

Council Members

Buddy Collins  
*Chairman*

Elista H. Smith  
*Vice Chairperson*

John Q. Atkinson, Jr.  
Allen W. Floyd  
Oscar Foxworth  
Thomas Shaw  
Milton W. Troy, II

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G. Timothy Harper  
*Administrator*

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Sabrina Davis  
*Clerk To Council*

Charles L. McLain, III  
*County Attorney*



May 9, 2017

The Marion County Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, May 9, 2017, at 9:00 A.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., Chaplain Allen W. Floyd, Councilman Oscar Foxworth, Councilman Thomas E. Shaw and Councilman Milton W. Troy, II. Also present were G. Timothy Harper, Administrator; Kent M. Williams, Deputy 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. TV13 was present and duly notified.

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

Motion was made by Vice Chairperson Smith, seconded by Councilman Shaw, and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the regular meetings held on April 27, 2017.

The County Attorney told Council that item A& B. first and second reading for ordinances listed on the agenda as follows was ready: **A.** Second Reading of Ordinance #2017-04 An Ordinance to Provide for the Issuance and Sale of a not Exceeding Three Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollar (\$375,000) General Obligation Bond of Marion County, South Carolina, To Prescribe the Purpose for Which the Proceeds of Said Bond Shall be Expended, to provide for the Payment of Said Bond, and Other Matters Relating Thereto; **B.** First Reading of Ordinance #2017-05 Fiscal Year Budget 2017-2018.

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

The County Attorney had nothing to report.

Mr. Jody Martin the Director of the Pee Dee Food Hub appeared before Council to give a brief update. Mr. Martin reported to Council that the Pee Dee Food Hub is moving forward this is the second year of moving local produce. He stated that the food hub has been making adjustments in staffing. Mr. Scott Mace for Sales and Marketing, Ms. Janice Burley as Operations Assistance and Mr. Robert Smith Delivery and Logistics. The board members are in the process of establishing the procedures and bylaws for the PDFH. Mr. Martin stated that the PDFH is working with 26 farmers. These farmers represent 9 counties to cover the region. The Pee

Dee Food Hub also focuses on how the frequent consumption of local fruits and vegetables are good for your health as well as the local economy. Farm to workplace is the Carolina Farm Share which operates as a unique Community Supported Agriculture which is a production and marketing model whereby consumers buy shares of a farm's harvest in advance. The PDFH is currently working with 10 companies and 4 organizations to help enhance their health and wellness as well as employee benefits. Mr. Martin stated that Mr. Scott Mace is currently working on an additional market to help service a major need with the local EBT customers. Plans are to start these efforts within the Marion County area and expand out. This will take some time; however, it has an opportunity to have a tremendous impact. The PDFH will plan to collaborate with several other agencies and local organizations in this process to supply fresh local produce, nutritional education and meal preparation. Mr. Martin also provided Council a balance sheet as of February 28, 2017, and profit & loss January 2016 through February 2017. The Pee Dee Food Hub has an expectation to have a strong economic impact on the Pee Dee Region of South Carolina and to be a successful example to assist other similar organizations around South Carolina. Chairman Collins thanked Mr. Martin for his presentation.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper provided Council a copy of the Capital Sales Tax projections actual collections. Mr. Harper told Council in the latter part of this year the County needs to form a Capital Sales Tax Committee.

The Administrator updated Council on Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Harper told Council that the Palmetto Diaster Recovery Group is continuing to work in regards, Hurricane Matthew.

The Administrator provided Council a draft copy of the 2017-2018 Fiscal Year Budget. Mr. Harper mentioned a few matters dealing with the legislature in reference to the State Budget and the LGF. He scheduled a budget workshop for Wednesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 P.M.

The Administrator gave Council an update regarding Capps Corner Road. Mr. Harper told Council that Capps Corner is not a County road. He stated that the SCDOT has not done any work on this road. The County will have to widen the road for the ditches. In the process, some of the landowner's property would have to be used. Mr. Harper stated that certified letter will be sent to the landowners to see if they are willing to cooperate with the County regarding this matter.

The Administrator provided Council a copy of the Marion County C&D Landfill & Recycling Center 2004 December 2016 Tonnage Report. Mr. Harper stated that according to DHEC the landfill has a few issues that have to be dealt with. He also pointed out the tonnage from January thru March 2017 and the amount that is due.

The Administrator gave Council an update in reference to E-911 Communications. Mr. Harper told Council that the old 911 system that was installed 20 years ago is reaching its lifespan. Mr. Harper stated in the near future the County will have to purchase a newly updated system.

The Administrator provided Council a copy of the Classification and Compensation Study for review. Mr. Harper told Council that the FoxTrot Festival will be held on Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup>. He reminded Council that GroupBeneteau will be celebrating 30 years of Manufacturing in the USA on Friday, May 12<sup>th</sup> from 4:00-7:00 P.M.

Councilman Atkinson mentioned on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup> HMRA is sponsoring a concert in the Commons Area featuring the Fantastic Shakers and a Frogmore stew.

Councilman Troy brought up the Mullins High School Girls Basketball Team State Champions and the Mullins Recreational Boys Basketball Team State Champions. He mentioned that Council approved to adopt a resolution for both teams. Councilman Floyd stated that he is waiting on the information. Councilman Troy asked Mr. Harper to explain exempt vs non-exempt employees. Mr. Harper stated that an exempt employee is one that supervises and is above a certain salary. He also stated that if an employee is non-exempt they would get paid overtime.

Councilman Shaw brought up road signs that are missing on several roads throughout the County. Mr. Harper told Mr. Shaw that he would check with the GIS mapping department regarding this said matter. Mr. Shaw stated that the County needs to write a letter to Senator Williams and Representatives Atkinson and Kirby in reference to passing a bill regarding abandon lots. Mr. Harper advised Mr. Shaw to call the building inspections department regarding a nuisance letter.

Chairman Collins mentioned that Maiden Down does have a fire station. He asked if Council had an obligation in helping with the building. Mr. Harper stated that they can apply for a fire grant through FEMA, USDA, and the fire fees that each fire department receive each year.

Chairman Collins stated that there is another source of revenue to look into Solar Farms. He asked Mr. McLain about an ordinance to govern Marion County in reference to Solar Farms. Mr. McLain stated that the major difference for these companies that are looking to come in is the tax base incentives. He stated that has been the hold up in the State. Councilman Atkinson voiced his concerns regarding this said matter. Councilman Atkinson suggested writing a letter to the South Carolina Association of Counties stating their opinion.

Motion was made by Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Troy, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for economic development, personnel, and a legal matter.

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

The Deputy Administrator told Council that the LTRG (Long Term Recovery Group) is requesting to transfer the Marion County Recovery Aid, Fund to the Little Pee Dee Baptist Association as the Fiscal Agent. Motion was made by Councilman Foxworth, seconded by Councilman Atkinson; Chairman Collins stated that

Councilman Floyd voted verbally in favor of the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The County Attorney asked Council's approval to execute an option to purchase the existing old Wellman facility that exists inside the fence to execute this option to project Matthew. He stated this would be a (90) day option. This grants them the sole ability to purchase that property subject to any rights and requirements that are within the lease. Motion was made by Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Councilman Troy, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, to adjourn the meeting at approximately: 11:42 A.M.

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Buddy Collins, Chairman

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Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council