

**Marshville Town Council  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 P.M. Tuesday, September 4, 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, 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. Council Member Doug High, Jr. was excused from the meeting by Mayor Deese.

Mayor Deese opened the meeting 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:

Several members of the public were present, but comments were reserved for discussion related to specific agenda items.

Department Head Comments:

PD Thifault stated that everything was going well at the park as well as the community building. He reported that softball, baseball and soccer games are being held several nights a week and senior fitness classes had begun. In addition, the Athletic Association plans to start their baseball and softball program sometime mid-month.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget commented that the Old Marshville/East Union Reunion Committee was very appreciative of the things PD Thifault did for their cookout.

DPW Steele reported that his department was getting ready for the Boll Weevil Festival. A prison crew had been scheduled to come the following Monday to help clean up the town. DPW Steele also advised that there had been a lot of high water usage this month, which is typical for August. These customers received door hanger notifications asking them to contact the Town. DPW Steele said that the Utility Department would then help customers determine the problem.

Chief Gaddy did not have anything new to report. He said that school was back in and things had been quiet.

Adopt Agenda:

Mayor Deese requested that addition of an agenda item to discuss rental of the property located at 107 N. Elm Street. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to approve the addition to the agenda, second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes

Mayor Deese reported that Senator Goodall would not be able to attend the meeting as planned. Therefore, the agenda item for Senator Goodall would be replaced with the added item.

Council Member Bivens made motion to adopt the agenda as amended, second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included only the minutes from the August 20, 2007 meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to approve the consent agenda, second by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All Ayes.

Discuss Rental of the Property located at 107 N. Elm Street. Debi McKeown appeared before Council to request a lease of the building located at 107 N. Elm Street. She stated that she planned to open a retail shop to sell a variety of items including skin care products, antiques and collectibles. She requested a 12-month lease beginning in October, but asked to take possession of the building for the month of September free of charge. In return, she would clean and make necessary repairs of the building at her expense. Council Member Kiker clarified that the repairs would all be cosmetic, not structural repairs. Ms. McKeown confirmed that was true. Attorney Griffin suggested Council offer a 13-month lease with the first month's rent being waived upon completion of approved repairs. Council Member Kiker pointed out that there is no public parking with the building.

Council Member Beachum made motion to allow the Mayor to execute a 13-month lease, with one month's rent being waived contingent upon completion of repairs approved in advance by TA Webber, second by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All Ayes.

Presentation regarding Piedmont Poultry Festival planning – Bonnie Griffin, John Edmondson. John Edmondson and Bonnie Griffin appeared before Council and gave a presentation regarding plans for a "Piedmont Poultry Festival." They explained that it would be a regional festival intended to draw in a large crowd. In order to do so, some of the planned events include a performance by a well-known country music singer, a beer and wine garden, a Piedmont Idol Competition, a hospital bed race and a fire department cook-off. Council Member Kiker inquired about the beer and wine garden and showed some concern about having alcohol on the streets of Marshville. Mr. Edmondson explained that it would be a "controlled" beer and wine sale that would be limited to a confined area for purchase and consumption and would include adequate security. Ms. Griffin explained that it was a matter of money. It was her belief that such a garden would bring in considerable revenue that would help pay for the following year's festival. Chief Gaddy pointed out that alcohol would be an issue with or without the garden, but that the garden offered the ability to monitor the consumption of alcohol. After some debate about the issue of serving alcohol at the festival, Mayor Deese reminded Council that what was presented was just a report from a subcommittee of the Chamber of Commerce and that it was not Council's decision to make, although their input was appreciated. Mayor Deese said that he looked forward to the festival and hoped it would "put Marshville on the map."

Review list of sidewalk projects; prioritize list. TA Webber reported that a list of projects had been compiled based on suggestions from Council Members and staff. They included: East Main Street from the funeral home to the new CVS, East Main Street from Olive Branch Street to US 74, Elizabeth Avenue, Olive Branch Street from Church Street to Union Street (from the Post Office to the Library), South Elm Street (as requested by citizens), US 74 from East Main Street to Marshville Plaza Shopping Center, Washington Street and West Main Street.

Ms. Gladys Kelly and Mr. and Mrs. Bill Walters, all residents of South Elm Street, were present at the meeting and asked Council to consider putting a sidewalk on their street. In addition to their personal desire for a sidewalk, they pointed out that children often play in the street and a sidewalk would offer a safer place for them.

After much discussion about how to approach prioritizing the list, a decision was made to direct TA Webber to send out survey letters to residents of the streets in question in order to get some idea of what the citizens wanted and their willingness to grant easements. The surveys would be due back to Town Hall by October 4, 2007.

Consider scope of work proposed by SEPI Engineering regarding West Union Street Traffic complaint. TA Webber explained that he had received a proposal from SEPI Engineering in the amount of \$2,200 to do a traffic study on the West Union Street issue that had recently been discussed by Council. It was the consensus of Council that a sound decision could be made by staff and therefore, chose not to accept the proposal from SEPI for the traffic study. Mayor Deese asked DPW Steele and Chief Gaddy to survey the problem and report back with suggestions for a solution at the next meeting.

Authorize overtime work as needed for Public Works employees in support of the Boll Weevil Jamboree on September 15, 2007. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to authorize overtime work as needed for Public Works employees in support of the Boll Weevil Jamboree, second by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All Ayes.

Discuss assessing a fee for exercise classes at Community Center. PD Thifault felt there was a need to access a small fee for participation in the senior fitness classes. The fee would help offset some of the cost required to offer the classes. He pointed out that a large percentage of the participants are not residents of Marshville. The fee schedule he proposed offers a lower rate for residents since they pay property taxes which are partially used to fund the parks and recreation department.

Council Member Beachum felt that only non-residents should be charged a fee. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget felt that the schedule was reasonable as presented. It was Mayor Deese's opinion that the wording on the fee schedule should define "senior" with an age. Council agreed that age 55 qualifies as a senior.

Council Member Beachum made motion to approve the fee schedule with an amendment to be made by TA Webber to include wording to define "senior", second by Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget. Vote: All Ayes.

Immediately following the vote, Attorney Griffin asked if limiting the age could be construed as age discrimination. With that in mind, Mayor Deese asked TA Webber to work out the appropriate wording with Attorney Griffin.

Discuss operation of Concession Stands at Park. PD Thifault said that there are three concession stands at the park. He also stated that Terry Kiker has an agreement with the Athletic Associate to run a concession stand for the Association during games. PD Thifault pointed out that Mr. Kiker has no intentions of using Concession Stand #1. Seeing the need for additional service, PD Thifault proposed hiring a part-time employee to operate Concession Stand #1. C/FO Maness pointed out that there may be sales tax issues to consider and TA Webber stated that Council would need to approve the hiring of a part-time employee at a specific rate. Mayor Deese asked C/FO Maness to find out about the sales tax issue and report back at the next meeting.

### Comments

Council Members Beachum and Kiker had no comments.

Council Member Bivens said that she would have more at the next meeting regarding the waterfall at the Old Town Hall.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget thanked PD Thifault for his work at the park.

Clerk/Finance Officer Maness said that she and the administration staff were preparing for the auditors who are scheduled to be in-house the last week of September.

Administrator Webber reviewed some of the information that had been distributed to Council. He pointed out that the Division of Water Quality had issued a notice that permit costs are going up 20% to \$810 per year. TA Webber reminded Council that the NCLM conference will be Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> and asked those that intended to go to complete a pre-registration form. Also, those wishing to attend the Farm City Celebration were asked to contact TA Webber or the Mayor. TA Webber concluded by mentioning that the NC Dept. of Crime Control and Public Safety Division of Emergency Management had scheduled a flood plan mapping public meeting for Wednesday, September 12<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The meeting will address mapping changes and flood hazard areas that have been identified in the Yadkin River Basin which will affect some property within the city limits and area of ETJ. TA Webber encouraged any member of the public and elected officials to attend the meeting to be held in the Government Center in Downtown Monroe.

Mayor Deese said that Mr. Luster had reported on the property located at 200 S. Carelock. Mr. Luster's report stated that the property was currently being tested for asbestos. If asbestos is found it must be removed before demolishing the house which would occur sometime around October 8<sup>th</sup> through October 12<sup>th</sup>. If there is no asbestos, the projected demolition date would be October 1<sup>st</sup> through October 5<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Deese planned to attend the flood map meeting that TA Webber mentioned; however, there was Centralina COG meeting in Charlotte that same night. He asked that Council Member Bivens attend the COG meeting in his place if possible.

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:45 p.m.

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

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

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