

May 14, 2013

The Marion County Council held its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, May 14, 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; 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. Shaw, and carried unanimously, to approve as written, the minutes of the regular meeting held on April 25, 2013.

The County Attorney stated that first and third reading for the ordinances listed on the agenda as follows was ready: A. Third Reading of Ordinance #2013-02 An ordinance to amend the Marion County Procurement Code to provide for an increase in local vendor options was ready; B. First Reading of Ordinance # 2013-03 An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of a not Exceeding Three Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$385,000) General Obligation Bond of Marion County, South Carolina, To Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds of said Bond Shall be Expended, To Provide for the Payment of said Bond, and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

The Administrator told Council that item B. on the agenda; First Reading of Ordinance # 2013-03 An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of a not Exceeding Three Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$385,000) General Obligation Bond of Marion County, South Carolina, To Prescribe the Purposes for Which the Proceeds of said Bond Shall be Expended, To Provide for the Payment of said Bond, 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 #2013-03.

There were not reports given by Committee #1 or Committee #2.

Ms. Justine Roberts with the NASA SEMAA project appeared before Council to present information on the NASA Science, Engineering, Mathematics and Aerospace Academy. Ms. Roberts told Council that NASA SEMAA is a national education project designed to increase the participation and retention of historically underserved and underrepresented K-12 youth in the areas of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). The NASA SEMAA project currently operates at 15 sites located in 14 states across the nation. Ms. Roberts told Council that they are seeking a building to start the NASA SEMAA project. She stated that they have also checked out the Old Rains Centenary School located on South Hwy 501. After a brief discussion by members Council, Motion was made by Mr. Troy, seconded by Mr. Jenkins; to refer this said matter to Committee #2 for review. Chairperson Smith thanked Ms. Roberts for her presentation.

Chief Magistrate Judge Dan Barker appeared before Council to present information in reference to the court system. Judge Barker told Council that the court schedule consist of Criminal, Civil, Traffic, Bond Court/proposed Central Bond Court Environmental Service Court, and Jury Trial week/Pre-trials. Judge Barker stated that there are two part-time magistrates. He mentioned that they offer a Public Service Employee program. Judge Barker told Council that the court can order individuals to community service as part of their sentence. The request for participants must be made in writing by a representative of a local non-profit organization. He also addressed his budget request. Judge Barker explained home confinement, fines and court costs, state law fines and ordinances. Mr. Harper brought up the liability and workers compensation regarding the community service workers. Judge Barker stated that the PSE worker is covered under the non-profit organization. Chairperson Smith thanked Judge Barker for his presentation.

Mr. Charles Jones and Mrs. Brenda Jackson with Kenneth Cobb & Company appeared before Council to present the FY 2012 Audit Report. Mr. Jones thanked Council for the pleasure of serving as the County's auditor. He referred the Council to page 6 of the financial statements and informed them that the County received and unqualified opinion for the year ended 6/30/12. He also referenced the two letters included on compliance and internal control and the findings that are referenced in Minutes, May 14, 2013, Page 3

each. Mrs. Jackson and Mr. Jones addressed Council's questions in reference to these findings. Mr. Jones reported that as of June 30, 2012 the County's general fund had \$10.7 million in assets, \$7.1 million in liabilities, and \$3.6 million in fund balance. The general fund reported \$15.2 million in revenues, \$14 million in expenditures, \$764 thousand in other financing uses giving the general fund an excess of revenues over expenditures of \$492 thousand for the year ended June 30, 2012. After a discussion by members of Council, Chairperson Smith advised Mr. Harper to write a letter to those departments that are not submitting a daily deposit to the Treasurer. Chairperson Smith thanked Mr. Jones and Mrs. Jackson for their presentation.

The County Attorney had nothing to report.

The Administrator updated Council on the New County Administration Building. Mr. Harper told Council that he has met with the architect and reviewed the plans. The current plans call for all administrative office and the Family Court to be at the renovated building. EMS and E-911 will remain where they are currently located. The current space plan calls for 52,336 square feet. Mr. Harper stated that Mr. Mace will prepare the drawings.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council that the Department of Revenue has started collecting the tax and the County will see the first of the revenue in October. The initial two projects are Grice's Recreation Center and the Courthouse/Archives building. Mr. Harper stated that the city bided their project out and it came in over the amount of funds that they had available. They have gone back and reviewed their plans and will be re-bidding the project. Mr. Harper told Council that plans for the Courthouse have been completed and the architect has to take them to the City's Historical Review Commission for the approval of the exterior changes and the parking area. He stated that once this is completed the project will be bided out and work will begin in August. Mr. Harper also told Council that Family Court will be held in the Administration building and Circuit Court at the Beeson Building. Mr. Harper stated that the County's goal is two year to have the Capital Sales Tax Projects completed.

The Administrator told Council that the Town of Sellers has a CDBG grant in the amount of \$50,000 to start work on their community building. Mr. Harper stated that their grant has a 10% match and they currently do not have the funds to match the grant. Mr. Harper stated that they are asking Council to approve moving their project in advance. He stated that the Capital Sales Tax money can count as their match. Mr. Harper asked Council's approval to allow Seller to start the bidding process for this said project. Motion was made by Mr. Jenkins, seconded by Mr. Troy, and carried unanimously.

The Administrator told Council that the nurse at the Detention Center resigned in May. The Detention Center is required to have a nurse on staff, working under  
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physician's orders. Mr. Harper stated that the Sheriff has contracted with Southern Health Partners to provide intake health screenings, sick-calls, and manage pressing medical care issues. Southern Health Partners currently manage a majority of the Detention Centers in South Carolina. He stated that they provide medical care with a nurse on duty, but they will provide a physician that will be on site a couple of hours during the week. They also provide mental health services, detention center staff training, and training for other employees (CPR/Blood borne Pathogens, immunizations for county employees. Chairperson Smith advised Mr. Harper to check out Southern Health Partners website to make sure that everything is in order.

The Administrator told Council that the County has been able to finalize plans for the 911 antenna. He stated that the County has submitted an application with Crown Castle Communications to go on their tower in Mullins. Mr. Harper stated that Motorola has ran the coverage area maps and this site will meet the coverage requirements. He stated that the total costs are \$150,566.65 and an annual cost of \$30,000. Mr. Harper asked Council's approval to move forward with this project. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Floyd and carried unanimously.

The Administrator told Council that the Emergency Management Director, Mr. Brandon Ellis informed him about grant funds that are available for an Emergency Notification System. This system would allow the County to notify citizens by phone county-wide or a specific area of any emergency situations. Mr. Harper stated that citizens also could opt in for weather alerts. He stated that the contract would be a three year contract and would be paid for by using Emergency Management grant funds at an annual cost of \$16,875. Mr. Harper asked Council's approval to move forward with CODERED to install the Emergency Notification System. Motion was made by Mr. Collins, seconded by Mr. Atkinson, and carried unanimously.

The Administrator provided Council with a bid list for roads to be rocked through the CTC. Mr. Harper told Council that the County had received two bids. They are as follows: Vulcan \$11.00 per ton, and Earth Care Recycling \$12.50 per ton. It was the recommendation of the Administrator to award the bid to Vulcan at \$11.00 per ton. Motion was made by Mr. Floyd, seconded by Mr. Jenkins, and carried unanimously.

The Administrator presented an agricultural assessment from the Tax Assessor for Mr. Louis & Jessie Mae Davis Est. The total number of acres is 15.49. Tax Map No. 133-186. Motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried unanimously.

The Administrator reminded Council about the Council Meeting and the Strategic Plan Workshop that is scheduled to be held at the Marion County Economic Development Office on May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

Mr. Troy stated that as a Council they need to offer a letter of support for the NASA SEMAA project. Motion was made by Mr. Troy, seconded by Mr. Shaw, and carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Mr. Troy that ordinance polices and procedure will be reviewed annually. He stated that a minimum of 10 ordinances, polices and procedures would be reviewed monthly with the results reported to Council. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shaw. After a discussion by members of Council, Chairperson Smith stated that regular policies should rely on the department heads, ordinances should rely on the Administrator, Clerk to Council and the County Attorney. She also stated that policies and procedures should be within the department heads. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Troy asked Mr. Harper about the West Mullins Drainage Project. Mr. Troy stated that he would like to call a public meeting in the West Mullins Neighborhood in reference to the West Mullins Drainage Project. Mr. Harper stated that he has spoken with Ms. Ogleretta White about scheduling a public meeting within two weeks regarding the West Mullins Drainage Project. The meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>.

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

Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Collins, 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 personnel and an economic development matter.

The Administrator asked Council's approval to change EMS working hours from the current 16 hour work shift to a 24/48 hour shifts. Motion was made by Mr. Shaw, seconded by Mr. Collins, and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Mr. Atkinson, seconded by Mr. Floyd, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 11: 37 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

G. Timothy Harper, Administrator

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Charles L. McLain, III County Attorney

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Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council