



## Town of Marshville Town Council Meeting

Monday, May 15, 2017, 7:00 PM  
Marshville Town Hall

### Special Meeting Minutes

**Present:** Mayor Frank Deese; Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan; Council Members Margaret Bivens, Norma Carpenter and Ernestine Staton. Council Member Rowell was absent due to illness. A quorum was present.

**Staff:** Scott Howard, Interim Town Manager; Tonya Johnson, Town Clerk/Finance Officer; Matt Tarlton, Police Chief

#### **Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Mayor Deese. The invocation was given by Council Member Staton. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by everyone.

#### **Adoption of Agenda for the Meeting**

Council Member Staton made a motion to adopt the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan and passed by unanimous vote.

#### **Public Comment**

Betty Preslar, of 615 E. Union Street, Marshville, addressed the council regarding the garbage fee being put on the tax bill. Ms. Preslar was concerned because her property taxes are escrowed. Interim Town Manager Howard explained that the solid waste fee will be a one-time fee on the tax bill, but it is not a tax. He commented that he doesn't think the solid waste fee will affect escrow.

Mayor Deese clarified that Union County has nothing to do with solid waste fees, only sewer. He emphasized that this council is working vigilantly to settle the dispute.

Judy Humphries, of 519 E. Union Street, Marshville, informed the council that she is opposed to the solid waste fees being added to the tax bill. Ms. Humphries stated that it is hard enough to come up with the tax money and she thinks this would be burdensome for senior citizens.

#### **Public Hearing to Receive Public Input on Solid Waste Fees and Ordinance and the Proposed Budget for FY2017-18**

A motion to open the public hearing was made by Council Member Staton. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens and passed by unanimous vote.

#### **Public Comments:**

Fern Shubert, of 505 E. Elm Street, Marshville, commented that switching the garbage fees to the tax bill is not as easy as it sounds. She cautioned council that this is more complicated than it sounds. She added that commercial customers, vacant lots, and multiple cans, etc., must be considered. Ms. Shubert commented that she is pleased to hear Mayor Deese's comments related to the sewer issue.

#### Presentation of information from staff:

Interim Town Manager Howard reported that he and the staff have been working to develop a data base and to identify all of the property types. He reported that Southern Software, the town's software provider, worked to build a data base. Mayor Deese asked what happens if a tenant moves and the property becomes vacant. Does the owner still pay for solid waste services? The manager stated that the town hall staff will not be aware of changes unless the landlord/property owner reports the change. If staff is made aware of changes, then the data base can be updated.

#### Council Member Comments:

Council Member Staton commented concerning her aunt, who feels it would be easier to pay the bill monthly rather than a lump sum amount on the tax bill. Council Member Bivens stated that she also prefers to pay monthly.

Mayor Deese commented that he receives call from citizens/residents regarding their water bills. He stated that the solid waste fee is neither water nor sewer and doesn't really belong on the water bill. Mayor Deese commented that he is trying to devise a way to provide a more accurate bill for water and sewer. Discussion ensued regarding the layout of the town's water bills and the list of charges/fees. Mayor Deese suggested that the council consider leaving the solid waste base fee on the utility bill and putting the garbage and recycle cart fees on the tax bill.

Council Member Carpenter stated that folks she has talked with don't want the solid waste fees on the tax bill. Discussion ensued. Council Member Staton asked for the current rates. The manager reported that the base rate is \$6.39, the garbage cart fee is \$9.41, and the recycling cart fee is \$2.40.

Mayor Deese informed the council that the proposed contracts being considered are higher than the current rates. He asked the council if they are ready to make a decision. Council Member Staton stated that she is not comfortable making a decision until the council selects a contractor. It was the consensus of the council to table the decision regarding putting solid waste fees on the tax bill until after the discussion concerning solid waste providers.

#### **Discussion/Action on Choosing Solid Waste Management Provider**

Mayor Deese referred to a proposal to purchase garbage cans at a cost of \$1.11 per customer per month. The cans will not be assembled at delivery. However, Waste Pro will assemble and deliver the carts at no charge to the town. Mayor Deese stated that Waste Pro offers some extra things not mentioned in the proposed contract. An example is that Waste Pro will sponsor events, organizations, etc., in the towns that it services (either monetary or in-kind donations). Mayor Deese pointed out that Waste Pro's proposal is higher than that of Waste Connections. Mayor Deese stated that both contractors have cameras on the driver. Waste Pro also has cameras all around its trucks.

Interim Manager Howard pointed out that he requested pricing on 96 gallon containers, but the provider quoted 50 gallon containers. That will most assuredly affect the cost. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Deese stated that if the town doesn't purchase cans then Waste Pro will have to revise its quote. The manager stated that the town can finance the purchase of the carts, or purchase them straight out. The manager added that he is opposed to financing since the town already has debt service to repay.

Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan questioned the benefit of the town owning its own cans. Council Member Bivens asked how it will benefit the customers. Mayor Deese commented that he would like an opportunity to talk with the garbage can provider. He added that he doesn't think the council can make a decision to select a contractor tonight. A Waste Pro representative present in the audience informed the council that the price quoted for the purchase of carts is too high. She asked for the opportunity to provide a quote for carts.

Mayor Deese stated that he is not happy with Waste Connections and that he has received many complaints. Mayor Deese asked the council to allow him to do some additional research and bring more information back at a subsequent council meeting.

### **Discussion on Budget for FY2017-2018**

Mayor Deese thanked the manager and the finance officer for their work on the proposed budget. Mayor Deese presented several suggested changes to the proposed budget.

#### **Department 5700 – Powell Bill**

Mayor Deese pointed out that the line item for Capital Outlay has been reduced from \$90,000 to \$50,000. This appropriation was for a sidewalk project presented by the Small Town Main Street Committee. Mayor Deese suggested that only a portion of the project be completed this fiscal year and that the remainder of the project be budgeted for FY2018-19.

#### **Department 4500 – Community Development**

It was the consensus of the council that funds be appropriated for the purchase of Randy Travis signs.

#### **Department 5600 – Streets and Highways**

Mayor Deese pointed out that a dump truck has been removed from the capital outlay line item within this department. He assured the council that he has checked with the acting public works director who thinks this purchase can be postponed until next year.

Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan inquired about a digital sign in front of Town Hall. The manager replied that a digital sign does not comply with the town's current sign ordinance. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the council to direct the manager to obtain estimates for the cost of digital signage. Mayor Deese stated that the council can go to the Planning Board to request that the zoning ordinance be amended.

#### **Department 6200 – Parks and Recreation**

Council Member Staton commented that the town gave \$4,000 to an organization that, in turn, used the money to pay Monroe for gymnasium space. Council Member Staton stated that she thought the funds would be used to rent Marshville facilities. Council Member Staton pointed out that a \$4,000 appropriation is in the proposed budget. Discussion ensued. It was the consensus of the council to remove the \$4,000 appropriation from line item #10-6200-2610.

#### **Department 5000 – Public Buildings**

Mayor Deese asked the council to consider selling some of the town's properties. Council Member Bivens stated that the town needs to keep the properties so that the maintenance and upkeep can be controlled. Mayor Deese stated that the purchase of property by the town should be to serve a public purpose.

Mayor Deese commented that the ABC Committee has a solid business plan and feels that a store can be beneficial to Marshville in the future. Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan suggested that Mayor Deese call Bob Morgan to determine if the ABC Committee has any budget requests.

#### Department 5800 – Sanitation

Mayor Deese reminded the council that it will have to make a decision on a contractor to provide solid waste services.

#### Department 8280 – Water Operations

The finance officer reported that Anson County is proposing an 8.33% increase in its water rates. According to information from the Anson County Utilities Director, it is uncertain at this time if the full amount of the proposed increase will be passed by the Anson County Board of County Commissioners.

#### Department 8290 – Sewer Operations

It was reported that Anson County is proposing an 8.33% increase in its sewer rates. According to information from the Anson County Utilities Director, it is uncertain at this time if the full amount of the proposed increase will be passed by the Anson County Board of County Commissioners.

Mayor Deese stated that the Town of Marshville owns part of the Union County system so why should the town consider giving it away to Union County. Discussion ensued.

Mayor Deese reported that one truck was removed from the proposed sewer budget. He added that various rate scenarios have been provided and reviewed by Mr. Marty Wilson (NC Rural Water) and staff. Mayor Deese suggested that the \$9.30 Union County Sewer Increase charge be removed from the utility bills. Mayor Deese stated that if this council can do something to help the citizens, then it should. Utility bills could be reduced by \$9.30 per month, in addition to removing the solid waste fees and putting them on the tax bill. Staff will be reviewing this option to provide additional information.

Mayor Deese suggested calling for a special meeting next Monday, May 22, 2017 to continue to work on the proposed FY2017-18 budget. A motion was made by Council Member Bivens to call for a special meeting for Monday, May 22, 2017 at 7:00 pm at Marshville Town Hall for discussion and possible action concerning the FY2017-18 proposed budget. The motion was seconded by Council Member Staton and passed unanimously. The clerk was directed to post proper notice of the special meeting.

At this time, Mayor Deese stated that this week is National Nursing Home Week and read aloud a proclamation.

Mayor Deese asked if there is any further budget discussions. Council Member Staton questioned why updates are only proposed in the downtown area and not along Highway 74. She asked whether any projects are being planned for Highway 74. Mayor Deese asked Council Member Staton what this council should be discussing related to Highway 74. Council Member Staton asked if there is any money to assist with paving Faulkner Street. Mayor Deese reported that he and the former public works director had communications concerning this. Discussion ensued and Mayor Deese explained the situation concerning paving Faulkner Street.

Mayor Deese asked the manager if there should be an appropriation in the budget for the CDBG project. The manager stated that he will contact the appropriate personnel from Union County to determine if any funding should be budgeted for this project.

Council Member Bivens discussed sidewalks and curb siding on the West side of town. Mayor Deese mentioned that the council needs to look into the parking situation on East Union Street. Mayor Deese suggested that the council consider looking into parking meters as an additional revenue source.

**Adjourn**

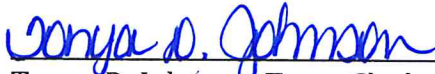
Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:55 pm. The motion was seconded by Council Member Staton and passed unanimously.

This minutes approved this 5<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2017.

By: 

Franklin D. Deese, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tonya D. Johnson, Town Clerk

## Town of Marshville

## Public Comments Sign-Up Sheet

Regular Meeting

Date: 5/15/2017

Please **print** your name, topic of discussion, and contact information for the record.

	PRINT NAME	ADDRESS	TOPIC OF DISCUSSION	PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Beth Prestige	Union St	Taxes going up		
2	Judy Humphreys	519 E. Union St	Taxes		
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					

# Town of Marshville

## Public Comments Sign-Up Sheet

Public Hearing

Date: 5/15/2017

Please **print** your name and contact information for the record.

	PRINT NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	PHYSICAL ADDRESS (if different)	PHONE #	EMAIL ADDRESS
1	Fern Shubert				
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					
9					
10					
11					
12					
13					
14					
15					

Information Regarding Proposition of Union County Collecting Our Solid  
Waste Fees Yearly When They Collect Our Property Taxes

- County would charge us 1 1/2 percent to collect
- We would need to adopt ordinance
- Staff would need to create data base connecting specific rate to each parcel of land and have this to Union County Tax Department by May 29
- Staff would update database monthly and send to County
- Staff recommends an adjustment of solid waste fees of 2% in addition to any increase our solid waste management contractor increases our bill
- In case of nonpayment, solid waste fees would be collectible in any manner property taxes can be collected. This would include debt-set off program and the bill would even be a lien on the property
- **If council wishes to enact this, please make a motion stating, "I make a motion to adopt the presented Ordinance with the 1.5 or 2% price adjustment and any increase in cost that may result from our solid waste management provider."**



## Solid Waste Contractor Cost Comparison

	Waste Connections	Waste Pro
Solid Waste per container	\$ 9.60	\$10.75
Recyclable container	\$ 2.45	\$ 2.75
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 12.05</b>	<b>\$ 13.50</b>
If we purchase our own cans	<u>\$ 1.11</u>	<u>\$1.11</u>
Sanitation bill	\$ 13.16	\$14.60

- Waste Connection has a value added component to their service of having a camera on every truck that records the view out of the windshield (like the driver's view) and records the driver. Anytime there is a trigger event, such as the driver suddenly full-braking, the recorder backs up 9 seconds and records forward for 3 seconds and is automatically forward the supervisors in the company. The driver can also record any event at will, such as a crime in progress.
- Waste Pro has a value added component of having a ride-along program that enable our policeman to ride in the garbage truck to observe potential criminal activity. In addition, the drivers contact police should they see any problems.

\*A suitable garbage cart was priced at wholesale direct to Town of Marshville at a price of \$53.76 which included shipping. Adding the tax (coming from GA.) the total is \$80,344.32. If we secured a 3% loan for 5 years with monthly installments the monthly loan payment would be \$1443.69. We would pay \$6,276.63 in interest. It would increase the customer's bill \$1.11. Currently we keep about 20 cans on hand and deliver when a customer moves in and retrieve when customer vacates the property. Currently, our sanitation contractor maintains the serial numbers on the carts. If we own the carts, we would store and keep the records of the cart. I have also discovered that approx. 4-6 break per week. If standardized in regard to cart shape and size this number would reduce but there would still be replacement cost to us (damage, theft, etc.,) directly.