



Town of Marshville

Town Council Work Session

Monday, October 19, 2020 7:00 PM

Marshville Town Hall, 118 East Union St., Marshville, NC
28103

Work Session Zoom Meeting

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

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

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Smith. The invocation was given by Council Member Huntley. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of Public Comments Received by Email: Email from Diane Amundsen

1. It would be nice to be able to have posted the town planning and zoning board member's email and telephone numbers. Having to go through Carina sometime causes more work for her than is necessary. They are times it would be nice to discuss issues with the members themselves before the meetings.
2. I know that the issue with the No Kill Shelter for cats is being worked on, but I still do not find any building permit having been issued either by the town or Union County for the remodeling (doors, windows, intent, etc.) for property #02310020 on Main Street (across from Morgan's Funeral Home). The building is now blue in color and I would like an update as to how they can continue the project without one. I do not believe this is the appropriate place for an animal housing shelter being it is on Main Street, which we are trying to clean up.
3. The other question is about the gas line installation. Now that they are tearing up all of 74 before the holiday, are they going to replace the areas back to original before the holidays. Town needs to look appealing as people are going by or they will never stop.
4. I was concerned with the gas lines for Main Street. One of the most important issues was the need to have gas available for the town (both business and residents) to have access. We were hoping to get more business interested in our town but it seems that there may still be a glitch to getting what we need because of the railroad crossings. If the gas line in going to Edwards isn't it already on both sides of the railroad (74 & Olive Branch)?

Adoption of the Agenda: A motion was made by Council Member Staton to approve the agenda. That motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. All ayes.

Discussion Concerning the Town Ordinances by Richard Flowe: Town Manager Deese presented Mr. Richard Flowe. Mr. Flowe offered an exercise on what we would like the Town of Marshville to look like in the future. This will help with re-designing the Town Ordinances. Council was asked what they liked and disliked in the town.

What do we like about our town:

Small Town

What do we not like about our town:

Trash

Low crime
Schools
Friendliness
Character
Mom & Pop businesses

Lack of curb appeal
Not enough sidewalks
Community involvement
Restaurants
Lack of identity
Too much rental property

What are your wishes for the future:

Walkable
Community Center
Nice public building
Becoming a destination
Control of water/sewer
Curb appeal
More control of destiny
Park expansion
Medical services

What are your fears:

Not enough police
Growing too fast
Quality tax base
Crime
Lack of identity

Mr. Flowe said that these were value statements. It appears that safety, water and sewer, quality of life, downtown revitalization, and the elderly are the priorities. And, people need to come first. We need to stand firm on the ordinances to maintain the future. CORE areas of town should be the focus. Work on downtown and work outwards. Mr. Flowe was thanked for coming by.

Discussion of Park Community Survey: We are working on the Park Master Plan. Part of the process is to send out a survey. Town Manager Deese offered a rough draft of the survey. He asked everyone to look at the survey and ask questions. He would like any questions and comments back to him by October 26th at 5pm.

Update on Electronic Charging Station: Town Manager Deese gave out a map of the area suggested for the charging station. The place for the stations would be the parking lot behind the old B.C. Moore location. He gave several ideas as to how the stations could be placed in the parking lot. The biggest concern was the back of the buildings. The buildings do not look very inviting. Council Member Staton asked if we did not have any design standards. This will be looked into. Town Manager Deese needs to know where Council wants to put the charging stations and what to do about the back of the buildings that will be in plain site of the charging station. He would like a response by November 13th.

Manager's Comments: Town Manager Deese said the Planning Board information should be on the new website, which should be up soon. He addressed the No Kill Shelter for Cats. He has contacted Carina Soriano, Planning Administrator, and Mr. Richard Flowe for direction. The shelter is considered a kennel which is allowed in the downtown area. Union County says that upgrading windows does not require a permit. The Planning Administrator is checking the Marshville ordinances to see what is required. Mayor Pro-tem Morgan said that the lady who is working on the shelter received a grant and bought that part of the building. The work on the gas lines are making the streets appear un-kept. The contractors are supposed to put the streets back the way they were before digging. The Town is working with Monroe on a survey about the need for natural gas. That should be completed soon. Mayor Pro-tem Morgan had asked about a mirror for traffic sighting at the corner of Elm Street and Union Street. Town Manager Deese did contact Laura Jones of NCDOT. He told her what the problem was, but has not received any information from her. Town Manager gave a quick update on the stay with Union County. The judge has lifted the stay with Union County. The county has 30 days to true-up the sewer amounts due to the town since 2012. Then, we need to decide if the town will go to a jury trial.

At the next meeting Town Manager Deese will have a resolution and letter that will go to CRTPO saying we agree with the grant for the funding of the bike lanes going to the park. There is a match for the town and we need to agree to that.

Council Comments:

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan had a meeting with Centralina last week. There is not a Doppler radar in Charlotte. Charlotte uses Spartanburg, SC radar. Centralina tried to get a grant to put a radar in Charlotte, but it was turned down. Richard Burr will try to have that offered again. The COVID virus was discussed. One town in North Carolina established a Hardship Fund. All money donated was divided between the needy in the community to help pay bills.

Council Member Ernestine Staton asked about the Christmas Tree lighting. Will it be virtual? She was impressed with the Tesla. The police explained to her the savings the town will have over time by utilizing the Tesla car. CRTPO has been asked to vote on reallocation of money Council Member Staton will talk with Town Manager Deese for guidance once she has all the information.

Council Member Gary Huntley asked for all to be safe and thanked the staff.

Council Member Paulette Blakeney asked for all to be safe.

Council Member Margaret Bivens thanked all for a wonderful job. She asked about the park property that was discussed at the last meeting. Mr. Stegall is working on the environmental issue with the oil tank. The underground tank was removed and he is waiting for a release from the state.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Smith thanked Jim Rowell for his service to the town. At this time the Marshville Chamber of Commerce will have a Christmas Parade. He asked the Town Manager about the fireworks we had paid for. If we used the fireworks this year, there would be no extra charges. If we move into the next year, there will be a 15% charge. Town Manager Deese will continue to get information on this. The Christmas party was discussed. The employees are thinking about how to do this.

The final draft of the Nuisance Code for Main Street was handed out.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Council Member Staton to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. All ayes. 9 pm

Approved this ____ day of _____, 2021 by

Mayor Larry Smith

ATTEST:

Town Clerk, Ann Sutton

Discussion of Park Survey:

Update on the Electronic Charging Station:

Managers Comments:

Council Members' Comments:

Mayor Comments: