

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

Kent M. Williams
Deputy Administrator

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Charles L. McLain, III
County Attorney



June 13, 2017

The Marion County Council held its regular meeting on Tuesday, June 13, 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 Councilman Shaw, seconded by Councilman Troy, and carried unanimously, to approve the minutes of the regular meetings held on May 25, and a budget workshop held on May 31, 2017.

The County Attorney told Council that item A& B second and third reading for ordinances listed on the agenda as follows was ready: **A.** Third Reading of Ordinance #2017-05 Fiscal Year Budget 2017-2018; **B.** Second Reading of Ordinance #2017-06 An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement in an amount of \$243,607.00 Relating to the Purchase of Certain Vehicles and Rolling Stock for County Purposes, and Payment of Related Costs for Marion County Authorizing the Execution of Other Necessary Documents and Papers, and Other Matters Relating Thereto.

The County Attorney told Council that item A. on the agenda; Third Reading of Ordinance #2017-05 Fiscal Year Budget 2017-2018 was not ready.

The County Attorney told Council that item B. on the agenda; Second Reading of Ordinance #2017-06 An Ordinance Authorizing the Execution of an Equipment Lease Purchase Agreement in an amount of \$243,607.00 Relating to the Purchase of Certain Vehicles and Rolling Stock for County Purposes, and Payment of Related Costs for Marion County Authorizing the Execution of Other Necessary Documents and Papers, and Other Matters Relating Thereto was ready: Motion was made by Councilman Atkinson, seconded by Councilman Troy and carried unanimously, to approve second reading of Ordinance 2017-06.

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

The County Attorney had nothing to report.

Sheriff Brian Wallace appeared before Council to give a brief update. Sheriff Wallace told Council that the Town of Nichols does not have a Victims Advocate. The Town of Nichols has asked the Sheriff's Office to take that role over. He stated in the agreement they would release a 2013 Ford Explorer, a desktop computer, and office furniture. The Town of Nichols has \$80,000-\$105,000 this money would be turned over to the Sheriff's office. Sheriff Wallace stated that Nichols does not have enough victims' to justify having a full time or part time person for this position. Motion was made by Councilman Floyd, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, Vice Chairperson Smith wanted to know if Trinity Behavioral Care has been involved. She mentioned a partnership with the different entities. Sheriff Wallace stated at one time the City of Marion contracted with Trinity. He stated that a Victims Advocate has to be provided for the Sheriff's Office and the Detention Center. After a brief discussion. The motion carried unanimously.

Sheriff Wallace brought up the mental health situation in the County. He stated that it is overwhelming. He stated that the hospital has reached out regarding this said matter. He also mentioned that there are funds that the County has not been receiving that the hospital can apply for to help the Sheriff's Office and hospital. Sheriff Wallace told Council that the hospital has a wing they can convert into a mental health area. Vice Chairperson Smith stated that there need to be some type of educational training for the caretakers. Sheriff Wallace told Council that he is working with the hospital.

Sheriff Wallace told Council in 2006 there was an order from the Chief Justice for a security plan for all counties. In 2012 Marion County developed that plan. Sheriff Wallace stated seven (7) deputies are needed for General Sessions Court. Commons Pleas two (2) deputies, Family Court three (3) plus deputies, Magistrate Court one (1) deputy, and three (3) Correctional Officers. Sheriff Wallace stated that there is a Cops Grant that he would apply for additional help. He also stated that two (2) part-time deputies were hired from FY budget 2016-2017 to assist with court. Sheriff Wallace reported that the Sub Station is in operation in the southern part of the county. Sheriff Wallace also reported that body cameras have come in for the deputies. Chairman Collins asked the Sheriff if he had ample employees to handle the security and the needs of Marion County including the court system. Sheriff Wallace stated that it is challenging at times. Chairman Collins thanked Sheriff Wallace for his presentation.

The Administrator passed out bid tabulations in reference to the Classification & Compensation Study. Mr. Harper told Council that there were three proposals. They are as follows: Gallagher Benefit Services, Inc. Option#1- \$130,000, Option#2-\$105,000, Paypoint HR \$40,000 and Management Advisory Group \$39,845. Mr. Harper asked Council's permission to ask Paypoint HR and Management Advisory Group to present their information to Committee #1. Council asked Mr. Harper to invite the three vendors to present to full Council.

The Administrator provided Council a copy of the Strategic Development Group proposal for Marion County site evaluation.

The Administrator updated Council on the Capital Sales Tax. Mr. Harper told Council the projects are moving forward.

The Administrator updated Council on Hurricane Matthew. Mr. Harper told Council that the Palmetto Disaster Recovery Group is continuing to work with the survivors regarding Hurricane Matthew.

The Administrator provided Council a flyer for the celebration of Heroes on Saturday, July 1st from 3:00 pm-10:00 pm at the Swamp Fox Entertainment Complex.

The Administrator told Council that a Father's Place has signed the lease agreement. Mr. Harper stated that a Father's Place will be moving into the old Environmental Services building.

The Administrator updated Council on the Legislative Funding. Mr. Harper told Council that the Governor has made some vetos. He stated that the legislature approved the LGF the same amount as last year. They also approved to reimburse the counties 1% of the 2% retirement increase. Mr. Harper stated that the County will receive a portion of the ice storm money and the FEMA match of 25% for Hurricane Matthew.

The Administrator told Council that the meeting with the Fire Chiefs is scheduled for Monday, June 19th at 6:30 pm.

Councilman Atkinson reported to Council information from the Pee Dee Regional Council of Government Board Meeting. Councilman Atkinson told Council that PDRTA has applied for a transportation grant that will fund a route through Marion, Mullins, Latta, Dillon and Lake View to transport individuals to work at Harbor Freight and Wyman-Gordon. The Carolina Hospital in Marion received \$12,700 for dislocated workers. Councilman Atkinson stated that there should be a joint effort between Carolina Hospital and Adult Ed to help those individuals. Council discussed the out of county tuition in reference to Florence-Darlington Tec. Councilman Troy asked if this said matter could be revisited. Senator Williams suggested having a meeting with Florence-Darlington Tec to discuss what options Marion County has regarding not having to pay the higher out of county tuition. Motion was made by Councilman Troy, seconded by Vice Chairperson Smith to set up a meeting with the President of Florence-Darlington Tec.

Vice Chairperson Smith wanted to know the status on the entrance doors of the Administration Building Mr. Harper stated that Mr. Benny Rowell has taken care of the issue. Vice Chairperson Smith asked Mr. Harper to put this said matter in writing.

Motion was made by Councilman Shaw, seconded by Vice Chairperson Smith, and carried unanimously, to go into executive session for an economic development matter and three (3) legal matters.

Motion was made by Councilman Foxworth, seconded by Councilman Floyd, 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 an economic development matter and three (3) legal matters.

There being no further business to discuss, motion was made by Councilman Floyd, seconded by Councilman Foxworth, to adjourn the meeting at approximately: 11:17 A.M.

Buddy Collins, Chairman

Sabrina Davis, Clerk to Council