



Town of Marshville Town Council Work Session

Monday, May 17, 2021 7:00 PM

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

Work Session Minutes – Zoom

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

Staff in Attendance: Town Manager Franklin Deese and Town Clerk Ann Sutton.

Meeting Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Larry Smith opened the meeting. Mayor Smith gave the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Reading of Public Comments Received by Email: No emails received.

Adoption of the Agenda: A motion to adopt the agenda was made by Council Member Staton and seconded by Council Member Bivens. All said aye except Council Member Huntley, who came into the meeting later.

Budget Discussions: Town Manager Deese gave each member a proposed copy of the 2021-2022 Town of Marshville Budget. Town Manager Deese pointed out that notes are provided beside some line items. An example would be line item 10-4100-3310 Meeting and Event Provisions included three tablets and a flat screen. Even with another flat screen tv, Council feels like online meetings are here to stay.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan did not like offering a donation to the VFD when the town citizens were already paying a tax through Union County tax and Marshville tax. She would rather see the money go to some other line item. Council Member Staton agreed with Mayor Pro-tem Morgan. However, Mayor Smith felt it is a bad idea not to offer something to the VFD. Council Member Staton asked if the VFD had requested a donation. The VFD has not requested assistance. Council Member Bivens said we do not need to give the VFD funding if they do not come to a meeting and ask for it. Council Member Staton does not want to provide the VFD with any assistance.

Council Member Huntley arrived at 7:18 pm.

Town Manager hoped more training would be available for all; therefore, the training amounts will increase in some cases in the overall budget. Town Manager Deese was particularly interested in the Board of Adjustments having training.

Town Manager is recommending a 2.5% COLA for the employees. This is because the employees did not receive an increase in 2020-2021.

Town Manager Deese mentioned putting money aside for a government center. There was a discussion of different ways a government center could be funded.

Community Outreach and Activities will increase due to Juneteenth and the installation of the internet in the park. Also, additional money will be budgeted for banners and a possible façade grant. Money has been budgeted for a parcel study.

The Council would like more mowing in the cemetery. The cemetery mowing was discussed. Town Manager Deese has quotes from companies for mowing the cemetery in 2021-2022. Also, Mayor Smith would like to have the cemetery fill-dirt and machinery hidden. Town Manager Deese has given this consideration, also. He has a couple of plans for concealing the dirt and equipment at the cemetery.

Various line items were looked at in-depth throughout the review of the budget line items. Reviews were done with FMS Software.

In looking through the budget, Mayor Smith would like to make sure we set money aside to keep our buildings in good condition. Town Manager Deese would like to evaluate the Waxhaw Museum roof and the old Tobacco Shop building. We need to finish the old cleaners building. Money will be in the budget for that.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan presented a drawing of an ornate sign used to house town information such as the newsletter or town minutes. She thought one could be in the park and one could be downtown. This would help citizens know what was going on in the town.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan would like to change the signs at each end of the town. However, Town Manager Deese would like the town to have an “identity” before the welcome signs are changed.

The Police Department does not have many changes.

Town Manager Deese will have the Police Department drive around at night and inventory the lights out in the town. Duke Energy will replace the lights that are out with LED lights for no charge. Manager Deese will put money in the Streets & Highway Department for some paving. Council Member Blakeney asked about purchasing signs for some of the streets in town. Manager Deese will look into what streets need signs.

The town will be using some Powell Bill Fund Balance to pave streets in town. This will be in addition to our regular Powell Bill allotment for the year.

There was a discussion on garbage pickup. However, the budget will stay basically the same.

Parks and Recreation Department needs another part-time person. In addition, there is money in the budget for training for the Parks Director. Also, Park & Recreation Outreach will be increased for additional park activities such as movie nights and music events.

Town Manager Deese would like Council to give him any additional changes to the budget by Thursday. The first proposed 2021-2022 budget will be emailed to all on Saturday. A discussion and review will be Monday, May 24th, at 6 pm.

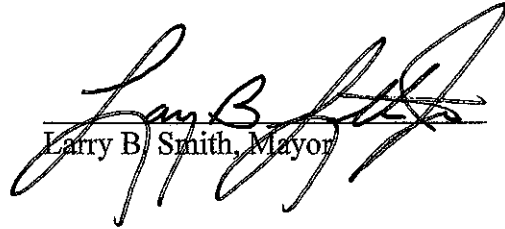
Town Manager Comments: None

Council Member's Comments: None

Mayor's Comments: None

Adjournment: Council Member Bivens made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Station made a second to that motion. All ayes. 9:15 pm

Approved this 6 day of July, 2021.


Larry B. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST


Ann Sutton, Town Clerk