

Town of Marshville
Town Council Meeting
Monday, August 4, 2014, 7:00 PM
Marshville Town Hall – 201 W. Main St.

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Council Members Present: Mayor Deese, Council Members Norma Carpenter, Margaret Bivens, Gary Huntley and Jim Rowell. Mayor Pro-Tem Virginia Morgan was absent. A quorum of the membership was present.

Staff Present: Town Manager, Fern Shubert; Clerk/Finance Officer, Tonya Johnson; Town Attorney, Bobby Griffin; Public Works Director, Bivens Steele; Utilities Director, Alicia Melton; Community Development Director, Alan Thifault; Police Chief, Matt Tarlton; and Detective, Felix Blakney

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Deese called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm and welcomed everyone in attendance. The invocation was offered by Council Member Huntley. The Pledge of Allegiance was given by everyone.

Adoption of Agenda for the Meeting

A motion to adopt the agenda for the meeting as presented was made by Council Member Rowell. The motion was seconded by Council Member Huntley and passed unanimously.

Public Comment

- Ms. Jane Fuller of 1015 Forest Drive, Marshville, addressed the council concerning the rate increase for water. Ms. Fuller stated that she did not receive notification of the 07/01/2014 increase until 07/14/2014 and questioned why residents were not informed prior to the increase becoming effective. The Town Manager responded that until the final budget and rate schedule were adopted the town could not provide notification of the increase. Mayor Deese added that the FY2014-2015 Budget and Rate Schedule were not effective until 07/01/2014. Ms. Fuller stated that if an increase was anticipated then the residents should have been notified earlier.
- Mr. Roger Little of 314 College Street, Marshville, stated that comments concerning sidewalks on the west side of town made at a previous meeting by Council Member Bivens were racially biased. Mr. Little pointed out that there are no sidewalks on College Street. Mr. Little doesn't feel that it is appropriate for a council member to make a claim of no sidewalks based upon race. Mr. Little stated that a sidewalk extends all the way to East Union Middle School.

Consent Agenda

- July 7, 2014 Town Council Minutes - Regular Meeting
- June 2014 Budget Report

A motion to approve the consent agenda and the items thereon was made by Council Member Rowell, seconded by Council Member Bivens and passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action regarding request for Contiguous Annexation

- Presentation of Petition for Annexation
- Motion directing Town Clerk to investigate sufficiency of the Petition for Annexation and report findings to the Town Council

The Town Manager stated that the applicant desires to be annexed into the Town of Marshville and that the property is contiguous to the town limits. The necessary action is to approve the petition and direct the clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition and report back to the council. A motion directing the Town Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition for annexation and to report the findings to the

council at the next meeting was made by Council Member Huntley. The motion was seconded by Council Member Rowell and passed unanimously.

Discussion and action concerning the Fair Housing Plan and Resolution (Fair Housing Officer appointment needs to be amended from the former Town Manager, as instructed by LKC Engineering)

Town Manager Shubert explained that the re-appointment of a Fair Housing Officer as it pertains to the CDBG Economic Development Grant/Anderson Healthcare Project was overlooked in the transitioning of town managers. The Fair Housing Plan is administered by the grant administrator, LKC Engineering. After brief discussion it was moved by Council Member Rowell that the Town Manager, Fern Shubert, be appointed as the Fair Housing Officer and that the required documents be executed accordingly. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens and passed unanimously.

Discussion and action concerning a Resolution to Formally Approve Union County Providing Water Service to the Proposed Anderson Healthcare Complex

Town Manager Shubert stated that since the town annexed the property it is the town's responsibility to see that services are provided to the property. It has been determined that it is most feasible for Union County to provide water to the property. Union County has no interest in doing so without formal action of the Marshville Town Council. The Town Manager stated that Mayor Deese sent a letter requesting that Union County provide water to the facility. The Town of Marshville has received a letter of Flow Acceptance from Anson County for wastewater. Town Manager Shubert explained that the town needs to respond to Union County with a letter and resolution approved by the council and signed by Mayor Deese. Mayor Deese commented on the longstanding disagreement and distrust between the town and Union County. Mayor Deese stated that after reading over the letter he revised the last several paragraphs. Mayor Deese added that if the revised letter meets with the approval of the council this is the version he would prefer to send to Union County. Mayor Deese stated that his first loyalty lies with Marshville; however, he feels the better way to go about it is by not bringing up the past. Council Member Rowell commented that the real issue is the resolution. A motion was made by Council Member Rowell to adopt the resolution to formally approve Union County providing water service to the proposed Anderson Healthcare Complex accompanied by the revised letter to Union County and to authorize Mayor Deese to sign said documents. The motion was seconded by Council Member Carpenter and passed unanimously.

Information concerning the 1st Annual National Night Out - Chief Matt Tarlton

Police Chief Matt Tarlton informed the council of the 1st Annual National Night Out scheduled for Tuesday, August 5, 2014 at the East Campus, First Baptist Church of Indian Trail. Chief Tarlton reviewed the schedule of activities and invited everyone to attend. Chief Tarlton stated that the desired outcome of the event is to promote community involvement and thanked Town Manager Shubert, Council Member Rowell, and Mrs. Mandi Maske for their assistance in planning the event.

Community Development Report - Community Development Director Alan Thifault

Community Development Director Alan Thifault reported on the various activities in which he has been engaged in over the past several months. Approximately fifty nuisance letters have been issued over the past three months with an approximate 95% success rate. Information has begun being published in the local paper to inform and educate citizens concerning the ordinances most frequently violated. Alan Thifault reviewed many of the special events that have taken place over the past several months and added that most of the people assisting with the events are volunteers. Alan Thifault stated that the Veteran's Memorial is being maintained on a voluntary basis by Mr. David Price, a U.S. Veteran. Alan Thifault expressed thanks to the community members and staff for their assistance and noted that community involvement is being promoted. Alan reported that the park and the Community Center schedules are full of rentals. In response to the council's request concerning littering, Alan distributed samples of "No Littering" signage. Finally, Alan presented a slide show that show cases all that the Town of Marshville has to offer. Council Member Bivens stated that she liked the presentation but pointed out that the local

schools were not included. Town Manager Shubert asked if the council is on board with Alan moving forward to upload the presentation to the town's website.

Town Manager's Report

- Town Manager Shubert reported that the Aquaponics letter of support as requested by Mr. Gary Sikes at the July meeting has been written and submitted.
- Town Manager Shubert reported that in response to Ms. Alisa Alston's concern over safety issues at the intersection of Hasty Road and Elm Street a NC Department of Transportation representative came out and assessed the intersection.
- Town Manager Shubert reported that the Highway 74 sidewalk project and the turning radius at White Street will be completed by the NC Department of Transportation.
- Town Manager Shubert reported that the 2000 Ford Ranger sold at public auction for \$2,700, with net proceeds of \$2,430 after commission.
- Town Manager Shubert, in response to Council Member Rowell's request for a committee to review and recommend changes to the town's Personnel Policy, suggested a Personnel Policy review committee to include Mayor Pro-Tem Morgan, Council Member Bivens, Tonya Johnson and Alicia Melton.
- Town Manager Shubert stated that work continues on the sewer contract.

Mayor and Town Council Member Comments

Clerk/Finance Officer Johnson stated that the town's audit is scheduled for August 25th through September 4th, 2014.

Council Member Huntley thanked members of the public for attending the meeting.

Council Member Rowell reported that the annual Boll Weevil Festival is scheduled for Saturday, September 20, 2014. This year's event has some new things planned. There will be a Boll Weevil pageant, talent contest, t-shirt design contest, corn hole tournament, and a bake-off contest. Council Member Rowell stated that volunteers are needed. Council Member Rowell stated that a WWII Veterans Memorial has been discovered in the cemetery. Ms. Ruby Stegall was instrumental in getting the memorial cleaned up.

Council Member Carpenter expressed appreciation to the town's staff.

Council Member Bivens stated that there are no sidewalks on the west end of town and that she did not intend for comments at a previous meeting to be racial.

Mayor Deese stated that everyone is entitled to have their own opinion.

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn was made by Council Member Bivens, seconded by Council Member Huntley and passed unanimously.

These minutes approved this the 2nd day of September, 2014.

By: _____

Franklin D. Deese, Mayor

Attest:

Tonya D. Johnson, Town Clerk