

April 9, 2013

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, April 9, 2013 at 9:00 A.M., in the City Council Chambers, City Hall Marion, South Carolina. Members present were Elista H. Smith, Chairperson; Buddy Collins, Vice Chairman; John Q. Atkinson, Jr., Allen W. Floyd, Simon Jenkins Thomas E. Shaw, and Milton W. Troy, II. Also present were G. Timothy Harper, Administrator; Charles L. McLain, III, County Attorney; and Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council. A representative from the Star & Enterprise was present and duly notified.

Chairperson Smith called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Simon Jenkins to lead the Invocation, after which she welcomed visitors and read the Freedom of Information Announcement.

Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the regular meeting held on March 28, 2013.

The County Attorney stated that second reading for the ordinance listed on the agenda as follows was not ready: A. Second Reading of Ordinance #2013-02 An ordinance to amend the Marion County Procurement Code to provide for an increase in local vendor options.

Committee #1 met on Wednesday, April 3, 2013 to discuss the Marion County Procurement Code to provide for an increase in local vendor options. The Administrator read the recommendation from Committee #1. Mr. Harper told Council that a local preference will be offered to the lowest local vendor of 5% on projects under \$15,000. For projects over \$15,000 a local preference will be given to the lowest local vendor, if they are willing to match the lowest bid. To qualify as a local

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vendor, the business must have been located in Marion County one year prior to the bids. The local preference policy would not be allowed on state and federal projects due to regulations. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Collins, and carried unanimously, to approve Committee #1 report.

There was no report given by Committee #2.

The County Attorney told Council that the County received a notice of a medical malpractice lawsuit. Mr. McLain stated that the lawsuit has been filed and assigned to an attorney.

The Administrator updated Council on the New County Administration Complex. Mr. Harper told Council that the architects are moving forward with the plans.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council that Grice's Recreation Center is one of the Capital Sales Tax projects. He stated that the City of Marion will open bids on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Harper passed out copies of an outlined map on the proposed new parking area at the courthouse. Mr. Harper asked Council's permission to move forward with the planning process regarding the new proposed parking area. Mr. Harper also stated that he would submit the proposal to the City of Marion Historical Review Committee. Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously.

The Administrator told Council that Mr. Bill Tomes with the Institute of Public Service and Policy Research has agreed to complete the County's 2013 Strategic Plan. Mr. Harper stated that Mr. Tomes will attend the Council meetings on April 25<sup>th</sup> and May 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5-8 p.m. Mr. Harper asked Council to consider having a one day retreat to discuss the County's policies etc.

The Administrator passed out information on Beaver Control Management. Mr. Harper told Council that there have been several complaints regarding beavers throughout the County. Mr. Harper stated the he would like to explore a mutual contract with Grand Strand Water and Sewer, and Dillon County. He stated that the cost for a full-time position upon execution of this agreement will be \$62,500. This covers salary/benefits, equipment, supplies, and supervision.

The Administrator reminded Council that April 15-22 is the Marion County Wide Great American Cleanup. Mr. Harper told Council that the CTC will meet on Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. He also reminded Council that Ethic Reports are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

Chairperson Smith asked Mr. Harper if he knew the status on PDRTA. Mr. Harper stated that there is an article in the newspaper in reference to PDRTA lying off about 50 people as a result of large operational cuts. Chairperson Smith also asked Mr. Minutes, April 9, 2013, Page 3

Harper to explain the application process for Essex Holding Inc. Mr. Harper stated that the application process would be handled through SC Works.

Mr. Atkinson voiced his concerns regarding Mr. Tommy Richardson who lives in Rains; SC. Mr. Atkinson stated that Mr. Richardson has operated a business for twenty years and wants to get a business license to build boats, but have not renewed his business license for several years. Mr. Atkinson stated that the County's ordinance requires surveying the business away from the house. Mr. Atkinson told Council that he would like to get a variance for Mr. Richardson in order for him to get this matter worked out with Mr. Harper, Mr. McLain or Mrs. Powell. Mr. Atkinson stated that Mr. Richardson would pay for his business license that has been in default. Mr. Atkinson stated that he is trying to get the variance so that Mr. Richardson would not have to get a survey. Mr. McLain stated that he does not think from a logistical standpoint that jurisdiction for a variance lies with Council. Mr. McLain stated that the Marion County Planning Commission or the Marion County Board of Zoning and Appeals has to hear this said matter. Mr. McLain stated that he would contract Mrs. Powell regarding this matter.

Mr. Jenkins thanked Mr. Harper for his assistance with the boat landing in Pee Dee. Mr. Harper told Council that he and Mr. Williams met with Mr. Keith McCallum with Edwards Wood Products to discuss the property in Pee Dee. Mr. Harper stated that they informed Mr. McCallum that there maybe funding available to purchase the property, if Mr. Edwards is willing to sell. Mr. Harper started that it looks like Mr. Edward is not interested in releasing the property at this time. Mr. McLain stated that in addition to the cost there is a fairly substantial cost that would have to be spent for an archaeological testing of the property.

Motion was made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for an economic development matter.

Motion was made by Mr. Collins seconded, Mr. Atkinson, and carried unanimously, to close executive session and reopen the regular scheduled meeting. Chairperson Smith stated that no action was taken during executive session called for a legal and an economic development matter.

The Administrator asked Council's permission for Mr. McLain and himself to work on the Heritage Building to clear up the title ship on the property, and also get a cost on the demolition to part of the building that is in bad shape. Mr. Harper told Council that he would contact the City of Marion to see if they are willing to contribute to the cost. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Collins, and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:20 A.M.

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Elista H. Smith, Chairperson

Buddy Collins, Vice Chairman

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John Q. Atkinson, Jr.

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Allen W. Floyd

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Simon Jenkins, Chaplain

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Thomas E. Shaw

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Milton W. Troy, II

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G. Timothy Harper, Administrator

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Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

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Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council