



TOWN OF MARSHVILLE

est. 1877

Town Council Regular Meeting
Monday, November 4, 2019 7 pm
118 E. Union Street • Marshville, NC 28103
Town Hall - 704.624.2515 • Fax - 704.624.0175

Regular Meeting

In Attendance:

Council Members Margaret Bivens, Ernestine Staton, Gary Huntley, Mayor Pro-tem Virginia Morgan.

Staff Members: Interim Town Manager Franklin Deese, Clerk Ann Sutton, Police Chief Matt Tarlton, and Town Attorney Bobby Griffin

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:

Call to Order by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. Invocation by Gary Huntley. Pledge of Allegiance was given by all.

Public Comment:

Tom Finley, 1312 Jenkins Avenue, #4, Charlotte, NC 28211, addressed the council. He told the council what a wonderful town Marshville was. He gave the council a letter for review.

Adoption of Agenda:

Interim Town Manager Frank Deese added a closed session to discuss the Union County water and sewer transfer. Council Member Huntley made the motion to add. The motion was seconded by Council Member Staton. This will be for information only. No action will be taken. It will be added as the last item on the agenda.

Council Member Staton made the motion to adopt the agenda and Council Member Gary Huntley seconded. All agreed.

Consent Agenda Approval:

A motion was made by Council Member Huntley to approve the consent agenda. This was seconded by Council Member Staton. All agreed.

Discussion/Action on a Date to Reschedule Town Manager Interviews:

All agreed that Saturday, November 9, 2019, was agreed upon as the date to have Town Manager interviews. A motion was made by Council Member Bivens and seconded by Council Member Staton to begin Town Manager interviews. All agreed. Interviews will start at 9 am.

CRTPO Discussion on Elizabeth Avenue Crossing:

Interim Town Manager Deese said that we were unable to meet the October 31st deadline for discretionary funds from CRTPO. This was probably a good thing since we rushed through our plans for the Elizabeth Avenue Crossing. Now we have time to look at the work to be done there and involve the citizens. Then we can present this plan to CRTPO by next October 31st when funds will be available again. A motion was made to stay engaged with the planning, but to slow down on the planning in order to make a good decision. The motion was made by Council Member Bivens with a second by Council Member Staton. All agreed.

Manager's Report:

A citizen brought a complaint to Interim Town Manager Deese concerning Belk Street. The citizen felt that tractor trailer trucks were turning onto Belk Street in order to get to the Marathon station. Belk Street is too narrow to handle tractor trailer truck. Damage has occurred to some of the properties on Belk Street. We have put up "No Through Truck" signs. NCDOT has indicated that they would put up some signs before Belk Street saying the same thing.

Interim Town Manager Deese feels we need to come up with a promotional piece to highlight Marshville's selling points. He went to Union County Economic Development and was given some names of companies that might be able to help. We will put one of our interns on the project. We need something to push out to companies to show them why they need to come here.

At the Regional Manager's Group meeting, there were two topics at the meeting. One was Social Media Best Practices, and the other was concerning local media. The two presentations were given to staff for their use and understanding.

The Interim Town Manager will be attending a Grant Workshop on Monday, November 12th, from 2 pm to 4 pm. Michael Garrison will be going with him.

We are still working on a PARTF Grant. A master plan must be in place to qualify for the grant. Interim Town Manager Deese has contacted several companies to discuss the work that needs to be done to update our park plan. The public and the Park Committee will be involved in the process. We have received a waiver from the PARTF and LWCF to purchase land for the park now and possibly receive one half of the cost back in their next grant year.

Interim Town Manager Deese would like to schedule a meeting with the staff and the Parks and Recreation Committee to see what the committee would like the council to focus on.

Interim Town Manager Deese said that we have a property that refuses to comply with our code enforcement. We have had several letters go out. Our code enforcement gentleman has spoken with them several times, but the owner refuses to comply. Our policy says we can levy civil penalties. Unless the Council says otherwise, that will be the course of action.

Interim Town Manager Deese met with Mr. Mark Gossnell from the Athletic Department of Union Academy. They would like to use the baseball fields again this year. They would also like to use the concession stands.

The town is under contract to buy the park land.

Mr. Deese was meeting with the attorney one day when the council had a Closed Session. He was told that a citizen was standing at the door during the closed session and trying to record or

take a picture of the closed session. The Interim Town Manager contacted the School of Government and received an email back from Ms. Freida Bleustein. She said recording is allowed during an open session but not a closed session. Closed Sessions concerning personnel are protected under 160A-168 of the North Carolina General Statutes.

Council Member's Comments:

Council Member Staton would like to thank all for coming to the meetings. Council Members need to hear from the citizens.

Council Member Huntley wanted to remind all to vote tomorrow. Please remember Veteran's Day.

Council Member Carpenter thanked all for thinking of her during the death of her husband. Please remember Veteran's Day at the cemetery and at the Police Memorial. Please come to the Waxhaw Museum on that day, also.

Council Member Bivens had a meeting at the Marshville Museum. There are many exciting things going on. Council Member Bivens spoke of crochet classes and knitting classes and other things.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan went to the CCOG meeting a few weeks ago. Charlotte Memorial Hospital is going to build a new hospital at the place where you get off the Expressway onto Highway 74. CCOG is going to put in a grant to put rapid rail from Charlotte all the way down as far as they can to Wadesboro. That will be 2025 if they get the money. The Council has approved the purchase of 15 acres attached to the Marshville Park. Mayor Pro-tem Morgan wants all to vote. It is so important. She asked that if those that do not win would join the Park Committee it would help so much in getting funding for the park. Mayor Pro-tem offered her thoughts to all concerning the need for all to vote.

Closed Session:

A motion was made by Council Member Staton to go into closed session under General Statute 143-318.11 (a) (3):

To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged. General policy matters may not be discussed in a closed session and nothing herein shall be construed to permit a public body to close a meeting that otherwise would be open merely because an attorney employed or retained by the public body is a participant. The public body may consider and give instructions to an attorney concerning the handling or settlement of a claim, judicial action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure. If the public body has approved or considered a settlement, other than a malpractice settlement by or on behalf of a hospital, in closed session, the terms of that settlement shall be reported to the public body and entered into its minutes as soon as possible within a reasonable time after the settlement is concluded.

Marshville vs. Union County

The motion was seconded by Council Member Huntley. All agreed. 7:50 pm

action, mediation, arbitration, or administrative procedure. If the public body has approved or considered a settlement, other than a malpractice settlement by or on behalf of a hospital, in closed session, the terms of that settlement shall be reported to the public body and entered into its minutes as soon as possible within a reasonable time after the settlement is concluded.

A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter to move out of the Closed Session. Council Member Huntley seconded the motion. All agreed.

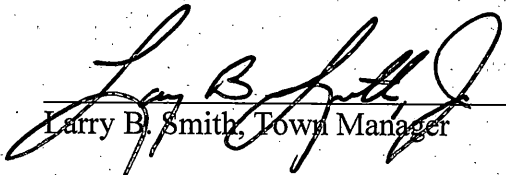
Discussion/Action of Closed Session;

There was no discussion or action stemming from the Closed Session.


Adjournment:

A motion was made by Council Member Carpenter to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Huntley seconded the motion. All agreed.

Approved this 3rd day of February, 2020.


Larry B. Smith, Town Manager

ATTEST


Ann Sutton