Inc. DBA USA Waste & Recycling. He stated that even though we all feel like we are still getting complaints about the trash service, the company has made some attempts to get other folks to answer the calls and they also have a new person in the area that we can call for an immediate response. Mr. Haynes stated that we will always have issues with this type of service but stated that the company is attempting to keep us up to date on their status when pick up schedules may change. He stated that staff received a call today from the company stating that some trash would not and could not be picked up due to flooding but that they were making every effort to get as much as possible.

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to renew the Franchise Agreement with J. Davis Enterprise, Inc. DBA USA Waste & Recycling and that the Ordinance be prepared for vote at the next Council meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSION

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any appointments to be made to the County Boards and Commission.

Chairman Steen stated that he would like to recommend the appointment of Ms. Amanda Chavis Steen to serve on the Trinity Behavioral Care Board.

No other appointments were recommended.

Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Ken Allen, to approve the appointment of Ms. Amanda Chavis Steen to serve on the Trinity Behavioral Care Board. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director.

Ms. Moore reported that expenditures were at 26% of the budgeted amount for the month of September which were right on target for this time of the year and revenues were 13% under budget of the budgeted amount. She stated that property tax notices were being prepared and would be mailed out this month and that should increase the revenues.

Ms. Moore stated that the annual audit seems to be progressing well and that the new auditors were in the administration offices the last two months of September gathering information and they appear to be on target for the expected date of completion.

Dr. Carolyn Prince stated that the Recreation Department in the Revenue Report shows a negative number and asked what caused the number to be in the negative. Ms. Moore stated that staff had only budgeted revenues of \$3,025 but had already received \$5,075 which is good. She stated that for this report a negative number means that you are receiving more funds that staff had planned to receive. Dr. Prince stated that news was great but she had always understood that number shown as a negative were not what you wanted to see. She appreciated Ms. Moore's response.

Ms. Moore asked members of Council if there were any questions. There were none.

Chairman Steen thanked Ms. Moore for her report.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. JIM HAYNES, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, County Administrator.

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Recognition of employees - The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of September: Delorice Barrington (9 years); Shelia Covington (5 years); Ray Kelly (14 years); Hosea Lemon (9 years); Kaye Liner (14 years); Lee McQueen (16 years); and Candis Pate (5 years).

Animal Shelter Report for September, 2016 - Mr. Josh Cohoon, the Animal Shelter Director, has advised for the month of September. A total of 77 dogs have been taken in with 54 being rescued, three being adopted, and two being euthanized, leaving 67 currently at the shelter. A total of 46 cats were taken in with three being adopted, and 12 being euthanized, leaving 121 currently at the shelter.

L.O.S.T. Credits for 2016 - We have received notification from our Treasurer, Delorice Barrington, that the L.O.S.T. credits which are due back to tax payers for 2016 total \$850,000.00.

Reassessment of Land Values Currently Underway - As most of you have noticed, the Tax Assessor's office has issued their reassessment notifications of property values. That office has been pretty swamped with calls from citizens inquiring as to why they received these notices and some complaining about their property values being increased. As you know, this is done every five years and Council approved the delay for this. This new assessment is required by law and the new assessment is effective with the tax bill that will go out this week.

Thank you to Emergency Services Personnel - We all owe a big thank you to our emergency services both volunteer and paid. This is to include our employees in Public works who found themselves on chain saw duty Sunday. Our 911 operators were on duty and working to take calls and get the assistance as necessary. There will be a review of our preparedness and of course we have things on which we can improve, but I think given the erratic nature of this particular storm and the compartmentalization of South Carolina departments and organizations, we did fairly well. As this is being written, we have folks who are still out of electricity and many have damage to their homes. The Marlboro County High School is being used as a state designated shelter which means they have some folks from Red Cross there to assist folks. The Red Cross that have come in are from San Diego and South Dakota. Staff is talking about getting other places that may be designated as shelters for the county, such as Blenheim Gym and have also discussed creating a place for volunteers to take showers, such as possibly the Administration office building. There are many things that will be discussed when things settle down to improve on disasters like we have experienced this week.

Trash pick-up service due to storm - We have received a call from J. Davis Enterprise/USA Waste and they have advised that they are still working but have no phone service at their offices. They asked that we please ensure our residents that they are making every effort to keep the trash pickup as scheduled but due to many streets being flooded, they are having some difficulty. They will try to work these areas again later in the week as time will allow. They do understand that our area was hit pretty hard and have promised to

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do everything possible to get as much as the cans emptied as possible. There may be some delay with the Friday pickups but they are working on trying to get the other days as scheduled.

Baldor Plant Layoff – We received notification today from Baldor advising that seven additional employees will be laid off somewhere around November 30th or shortly thereafter. Baldor is planning to completely shut down by the end of the year.

Vehicle Surplus Sale - We have scheduled a surplus sale of the three surplus vehicles and staff is accepting sealed bids for these vehicles through 12:00 noon on Thursday, October 20, 2016. The bids will be opened on Friday, October 21, 2016 and the vehicles will be awarded to the highest bidder. This information has been published in the local paper and also posted on our local website. The vehicles to be sold are a 2003 Ford F-150, a 2004 Ford Crown Vic and a 2006 Crown Vic.

SC Association of Counties County Council Coalition Mtg. - The SC Association of Counties' County Council Coalition Fall meeting will be held at the Embassy Suites Hotel in Columbia on Thursday, October 20, 2016. The meeting will begin at 10:00 a.m. and will conclude with a luncheon. The Institute of Government for County Officials will be held on Wednesday, October 19th. We have at least three Council members who have signed up for the County Council Coalition Meeting on Thursday.

BDDA to Sponsor a Pumpkin Carving Contest - The Bennettsville Downtown Development Association is sponsoring a pumpkin carving contest on Sunday, October 23, 2016. The actual carving will be held on the Dew property across from True Value Hardware on East Main Street. The winning pumpkins will be on display in front of the fountain on the courthouse square after the judging takes place at 5:00 p.m. on the 23rd and will remain there for a couple of days.

Meeting with SC DOT and CTC Members - Staff has received a letter from the SC Department of Transportation inviting me and the members of our County Transportation Committee (CTC) members to meet with the SC DOT in Columbia on Thursday, December 8, 2016, for a statewide meeting of CTCs and SCDOT staff. This invitation is also available to any other county staff members that we feel may benefit from this meeting. The meeting will be held in the Assembly Room at the SC Department of Archives and History Building in Columbia, SC at 9:00 a.m. The address is 8301 Parklane Road, Columbia, SC 29223.

Fifth Annual Employee/Guest Christmas Dinner - The Marlboro County Fifth Annual Employee/Guest Christmas Dinner has been scheduled for Tuesday, December 6, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. at the old Blenheim Gym on Highway 38 South in Blenheim, SC.

Dr. Carolyn Prince asked who would handle the appeals for the tax assessments. Mr. Haynes advised that Mr. Ken McLain, the Tax Assessor, would be the one to handle these and if satisfactory results were not received by the citizen, then the Tax Appeals Board would hear the appeal.

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

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated that two citizens had signed up to speak and that each of them would be asked to step up the stand and be given three minutes to talk about their concerns.

Chairman Steen recognized the citizens:

Joanne Peterson – Ms. Peterson stated her name and stated that she resided at 2749 Hwy. 177, Wallace, SC. She stated that her concerns dealt with the response time that she and her neighbors in the Wallace area received from Marlboro Electric Cooperative during the storm. She stated that she was very concerned about the way the responses were handled with the residents in her area and they deserved so much more. She stated that the offices were closed so that citizens could not even speak with individuals and the phone was not answered. She stated that she had many concerns about this.

She also stated that she would like for someone to look at the property owners who refuse to keep their trees pruned. She stated that this needed to be taken care of and if the property owners do not keep their properties up and maintained, they should be required to pay fines.

Brenda Dixon – stated her name and that she resided at 308 Johnakin Drive in Bennettsville, SC. She stated that she was appearing on behalf of the Pee Dee Coalition and wanted to thank members of Council for their contributions to their agency. She stated that they are most appreciative and that the funds were always handled appropriately and well spent. She stated that during the period of July, 2015 through June, 2016, their local agency assisted 72 family victims with Family violence and preventive services. She stated that during that same period, they served 42 children and adolescents with child abuse through the Durant Center in Florence. She also stated that same period, they assisted seven sexual assault victims from Marlboro County. She stated that they are serving many citizens in our area and many things are being accomplished with the funds that the county provides their organization. She stated that they have many volunteers and a very small staff. She thanked members of Council again for their contributions and asked that they please continue to assist them.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Ken Allen – No comments.

Steve Blackmon – No comments.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – stated that she had received a thank you card from the Evans' twins, Darius and David, and they were very appreciative of the gifts that Council provided them.

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She stated that she had had a conversation with resident who resides at the Apartment complex at the fork of Tator House Road and East Main Street Extension. She stated that the resident was very concerned about the property behind the apartment complex because it is not being kept up and the resident was concerned about creeper crawlers. Dr. Prince stated that she wanted to report this complaint to staff.

Dr. Prince stated that on September 23rd, she went back to the classroom and is teaching after four years of resting. She stated that she is really enjoying it and is now trying to get up to speed with the new mind set of the students of today. She stated school had been closed for the past few days due to the damages caused by the Hurricane and this has given her a chance to really think on things and making plans.

Dr. Prince stated that she and Mr. Steve Blackmon had talked and some members of the Wright School Reunion group and the group is asking that we consider naming the Blenheim gym building the “Wade H. Prince County Recreation Center” or something to that effect. She stated that Mr. Wade Prince served as Principal to that school for many years and folks really appreciated the way that he served in his capacity as Principal and thought this would be a good way to honor him. Dr. Prince stated that if Council would consider approving the name of this building that she would help persuade the group to help pay for the proper signage to reflect the name of the facility.

Willie Gladden – stated that Fourth Avenue and Shady Rest really got hit pretty hard with the Hurricane and Red Cross went out today at noon and will be going back out at 5:00 p.m. to provide hot meals for these folks. He stated that they would do this tomorrow, Wednesday, October 12th, as well at noon and at 5:00 p.m. for all of the families in need of a hot meal.

Mr. Gladden also mentioned that the SC Department of Social Services has a program that will be assisting folks who have lost groceries from their freezer due to power outage from the storm. He says that the folks have to provide a written notice from their utility company confirming the time that they were out of power but would be given stamps for foods lost during the storm.

Corrie Plato – stated that we were all so blessed to be at the meeting tonight and mentioned a song that had the words “he looked beyond my fault and saw our needs”. She stated that is exactly what God did for Marlboro County. She stated that God did not spare us because we were good and deserved it, she said we were spared because of His mercy and grace.

Ms. Plato encouraged everyone present at the meeting to find someone who needed help and to provide help to that person. She stated that if this was done that the person providing the help would be blessed. She stated that she had been blessed by family and friends with food being provided to her and she shared with another family that was in need. She stated shortly after this was done, she visited McDonalds to get some breakfast foods and the

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person in front of her paid for her food. She said she had no idea who paid for it but it was a true blessing.

Ms. Plato addressed Ms. Joanne Peterson who had addressed Council earlier and stated that she understood what she was saying about response time from Marlboro Electric Coop. Ms. Plato stated that she was currently still without power but stated that she was on the porch when a Marlboro Electric Cooperative truck pulled up and the employee got out and climbed the pole and came down, looked back and her, and got in his truck and left without saying anything to her. She stated that it was just wrong and he could have given her some explanation as to what he was checking out but he did not.

Jason Steen – thanked everyone for coming out. He stated that Councilman Anthony Woods was still without power and so was Councilwoman Plato. He asked that all of the folks without power be remembered and stated that there were many of them. He thanked all of the first responders, the Rescue Squad folks, the Sheriff and his staff, the Fire Departments, the Public Works Department, and all the others that help make our community a safe place to live. He stated the reason he lives in Marlboro County is because of everyone's willingness to pull together to get things done. He thanked the many volunteers who has stepped up to help with Red Cross and with the shelters. He thanked Mr. Verd Odom for coming to the meeting and stated that he would be joining them in a couple of months as a member of Council. He thanked Mayor Heath Harpe for coming and for Sheriff Lemon for appearing.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

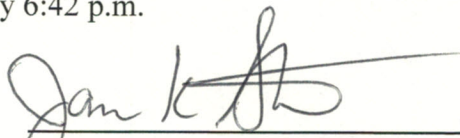
ADJOURN

Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Ken Allen, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

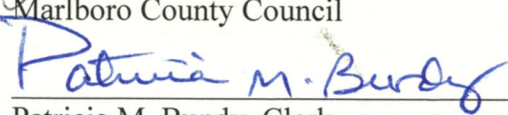
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:42 p.m.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Jason K. Steen, Chairman
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: November 15, 2016