

**Town Council Meeting  
Monday, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 2019 7 PM  
Marshville Town Hall**

**Work Session**

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

**Staff Present:** Scott Howard, Town Manager; Chief of Police Matt Tarlton; Ann Sutton, Town Clerk

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

The Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Franklin Deese. The Invocation was given by Council Member Huntley. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by everyone.

**Public Comment:**

There were no public comments.

**Adoption of Agenda:**

Mayor Deese asked to add a brief closed session to the agenda, then asked if for a motion to adopt the agenda. Council Member Staton made the motion, Council Member Huntley seconded. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously to adopt the agenda with the one addition.

**Discussion on Direction of Park:**

Manager Howard started the discussion. Manager Howard asked if the Town should hire another Parks & Recreation director or use Public Works to help maintain the park and do in-house reservation of park facilities so this can be reflected in the budget and asked for direction from Town Council.

Mayor Pro-tem Morgan asked if she could give her two cents. After all her years of experience, she has learned that when people are coming to a new town to live, they look for schools, recreation for their children, & what services the town can for them, which is water & sewer. She went on to state that when she was mayor, the town had a Parks & Recreation Advisory Board. Mayor Pro Tem Morgan went on to say that she was disappointed with the Parks & Rec Director who just left and stated that she was also disappointed with the survey that was done and does not know what the community wants. She also noted that the town has poured a lot of money into the park and that it is not serving the community the way it should.

Mayor Deese explained to Mayor Pro-tem Morgan that Council cannot talk about personnel in open sessions and asked for further park related issues to be restricted to finding a new park director or budget matters related to the park.

Council Member Carpenter explained that town history with park directors has been contentious & that the main complaint she hears about the park is that it is not well kept. Also, make sure that crochet classes are in the budget.

Council Member Bivens stated that she feels that the town needs a park person there.

Council Member Staton, speaking on behalf of the kids, feels that the town needs someone to do programs for them to participate in. If we don't offer programs, we're just going to have kids running around doing things that they shouldn't be doing.

Mayor Deese asked the Town Manager to put numbers together for park maintenance and also the numbers for a full time or part-time park director.

**Manager's Comments:**

Manager Howard explained that an engineering firm had been chosen for the Marshville Outfall Project and that he is about ready to enter into negotiations with them. Manager Howard explained that the State could not find some water violation paperwork, but that the Town should be able to fix that without incurring any fines.

**Mayor & Council Member Comments:**

Council Member Huntley stated that he was very disappointed with how Music in the Park turned out.

Mayor Deese stated that he received several texts from citizens that they did not like Music in the Park and that they think it is

Council Member Carpenter discussed the new turnpike and that it has hit ten million transactions about a month ago. Council Member Carpenter stated that there is a section on the NCDOT website for complaints which may help regarding the turnpike striping.

Mayor Deese agreed about the striping problem and that reflectors need to be put down.

Council Member Bivens expressed concern at the increased traffic at the blinking light near Carelock Drive and that it is an accident waiting to happen.

Manager Howard stated that he wrote the NCDOT about it & that they said they studied it and that it does not present an issue at this time.

Council Member Bivens said that the NCDOT needs to study it again.

Mayor Deese agreed that it is a problem and that traffic has indeed increased.

Mayor Pro Tem Morgan agreed that bumper-to-bumper traffic is coming.

Council Member Staton agreed that the Music in the Park event did not go over well and that not a lot of people showed up, and that she was not thrilled with the band that was chosen.

Mayor Deese stated that he wants to include a discussion about buildings that the town owns in the budget discussions and renting them out to businesses. Mayor Deese also stated that he wants to discuss the fee schedule during the budget discussions.

Mayor Deese then asked for a motion to go into closed session per General Statute 143-318.11.(a)(6)

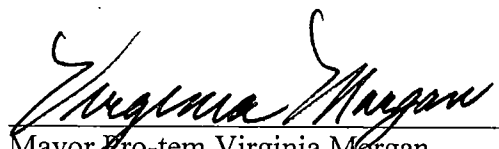
*To consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective public officer or employee; or to hear or investigate a complaint, charge, or grievance by or against an individual public officer or employee. General personnel policy issues may not be considered in a closed session. A public body may not consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, appointment, or removal of a member of the public body or another body and may not consider or fill a vacancy among its own membership except in an open meeting. Final action making an appointment or discharge or removal by a public body having final authority for the appointment or discharge or removal shall be taken in an open meeting*  
*Council Member Staton made motion, Mayor Pro Tem Morgan seconded. All Ayes. The motion passed unanimously. Mayor Deese explained that there would be no action during the closed session, that it was just a discussion.*

Town Clerk and Town Manager were not in Closed Session.

Council was brought back into Open Session

**Adjournment:**

Adjournment agreed by all.

  
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Mayor Pro-tem Virginia Morgan  
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Ann Sutton, Town Clerk