

February 28, 2013

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Thursday, February 28, 2013 at 7:00 P.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., Simon Jenkins Thomas E. Shaw, and Milton W. Troy, II. Also present were G. Timothy Harper, Administrator; Kent M. Williams, Deputy Administrator; and Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council. A representative from the Star & Enterprise was not 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 February 12, 2013.

There were no Ordinances.

There were no reports given by Committee #1 or Committee #2.

The County Attorney was absent due to a prior engagement.

The Administrator updated Council on the New County Administration Complex. Mr. Harper told Council that the architects are in the planning stages.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council that 150 participants attended the contractors and vendor workshop. Mr. Harper told

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Council that the renovations to the Courthouse are moving forward. He stated that there has been a discussion about taking the Courthouse back to its original color. Mr. Harper told Council that during the renovating process of the Courthouse court may be held at the Beeson Building Auditorium from June to November.

The Administrator passed out a copy of a Legislative Alert from the SCAC in reference to Flow Control. Mr. Harper advised Council to contact the Senators and Lt. Governor to oppose H. 3290. Mr. Harper told Council that he would write a letter and send it to each Senator opposing H. 3290-Flow Control.

The Administrator told Council that the fencing has been completed at the airport. He stated that hangers are the next project that the FAA is looking into.

The Administrator presented to Council a proposal from Strategic Capital Solutions regarding a grant that will allow the County to work together to develop and carry out business technical assistance, planning and development of a small business support center for area small businesses and entrepreneurs. Mr. Williams gave Council a brief overview of the program. He told Council that there is no cost to the County. He also stated that there are no matching funds involved for this grant. Mr. Williams stated that they will work with the County to determine an appropriate level and type of in-kind contribution. He also stated that they would also be working hand-in-hand with the County's grant coordinator. Mr. Williams stated that this is a great opportunity for Marion County. Motion was made by Mr. Troy, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried unanimously, to move forward with the grant application process.

The Administrator presented to Council a proposal from the South Carolina Work Ready Communities Steering Committee. Mr. Harper told Council that the Work Ready Communities Initiative is a measure of the quality of a County's workforce. Counties must meet goals for high school graduation, soft skills development, business support, workkeys etc. Mr. Harper told Council that the committee has nominated Mrs. Candyce K. Brooks and Ms. Jennifer Brice to serve as the Champions for this program. Mr. Harper asked Council's approval to accept the steering committee that has been formed, and that Mrs. Brooks and Ms. Brice are listed as the Champions for this program and to move forward with the application process to be a work ready community. Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, and carried unanimously.

The Administrator told Council that PDRTA is requesting \$42,211.01. Mr. Harper recommended to Council that Chairperson Smith and himself meet with the other counties to discuss this said matter. He also recommended inviting the PDRTA Director to a Council meeting.

The Administrator told Council that he received a letter from Mr. Benjie Andrews from Horry County requesting to lease the Old Ariel Crossroad Landfill to raise livestock. Mr. Harper stated that he has discussed this with the County Attorney and in order to move forward three readings and a public hearing is required. Mr. Harper stated that he has spoken with DHEC about this said matter. He stated that DHEC does not have a problem with allowing livestock on the property. Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried unanimously, to move forward with the advertising and bid process regarding the leasing of the Old Ariel Crossroad Landfill.

The Administrator told Council that he has been selected to serve on the Agriculture and the Rural Affairs Steering Committee with NACo. Mr. Harper provided Council with information about the NACo Conference.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, 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 contractual and an economic development matter.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Troy, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 8:10 P.M.

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Elista H. Smith, Chairperson

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Buddy Collins, Vice Chairman

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John Q. Atkinson, Jr.

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(absent)  
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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(absent)  
Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

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Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council