

**Marshville Town Council Regular Meeting  
7:00 P.M. Monday, August 6, 2007  
Marshville Town Hall  
201 West Main Street, Marshville, NC**

Present: Mayor Franklin D. Deese, Mayor Pro-Tem Dora Bridget, Council Members Ned Beachum, Margaret Bivens, Doug High, Jr. and Gail Kiker, Attorney Bobby Griffin, Director of Public Works Bivens Steele, Town Administrator Carl Webber, Park Director Alan Thifault, Police Chief Mike Gaddy, and Town Clerk/Finance Officer Shelley Maness.

Mayor Deese called the meeting to order at approximately 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Council Member Bivens gave the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Department Head Comments:

PD Thifault informed Council that summer camp was still moving along and that it will end on August 17<sup>th</sup>. Senior aerobics is scheduled to start on August 20<sup>th</sup>, but they still need an instructor. PD Thifault said he had made several contacts in search of an instructor, but hasn't had any luck. PD Thifault reported that he has scheduled a Sexual Harassment & Rape Prevention class for September. The class will be for females ages 12 and up. There will be four two-hour sessions. PD Thifault notified Council that he planned to have another concert in the park, but has not yet set a date. One possible performer being considered is this year's "Gimme the Mike Charlotte" winner, Marty Vanderlip, who also performed at a Boll Weevil festival several years ago. PD Thifault said that he had been working on the site plan for an additional 14 acres adjacent to the park. He planned to meet with the Council Members individually to get their ideas before presenting it to Mayor Deese.

DPW Steele reported that the Church Street sidewalk project was going good with about 150 feet to go. DPW Steele said that he had met with an engineer from Hobbs, Upchurch and they walked the line on S. White Street. He reminded Council that monies were budgeted to put in about 1,700 feet of line to connect Hasty Road with White Street. DPW Steele said the engineer will be drawing up plans and should have them available in about three weeks.

Chief Gaddy said that he, Matt Tarlton, Paul Lemmonds & C/FO Maness all met with the representative from the Governor's Highway Safety Program. They went over the paperwork regarding the GHSP grant. The equipment was being installed in the car at that time and he expected it to be ready within the next week.

Mayor Deese said that he could not say it enough, but he thanked all the department heads for the good job they were doing.

Adopt Agenda:

Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to adopt the agenda as presented, second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included only the minutes from the July 16, 2007 meeting. Council Member Beachum made motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Council Member High. Vote: All Ayes

Adopt Resolution authorizing Mayor Deese to execute Lease with Cricket Communications to locate antennae on the Marshville Water Tank. Mayor Deese explained that Council had already gone over the contract, which was approved by the Town Attorney. The resolution was the next step in the process. Council Member Bivens made motion to move forward with the lease with Cricket Communications, second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes.

Consider “Ordinance to Vacate” or “Ordinance to Demolish” property at 200 South Carelock Drive. TA Webber explained that Council had three choices regarding a property under code enforcement located at 200 South Carelock Drive. Code Enforcement Officer James Luster had forwarded two ordinances for Council’s consideration: an ordinance to vacate and close the property and an ordinance to remove or demolish the property. The third option presented to Council was to take no action at all. TA Webber reminded Council that the property was already vacant, so the ordinance to vacate and close would not serve much purpose. Mayor Deese recalled that this property has been an issue for at least two years. Upon request, Council had allowed the property owners more time to get the place cleaned up, but still nothing has been done. Council Member Bivens made motion to approve the “Ordinance to Remove or Demolish” the property located at 200 South Carelock Drive, second by Council Member Kiker. Vote: All Ayes.

Review citizen complaint regarding traffic flow on West Union Street. Mayor Deese referenced a letter included in the agenda package written by Mr. Ernest Lee regarding several traffic issues on West Union Street. He also pointed out the letter of response written by TA Webber that simply stated that the letter had been received and would be forwarded on to Council. Mayor Deese commented that he and Council were not in a position to decide if Mr. Lee’s suggestions for correcting the problems were the most suitable solutions. He felt that a professional should investigate the matter. TA Webber suggested that Council move cautiously and get some technical evaluation before making a decision on the matter. Council Member Bivens mentioned that this matter has been discussed in the past, specifically regarding the stop sign that is placed immediately beyond the railroad tracks. She was concerned that some vehicles are almost still on the tracks when they have to stop. She was also concerned about speeding and overgrowth of vegetation on Union Street. TA Webber stated that he had already contacted Duke Energy regarding the vegetation, but he needed direction from Council on how to proceed. Chief Gaddy commented that anytime there is a traffic change, there is an increased risk for accidents until people get accustomed to the change. In regards to the stop sign being too near the railroad tracks, Chief Gaddy said there has never been a case where a train has hit the back end of a car at that particular location.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to authorize staff to get the appropriate people to survey the situation and bring the findings back before Council, second by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All Ayes.

Adopt Budget Amendment to facilitate receipt of grant to purchase video cameras for police cars. C/FO Maness explained that the budget amendment increased both an expense account and a revenue account by \$9,000 to account for grant revenues coming in and being spent. She also stated that the grant requires a \$3,000 match, which will come out of the existing budget. She concluded that the end result of the amendment would be a wash in regards to the budget. Council Member Bivens made motion to adopt the budget amendment as presented, second by Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget. Vote: All Ayes.

Adopt Resolution related to funding for second year of three-year Governor's Highway Safety Program traffic grant. C/FO Maness explained that a resolution is required each year of the three-year grant to show that funds have been budgeted for the grant. She further explained that most of the current year's grant covers personnel expenses which were already budgeted and would be reimbursed at 75%. The additional amount covered by the grant was also already budgeted and will be reimbursed at 50%. C/FO concluded that there was no change to the budget and that the resolution was a required step in receiving the grant funds. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to approve the resolution, second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes.

Determine Date, Time and Location of any Veteran's Day event, if a Military Fly-over is to be requested. TA Webber informed Council that Union County plans to celebrate Veteran's Day with a two-day event that will be held at the Monroe airport on Saturday, November 10th and Sunday, November 11<sup>th</sup>. With that in mind, TA Webber asked Council what they would like to plan for Veteran's Day. He reminded Council that a military fly-over requires a 90-day notice and, if they so chose to have one, a date and time needed to be determined immediately so that he could submit an application. After some discussion, the consensus of Council was to host an event on Monday, November 12<sup>th</sup> beginning at 10:30 a.m. with a military fly-over at 11:00, if possible.

#### Comments

There were no comments from Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget or Council Member High.

Council Member Beachum mentioned that he had complained to Verizon Wireless about the poor service in Marshville. A service man was sent out to survey the area who confirmed the lack of service. Council Member Beachum told the service man about the other wireless providers that have placed towers on the Town's water tank. The service man said that it may very well be something that Verizon would be interested in and that the Town should contact the company. Council Member Beachum pointed out that this would be a considerable amount of additional revenue for the Town. TA Webber responded that the Tower will meet its capacity of two carriers once Cricket is established.

Council Member Bivens reported that the Beautification Committee had selected a "yard of the month", but they have not been able to catch the homeowner at home to get a picture. She also reported that the Historic Commission would be meeting the following day. Council

Member Bivens thought that a discussion concerning the color of the brick for the waterfall at the Museum would be included on the agenda, since the item had been presented to them.

Council Member Kiker gave an emotional speech regarding her recent heart attack and her gratitude for the many thoughts, prayers, phone calls and visitations from everyone. She praised the residents of Marshville for being such a supportive community. Mayor Deese thanked Council Member Kiker for being at the meeting and was glad things turned out as well as they did.

C/FO Maness reported that she and her staff had been staying busy with daily activities and lots of year-end reports.

TA Webber said that the new computers had arrived and should be installed the following weekend so that there would be no interruption of service. He noted that the computers had come in under budget. TA Webber reminded Council that the Boll Weevil Jamboree is scheduled for September 15<sup>th</sup>, the third Saturday in September. He said that The Catalina's would be the headline entertainers for the evening show and that there would be three lumberjack demonstrations at this year's festival. TA Webber informed Council and staff that the NC League of Municipalities conference is scheduled for mid-October in Fayetteville, NC. He asked everyone to let him know if they planned to attend. TA Webber concluded with a report that the application for repairs to the gazebo located in the cemetery had been approved by the Historic Preservation Commission.

Mayor Deese informed Council that he would be signing a Proclamation designating the week of September 17<sup>th</sup> as Constitution Week. He read the proclamation aloud and asked that everyone remember that week as Constitution Week. Mayor Deese commented that he would not be able to attend the meeting with Union County Public Schools and asked if anyone else would like to attend. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget recalled that Council Member Bivens had been chosen to attend. Council Member Bivens said that she had a scheduling conflict and may not be able to attend. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget agreed to attend the meeting.

Mayor Deese mentioned that he had attended a Comprehensive Plan – Community Design workshop on Saturday. The meeting started out with the purpose of designing things for the County; however, it was quickly determined that there was still a lot of ground-level work that needed to be done before entering the designing phase. Mayor Deese felt that it was important that someone from Marshville attend the meeting since it was a “County-comprehensive” plan and Marshville is a part of Union County. He noted that one benefit of the meeting was that it opened a line of communication with Waxhaw. Believing that Marshville will soon face some of the same issues that Waxhaw has faced in recent years, Mayor Deese felt that it is to the Town's advantage to maintain that communication with Waxhaw. More meetings of this kind are planned.

Mayor Deese concluded by reminding Council that there was a Centralina COG meeting to be held Wednesday night at Monroe Country Club. Mayor Deese and Council Member Bivens both said they planned to attend.

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 p.m.

These minutes approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
Franklin D. Deese  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shelley H. Maness  
Town Clerk