

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2018

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE

VICE-CHAIRMAN JASON STEEN

ADMINISTRATOR
CLERK TO COUNCIL
COUNTY ATTORNEY
RON MUNNERLYN
PATRICIA BUNDY
ANDREW McLEOD

COUNCIL:

JASON STEEN,
CHARLES P. MIDGLEY, JR.
DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE,
STEVE BLACKMON, AND

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

* Absent

Others Present: Mr. Dan McNeil of the Marlboro Herald-Advocate; Ms. Ainsley Moore, Marlboro County Finance Director; and Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director

A copy of the agenda was emailed to Ms. Jacqueline Hough and Mr. Dan McNeil of the Marlboro 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 – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – October 9, 2018 – Regular Council Meeting

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any comments on the minutes or suggested changes or additions. There were none.

Motion made by Mr. Verd Odom, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the minutes of the October 9, 2018 Regular Council meeting as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 777 – AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A FEE-IN-LIEU OF AD VALOREM TAXES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN MARLBORO COUNTY, SOUTH CAROLINA AND PROJECT SUNSHINE TO PROVIDE FOR PAYMENTS OF FEES-IN-LIEU OF TAXES; AND OTHER RELATED MATTERS – SECOND READING

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that the title of this Ordinance needed to be amended since the first reading last month and suggested the new title to read as “an Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an infrastructure credit agreement by and between Marlboro County, South Carolina and Project Sunshine, to provide for special source revenue credits; and other matters related thereto” and asked for a motion.

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the amending of the title of Ordinance # 777 to read “An Ordinance authorizing the execution and delivery of an infrastructure credit agreement by and between Marlboro County, South Carolina, and Project Sunshine, to provide for special source revenue credits; and other matters related thereto”. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

Chair Prince requested Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, to make comments on the Ordinance for second reading.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this project involves the old Baldor building and things were moving forward and an announcement was expected soon.

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

Chair Prince asked if there was a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance # 777.

Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., to approve the second reading of Ordinance # 777 – An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution and Delivery of an Infrastructure Credit Agreement by and Between Marlboro County, South Carolina and Project Sunshine, to Provide for Special Source Revenue Credits; and Other Matters Related Thereto. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF CONVENIENCE CENTER FEES

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the City of Bennettsville has or was in the process of amending their trash pickup policies which would eliminate the pickup of certain items that residents now put on the street curbs. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director, and others have come up with a list of items and the proposed cost per item that city residents may be charged when items are taken to the county's convenience centers. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that all county residents not located in municipalities were currently paying a \$40 solid waste fee on their tax bills each year and this fee allows the county residents to take items to the convenience centers at no charge. He stated that the city residents do not pay this fee and it would be unfair not to charge them and allow them to use the convenience centers for free. He suggested that the price list presented be approved for the City of Bennettsville residents and any other municipal residents not paying the \$40 solid waste fee. He stated that that the county was not looking to make any money on taking these items and the prices charged were basically the cost the county would be required to pay for disposing of the items and were very minimal. He stated that it may be that a small solid waste fee could be charged to all residents in the municipalities during the next budget year but for now this was the best option that could be provided.

Chair Prince stated that she understood that the City was still discussing this matter. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he understood that the City was meeting tonight.

Mr. Verd Odom asked about towns other than Bennettsville. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that other municipalities would follow the same schedule. He stated that it would be unfair to accept other items from residents from other municipalities without payment. He stated that any resident not paying the \$40 solid waste fee would need to pay for items taken to the convenience centers.

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

Motion made by Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr., seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the Convenience Center fees as presented to all residents not currently paying the \$40 solid waste fee. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF 2019 HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

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

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this was the same schedule that had been followed in previous years and no changes had been made.

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

Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the 2019 Holiday Schedule as presented. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

OPENING & ACCEPTANCE OF BIDS

PAVING OF COURTHOUSE PARKING LOT

Mr. Doug Carabo, Public Services Director, stated that a Request for Bids for this project was published and two bids were received: Furr Grading & Paving for a price of \$56,742.50 one from Palmetto Corp of Conway for a price of \$77,854.00. Mr. Carabo suggested that the project be awarded for the low bid of \$56,742.50 to Furr Grading & Paving. Mr. Carabo stated that the paving would include both parking lots at the courthouse as well as the hill where the new wall was constructed.

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if the paving would be accomplished before the end of the year. Mr. Carabo stated that the goal would be to try and have the paving done while the courthouse was closed and that he certainly expected that it would be done before the end of the year.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, County Administrator, stated that the costs would be paid from the remaining bond funds.

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

Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Verd Odom, to award the bid for Paving of Courthouse Parking Lot to Furr Grading & Paving in the amount of \$56,742.50. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, asked if there were any appointments to boards and commissions. There were none.

REPORTS

FINANCE DEPARTMENT – MS. AINSLEY MOORE

Ms. Moore stated that for the month of October, expenditures were at 32% of the budgeted amount and revenues were expected to increase over the next few months with tax notices going out and monies coming in from those payments. Ms. Moore provided a graph and stated that revenues were coming in as they have in prior fiscal years.

Ms. Moore stated that the county has gone live with the new payroll system with ADP effective this week. She stated that employees were using the system to punch in and out daily, and reported that staff would process our first paperless payroll with this new system for checks paid on November 30th. She stated that staff had put a lot of work into this conversion, but she felt that it had been well received by the departments and that employees were making great efforts to adjust and use this new system.

Ms. Moore stated that the annual financial audit appeared to be progressing well. She stated that the auditors were in the Administration offices since last week and were still gathering information and were on track with a timely audit completion.

Ms. Moore asked if there were any questions. There were none.

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

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, recognized Mr. Ron Munneryn, County Administrator.

Mr. Munneryn stated that his report was as follows:

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 (5 years); Lori Davis-Moses (14 years); Ricky Gooden (6 years); Gary Harrington (13 years); and Christina Thompson (12 years).

UPCOMING EVENTS

1. The Bennettsville Christmas Parade is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4, 2018 at 4:30 pm. Marlboro County Council will have a float available for all of you who wish to participate. Line-up will begin on Broad Street at 3:30 pm.
2. The Town of McColl Christmas Parade is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5th. Marlboro County Council will also have a float available for this parade and more information will be available at a later date.
3. The Town of Clio has not set a date for their Christmas Parade yet but staff will work to try and get more information on this and have a float available for this parade as well.
4. The 7th Annual Marlboro County Employee Christmas Dinner has been scheduled for Thursday, December 6, 2018 at 6 pm at the Wade H. Prince Recreation Center.
5. The Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership Drop-in has been scheduled for Monday, December 10, 2018 from 4 pm – 6 pm at the Partnership office.
6. The Marlboro County Employee Drop-in Luncheon has been scheduled for Wednesday, December 19, 2018 from 11 am – 1 pm at the Administration office.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT REPORT

Baldor-

Mr. Munneryn stated that the prospective owners of the Baldor facility have formally applied for state incentives through the S.C. Coordinating Council. He stated that this move takes us one step closer to an announcement.

Delta-

Mr. Munneryn stated that he and Mr. Doug Carabo met with the County's environmental legal counsel to move forward with the environmental assessment of the Delta site. He stated that this assessment would be submitted to DHEC for approval and comment and

would serve as our road map in redeveloping the property. He stated that he hoped to complete this step by January 1.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Workforce Transportation Initiative-

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that the PDRTA was in town again today finalizing the times and routes for the new bus system to serve the County. He stated that the start date for the service was December 10th. He reported that PDRTA has hired 5 drivers and was currently training these employees. He stated that he was excited that one industry alone identified more than 40 employees who will use the system daily.

Watershed District-

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that voters approved the ballot initiative to disband the Watershed District Board. He attached a letter from the County Attorney outlining the steps to disband and the requirements to place the question on the ballot. He stated that one of the statutory requirements was that the Soil and Water Conservation Board make a determination that there were no future obligations of the district and no need for "operation or maintenance" of the ditches.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he had received a number of calls from citizens complaining about the poor condition of the ditches. He stated that the condition of the ditches appears to be in direct conflict with the declaration by the Soil Conservation Board that there was no more need for "operation or maintenance". He stated at this point, citizens living in the district could take legal action to stop the board from disbanding.

He also stated that the law also empowers the board to levy taxes to raise funds for maintenance of the ditches, and also, there could be possible hazard mitigation funds related to the recent storms available to repair the ditch system.

Hazard Mitigation –

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Crooked Creek was coming out of banks again due to all the recent rain. He stated that Congressman Tom Rice stated that there were hazard mitigation funds available for areas that flood each time heavy rains occur. He stated that it may be that the county could get some money to make repairs for problem areas. He suggested County Council host a meeting of all municipalities to discuss recurring problems and agree on what action to take in order to apply for hazard mitigation funds. He suggested that an open meeting be planned after Thanksgiving in the late afternoon for discussion to see if a plan could be agreed upon.

Chair Prince stated that Richardson Park and Shady Rest is an area that needs help. She stated that she was in the process of looking into who would be responsible for removing trees in some of the areas that flood badly and stated that we needed to be proactive so as to protect our citizens and their properties.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that Congressman Tom Rice had a person that would push to try and get the county some help for these type areas.

RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Chair Prince stated that two individuals had signed up to address Council. Chair Prince recognized Mr. Greg Childress and Mr. Javier Cahenco to address Council.

Mr. Greg Childress thanked Council for allowing him to come speak and for allowing them to meet with folks in the County in an effort to provide disaster relief assistance. He stated that he was with the Small Business Administration and worked with the Office of Disaster Assistance. He stated that the deadline to file for disaster assistance and low interest loans had been extended until December 5, 2018. He stated that there were three ways to apply for a disaster assistance loan and they were (1) online by visiting disasterloan.sba.gov; (2) in person at a temporary recovery center; (3) by calling 800-659-2955 and having an application mailed to you for completion. He stated that the first step to apply for disaster assistance was to register with FEMA by contacting them at disasterassistance.gov or calling 800-621-3362.

Mr. Childress stated that businesses of all sizes and non-profit organizations could apply for SBA Disaster loans, as well as homeowners and renters. He stated that homeowners could possibly qualify for up to \$200,000 for repairs to primary residence and homeowners/renters could apply for up to \$40,000 for personal property with interest as low as 2%. He stated that businesses and non-profit organizations could qualify for loans up to \$2 million and the interest for businesses could be as low as 3.675% and 2.5% for non-profit organizations.

Mr. Javier Cahenco stated that only 26% of those that have applied for FEMA assistance have applied for SBA low interest loans.

Mr. Childress stated that folks should apply for loans even if they decide not to borrow the funds. He stated that just because someone completes an application for the loan does not mean that you have to borrow the money. He asked that we help spread the word about the deadline being extended until December 5th. He stated that folks could get assistance by visiting the Disaster Relief folks which are located in the Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership office located at 214 E. Market Street, Bennettsville, SC.

Chair Prince asked if a person who needed a loan for disaster relief needed to apply for FEMA assistance first. Mr. Childress stated that was the very first step – to apply for FEMA assistance first at disasterassistance.gov and then apply for disasterloan.sba.gov. Chair Prince asked if folks needed an estimate prior to filing for disaster relief loans and Mr. Childress advised that no estimate was needed but that the person filing for assistance would need their driver's license for identification purposes.

Mr. Anthony Woods asked if a person has registered online would they be in the system right away. Mr. Childress confirmed that to be true.

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

Chair Prince thanked Mr. Childress and Mr. Javier Cahenco for attending the meeting tonight and providing such helpful information.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

Mr. Verd Odom – stated that things were settling down some since the Hurricane but that folks were still looking for answers.

Mr. Odom stated that the holidays were upon us and that there would be a lot of traffic in our county looking for free items for Christmas. He stated that Sheriff Lemon had a limited staff and they did a good job but that they could not be all over the county at once and that folks needed to be proactive in looking out for one another. He stated that if you are leaving town for a few days, tell your neighbors so they can keep a close eye on your property.

Mr. Odom wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and stated that all of us had a lot to be thankful for. He stated that folks were still dealing with a lot of problems but that things could have been worse.

Mr. Steve Blackmon – stated that he would echo what Mr. Odom had just said. He stated that the county was having more rain and that the roads that flooded before were now flooding again. He stated that he hoped that after the first of the year things would settle down so that staff could get our roads back in good shape.

Mr. Willie Gladden – stated that voters tuned out on Election Day. He stated that 45% of the voters in Marlboro County came out to vote and he was pleased that there was such a great turnout.

Mr. Gladden stated that the Veterans Affairs office had their annual Dinner and Dance on Friday, November 2nd and about 200 veterans attended and awards were presented. He stated that the local Veterans Affairs office provides a lot of support to our local veterans and he appreciated it very much.

Mr. Jason Steen – stated that he had received a couple of calls regarding the ditches and stated that something really needed to be done about these problems. He stated that the ditches were not county property but that the county needed to help if at all possible.

Mr. Steen thanked the County Administrator and staff for their work on the Delta property and stated that it had been more than a year since the county had started working on this project but he hoped that the county would soon see major progress for their hard work in this area.

Mr. Steen mentioned that US Highway #1 was one of the oldest roads in our system and had been closed for some time due to flooding and placed on the back burner. He stated that he had learned that the water line would need to be placed under the road by a bore and that once this bore was ran under the creek, progress could be made to get the road back open. He stated that water lines could no longer be attached to bridges and the lines were now required to be placed under a bore under the creek to get water to folks on the other side and once the bore has been completed, things would move forward to repair the road.

Mr. Charles P. Midgley, Jr. – No comments.

Ms. Corrie Plato – wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and stated that she hoped everyone would stay safe while traveling.

Mr. Anthony Woods – stated that there would be a lot of folks traveling home for Thanksgiving and hoped that everyone would stay safe as they join together to give thanks.

Mr. Woods thanked the representatives from Small Business Administration for their work in Marlboro County and stated that he hoped that folks would take advantage of the SBA staff being in our area. Many folks do not know where to go to get the help that they need.

Dr. Carolyn Prince – stated that a local agency would be giving out turkeys again this year on Saturday, November 17th in the Marlboro County High School parking lot beginning at 9 am for those in need.

Dr. Prince stated that paving had begun on West Main Street and hopefully would take care of the pot holes before the weather gets too bad.

Dr. Prince stated that we have survived a lot in the county and thanked the leadership of the Sheriff's Department, County Administration, Mr. Doug Carabo and Mr. Steve Akers for all of their help in stepping up when the need arises.

Dr. Prince stated that she felt that the county needed to help those that were having problems with ditches and flooding if at all possible. She stated that if staff finds a way that the county can help them that we should do that.

Dr. Prince stated that prayers were being prayed for the many that are sick around us and that we should take time to be thankful.

Sheriff Charles Lemon – wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving. He asked everyone to keep their eyes open and if they saw something out of the ordinary to please let he and his staff know. He stated that someone was breaking into churches again and had broken into Ebenezer Church on Old Wire road this past Friday night or early Saturday morning. He stated that they took the church's PA system as well as some speakers. He says he and his staff think the suspect may be driving a black F150 late model truck or at least an older truck. He asked that if anyone saw anything suspicious that they please notify him. He stated that any help would be greatly appreciated.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

There were no non-agenda items.

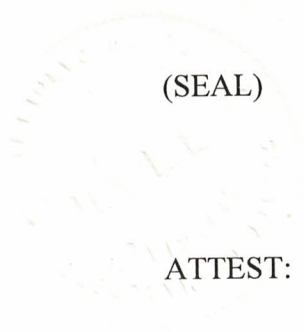
November 13, 2018 County Council Meeting

ADJOURN

Dr. Carolyn Prince, Chair, stated that since there was no other business that the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 pm.

(SEAL)

ATTEST:



Dr. Carolyn A. Prince

Dr. Carolyn A. Prince, Chair
Marlboro County Council

Patricia M. Bundy

Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk
Marlboro County Council

Adopted: December 11, 2018