

January 8, 2013

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, January 8, 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.

The County Attorney declared all offices vacant and started with nominations for the position of Chairman. Mr. Atkinson nominated Mrs. Elista H. Smith for Chairman seconded by Mr. Jenkins. Mr. Collins moved that the nominations come to a close and that Mrs. Elista H. Smith be re-elected as Chairman by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Floyd nominated Mr. Buddy Collins for the position of Vice Chairman seconded by Mr. Atkinson. Mr. Shaw moved that the nominations come to a close and that Mr. Buddy Collins be re-elected as Vice Chairman by acclamation. The motion carried unanimously.

The County Attorney, presiding requested re-elected members Chairperson Elista H. Smith and Vice Chairman Buddy Collins to come forward to take the oath of office.

The County Attorney opened the floor for the position of Chaplain. Mr. Floyd nominated Rev. Simon Jenkins seconded by Mr. Collins. Mr. Troy moved that the

nominations come to a close and that Rev. Simon Jenkins be re-elected as Chaplain. The motion carried unanimously.

Chairperson Smith thanked Council for their vote and support.

Vice Chairman Collins thanked Council, Mr. Harper, Senator Kent Williams and the Mr. Rodney Berry for their hard work and support.

Chaplain Simon Jenkins thanked Council for their vote of confidence.

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 December 11, 2012.

The County Attorney stated that first reading for the Ordinance listed on the agenda as follows was ready: A. First Reading of Ordinance #2013-01 To Provide for the Issuance and Sale of not Exceeding Ten Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$10,100,000) General Obligation Bond or Bonds of Marion County, South Carolina, To Prescribe the Purpose of Which the Proceeds of said Bond or Bonds Shall be Expended, to Provide for the Payment of said Bond or Bonds, and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

The County Attorney told Council that item A. on the agenda; First Reading of Ordinance #2013-01 To Provide for the Issuance and Sale of not Exceeding Ten Million One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$10,100,000) General Obligation Bond or Bonds of Marion County, South Carolina, To Prescribe the Purpose of Which the Proceeds of said Bond or Bonds Shall be Expended, to Provide for the Payment of said Bond or Bonds, and Other Matters Relating Thereto was ready: The County Attorney introduced the title of the Ordinance and stated that this constitutes first reading of Ordinance #2013-01.

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

The County Attorney presented to Council an Option to Purchase document in reference to the additional property at the industrial park that was purchased from Mr. T.C. Atkinson, III and Mr. John W. Atkinson. Mr. McLain asked Council's approval to authorize Chairperson Smith to execute the Option to Purchase document. (a copy of the document will be attached to the minutes). Motion was made by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Jenkins; Councilman John Q. Atkinson, Jr. wanted the record to reflect that he is not involved in the ownership of this said property. The motion carried unanimously.

The Administrator gave Council and update on the Capital Sales Tax. He told Council that the close on the GO Bond will be in March. Mr. Harper stated that they are in the process of arranging a workshop and advertising for local vendors, contractors, and

general contractors etc. He stated that the projects will have to meet the County's Procurement Policies. He also stated that a 5% variance is given to local vendors. Mr. Harper told Council that the anticipated startup date will be around May 1<sup>st</sup>.

The Administrator updated Council on the Agribusiness Meeting. Mr. Harper told Council that Representative George held a meeting on Thursday, January 3<sup>rd</sup> at the Dry Dock to discuss Agri-business. He stated that there was good representation throughout the County that included elected officials, business leaders, and farmers. Mr. Harper stated that Representative George would be forming a committee on how Marion County can get in position to be at the forefront of agribusiness opportunities. He also stated that Representative George felt that there was a need for a person to work the agribusiness side of economic development. Mr. Harper told Council that the advisory group has not decided on the person for the job.

The Administrator told Council that Mr. Berry, Mr. Williams and himself have met to come up with a plan on Marketing and Public Relation for the County. He stated that they have also had a meeting with Chairperson Smith to determine if the route they are taking was in line with Council. Mr. Harper stated that his plans are to use current staff. He also stated that they are in the process of re-establishing the Human Relations Commission.

The Administrator updated Council on the new County office complex. Mr. Harper told Council that each department head has met with the architects. He stated that the architects are moving forward with the drawings.

The Administrator told Council that he is looking at the potential of splitting the Clerk of Court Office and the Register of Deeds part of the office. He stated by moving the Register of Deeds into the new County office complex that it would take care of the issues regarding the attorney's etc. Mr. Harper stated that he has discussed this said matter with the Clerk of Court and that she is in favor of the change. The County Attorney explained to Council the difference between the Clerk of Court records and the Register of Deeds records. Mr. Harper also stated that Judge Pogue is also in agreement with the changes. Chairperson stated that she wanted to make sure that the County had something in writing regarding this matter.

Mr. Troy stated that he would like to stop referring the new County office complex as the WalMart Building. He stated that the County needs to start with the official name. It was the consensus of Council.

The Administrator told Council that Ethics Reports are due by April 15<sup>th</sup>. The County Attorney advised Council to make sure that each item is disclosed on their report. Mr. Troy wanted to know if they had to report the meals that they received from businesses during a conference. The County Attorney stated that he would have to see the exact question on the disclosure.

The Administrator told Council that the SCAC has mailed out information in reference to The Fiscal Impact Study of State Mandates in regards to the LGF.

The Administrator told Council that Chairperson Smith and himself will be attending a Carolina Southern Railroad meeting on Thursday, January 10<sup>th</sup> in Loris South Carolina. He also mentioned that Wednesday, February 20<sup>th</sup> is the SCAC Mid-Year Conference in Columbia, South Carolina.

The Administrator told Council that Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> is Marion County Legislative Day in Columbia. He also mentioned that Tuesday, January 29<sup>th</sup> is the Marion County/Municipal Joint Meeting.

The Administrator told Council that District #5, District #6 and District #7 appointees have expired on the Trinity Behavioral Care Board.

Mr. Troy thanked Mrs. Elizabeth Hammond and Ms. Ruth Burke for attending the meetings.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, 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 personnel, economic development and a contractual matter.

The County Attorney, presiding requested re-elected members Mr. John Q. Atkinson, Jr., Mr. Allen W. Floyd, Mr. Simon Jenkins, and Mr. Buddy Collins to come forward to take the oath of office.

The County Attorney asked Council to adopt and ratify all activities that took place during this said meeting. Motion was made by Mr. Troy, seconded by Mr. Floyd, and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Floyd, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 10:58 A.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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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