

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO CIVIC CENTER

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2020

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN

JASON STEEN

VICE CHAIRMAN

CORRIE PLATO

ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK TO COUNCIL
COUNTY ATTORNEY

RON MUNNERLYN
PATRICIA BUNDY
ANDREW McLEOD

COUNCIL:

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

WILLIE GLADDEN,
CORRIE H. PLATO,
VERD ODOM,
ANTHONY WOODS

*

* Absent

The Council meeting is being held at the Marlboro Civic Center in order to allow adequate space for an open meeting and to allow for social distancing.

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

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jacqueline Hough and Mr. Dan McNeil 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.marlborocounty.sc.gov).

INVOCATION- Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the agenda as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

OCTOBER 13, 2020 – REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING

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

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the Regular Council meeting minutes from October 13, 2020 as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 799 – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE AGREEMENT FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A MULTI-COUNTY INDUSTRIAL AND BUSINESS PARK BY AND BETWEEN DARLINGTON COUNTY AND MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA, PROVIDING FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A JOINTLY OWNED AND OPERATED INDUSTRIAL/BUSINESS PARK SO AS TO INCLUDE ADDITIONAL PROPERTY IN DARLINGTON COUNTY AS PART OF THE JOINT COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK, AND OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – THIRD READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated this was the third and final reading of this Ordinance to add property located in Darlington County to the Darlington and Marlboro Counties' Industrial/Business Park. He stated no changes were made to the Ordinance since the last reading and stated it was a standard agreement to assist in providing tax incentives for the industry in Darlington County.

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

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve third reading of Ordinance # 799 – an Ordinance to Amend the Agreement for Development of a Multi-County Industrial and Business Park by and between Darlington County and Marlboro County, South Carolina, Providing for the Development of a Jointly Owned and Operated Industrial/Business Park so as to Include Additional Property in Darlington County as Part of the Joint County Industrial Park, and Other Matters Relating Thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 801- AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING (1) THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF (A) A FEE-IN-LIEU OF TAX AND INCENTIVE AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA (THE "COUNTY") AND A COMPANY IDENTIFIED FOR THE TIME BEING AS PROJECT ONWARD AND (B) ONE OR MORE SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDIT AGREEMENTS, EACH WITH RESPECT TO CERTAIN PROPERTY IN THE COUNTY, WHEREBY

SUCH PROPERTY WILL BE SUBJECT TO CERTAIN FEES-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AND/OR THE PROVISION OF CERTAIN SPECIAL SOURCE REVENUE CREDITS; AND (2) OTHER MATTERS RELATED THERETO – SECOND READING

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated this is an Ordinance to provide FILOTS to an existing industry in order to provide funding for expansion here in Marlboro County

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

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve second reading of Ordinance # 801 – an Ordinance Authorizing (1) the Execution and Delivery of (A) a Fee-in-Lieu of Tax and Incentive Agreement by and between Marlboro County, South Carolina (the “County”) and a Company Identified at the time being as Project Onward and (B) one or more Special Source Revenue Credit Agreements, each with Respect to Certain Property in the County, whereby such Property will be Subject to Certain Fees-in-Lieu of Ad Valorem Taxes and/or the Provision of Certain Special Source Revenue Credits; and (2) Other Matters Related Thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 802 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING, REVISING, AMENDING, RESTATING, CODIFYING, AND COMPILING THE MARLBORO COUNTY SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Council’s Attorney Steve Weber to make comments on this Ordinance.

Attorney Weber stated in 2007 the County’s Solid Waste Plan was updated and adopted by Marlboro County Council in 2009. He stated the proposed plan being considered would direct the Solid Waste plan for the future in Marlboro County as the current plan has been in place for some time. He stated the plan contained about 100 pages and the services of S&ME were sought in drafting of the plan. Attorney Weber stated the plan was more straightforward and is a lot less refined and is more policy driven. He stated the proposed plan provides for no new landfill and with the same type of service and collection process for household solid waste. He stated the proposed plan before Council was a draft and would require a second and third hearing as well as a Public Hearing. He stated after those readings and hearing have taken place and once it was approved, the plan would be submitted to DHEC for approval. He stated the plan was a 20-year plan and is reviewed typically every ten years.

Attorney Weber stated he would answer any questions that members of Council may have.

Chairman Steen stated it was good to review existing plans and make the appropriate updates. He appreciated the work of Attorney Weber and staff in getting the proposed Solid Waste Plan drafted.

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

Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Willie Gladden, to approve the first reading of Ordinance # 802 – an Ordinance Adopting, Revising, Amending, Restating, Codifying, and Compiling the Marlboro County Solid Waste Management Plan. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

ORDINANCE # 803 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE ORGANIZATION OF THE MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AGENCY FOR MARLBORO COUNTY – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated more details would be provided on this proposed Ordinance during the Strategic Planning update in the next week or so. He stated he proposed that this Ordinance be a part of the Economic Development update. He stated the current Partnership Board does not have much business or industrial interest currently. He stated their input was much needed. He stated any changes to the existing Partnership Ordinance would require three readings but he suggested approving the first reading in title only of the Ordinance. He stated more details on the proposed Ordinance would be provided at the strategic planning meeting.

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

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve first reading in title only of Ordinance # 803 – an Ordinance Establishing the Organization of the Marlboro County Economic Development Agency for Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION # 11-20-01 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING STAFF TO PURSUE FUNDING AND DEVELOPMENT OF A SPECULATIVE INDUSTRIAL BUILDING FOR MARLBORO COUNTY

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, to make comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated this Resolution dealt with economic development and this would also be discussed more during the strategic planning update. He stated the County does not have any buildings to show or sell when industry prospects visit. He stated most surrounding counties have speculative industrial buildings to attract folks to come to their areas. He

stated years ago, Marlboro County had a speculative industrial building and sold it to an industry which did not work out very well. He stated staff requests that Council consider the Resolution presented which would authorize staff to seek grant funds and partnership funds for the purpose of developing and funding a speculative industrial building for the county. He stated the Resolution would authorize staff to provide a 20% match in funds for an amount up to \$500,000 which would be economic development funds and would not infringe upon the funds designated for the Delta site project. He stated the Resolution would authorize staff to begin work in seeking grants and details would be brought back to Council for final approval. He stated the need for a speculative industrial building would also be discussed during the strategic planning meeting.

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

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve Resolution # 11-20-01 – a Resolution Authorizing Staff to Pursue Funding and Development of a Speculative Industrial Building for Marlboro County. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

DISCUSS SCHEDULING OF FUTURE WORK SESSION FOR STRATEGIC PLANNING UPDATE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated it was time for Council to review and update their strategic plan in an effort to continue to move things forward. He mentioned the MARTi bus transportation service in the county which was a part of their initiatives, as well as healthcare. He stated the County created their own Emergency Medical Services Department. He also mentioned the broadband initiative which was underway to provide broadband services to residents throughout Marlboro County.

Chairman Steen suggested a work session for Strategic Planning be held next Thursday, November 19th since the holidays were approaching quickly.

Chairman Steen asked Councilman Woods and Stroman if the date of November 19th would work for them and asked what time would be best. They responded anytime in the late afternoon would work best. It was agreed that the Strategic Planning work session would be held on Thursday, November 19th at 5:30 pm.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, suggested the meeting be held at the Bennettsville Community Center so that department heads could attend. He stated social distancing would need to be practiced and a meal would be made available to members of Council.

Chairman Steen asked that the current Strategic Plan and update be provided to members of Council for review in an effort to prepare for the meeting.

APPROVAL OF 2021 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, recognized Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, for comments on this item.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the holiday schedule for 2021 which was being proposed was based on the State's holiday schedule.

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

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the 2021 Holiday Schedule as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

There were no recommended appointments to Boards and Commissions.

REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT – MR. WES PARK

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, stated Mr. Wes Park had an emergency at home and was unable to attend the meeting tonight. He provided the Finance Report on behalf of Mr. Park.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the general fund revenues through October 31st total \$1,831,089 and general fund expenditures for the same period total \$3,935,230 of a \$12,038,883 budget or 32.68% of the budget year to date. He stated as of that same date, the County has \$3,621,314 in the three general fund operating accounts.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated the external auditors had visited the office and their work on the annual audit was on schedule.

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

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. RON MUNNERLYN, COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

EMPLOYEE SERVICE ANNIVERSARIES

The following employees were recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of October: Mary Collins (7 years); Lori Davis-Moses (16 years); and Christina Thompson (14 years).

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. **Lunch provided at the Community Kitchen** – Mr. Munnerlyn stated Marlboro County would be providing lunch at the Community Kitchen tomorrow. Mr. Keith Hughes would be leading the group and the menu included chicken salad

sandwiches, chips, fruit cups and cookies. He stated plates would be provided for take-out only.

2. **McLeod Health Cheraw Meet & Greet Drop In** – Mr. Munnerlyn stated McLeod Health Cheraw has invited members of Council to attend an outdoor Meet & Greet drop-in for their new Administrator, Bren Lowe, on November 20, 2020 from 11:00 am – 1:00 pm. He stated the drop-in is scheduled to be held at McLeod Health Cheraw (in the grass area behind Cardiac Rehabilitation) located at 711 Chesterfield Highway, Cheraw, SC. He stated light refreshments would be available and social distancing would be observed and masks required for all those attending. He stated those planning to attend should park in the parking lot located at 721 Chesterfield Highway, Cheraw, SC.
3. **Community Clean-up Event** – Mr. Munnerlyn stated the Community Clean-up Event which was originally scheduled back in April has been scheduled for Saturday, November 21st from 8:00 am until 12:00 noon. He stated the City of Bennettsville and other municipalities and organizations have agreed to partner with the County on this event. He stated a box lunch to go would be provided to participants at the end of the event. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the City of Bennettsville and County staff were working well together on this event and more details about this event would be shared soon.
4. **Marlboro County Employee Christmas Celebration** – Mr. Munnerlyn stated the annual Employee Christmas sit-down dinner at the Wade H. Prince Recreation Center will not be possible this year due to COVID-19; however, staff is planning an Employee Christmas Celebration luncheon on Thursday, December 3, 2020 at the Marlboro County Courthouse. He stated take-out plates would be made available at lunchtime and a brief and informal meeting would be held prior to lunch at 11:30 am and another one at 1:00 pm in order to allow county offices to stagger their lunch times so that services to citizens will not be interrupted. He stated staff was also working to have door prizes available and names of all employees will be placed in a box for drawing of prizes.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

COVID Testing with MUSC- Mr. Munnerlyn stated MUSC along with Marlboro County EMS were continuing to provide daily COVID testing for businesses in the county from 8:30 am – 10:30 Monday through Friday. He stated the tests were the more accurate tests with results being made available the following day.

County-wide Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat – Mr. Munnerlyn stated the county-wide Drive-Thru Trunk or Treat was a huge success. He stated he was happy Marlboro County, the City of Bennettsville, other municipalities and groups were able to unite together to have the event and thanked everyone that assisted or participated in the event.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, if the Recreation Director had made a decision about whether or not the County would be having a recreation basketball season. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had met with the Recreation Director but no decision had been made on this yet. He stated whether or not to go forward with youth programs was being discussed and might be discussed during the strategic planning session. He stated staff felt that folks would not follow rules that would need to be in place.

Mr. Woods suggested that the Recreation Director talk with surrounding county recreation folks to see how they were handling their activities. Mr. Munnerlyn agreed and stated Mr. Lowery had contacted other counties for information on this.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, stated no citizens had signed up to address members of Council

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Anthony Woods – congratulated Dr. Damien Johnson, Sheriff Charles Lemon and Councilman Odom on their elections and stated the County had a huge turnout. He stated the election results did not suit everyone but that was always the case.

Mr. Woods recognized Dr. Johnson who was present at the meeting and stated he looked forward to having him on Council beginning in January.

Mr. Woods wished his dad a happy birthday. He stated he turned 83.

Mr. Woods commended the local Election Board and staff for a job well done.

Mr. Woods also thanked Councilman Willie Gladden for his service to the citizens of Marlboro County.

Ms. Corrie Plato - congratulated Sheriff Lemon, Dr. Damien Johnson and Councilman Odom on their elections. She asked that they keep doing what they're doing and put Christ first.

Ms. Plato thanked staff for their help in organizing the event location for the turkey give-away on November 21st.

Ms. Plato stated she did not have a team organized as of yet for the Clean-up event but stated she would work on pulling one together.

Ms. Plato encouraged everyone to stay safe. She stated things were getting worse and numbers were increasing with COVID-19. She encouraged everyone to continue to pray for each other.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – thanked all the veterans for their service and stated he looked forward to celebrating Veterans Day tomorrow.

Mr. Willie Gladden – stated he was proud of the number of folks that turned out to vote in Marlboro County. He stated approximately 60% of the registered voters in Marlboro County voted. He stated things were going great and asked that staff continue doing the great job they are doing.

Mr. Kenneth Stroman – congratulated all candidates on their elections and stated that all candidates ran a clean and decent race. He stated it was wonderful to see that things were done in the right manner.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – congratulated all successful candidates. He encouraged council to keep working as they have been.

Mr. Blackmon stated folks did not need to let their guards down with regards to the COVID-19 and encouraged everyone to stay protected. He stated there was good news regarding the vaccine but felt that staff did not need to rush things with regards to recreational activities. He mentioned that flu season was approaching and everyone needed to take care of themselves.

Mr. Verd Odom – congratulated Dr. Damien Johnson and Sheriff Lemon and stated there was a great turnout for the election. He stated using the Community Center for early voting was a great move and kept everyone safe. He thanked Elisabeth McNeil for her help in allowing the County to utilize the Community Center and for her help with getting everything set up.

Mr. Odom mentioned that the holidays were upon us and everyone should make every effort to look out for their neighbors as they travel. He stated many times during the holidays, law enforcement staff is in dangerous situations. He encouraged everyone to keep law enforcement staff in their thoughts.

Mr. Odom stated he was the first Republican to win a seat in the election since the Civil War. He thanked everyone in District 6 that voted for him. He asked that citizens please feel free to call him if he could help them in any way.

Chairman Steen recognized Sheriff Charles Lemon and asked if he had any comments.

Sheriff Charles Lemon – thanked everyone for all that they did for him and his department and asked that they continue to remember him in their prayers and that they also remember his department. He stated he did not know what the future might hold, but he knew who did have control of it.

Sheriff Lemon thanked everyone for their support.

November 10, 2020 County Council Meeting

Mr. Jason Steen – congratulated Dr. Damien Johnson, Sheriff Lemon and Councilman Odom on their election results.

Mr. Steen stated he looked forward to the clean-up event.

Mr. Steen encouraged everyone to look out for their neighbors during the holidays.

Mr. Steen mentioned recreation and stated that he knew all the kids wanted to get back out and interact and play ball but suggested that Council and staff look at things closely before a decision is made on opening things back up.

Mr. Steen stated he looked forward to the strategic planning work session scheduled for November 19th. He stated Council and staff are seeing things that have been accomplished and he looked forward to continuing to move forward.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

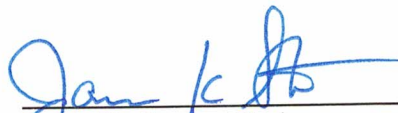
There were no non-agenda items.

ADJOURN

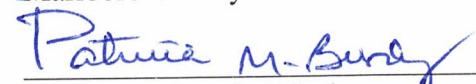
Mr. Jason Steen, Chairman, asked if there were any other comments or business. There being none, he adjourned the meeting at 6:36 pm.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Jason K. Steen, Chairman
Marlboro County Council



Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: December 8, 2020