



## **Town of Marshville Town Council Work Session**

**Monday, September 21, 2020 7:00 PM**

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

### **Minutes for 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. Council Member Huntley gave the invocation. All recited the Pledge of Allegiance. 7 pm

**Public Comments:** No public comments.

#### **Adoption of the Agenda:**

Council Member Staton wanted to add a discussion on slowly opening Town Hall. This will be added with a motion from Council Member Staton and a second from Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. All ayes. A motion was made to adopt the agenda with the addition by Council Member Staton with a second from Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. All ayes.

#### **Re-opening of Town Hall:**

Council Member Staton asked if it were possible to open Town Hall to one or two people at a time? Town Manager Deese told the council that we would be adding a payment window so that people can come into the vestibule area to do business. He said that what we are doing seems to be working well. If a customer needs to go into the foyer, they are allowed to come in. No one has been denied a meeting in the Town Hall. Someone is in the Town Hall every day. Town Manager Deese said that we continue to serve the people. The payment window should help improve customer service.

#### **Manager's Comments:**

Town Manager Deese read through a list of several items to report on.

1. The requested reports from the Planning Department and Code Enforcement are being worked on.
2. The attorneys are to meet on October 7, 2020, at 8:30 am to discuss the Union County and Marshville water/sewer transition.
3. The cemetery is being mowed every two weeks. The cemetery gates should be locked at sundown and re-opened at dawn.
4. The 160D ordinance changes have been completed. The changes will be brought to the council at the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. These are the mandated changes the state has required.

5. The Nuisance Trash Ordinance has been completed. The new ordinance will be brought to the council in October.
6. We are still contracting with Steve May for code enforcement services. We hope to transition over those duties to Michael Garrison as soon as it is appropriate.
7. Staff is working on improvements to the website using CivicPlus. Town Manager Deese gave out a sheet of things the website can do. Council is to let staff know if there is anything that needs adding to the website.
8. We had talked about an environmental study on the park property. Town Manager Deese will have that information at the next meeting.
9. Mayor Smith made a PowerPoint presentation to the Chamber of Commerce. This presentation showed the many wonderful things about Marshville.
10. Town Manager Deese is looking for discretionary funds from NCDOT for road striping for pedestrian walking.
11. Town Manager Deese spoke of possibly getting funding for a mural for the Color Purple.
12. Town Manager Deese would like the council to help with a strategy to get natural gas downtown.
13. Town Manager Deese showed the PowerPoint presentation given to Pilgrim's Pride employees for our town park's outdoor fitness area. Park Director Mark Gosnell and Town Manager Deese gave the presentation in hopes of Pilgrim's Pride may help with the project with grant funding that Pilgrim's Pride had set aside for the community.
14. Town of Marshville received \$17,801 in Cares Relief Funding.

#### **Council Members' Comments:**

Council Member Bivens would like for Public Works to look at the streets ditches and clean them if needed.

Council Member Blakeney was glad to see everyone and to stay safe.

Council Member Huntley commended staff for a job well done.

Council Member Staton commented on the two PowerPoint presentations. She said they were impressive. She and Mrs. Blakeney were at the last CRTPO meeting.

Mayor Pro-term hand no comments.

#### **Mayor Comments:**

Mayor Smith noted the police speed limit sign batteries need recharging.

He also said that we need to update the citizens on the water/sewer transition. The Town Manager stated he was working on a presentation.

Mayor Smith also asked if the council could do anything to encourage Pilgrim's Pride to agree to the fitness project. Town Manager Deese felt confident that they were impressed with the presentation. However, anyone is welcome to call or write Pilgrim's Pride to thank them for listening.

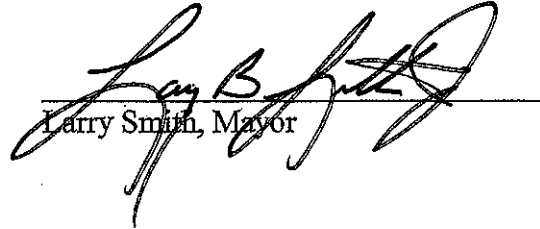
Town Manager Deese ended the session by saying he received a text from Gail Kiker that was not read. The Clerk checked her computer and did not find it. Town Council allowed her to speak. Ms. Kiker asked when the Town Hall will be opening? She felt someone should be at Town Hall to answer the phone. She thought that a mask is protecting all, and the Town Hall should be open.

Town Manager Deese told the council that our new Tesla is in Charlotte. The police department will use this car as a patrol car and save money.

**Adjournment:**

A motion was made by Council Member Staton to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Bivens made a second. All ayes.

Approved this 2 of November, 2020.

  
Larry Smith, Mayor

ATTEST

  
Ann Sutton, Clerk