

# Town of Marshville Town Council Special Meeting

### December 15, 2022 7 PM Marshville Town Hall

#### 118 East Union Street - Marshville, NC 28103

In Attendance: Mayor Larry Smith, Mayor Pro-tem Ernestine Staton; Council Members Margaret Bivens, Paulette Blakeney, Gary Huntley, and Monaca Marshall.

Staff in Attendance: Town Manager Franklin Deese and Town Clerk Ann Sutton.

#### **Special Meeting Minutes**

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

**Adoption Agenda:** Council Member Bivens made the motion to adopt the agenda. Mayor Protem Staton seconded this. All Ayes.

## Discussion/Action Concerning the purchase of real property, specifically Parcel #: 02114148A80, 02114148A90, 02114148.

At the December 5, 2022, Regular Meeting, Town Manager Deese was authorized to negotiate a sales agreement with the owner of the four properties next to the Municipal Park. The terms of the settlement are as follows:

The plaintiff (the Town) will cover the closing costs and mediation fees.

The defendant will convey to the plaintiff marketable titles to all four properties.

The plaintiff will pay the defendant \$165,000 and give the defendant a \$25,000 letter of contribution.

The plaintiff will not use the property for anything but municipal purposes for the next ten years.

The closing will occur at Griffin and McCollum no later than January 30, 2023.

The defendant will pay all 2022 property taxes and prior year taxes, along with any with any liens on the property.

Mayor Smith reminded everyone that this was for the property around the house only and did not include the house.

It was asked how much the mediation fees were. Town Manager Deese said the fees were \$1,170.00.

Mayor Smith said that this purchase would almost double the park. Town Manager Deese agreed. Marshville currently has seventeen acres at the Municipal Park. This purchase will add an additional fifteen acres to the park area.

Mayor Pro-tem made the motion to authorize Town Manager Frank Deese to execute the agreement for purchase, based on the terms presented, on behalf of the Town of Marshville. This was seconded by Council Member Bivens. All ayes.

**Interim Finance Officer:** Clerk Ann Sutton was sworn in by Mayor Smith as Interim Finance Officer.

Manager Comments: The Mayor received a letter from the Department of Commerce concerning a grant that was applied for under the project title of Renewing Marshville's Prosperity. Town Manager Deese said the Town asked for a grant of \$250,000. The Town received a grant in the amount of \$200,000. We are waiting for the contract. The plan is to widen the sidewalks on Main Street, turn some diagonal parking into parallel parking, to pave the parking lot for additional parking, and to develop the small grassy area adjacent to Kate Clyde's. Funding was not given for a mural. Town Manager Deese said we would like to put a mural of The Color Purple on Kate Clyde's wall or the wall across the street. North Carolina has a Civil Rights Trail. Marshville would like to become a part of the trail with the addition of The Color Purple renderings.

Town Manager Deese mentioned the Store Front Contest. He would like Mayor Smith to drop by and create a short video announcing the winner. Mayor Smith will also drawn the winner of the Shop 'til You Drop gift card.

#### **Council Comments:**

Council Member Bivens said the Christmas store fronts were beautiful and the Tree Lighting went well.

Council Member Blakeney asked all to have a happy holiday.

Council Member Huntley wished all a merry holiday season.

Council Member Marshall wished all a safe holiday.

Mayor Pro-tem Staton wished all a happy holiday. She gave "kudos" to the Marshville management and staff.

#### **Mayor Comments:**

Mayor Smith reminded all of the retirement party for Jeff Carrier and James Clyburn on December 30<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Smith said that the town is making great strides. He gave "kudos" to the management and staff. He wished all a Merry Christmas.

**Adjournment:** A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Council Member Bivens. This motions was seconded by Council Member Marshall. All ayes.

Approved this day of January, 2023.

ATTEST

Ann F. Sutton, Clerk