
TOWN OF MARSHVILLE

est. 1877

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6, 2017, 7:00 PM
MARSHVILLE TOWN HALL**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Present: Mayor Frank Deese; Mayor Pro-Tem Virginia Morgan; Council Members Margaret Bivens, Norma Carpenter, Ernestine Staton and Jim Rowell

Staff Present: Scott Howard, Town Manager; Tonya Johnson, Town Clerk/Finance Officer; Matt Tarlton, Police Chief; Emily Huneycutt, Park & Recreation Director; Bobby Griffin, Town Attorney

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Frank Deese. The invocation was given by Council Member Carpenter. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by everyone.

Adoption of Agenda for the Meeting

Mayor Deese stated that the agenda needs to be amended to add administering the oath of office to Town Manager, Scott Howard. A motion was made by Council Member Staton to add the oath of office for the manager. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens and passed unanimously.

A motion to adopt the agenda with the above addition was made by Council Member Rowell. The motion was seconded by Council Member Staton and passed by unanimous vote.

Oath of Office – Town Manager

Mayor Deese administered the oath of office to Town Manager Scott Howard.

Public Comments

There were no public comments.

Consent Agenda

Council Member Carpenter asked, concerning one of the proposed budget amendments, which window(s) in Town Hall was cracked. The manager pointed out the large section of the front window that was replaced.

A motion to accept the consent agenda and the items thereon was made by Council Member Rowell. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carpenter and passed by unanimous vote.

Presentation by Park Director Emily Huneycutt Regarding Playground Equipment Options,

Discussion/Action to Follow

Park Director Emily Huneycutt showed a power point presentation to illustrate options for playground equipment for the park. Ms. Huneycutt reported that the quotes are from Childforms. Option #1 costs \$25,596.03 and is for an age group between 5 years and 12 years. Option #2 is \$37,827.45 and is for an age group between 2 years and 12 years. Option #3 is \$44,906.04 and is for an age group between 5 years and 12 years. Ms. Huneycutt pointed out that the price includes freight and installation. Ms. Huneycutt reported that the equipment comes with a twenty year limited warranty. Council Member Staton questioned the spikes, stating that they loosen over a period of time. Ms. Huneycutt was instructed to ask the company if the warranty covers the spikes. Discussion ensued concerning the age limits. Council Member Staton questioned liability to the town if under age children get hurt on equipment meant for children ages 5 to 12. Ms. Huneycutt pointed out that Option #2 is for children ages 2 to 12. Mayor Deese stated that Council Member Staton raises a valid concern regarding liability and safety.

Council Member Carpenter asked if citizens could do a fundraiser. Mayor Deese commented that he has approached several organizations concerning a fundraiser to help raise money to purchase new park equipment. Discussion ensued.

Ms. Huneycutt stated that if a purchase decision is made, the equipment could very possibly be installed by Christmas. Mayor Deese asked Ms. Huneycutt to request a quote for a piece of equipment for children ages 2 to 5. Council Member Staton commented that 2 and 3 year olds need separate equipment due to safety issues. Mayor Deese stated that the council can approve a budget amendment to encumber fund balance and then replace the money once adequate funds are raised. Ms. Huneycutt pointed out that separate pieces of equipment will not be as cost effective due to having to pay additional freight. It was the consensus of the council to direct Ms. Huneycutt to obtain a quote for separate pieces of playground equipment.

Discussion/Action on Our Capacity Fees

The manager stated that the town began charging capacity fees approximately three years ago. The fees have not been increased since they were implemented. The manager reported that new legislation states that, if charging capacity fees, you must have a study from a qualified firm (CPA or Engineering firm) to support the calculations.

Council Member Rowell suggested that the town suspend charging capacity fees until such time that a proper analysis is performed, if it is within the law. Mayor Deese stated that the manager has already begun contacting agencies to perform a study. Mayor Deese agreed that the capacity fees should be suspended until it is certain that they are legal.

Council Member Rowell made a motion to suspend capacity fees immediately until the legislation is reviewed by the attorney, and until such time that a new analysis is completed, or it is determined that the current analysis is sufficient. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carpenter and passed by unanimous vote.

Discussion/Action on Nominations for the Expressway Committee (1 Council Member, 1 Planning and Zoning Board Member, 1 Marshville Business Owner, 1 Local Large Landowner)

Mayor Deese commented that this is a committee to deal with and act on the Monroe Expressway. Town Manager Howard stated that Mr. Bjorn Hansen suggests the membership include a council member, a planning/zoning board member, a business owner, and a large landowner to create a diverse board. Appointments to this committee will likely be long-term. Council Member Staton commented that these appointments should be put off until after Tuesday's election.

Mayor Deese stated that Mr. Hansen suggested that Chris Plate' would be a good candidate to serve on this committee. Council Member Rowell commented that he doesn't think the town should appoint him at this time, adding that Mr. Plate' is in the press in a negative way at this time. Discussion ensued and several names were mentioned including: Jeff Edwards, Fern Shubert, Ronald or Jackie Horne, Kathryn Davis, the owner of Delta Plastic, Todd Griffin, Scott Byrum, Matthew Mills, Susan Drake, and Fred Burton. It was decided to appoint a council member after Tuesday's election. Council Member Staton recommended that Mayor Deese serve on the committee.

Council & Mayor Comments

Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan commented that things are working well in town. She stated that the NAACP Banquet was a success.

Council Member Staton commended Emily Huneycutt, Park Director. Council Member Staton expressed concern for a better way to push information to the public. She stated that no one showed up for the yard sale. The town needs a better way to communicate information to the public. Mayor Deese stated that he is discussing the possibility of a quarterly newsletter. Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan suggested bulletin boards be put around town.

Council Member Rowell commented that Halloween on Main was a success. He commended Park Director Emily Huneycutt, Chief Tarlton, and the police department. Council Member Rowell acknowledged the police department for their participation in Tip a Cop Day to raise money for the Levine Children's Hospital. Council Member Rowell informed everyone that a Veterans Day service will be Saturday, November 11, 2017, beginning at 11:30 at the Marshville Cemetery and then concluding at the Veterans Memorial.

Council Member Carpenter commented that the roses planted around town appear neglected. She inquired about a hairdresser that wants to rent a town property. Mayor

Deese stated that the insurance company has advised against leasing due to liability. Council Member Carpenter suggested that the LED sign be put at the Community Center rather than on Highway 74. Council Member Carpenter commended Park Director Emily Huneycutt for a job well done thus far, wished Clerk Tonya Johnson well in her future endeavors, and expressed appreciation to Chief Tarlton.

Council Member Bivens stated that the town needs a sign on Highway 74. She reported that she has been attending functions at the Marshville Museum. Council Member Bivens wished Clerk Tonya Johnson well in her future endeavors.

Mayor Deese reported that he attended a CCOG meeting on behalf of Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan.

Town Clerk/Finance Officer Tonya Johnson made farewell remarks to the council after tendering her resignation on October 30, 2017.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bivens. The motion was seconded by Council Member Staton and passed unanimously.

These minutes approved this 4th day of December, 2017.

By: _____

Franklin D. Deese, Mayor

Attest: _____

Town Clerk