## Town of Marshville Town Council Work Session

Monday, June 15, 2020 Following Special Meeting Marshville Town Hall, 118 East Union St., Marshville, NC 28103

## Work Session Minutes (Zoom Meeting)

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

**Staff in Attendance:** Town Manager Franklin Deese, Town Clerk Ann Sutton, and Police Chief Matt Tarlton

Meeting Call to Order by Mayor Larry Smith 7:20 pm

Public Comments: There were none.

**Adoption of the Agenda:** A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan to adopt the agenda. A second motion was made by Council Member Staton. All ayes.

Utility Payment Options: Town Manager Deese told the council that utility payments could be made by check, debit or credit cards, e-checks, cash, money order or a citizen's bank account could be drafted. Town Manager Deese passed a sheet around with this information on it along with the number of customers and the options they chose. If someone pays with a debit card the associated fee is \$1.00; paying with a credit card is \$1.95. The town does not get these fees. These fees go to Official Payments, the payment company we contract with. Council Member Staton said the payment fees were cheaper than other towns. Council Member Staton said the fees were passed on the customer. She wanted to see if the customer could get around not paying this fee. But, it did not seem possible to her after the research.

Update on Natural Gas Lines: Town Manager Deese contacted Mr. Robert Miller, who is the City of Monroe managing engineer, for an update. Mr. Miller gave a tentative date of gas line installation completion as November 2020. The City of Monroe is in the process of creating a policy for extending the gas lines to the citizens of Marshville. This would be for the north side of Hwy 74. Town Manager Deese is trying to get clarification on how to serve the south side of Hwy 74. There is a natural gas fee schedule available that Town Manager Deese will get for the council. It does not appear that the lines will be extended to Marshville Elementary. The request, as Town Manager Deese understood it, has to come from the school board. He contacted someone with the board, and they have not requested it. Town Manager Deese asked that it be requested. Town Manager Deese spoke with the Chinese restaurant, the Pier, and the hotel.

They would like natural gas. Town Manager Deese asked that a valve be placed at Unarco Road and Hwy 74. The natural gas workers said that was in the plans.

**Discussion on Remote Planning Board Meetings:** The Planning Board needs the council to approve remote meetings. The general consensus was the allow the Planning Board to meet by remote.

**Manager's Comments:** Town Manager Deese received an email that work on the Randy Travis mural will begin on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

## **Council Members' Comments:**

Council Member Bivens thanked Town Manager Deese for a job well done. She also thanked the Police Department.

Council Member Paulette Blakeney was happy to see everyone. She asked that all stay safe. Council Member Huntley was thankful.

Council Member Staton thanked Town Manager Deese for the natural gas update. She asked that we pray for our country.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan agreed with Council Member Staton's comments.

**Mayor Comments:** Mayor Larry Smith agreed that we all are blessed beyond measure. He felt very happy with the budget process and thanked Town Manager Deese and staff for their hard work.

**Adjournment:** A motion was made by Council Member Staton to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Paulette Blakeney seconded the motion. All ayes.

Approved this Hay of September 2020.

Larry Smith, Mayor

ATTEST

Ann Sutton, Town Clerk