

## Council Members

Buddy Collins  
*Chairperson*

Elista H. Smith  
*Vice Chairperson*

John Q. Atkinson Jr.  
Allen W. Floyd  
Simon Jenkins  
Thomas Shaw  
Milton W. Troy, II

Office Of  
**Marion County Council**

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G. Timothy Harper  
*Administrator*

Kent M. Williams  
*Deputy Administrator*

Sabrina Davis  
*Clerk To Council*

Charles L. McLain, III  
*Deputy Administrator*



January 26, 2017

The Marion County Council held its regular meeting, on Thursday, January 26, 2017, at 7:00 P.M. in the Marion County Council Chambers, Administration Building, Marion, South Carolina. Members present were Buddy Collins, Chairman; Elista H. Smith, Vice Chairperson, Councilman John Q. Atkinson, Jr., Councilman Allen W. Floyd, Councilman Oscar Foxworth, Councilman Thomas E. Shaw and Councilman 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 not present and duly notified.

Chairman Collins called the meeting to order and asked Councilman Allen W. Floyd to lead the Invocation, after which he welcomed visitors and read the Freedom of Information Announcement.

The County Attorney told Council at the last meeting during the swearing-in ceremony of newly elected Council member Mr. Oscar Foxworth. Mr. Foxworth stated during the oath that he does not solemnly swear instead of I do solemnly swear. Mr. McLain performed the swearing-in ceremony again to make there were no issues going forward.

Motion was made by Councilman Floyd, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 10, 2017.

The County Attorney told Council that item A. second reading for ordinances listed on the agenda as follows was not ready: **A.** Second Reading of Ordinance #2016-12 An Ordinance to Approve an Increase in Salary for all County Council Members pursuant to South Carolina Code 4-9-100; **B.** Second Reading of Ordinance #2017-01 An Ordinance of Marion County, South Carolina Approving Water Lines Easements with MARCO Rural Water Company, Inc. to install water lines on Patriots Court.

The County Attorney told Council that item A. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2016-12 An Ordinance to Approve an Increase in Salary for all County Council Members pursuant to South Carolina Code 4-9-100 was ready. Mr. McLain read the ordinance. Motion was made by Councilman Troy, seconded by Councilman Shaw, and carried unanimously, to approve second reading of Ordinance #2016-12.

The County Attorney told Council that item B. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2017-01 An Ordinance of Marion County, South Carolina Approving Water Lines Easements with MARCO Rural Water Company, Inc. to install water lines on Patriots Court was ready; Motion was made by Councilman Floyd, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, and carried unanimously, to approve second reading of Ordinance #2017-01.

There was no report given by Committee #1.

Chairman Collins stated that Committee #1 has a pending matter.

The Administrator told Council that the minutes from Committee #2 is presented as information. The committee met on Tuesday, January 17, 2017, to discuss Marion County EMS Vehicles. Mr. Harper stated that this said matter will be discussed later under item #10.

The County Attorney provided Council a document from Mr. Arnold Parson who lives in Georgetown South Carolina. Mr. McLain stated that Mr. Parson is sending out documentation alleging all sort of things. Mr. McLain stated that Mr. Parson never filed the documents. He told Council that there is nothing to do until Mr. Parson files the documents.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council that final plans will be brought on Monday in reference to the Saffold Building. Mr. Harper told Council that the preliminary work has been completed in reference to the Mullins Fire Station.

The Administrator provided Council a spreadsheet from FEMA in reference to housing and needs assessment that has been done in Marion County.

Ms. Ogleretta D. White gave Council an update on Marion County Recovery. Ms. White reported to Council that the recovery committee has completed five distributions at sixteen sites. She stated that Marion County is in the Long-Term Recover stage. Mr. Harper provided Council a printout of the Recovery Aid Fund account. He stated that their goal is \$50,000 with a dollar-for-dollar match from the Marion County Healthcare Foundation.

The Administration told Council that a group raised money to purchase a 12x40 building to go at the animal shelter as an intake facility. Mr. Harper stated that the group raised \$6,700.

The Administrator provided Council information in reference to the Hud Storm Recovery Grant. Mr. Harper told Council that the State of South Carolina is allocated \$ 65,305,000. He stated that 52,244,000 is designated for Marion County to be used for disaster relief, long-term recovery, restoration of infrastructure and housing, and economic revitalization. Mr. Harper stated based on the discussion with the SC Department of Commerce that the funding would only be used for low-moderate income housing. Council discussed this said matter at great length, Councilman Floyd suggested writing a letter to Congressman Rice voicing their concern regarding the funding and other needs for Marion County.

The Administrator reported to Council that the County was able to hire temporary staffing through South Carolina Works. They are as follows: Two clerks, two equipment operators, one carpenter and two warehouse stock clerks.

The Administrator told Council that the SC Department of Health and Environmental Control has announced a Mosquito Control Support Grant Program. Mr. Harper stated that the estimated funding is \$540,000. The maximum amount is \$39,000. He stated that the County would need to provide personnel, a vehicle and purchase the chemicals. He stated that the spraying machines cost around \$8,000-\$10,000 He stated that the County has not applied for the grant.

The Administrator provided Council information in reference to the number of employees from Marion County that is employed by Harbor. Mr. Harper told Council that Ms. Katherine Bell and himself attend the worker's comp property and liability insurance meeting with the South Carolina Association of Counties. The County had the lowest moderator of .65 in the State. Mr. Harper stated that the County saved \$90,000.

The County Attorney reminded Council about their appointment of board members to the Pee Dee Food Hub.

The Administrator told Council that Committee #2 met in reference to the EMS Vehicles. Mr. Harper stated that it was the recommendation of the committee to purchase two (2) ambulances from First Class Emergency Vehicles and three (3) stryker stretchers to be paid for over a four-year lease period. The lease will begin in October.

Mr. Joey Price appeared before Council to present information in reference to the Emergency Medical Services Department Standards and Operating Guidelines. Mr. Price presented the 2016 call totals for Marion, Mullins, and Gresham. He also presented an ambulance checklist. Council voiced their concerns about the maintenance of the ambulances. Motion was made by Councilman Shaw, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, and carried unanimously to purchase two (2) ambulances and three (3) stryker stretchers from First Class Emergency Vehicles.

Chief Deputy Terry Causey appeared before Council to present information in reference to the Detention Center. Mr. Causey reported that the total inmate compacity is 96. The current housing compacity is 58. The total number of inmates are 77. He stated that 12 inmates are housed at other institutions at \$56.00 per inmate per day. The Administrator explained to Council the issues that had taken place. He stated that those issues are being corrected. Councilman Troy suggested writing a letter to the magistrate and the solicitor voicing their concerns regarding the overpopulation in the Detention Center. It was the Consensus of Council.

Motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded by Councilman Floyd, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for a legal matter.

Motion was made by Councilman Shaw, seconded by Vice Chairperson Smith, and carried unanimously, to close executive session and reopen the regular meeting. Chairman Collins stated that no action was taken during executive session called for a legal matter.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded by Councilman Floyd, to adjourn the meeting at approximately: 9:12 P.M.

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Buddy Collins, Chairman

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Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council

