



**Town of Marshville
Town Council Regular Meeting**

November 1, 2021 7 PM

Marshville Town Hall

118 East Union Street - Marshville, NC 28103

Regular Meeting Minutes - Zoom

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

Staff in Attendance: Town Manager Franklin Deese, Town Clerk Ann Sutton, Town Attorney Bobby Griffin via zoom

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

Public Comments: None

Adoption Regular Meeting Agenda: A motion was made to adopt the Regular Meeting agenda by Council Member Ernestine Staton and seconded by Council Member Bivens. All ayes.

Adoption of Consent Agenda: Council Member Bivens made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda and seconded by Council Member Huntley. All ayes.

1. July 6, 2021, Regular Meeting Minutes
2. July 19, 2021, Work Session Meeting Minutes
3. American Rescue Plan Act Budget Ordinance

Discussion/Action concerning Master Lease Agreement for Cell Tower: Town Manager Deese presented the agreement to the Council. The town will receive a check for \$650,000 for the water tower lease for cellular use. The town will share one-half of the revenue received from any new tower leases. The lease is good for twenty-five years. A contract attorney from Raleigh negotiated and reviewed this contract for us. Mayor Smith asked if these would be unrestricted funds in the General Fund. Town Manager Deese said that was correct. Council Member Staton motioned to accept the lease agreement with TPA C, LLC and authorize the Town Manager to enter into this agreement. Council Member Bivens seconded the motion. All ayes.

Discussion/Action concerning Pluris Contract with Exhibits: Town Manager Deese presented the Pluris Contract Agreement with exhibits to the Council. This contract is for Pluris to build a sewer treatment plant by our lagoons and treat our wastewater at 300,000 gallons per day. The original plan was to discharge into Lick Branch. DEQ will not allow that. We will be discharging into Lanes Creek. That has increased the price of the project. Town Manager Deese is working with Representative Dean Arp and the House Speaker to allow us to discharge into

Lick Branch. Town Manager Deese is working on scheduling a meeting with them. Our cost will be adjusted down if we can discharge into Lick Branch. We will retain all of our customers, set fees, and collect tap fees. The treatment fee will be \$116,600 per month. This fee will go up 15% every five years. If our efforts to discharge into Lick Branch happen, the monthly cost will be around \$96,000 per month. The agreement also has a section that says if we came up with a lump sum amount to pay upfront, this would reduce the monthly cost. This contract has to be approved by the Utilities Commission and the LGC. Town Manager Deese and Mayor Smith had a discussion on the difference between building our own wastewater facility and having Pluris build our system. Mayor Smith would like a rate study done to see the true cost to the citizens if we built our own system or if Pluris built the system for us. Town Manager Deese reminded everyone that the judge has ordered Marshville to get out of the Union County system. We do not have a choice. Mayor Smith feels we owe it to the citizens to let them know the rates. Mayor Smith would like to go on record to have a professional rate study done so the public will know what the rates will be. Council Member Bivens stated that Town Manager Deese had done all he could do to find the right solution. Council Member Bivens motioned to accept the Pluris contract contingent on LGC and Utilities Commission approval. Included in the motion is the approval of the contract between the Town of Marshville with Pluris. Council Member Staton seconded this motion. All ayes. (Council Members Huntley, Blakeney, Bivens, and Staton)

Discussion/Action concerning ARPA Budget Ordinance: The ARPA Budget Ordinance was approved in the consent agenda. The ARPA Budget Ordinance can be amended as discussions on spending the money come to Council.

Discussion concerning the America Rescue Plan Act Funds: ARPA funding can be used for public health, infrastructure, investments, premium pay, and economically stressed groups. This could include student needs, technology, or partnerships with Wingate, Union County, or the School Board.

Manager's Comment: Town Manager Deese reminded all of the Christmas Parade on November 20, 2021, at 2 pm. Town Manager Deese reminded all that we adopted the Union County Animal Ordinance. Union County handles the Town of Marshville's animal issues. Manager Deese recommended that the Council re-adopt the Union County Animal Ordinance to refresh our minds and citizens' minds. Council Member Staton made a motion to re-affirm the adoption of the Union County Animal Ordinance. Council Member Blakeney seconded this motion. All ayes. A Budget vs. Actual was presented. Town Manager Deese reminded all of the ribbon-cutting for the Electric Charging Station on November 15th at 11 am.

Council Comments:

Council Member Staton said "Truck or Treat" was a huge success. She reminded all of the Christmas Tree Lighting on December 3rd.

Council Member Huntley reminded all to vote.

Council Member Blakeney asked all to have a blessed week.

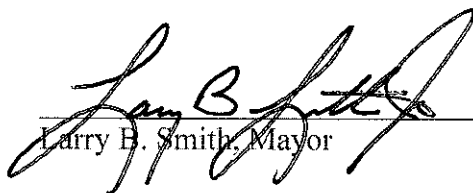
Council Member Bivens told all that the Museum was doing well.

Mayor Comments: Mayor Smith told all that he received a letter saying we received a \$350,000 PARTF Grant. He also asked if we would have a Christmas party or something special

for the employees. Town Manager Deese said we would have a Christmas Bonus. We will keep the Christmas party simple for now.

Adjourn: A motion was made by Council Member Staton to adjourn the meeting. Council Member Blakeney seconded the motion. All ayes. 8:45 pm

Approved this 3rd day of January, 2021.


Larry B. Smith, Mayor

ATTEST


Ann F. Sutton, Town Clerk