



Town Council Regular Meeting

Monday, January 7, 2019 7:00 PM

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

Regular Meeting

Present: Mayor Franklin Deese; Council Members Margaret Bivens, Norma Carpenter, Ernestine Staton, and Gary Huntley

Absent: Mayor Pro-tem Virginia Morgan

Staff Present: Scott Howard, Town Manager; Chief of Police Matt Tarlton; Ann Sutton, Town Clerk; Emily McCallum, Parks & Recreation Director; Bobby Griffin, Town Attorney

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:

Mayor Deese called the Meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM. Council Member Huntley gave the opening prayer. Everyone stood and gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Adoption of Agenda:

Mayor Deese requested a motion to add to the consent agenda the reappointment of the CRTPO Delegate & Alternate of Council Member Carpenter. Council Member Huntley made a motion, Council Member Bivens seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously. Mayor Deese asked for a motion to add a discussion & possible action concerning the letter of release of the lawsuit attorneys. Council Member Carpenter made motion, Council Member Staton seconded. All Ayes. Motions pass unanimously. Mayor Deese requested a motion to add a discussion concerning the Martin Luther King Breakfast & Banquet. Council Member Staton made motion, Council Member Bivens seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously. Mayor Deese then requested a motion to accept the agenda with the additions. Council Member Staton made motion, Council Member Bivens seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously.

Public Comments:

Diane Amundson, 1018 Hasty Rd., brought up the concern of public comments being dismissed from work sessions. Ms. Amundson stated that she is very much against that idea and would like to see the public comments kept as part of work sessions. Ms. Amundson then asked what is going to happen to the water & sewer grants when the county takes over.

Mayor Deese stated that all liabilities, grants & assets would go to the county. Mayor Deese also said that when the county takes over water & sewer, the town will not be able to receive water & sewer grants.

Tracy Stancill, 6820 Austin Grove Church Rd., explained that the end of Van Eudy & Robinson Street have potholes that need attention. Ms. Stancill also brought up the issue of removing public comments from work sessions and that it is important that the citizens be heard.

Consent Agenda:

Mayor Deese requested a motion to adopt the consent agenda. Council Member Staton made motion, Council Member Carpenter seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously.

Marshville Outfall Contract Approval and Release of Funds:

Manager Howard explained that the environmental review is \$4,800. Mr. Howard explained that a decision needed to be made as to whether to release the funds and complete the project since money was budgeted last budget year. Mr. Howard explained that the project may not be completed by the time the transfer happens. Manager Howard went on to explain that this is a health concern if there is ever a sewer spill.

Mayor Deese stated that it is their judiciary responsibility to continue on with the project and asked for a motion to approve the contract and authorize staff to release funds for the project. Council Member Staton made a motion, Council Member Bivens seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously. Mayor Deese then mentioned that the Council does have a Quorum with Mayor Pro Tem Morgan's absence.

Discussion/Action of Survey Regarding Citizen Input on Potential Park Expansion:

Park Director McCallum explained that the town needs to know what they are wanting to do with the park before any grants can be requested and she is looking for input and feedback for the survey that she is putting together. Park Director McCallum presented examples of surveys other municipalities have done.

Council Member Staton stated she likes the survey idea but still wants a small parks & recreation committee. She also stated that a lot of people wouldn't see the survey if it's on the newsletter that is included with the bill and people won't get to give their input if they don't see the survey.

Park Director McCallum explained that it would help when she goes to apply for these grants to have the data from the surveys. Park Director McCallum asked if there was anything that the Council would like to add to the survey.

Mayor Deese asked if it would be ok to have the person add their name and contact information on the surveys.

Park Director McCallum stated people may be more apt to put their email address instead of their phone number.

Town Attorney Griffin cautioned that requiring people to put their name on the survey could deter people from doing the survey.

Mayor Deese stated to have an option on the survey for people to add their email address.

Park Director McCallum asked if there were any other questions. There were none.

Discussion/Action on Removing Public Comment Section from Work Sessions:

Mayor Deese explained that the State Legislature requires municipalities to have public comment once a month and asked what the Council had to say about this topic.

Council Member Carpenter agreed it needs to stay that way everyone gets the right information and it's at the town hall. Council Members aren't being called one-by-one from citizens.

Council Member Staton made the motion to keep the public comments at work sessions. Council Member Bivens seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously.

Letters of Release for Lawsuit:

Mayor Deese explained that the attorneys contacted him wanting an official letter releasing them from the lawsuit and asked what the Council has decided to do. Attorney Griffin suggested that the Council table this until the next meeting so that he can speak with the attorneys. Mayor Deese asked for a motion to table until the next meeting. Council Member Staton made a motion, Council Member Huntley seconded. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Discussion of Martin Luther King Breakfast & Banquet:

Mayor Deese explained that the banquet is on the 12th, the Breakfast is on the 21st and asked when the parade is. Council Member confirmed the Union County MLK parade is on the 20th. Mayor Deese then asked if the Council wished to participate in the parade as a council. Mayor Deese then asked for a motion to participate in the parade. Council Member Bivens made a motion, Council Member Staton seconded. Mayor Deese then made comment that there is no obligation for Council Members to participate. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously.

Council Member Staton informed the Council that the deadline has passed to get a table for the MLK Breakfast but could still get a table if she let the event planners know soon. The table is \$200 for eight people. Mayor Deese asked for a motion to get a table at the MLK Breakfast on the 21st. Council Member Bivens made a motion, Council Member Staton seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously.

Manager's Report:

Manager Howard stated that the town got a water violation notice, but it is in fact a turbidity notice and that needs to be sent out to citizens. Manager Howard explained that he has been working with the Assistant County Manager and giving him information on the water & sewer and also been working with NCDOT to try and address safety concerns. Manager Howard said he is also working on a few small grants to make the town's intersection safer.

Council Comments:

Council Member Staton had no real comments but wished everyone a happy New Year to everyone and looks forward to a very prosperous year and growth for the town. She also asked about the old Cox Shavings building and concerns about asbestos.

Manager Howard informed everyone that the State did get involved and that C&C Metals has stripped the building and it has been thoroughly tested and is safe.

Mayor Deese asked to get a certified letter declaring the building safe so that the town can have it on file.

Council Member Huntley wished everyone a happy New Year.


Council Member Carpenter stated that she loves the bypass. She also mentioned that the Museums has some building problems but were fixed by public works. She also stated that the Museum could use a few volunteers.

Council Member Bivens stated that she is concerned by several potholes and that Washington Street needs to be trenched out because it gets flooded after rain. She also stated that Elizabeth Avenue also gets flooded after heavy rain as well. She also stated that their needs to be a clean-up campaign because people are still throwing their trash out and that there should be "No Littering" signs put up. Council Member Bivens then wished everyone a Happy New Year.

Mayor Deese stated that the work session would be on January 22nd and wished everyone a happy and blessed New Year.

Adjournment:

Mayor Deese asked for a motion to adjourn. Council Member Staton made a motion, Council Member Carpenter seconded. All Ayes. Motion passes unanimously. Meeting adjourned.



Mayro Pro-tem Virginia Morgan

ATTEST



Ann Sutton, Town Clerk