

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2018, 7:00 PM
MARSHVILLE TOWN HALL**

Regular Meeting Minutes

Present: Mayor Frank Deese, Mayor Pro-tem Virginia Morgan, Council Members Margaret Bivens, Norma Carpenter, Ernestine Staton and Gary Huntley.

Staff Present: Scott Howard, Town Manager; Beth Usery, Town Clerk/Finance Officer; Matt Tarlton, Police Chief; Emily McCallum, Parks & Recreation Director; Bobby Griffin, Town Attorney

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Frank Deese. The invocation was given by Council Member Huntley. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by everyone.

Adoption of Agenda for the Meeting

Mayor Deese asked if there were items that need to be added to or deleted from the agenda.

Council Member Bivens asked to add the moving of Town Hall to the agenda. Council Member Carpenter seconded the motion and motion was approved by unanimous vote. Council Member Staton made a motion to approve the agenda as revised. Council Member Bivens seconded the motion and motion approved by unanimous vote.

Consent Agenda:

Council Member Bivens made a motion to approve the consent agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Huntley and approved by unanimous vote.

Public Comments

Marlene Griffin – 317 N. Elm St. addressed the Council. The County should fund the school resource officer. She believes the town would benefit from natural gas. In regards to the ABC store, she asks how we will fund town hall if we move and build a new town hall. We are already the second highest tax rate in the county.

Discussion/Action Closing Part of Main Street for Parade

Mayor stated we should close Olive Branch and Main Street for Forest Hills High School's parade. They won the Men's 2A basketball championship.

Motion to close Olive Branch and Main Street on April 14th for purpose of the parade was made by Council Member Staton. Council Member Bivens seconded the motion and motion approved by unanimous vote.

Discussion/Action Regarding Interested Party Purchasing 129 West Main Street

Manager Howard advised he's been approached by someone who wishes to purchase the property at 129 W. Main Street.

Mayor stated he thinks the property value will go up with the new highway coming so he wishes to hold onto it longer.

Council Member Bivens advised we should keep it and let the Police Department use it since it is right beside the Police Department.

Council Member Bivens made a motion not to sale the property located at 129 W. Main Street. Council Member Morgan seconded the motion. Motion approved 3-1 with Council Member Carpenter opposing.

Discussion/Action Implementing Scheduled Work Sessions

Manager Howard mentioned he included the pay regarding work sessions from the June 5, 2017 minutes.

Mayor Deese stated this was discussed to hold the work sessions on the 3rd Monday of each month. We can do it for a 6 month trial basis.

Council Member Staton advised citizens may not want to attend both meetings so she would like no voting to take place at the work sessions.

Council Member Bivens made a motion to hold a non-voting work session on a 6 month trial basis to be held 2 weeks after the regular scheduled Council Meeting at 7:00pm at Town Hall beginning April 16, 2018. Council Member Staton seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Discussion/Action on Proposed Budget Retreat

Manager Howard advised since we're having work sessions we may no longer need a budget retreat.

Discussion/Action Moving Town Hall

Council Member Bivens stated we do not need to move town hall. We will give up our drive-thru. Council Member Bivens asked if she could rescind her vote.

Council Member Carpenter said she is also against moving Town Hall. "The vote happened so fast that night we didn't have time to think about it." Council Member Carpenter also wanted to rescind her vote.

Council Member Staton advised we voted because of the wasted space just to take up bills.

Mayor Deese advised he supports moving town hall. We own this building and it's a liability. It's not bringing in any money. "Why not get rent for it, he asked.

Town Attorney Griffin advised we cannot rescind or change a vote but you can call for another vote.

Mayor also discussed needing a government center where all departments are in the same building. He said we can sale or rent our other properties.

Manager Comments

Mr. Howard advised his report will be placed in their box this week.

Council & Mayor Comments

Council Member Staton thanked Emily and Police Department for the Easter Egg Hunt. She thanked the Police Department for filling in as the Easter Bunny for her. The kids all loved it. Council Member Staton stated Emily did a good job.

Council Member Huntley asked if the School Board meeting is April 10th at 7:00pm. He hopes everyone had a good Passover.

Chief Tarlton advised the County will be funding more positions, such as school resource officers.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan stated the trash company is throwing items all over the road.

Council Member Bivens apologized for missing the egg hunt.

Council Member Morgan also apologized for missing the egg hunt.

Council Member Staton stated she has noticed lately how bad the town looks with trash everywhere.

Mayor Deese asked to add Marshville Clean Up to next agenda.

Mayor Deese advised the County is trying to phase in some positions for school resource officers. He thinks we still need to push them. We need to do a resolution in support.

Council Member Morgan made a motion to do a resolution supporting an SRO in each school. Council Member Huntley seconded the motion. Motion approved by unanimous vote.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Staton. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens and passed unanimously at 7:45pm.

These minutes approved this 7nd day of May, 2018.

By: _____
Franklin D. Deese, Mayor

Attest: _____
Town Clerk