



Town of Marshville Public Hearing & Town Council Regular Meeting

Monday, May 3, 2021 - 7:00 PM

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

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

Staff in Attendance: Town Manager Franklin Deese, Town Clerk Ann Sutton, Planning Administrator Carina Soriano, and Town Attorney Bobby Griffin.

Public Hearing - Zoom

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Council Member Huntley gave the invocation. All gave the pledge.

Open Public Hearing to Receive Comments Concerning the Adoption of the Current Zoning Ordinance Article on Flood Damage Prevention (Article 18): A motion was made to open the Public Hearing by Council Member Bivens. Council Member Staton gave a second. All said aye.

There were no comments received from the public.

Town Manager Deese presented the corrected articles in Article 18 and gave them to Council. Unfortunately, the original packet sent to the Council did not have the correct information. The new Article 18 includes a map repository, and it changes the flood plain administrator to the Town Manager instead of the Town Engineer. The Town does not have an engineer. We contract with Mr. Richard Flowe of N-Focus as our engineer. Mr. Flowe will review all information concerning flood plains for any permit requests, etc. Mr. Flowe will sign off on the requests as a certified flood plain engineer. Town Manager Deese will review the certifications by Mr. Flowe and sign off on those recommendations for the Town.

Planning Board Recommendation: The Planning Administrator Soriano explained the reason for the changes. The Town joined the National Flood Insurance program in 2009. Our Flood Plane Ordinance has not been reviewed since that time. Therefore, it was time to review our ordinance for the National Flood Insurance audit on May 4, 2021. The two changes to Article 18 were approved by the Planning Board five to two, with Member Appenzeller and Member Stancill giving nays.

A motion to recess the Public Hearing to Tuesday, May 4, 2021 at 7 pm was made by Council Member Ernestine Staton. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. All said aye.

Regular Meeting – Zoom

Call to Order: The Regular Meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Smith.

Reading of Public Comments Received by Email: There were no comments by the public.

Adoption of the Agenda: Council Member Station made a motion to approve the agenda. Mayor Pro-tem Morgan seconded the motion. All said aye.

Adoption of Consent Agenda: Council Member Bivens made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Mayor Pro-tem Morgan seconded the motion. All said aye.

- a. Regular Meeting Minutes of April 5, 2021
- b. Town of Marshville Proclamation Honoring Emergency Medical Services Personnel

Discussion/Action concerning Resolution Opposing Single Family Zoning Bill: Town Manager Deese presented a resolution opposing SB 349 and HB 401. The bill was written to take away local authority's rights over single family zoning. Mayor Smith said the idea of this bill is to take away local zoning authority. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan to approved the resolution opposing the single family zoning bill. Council Member Staton approved the motion. All said aye.

Town Manager's Comments: Town Manager Deese passed out two flyers, one for the July 4th celebration (on June 26th) and one for the FHHS Legacy Ride. Town Manager Deese wanted to make sure the Council was aware of the dates, and see if any changes needed to be made. Town Manager Deese is looking at policies.

Town Manager Deese asked for clarification on our mask policy. All agreed that the policy should stay as it is at this point. When on town property, a mask should be worn.

Town Manager Deese asked what our responsibility was to the Marshville Museum concerning small fixes such as changing a light bulb. The Council agreed that the museum should handle all small fixes and repairs. The Town will take care of the larger items such as heating and air. Town Attorney Griffin agreed that small items such as tissue, light bulbs, etc., should be the museum's responsibility. It was asked that the lease agreement for the Marshville Museum be reviewed for clarification.

Town Manager Deese received a letter from the First Church of God. He said during the pandemic, the church was feeding a large number of citizens from the Town of Marshville. Reverend R.J. Atkinson said because of this, the parking lot for the church is in need of repair. The church is asking for help. The church will buy the rock and dirt for the parking lot. They are asking that the town help spread the rock out in the parking lot. The Town Council would love to do this but felt it would cause a precedent with other businesses and organizations. It was suggested that the Church of God ask for volunteers.

Town Manager Deese would like to get the 2021-2022 Budget discussions underway. He gave each council member a calendar for May and June. Dates were discussed for special meetings, a Public hearing, and a retreat to discuss the budget. A date of June 21, 2021 was set to approve the 2021-2022 Budget.

Council Members Comments:

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan had no comments.

Council Member Staton asked if NCDOT had been contacted concerning Olive Branch Road next to the Post Office. Town Manager Deese said he has. However, Mayor Smith said that citizens of Marshville seem to have more influence with NCDOT than the Town does. He recommended that concerned citizens contact NCDOT. Council Member Staton said the Parks and Recreation Committee stated they wanted fireworks next year for Juneteenth in addition to fireworks for July 4th. She said the committee is very excited and wants to find more activities for the children. In addition, they want to partnership with the schools. Council Member Staton thanked Council Member Blakeney for attending the last CRPTO meeting for her. Council Member Staton also asked if we had a listing of all the town road repairs of the past five years. Town Manager Deese is working on that.

Council Member Huntley wished all a happy Cinco de Mayo and a happy Mother's Day. He asked that all stay safe.

Council Member Blakeney asked all to have a blessed week and to stay safe.

Council Member Bivens had no comments.

Mayor Comments: Mayor Larry Smith mentioned that his aunt had passed away from COVID. He stated that he appreciated the road diagram he and Council received showing NCDOT roads and town roads. Mayor Smith asked if we had a lease for the ABC Store building. Town Manager Deese said we did. Mayor Smith also asked about the progress on the Affordable Cleaners Building. Town Manager Deese said the work was still being done. COVID had caused an issue in the scheduling of the work at the old cleaners.

A motion was made by Council Member Staton to go into Closed Session. A second was made by Council Member Blakeney. All said aye.

Closed Sessions per GS 143-318.11(a)5 to direct staff concerning negotiating positions pertaining to possible real estate purchase.

(5) To establish, or to instruct the public body's staff or negotiating agents concerning the position to be taken by or on behalf of the public body in negotiating (i) the price and other material terms of a contract or proposed contract for the acquisition of real property by purchase, option, exchange, or lease; or (ii) the amount of compensation and other material terms of an employment contract or proposed employment contract.

Discussion/Action from Closed Session: No discussion or action from Closed Session.

Recess: A motion to recess the meeting until Tuesday night, May 4, 2021 at 7 pm was made by Council Member Staton. The was seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. All said aye.