



Town of Marshville
Town Council Work Session
Monday, July 19, 2021 7 PM
Marshville Town Hall
118 East Union Street - Marshville, NC 28103

Work Session Minutes - Zoom

Present: Mayor Larry Smith; Mayor Pro tem Virginia Morgan; Council Members Paulette Blakeney, Ernestine Staton, Margaret Bivens, and Gary Huntley

Staff Present: Franklin Deese, Town Manager; Ann Sutton, Town Clerk;

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Smith called the meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Council Member Huntley gave the opening prayer. Then, everyone stood and gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: Diane Amundsen emailed a public comment.

- 1: Any update of building's project (vape shop and cleaners)? Do we really want to be landlords or is it better to sell our excess properties.
- 2: Wouldn't the placement of the electric power for vehicles be better at the gazebo where there is shelter/benches and the possibility of refreshments nearby. If I was parking for a while for a charge, I would want to get out and explore a bit.
- 3: Is there any news on having murals painted on the backside of the buildings facing the parking lot, US 74 etc. to represent our town's history. What about one on the water tower welcoming people to Marshville. I have seen this on interstate 81 going North. The murals that are happening in other towns are very impressive. We have the local talent.
- 4: While we are doing so much at the park, very few people even know we have one (unless you have a reason to drive by). US 74 or a mural could promote this.
- 5: How do we get a Marshville sign acknowledgment placed on bypass?
- 6: I contacted NCDOT about our potholes and road conditions here, as well as the traffic light situation Frank said needed a major overhaul. Getting real bad for travel locally.

Adoption Meeting Agenda: A motion was made to adopt the agenda by Council Member Ernestine Staton and seconded by Council Member Huntley. All Ayes.

Discussion concerning Park Survey for Younger Citizens per Ms. Staton: Council Member Staton wants a park survey done for the younger citizens. The general consensus of the Council was to have Council Member Staton spearhead a young citizen park survey.

Discussion concerning Meter Re-Read and Meter Testing Policy: Town Manager Deese said that we have a re-read policy in place. The current policy says that if the town goes to a property and re-reads a meter per a citizen's request, we can charge the citizen for the re-read if the meter read was correct and the meter is not broken. A citizen can have a meter checked once a year at

no charge. This policy has been in effect. The town has just not enforced it. Staff has adjusted the policy a little bit. So, we will need to vote on this in August.

Mayor Smith asked about the progress of the plans for the new meters. Town Manager Deese said that he is having a hard time finding lids for the meter boxes. Hopefully, they will be found soon.

Discussion concerning Marshville Imaging: Manager Deese expressed the need to get our parks, sewer system, and image up so the town can grow. He wants the public to know that we are open to ideas for fresh imaging for the Town of Marshville. Mrs. Susan Drake presented a slogan to Manager Deese. Her thought was Rest, Relaxation, and Recreation as an image for Marshville.

Manager's Comments: There has been a discussion in the past concerning opening the Town Hall for meetings. A survey was made of the other Union County Towns to see what they are doing. The survey was given to the Council. Newspaper clips showed that COVID-19 cases are up. It was suggested that we allow citizens to join the chat.

Town Manager Deese addressed Diane Amundsen's questions.

1. The old cleaners is being renovated. We do not own the vape shop. Town Manager Deese said we are working on getting the roof of the museum replaced. He is working building by building to see what needs to be done.
2. The charging station was placed at the town owned parking lot to be close to Hwy 74. We do need to make some changes on the back of the buildings at the charging station to make them look better.
3. Town Manager Deese said that we cannot put the name of Marshville on the by-pass at this time.
4. NCDOT has not said anything about repairing potholes in the town.

Town Manager Deese said we are going to empty the lake to check for animals and problems in the lake. He will be out of the office next Tuesday and Wednesday.

Council Comments:

Council Member Huntley asked that all stay safe.

Council Member Blakeney asked for all to stay safe and have a blessed week.

Council Member Bivens requested a stoplight at Elizabeth Avenue and Hwy 74. She also asked for more No Littering signs.

Council Member Staton also agreed with Council Member Bivens about the stoplight at Elizabeth Avenue and Hwy 74. She agreed that it is time to work on the town's imaging. She also suggests a clean-up day. Council Member Staton wanted to know if anyone was a part of Common Hearts. We need to be represented.

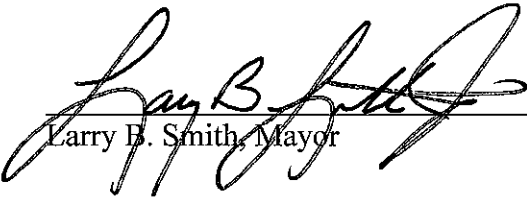
Mayor Comments: Mayor Smith asked for an update on staffing. Town Manager Deese answered that Michael Garrison is training to be Finance Officer. Dylan Liles has been moved into the Accounts Payables Department. Shavone Hubbard is over utilities. We are still

searching for a Public Works Director. We would like to promote someone from within. We have a new Land Use Administrator. His name is Bill Bailey, and he seems very knowledgeable.

Mayor Smith also asked that others ride to Norwood to look at their park and also Landis.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Council Member Staton to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Bivens made a second. All Ayes. 8:25

Approved this 15th day of November, 2021


Larry B. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST


Ann F. Sutton, Town Clerk