

MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BUILDING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

TUESDAY, APRIL 8, 2014

6:00 PM

CHAIRMAN	RON MUNNERLYN
VICE-CHAIR	DR. CAROLYN A. PRINCE
ADMINISTRATOR	JIM HAYNES
COUNTY ATTORNEY	HARRY EASTERLING, JR.
COUNCIL:	
JASON STEEN, RON MUNNERLYN, DR. CAROLYN PRINCE, STEVE BLACKMON, AND	WILLIE GLADDEN, CORRIE H. PLATO, KEN ALLEN, ANTHONY WOODS

\* Absent

INVOCATION – Mr. Anthony Woods

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

No items were added.

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

PUBLIC HEARING

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC TO DISCUSS GRANT TO PURCHASE NEW BOOKMOBILE FOR THE LIBRARY AS REQUIRED BY GRANT AGENCY

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, addressed the public for comments.

Mrs. Ella Reese Hinson, Chair of the Library Board, stated that she appreciated Council's help in resubmitting the application for a new bookmobile for the library and every

indication that it will be approved. She also stated that the new bookmobile would benefit all citizens in the County.

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn asked if there were any additional comments and there were none. He stated that he appreciated the good crowd appearing at the Council meeting to show support of the idea of a new bookmobile and that the board should be reviewing their budget to find the additional funds needed should the grant be approved.

The Public Hearing was closed.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES – March 11, 2014

**Motion made by Ms. Corrie Plato, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to approve the minutes of March 11, 2014 as presented. Vote in favor: Unanimous. Motion carried.**

OLD BUSINESS

ORDINANCE # 457D – AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND ORDINANCE # 457C – CREATION OF THE MARLBORO COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP BOARD – SECOND READING

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that the intent of Council in amending this Ordinance was to strengthen attendance at meetings and to make sure that a quorum was present for each meeting.

Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, stated that this revised Ordinance would call for a 21 member committee of which 12 members would have voting powers.

Mr. Munnerlyn asked if there were any other comments.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that he had concerns about the 2/3 vote requirement. Mr. Munnerlyn stated that he thought that he was referring to the next item on the agenda and that they would discuss that next.

**Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Ken Allen, to approve the second reading of Ordinance # 457D – An Ordinance to Amend Ordinance # 457C – Creation of the Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership Board. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

REVIEW AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF RESOLUTION # 03-14-03 – ORGANIZATION AND RULES OF MARLBORO COUNTY COUNCIL

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that he wanted to address Mr. Willie Gladden's question about the 2/3rd vote requirement. He stated that this was a parliamentary

procedure taken from Robert's Rules which require 2/3rds vote and he stated that he was against that.

Dr. Carolyn Prince stated that she had shared her concerns about the 2/3<sup>rd</sup> vote requirement, but that after thoroughly reviewing the Resolution, she understood the language dealt with parliamentary procedures taken from Robert's Rules and did not have a problem with the way that it was presented. She advised Mr. Gladden that they had discussed their concerns on this issue and assured him that there was no need to worry about that.

Dr. Prince did state that she wanted to look at the term that officers may serve. She stated that in the past, there were term limits included in the organization and rules for officers. She stated that it allowed for officers to serve for two (2) consecutive one year terms and that she recommended the language be included in the Resolution so as to allow other Council members the opportunity to serve as Chairman and Vice Chairman of Council and to not allow for a monopoly with the same leadership. She asked that the Resolution be amended to include this term language.

Mr. Munnerlyn stated that this apparently had been left out when reviewing it and agreed that it should be amended to include the language requested by Dr. Prince. He expressed his appreciation to Dr. Prince for catching this omission and asked that the amendment be prepared to include the term limit language in Section I. Officers of Resolution # 03-14-03 which was passed on March 11, 2014.

**Motion made by Dr. Carolyn Prince, seconded by Mr. Steve Blackmon, to approve that Resolution # 03-14-03 be amended to include "Officers may serve for two (2) consecutive one year terms" in Section I. Officers, which was passed on March 11, 2014. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

#### NEW BUSINESS

#### ORDINANCE # 724 – AN ORDINANCE TO ADOPT THE ANNUAL BUDGET AND TO MAKE APPROPRIATIONS FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE FISCAL YEAR BEGINNING JULY 1, 2014 AND ENDING JUNE 30, 2015 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to comment on this Ordinance.

Mr. Haynes stated that this Ordinance is for the first reading, title only, to adopt the annual budget for fiscal year 2014-2015. He stated that staff would have actual numbers available for Council's review and for public hearing at the next Council meeting. Mr. Haynes stated that he, along with Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, had met with all department heads that there were some needs that Council would need to hear about regarding equipment and buildings. He stated that many of the county's heating and air units were 25-30 years old and that it was time that we look at these. He stated that maintenance had already received

calls regarding problems with air conditioning and that it is just beginning to warm up. He stated that all department heads were very conservative in their budgets as they realize that we have little money to work with. He stated that staff would have numbers for Council's review by the next meeting.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 724 – An Ordinance to adopt the annual budget and to make appropriations for Marlboro County for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

ORDINANCE # 725 – AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PLAN FOR MARLBORO COUNTY FOR THE PERIOD OF FY 2015-2019 – FIRST READING (TITLE ONLY)

Mr. Ron Munneryn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to give comments on this Ordinance.

Mr. Haynes stated that this was a Capital Budget which reflects long term goals and funds for construction and purchase of lands, and also the need to purchase vehicles for various departments. He stated that this Ordinance is being proposed in title only and that we would have numbers available for review and public hearing for the next Council meeting.

**Motion made by Mr. Jason Steen, seconded by Ms. Corrie Plato, to approve the first reading (title only) of Ordinance # 725 – An Ordinance to approve the Capital Improvement Plan for Marlboro County for the period of FY 2015-2016. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 04-14-01 – A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION BY MARLBORO COUNTY TO THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA COMMUNITY BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM

Mr. Ron Munneryn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to give comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Haynes stated that Wallace Water Company is approaching Council for authorization to submit an application for grant funds in the amount of \$415,290.00 to extend water services to residents on Lightwood road. Mr. Haynes stated that Wallace Water Company would provide any match needed if the County was awarded the grant.

**Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Mr. Jason Steen, to approve Resolution # 04-14-01 – A Resolution Authorizing Submission of an Application by Marlboro County to the State of South Carolina Community Block Grant Program. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

RESOLUTION # 04-14-02 – A RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE SOUTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE RURAL INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT #RIF-SCP-27 FOR SITE CERTIFICATION AT THE MARLBORO COUNTY INDUSTRIAL PARK IN THE AMOUNT OF \$67,312.00

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to give comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Haynes stated that money had been spend for professional services and engineering expenses to get site certification for the Marlboro County Industrial Park and that these funds represented a reimbursement for funds that the county had already spent.

**Motion made by Mr. Anthony Woods, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to approve Resolution # 04-14-02 – A Resolution Accepting the South Carolina Department of Commerce Rural Infrastructure Grant #RIF-SCP-27 for Site Certification at the Marlboro County Industrial Park in the Amount of \$67,312.00. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

REQUEST AUTHORIZATION TO RE-SUBMIT APPLICATION FOR PURCHASE OF NEW LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to give comments on this Resolution.

Mr. Haynes stated that the County was dealing a federal grant program through Rural Development on an application for the purchase of a new bookmobile for the local library. He reported that the same type application had been done back sometime last year and it was rejected for the reason that the County had too much money in the fund balance. He stated that even though we have not used any of the fund balance monies, that much discussion had taken place with the Rural Development folks and we now believe that if the application is resubmitted that it will be reconsidered and hopefully approved. The application has actually already been resubmitted and staff basically updated numbers and provided new pricing for the bookmobile. He stated that the amount of the application was \$160,000.00 of which the Rural Development grant would be 55% of the costs.

**Motion made by Mr. Willie Gladden, seconded by Dr. Carolyn Prince, to authorize the re-submission of application for purchase of new library bookmobile. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

DISCUSSION OF BLENHEIM GYMNASIUM AND ADJACENT CLASSROOM PROPERTY

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to provide update of the Blenheim Gymnasium property.

Mr. Haynes stated that he had met with officials of the Marlboro County School District and they have agreed to give the County the Blenheim Gymnasium property and adjacent classrooms, as well as a portion the property in front of the gym which currently has an outdoor basketball court and some playground equipment located on it. Mr. Haynes stated that the folks from Headstart would be the recipients of the actual school building property and negotiations and decisions would need to be reached as to the division of property and electrical and sewer contracts. He stated that the next step would be to have the School District and County attorneys get together and involved to draw up the appropriate documents for transfer of property before June 30, 2014. The insurance on the property expires on June 30, 2014, and the School District would like to have the property transferred by that time so that they will not have to renew their policy.

Mr. Haynes stated that this was an update only and that no action needed to be taken by Council at this time.

APPROVAL OF APPLICATION FROM AT&T FOR PROPOSED INSTALLATION OF A CONDUIT UNDER PEE DEE RAIL ROAD RIGHT OF WAY AT HIGHWAY 912 NEAR DOMTAR

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, recognized Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, to make comments on this application.

Mr. Haynes stated that AT&T has requested approval of an application to propose the installation of a conduit under the Pee Dee Rail Road at Highway 912 to provide services for use by Domtar. This application has been in the works for a while but the folks at AT&T just determined that Council would need to approve the application.

**Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Anthony Woods, to approve application from AT&T for proposed installation of a conduit under Pee Dee Rail Road right of way at Highway 912 near Domtar. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

No appointments were made.

REPORTS

FINANCE REPORT – MS. AINSLEY A. MOORE

Ms. Ainsley Moore, Finance Director, reported that the year to date expenses were at 73% and that revenues were at 68% and that the revenues decreased due to most of the property taxes being paid.

Ms. Moore stated that budget meetings had been held with department heads and most department heads were very conservative in planning for the upcoming budget. She stated that staff would also have to consider the Local Government Fund as they work with the proposed budget for any decrease in funds which may result.

Ms. Moore stated that staff would be required to update their software in order to process payroll and retirement payments online and that Mr. Jamie Sellers of Nutech was in the process of obtaining information about possible updates and costs that may be incorporated into the budget for 2014-2015.

Mr. Munnerlyn thanked Ms. Moore for her report and for staff's work in preparing for the upcoming budget. He stated that he knew they had a lot of work to do and Council appreciated their efforts.

#### ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT – MR. JIM HAYNES, INTERIM ADMINISTRATOR

**Recognition of Employees** – The following employees are recognized with five or more years of service to Marlboro County through the month of March: Annie Ruth Caulder (38 years); Judy McQueen (9 years); Cathy Pearson (25 years); and Sidney Wallace (39 years).

**Recreation Funds** – the PARD Grant application has been submitted. The information which we needed in order to use these funds on the Blenheim Gymnasium was not available, so we have requested the grant funds be used for new bleachers for all the recreational parks. The safety rules have changed and the old bleachers do not meet the new safety standards and the grant application has been submitted on this basis.

**State of South Carolina vs. Lisa Frazier** – As all of you know by now, Lisa Frazier, former employee of the Economic Development Partnership, pled guilty to embezzlement of public funds on Monday and was sentenced to 10 years in prison which was suspended upon the service of seven years, followed by five years' probation and payment of restitution.

**Recreation Advisory Board** - The Recreation Advisory Board met on Tuesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 p.m. but only had four members were present. This is the second time that the Commission attempted to meet during the month of March but each time only four members made an effort to attend.

**Planning Commission/Board of Zoning Appeals** - The Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeal members were asked to attend mandatory Certification Training on Monday and Tuesday, March 31<sup>st</sup> and April 1<sup>st</sup>; however, we only had five of the attend of the 14 people invited to attend.

**Lake Paul Wallace Authority** - We just received a letter from the Legislative Delegation confirming appointment of Mr. Belvin Sweatt and Mr. Sidney Wallace to the Lake Paul Wallace Authority. Although, County Council recommended these two individuals back in August of 2012, the appointments have just been formally made to this Authority.

**Spring Gala** - The Marlboro County Economic Development Partnership Spring Gala was held on April 3<sup>rd</sup> and there was a good crowd for this first ever event.

**7<sup>th</sup> District Agriculture Tour** - A lunch stop at McArthur Farms on Highway 38 in Bennettsville has been added to the agenda for the 7<sup>th</sup> District Agriculture Tour which is scheduled for Friday, April 11<sup>th</sup> with Congressman Tom Rice. The lunch is scheduled from 1:15 – 2:30 p.m. at McArthur Farms and the cost will be \$15.00. If you plan to attend, you are asked to reserve your lunch spot by calling McArthur Farms at 479-3839.

**Demolition of Kinney Building** – We have received the engineering documentation that will allow us to obtain bids for the demolition of the Kinney Building across the street. Staff has posted the bid procedures online as of today and we will have those bids for review and approval at the next Council meeting.

**Budget for FY 2014-2015** – We have met with all departments concerning the 2014-2015 Marlboro County operating Budget. As you are aware, our department heads are generally very careful in what they ask for as they understand that there is a lack of money in the County. Just so you know, the South Carolina Association of Counties has notified us that at a maximum under state law Marlboro County could only increase taxes by 1.46 percent.

#### RECOGNITION OF CITIZEN'S REQUEST BEFORE COUNCIL

Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that one citizen had signed up to speak to Council and recognized Ms. Brenda Dixon of the Pee Dee Coalition.

**Ms. Brenda Dixon** – appeared on behalf of Pee Dee Coalition against domestic and sexual assault. She thanked Council for allowing her to speak and stated that she had several members of the Coalition present at the meeting with her.

Ms. Dixon thanked Council for all of the financial assistance provided to the Pee Dee Coalition over the past 17 years and stated that the contributions received from the County varied from \$1,350.00 to \$5,000.00. She stated that since 2008, local governments have decreased their contributions to this Coalition. Ms. Dixon stated that the Coalition could no longer continue to operate the crisis center and shelter here in Marlboro County without additional help from local governments. She asked Council to restore their giving to the Coalition back to \$5,000.00 which at one time had been contributed in the past. Ms. Dixon stated that the Coalition understands the necessity in keeping the centers open but simply cannot continue to exist without additional financial support. She stated that these centers benefit many adults and children in the county and is much needed. She pleaded with Council to please consider increasing the amount to be contributed to the Coalition in the 2014-2015 budget.

Mr. Munnerlyn thanked Ms. Dixon for her work and stated that Council would consider her request in their upcoming budget discussions.

RECOGNITION OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

**Mr. Anthony Woods** – no comments.

**Ms. Corrie Plato** – stated that she had heard the Rev. Charles Malloy had passed away and stated that he would truly be missed by many in the county.

**Mr. Jason Steen** – no comments.

**Mr. Willie Gladden** – stated that one problem they were having with recreation was that only three to four members out of the eight districts' representation were showing up for the meetings. He stated that the appointed individuals from Clio, Wallace, McColl and Brightsville were pretty active in attending the meetings. He asked that members of Council contact their appointees and remind them to make every effort to attend meetings that were scheduled if possible. Mr. Gladden stated that he understood that this time of the year was tough with games being scheduled.

Mr. Gladden stated that he was happy to see the great crowd of visitors for the Council meeting and encouraged their attendance at future meetings.

**Mr. Ken Allen** – no comments.

**Mr. Steve Blackmon** – thanked Council for all of their help with the County obtaining ownership of the Blenheim Gymnasium property and thanked Mr. Jim Haynes, Interim Administrator, for all of his work as well. He stated that he was happy to finally see something being done for that area.

**Dr. Carolyn Prince** – recognized the work that Ms. Virginia McCraw continues to do for the citizens of Marlboro County through her capacity as Director of the Marian Wright Edelman Public Library. She stated that Ms. McCraw works really hard to find programs and activities that support all citizens of all ages in the county and somehow finds the funds to accomplish it. She stated that many fail to give flowers to those that contribute to others until it's often too late, but wanted to express her appreciation at this time.

Dr. Prince inquired of Council as to why votes were taken by showing of hands rather than a simple "yes or no". Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, asked Mr. Ken Allen if he knew why this was done this way. Mr. Allen stated that years ago Council members would take action by voting on paper and it was changed to a show of hands to make things simpler. He stated that he did not know why it could not be changed to a verbal vote if Council agreed.

Mr. Willie Gladden stated that he thought a show of hands was easier for the Clerk to Council to record the voting actions. Dr. Prince stated that it really did not matter, she was just interested in what thoughts of Council were on this.

Dr. Prince asked if the old Library property was available for transfer. Mr. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman, stated that he was also going to mention this property and stated that someone had approached him about this property. He stated that after reviewing all of the engineering reports that property would have to be sold in "as is" condition and stated the building could not be used in its present condition.

NON-AGENDA ITEMS

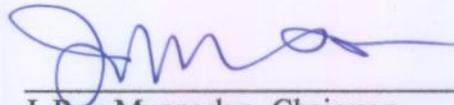
No items were heard.

ADJOURN

**Motion made by Mr. Steve Blackmon, seconded by Mr. Willie Gladden, to adjourn the meeting. Vote in favor. Unanimous. Motion carried.**

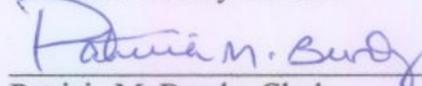
The meeting was adjourned at approximately 6:40 p.m.

(SEAL)



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J. Ron Munnerlyn, Chairman  
Marlboro County Council

ATTEST:



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Patricia M. Bundy, Clerk  
Marlboro County Council

Date Adopted: May 13, 2014