

Marshville Town Council Meeting
7:00 P.M. Monday March 19, 2007
201 West Main Street, Marshville, North Carolina

Present: Mayor Franklin D. Deese, Mayor Pro-Tem Dora Bridget, Council Members: Doug High, Jr., Margaret Bivens and Ned Beachum, Police Chief Mike Gaddy, DPW Bivens Steele, Town Administrator Carl Webber, and Interim Town Clerk / Finance Officer Ron McAdam.

Mayor Deese opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Council Member Bivens gave the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comment Section: None

Department Head Comments: DPW Steele reported just routine maintenance on a continuous basis. Department will be doing smoke testing of the sewer lines in the near future.

A motion to add to the agenda as item number 5 B to excuse Council Member Kiker from this Council Meeting was made by Council Member Beachum, Second by Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget. Vote: All Ayes.

Agenda Item 5B. Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget made motion to excuse Council Member Kiker from this meeting, Second by Council Member High. Vote : All Ayes.

Mayor Deese asked for a motion to adopt the agenda, motion made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget, Second by Council Member High. Vote: All Ayes.

Mayor Deese then asked Council to accept Consent Agenda. Motion made by Council Member High, Second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes.

Mayor Deese introduced Dr. Ed Davis, Superintendent of Union County Public Schools. Dr. Davis briefly discussed the growth in the county. Union County is the fastest growing county in the state. He discussed a problem that is as important as dealing with the growth. The problem is High Priority Schools, which are defined as schools that have a student population greater than 40 percent on free or reduced lunches. Forest Hills High School, East Union Middle, and Wingate Elementary are in this category.

UCPS is expending a lot of time and effort to combat this problem. They have put together a community task force; have added resources such as extra-specialized staff to deal with the High Priority Schools. One such area is English as a Second Language. Dr. Davis also informed Council that Forest Hills High School and East Union Middle School did not meet the Adequate Yearly Progress goals last year.

Dr. Davis complimented Marshville as a great supporter of the schools. He complimented the Police Department on their assistance with East Union Middle, which does not have a Resource Officer. He asked the Council for their continued support and to encourage all citizens to help our schools by volunteering to mentor, etc. Any help will be greatly appreciated.

Mayor Deese challenged Council to come up with ideas to help our schools. He thanked Chief Gaddy and his department for their involvement at East Union Middle.

The Mayor then recessed the meeting for five minutes in order for Dr. Davis to pack up all his equipment.

Agenda Item no. 8. Discuss list of minor transportation improvements that Council wishes to convey to Rocky River RPO and Monroe/ Union County Chamber of Commerce Transportation Committee. This list is for minor repairs only and does not include new roads. Several improvements were mentioned and TA Webber informed Council the need to finalize the list at the meeting on April 2nd. Mayor Deese wants a list from each Council Member before the next meeting. He also requested that TA Webber get a Marshville map and mark the state roads for Council.

Agenda Item no. 9. Approve audit contract with JB Watson & Co. for annual audit of year 2006/2007. There was a brief discussion about the charges and TA Webber explained the \$75.00 per hour charge. He also told Council that the Local Government Council must approve the contract, ensuring that charges are in line compared to other contracts. A motion was made by Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget, Second by Council Member High to approve the contract. Vote: All Ayes.

Agenda Item no. 10. Authorize donation of \$1000.00 to the Council on Aging. Mayor Deese pointed out that there is \$3000.00 in the Budget for donations. This amount can be given to any agency that Council approves. None of the funds have been expended this year. Motion was made by Council Member Bivens, Second by Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget to make a donation of \$1000.00 to the Council on Aging. Vote: All Ayes.

Agenda Item no. 12. Approve contract for engineering services with Hobbs, Upchurch, and Associates related to the Sewer System Rehabilitation project. DPW Steele stated this project needs to be done in order to avoid sewage spills on Highway 74 near The Pier Restaurant. This contract is for engineering only. Mayor Deese said that the Town has had very good results with the engineering firm. TA Webber suggested that Agenda

Item no. 13 should be discussed at this time. DPW Steele stated that the pipe would be relined instead of being dug up and replaced. He stated that it would be dangerous to be digging along Highway 74 due to traffic. He estimated the contract to be between \$65,000.00 to \$70,000.00, which is within the budget. The main focus of this project is to reduce sewage spills. Motion to approve was made by Council Member Bivens, Second by Council Member High. Vote: All Ayes.

Agenda Item no. 13. Adopt Resolution Exempting Professional Services related to South Side Outfall CCTV Inspection/Cleaning and 8 inch VCP Repairs from the requirements of G.S. 143-64.31. This statute permits the Council to award the contract to the best - qualified engineering firm, not to the lowest bidder. Council can exempt professional services. Council Member Bivens made motion to adopt said Resolution, Second by Council Member High. Vote: All Ayes.

Agenda Item no. 14. Discuss "Poultry Festival" kick off to be held in conjunction with the Day-In-the-Park. TA Webber stated that the Chamber of Commerce had discussed this idea with Pilgrim's Pride. They are interested but have to get corporate approval. This year the two events will occur together at the park. The future plan calls for the "Poultry Festival" to be held in the morning downtown and Day-In-The-Park in the afternoon at the park. The Chamber wants to include this advertising in Day-In-The-Park advertising, as there will be no additional cost incurred. Motion was by Council Member Bivens, Second by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All Ayes.

Comments:

Council Member Beachum stated that several citizens had inquired about the possibility of purchasing additional land for soccer fields at the park. Mayor Deese stated that he has also been approached. He feels that nothing should be done until the new Park Director has been hired and been given time to develop a detailed plan for future park expansion.

Council Member Bivens stated that this past Saturday the Research Club went to the cemetery, cleaned up vines, and picked up trash. Ms. Ruby Stegall was concerned about the pile of dirt and rocks she saw, general condition of grounds, the gazebo, and leaning headstones. She wanted to know how much of this maintenance was the responsibility of Mr. Charlie Boyce. Council Member Bivens is also concerned about vandalism and unlocked gates. Chief Gaddy said that all gates are locked every night by his department. TA Webber said the Town does all maintenance if there is a safety concern. He also stated that the plots are private property and therefore the Town does not repair leaning headstones. TA Webber said it is up to Council to decide if any changes needs to be made. Any monies needed could be included in next year's budget.

Council Member High had no comments.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bridget had no further updates on the Park Director's position. She stated that there would be no action until all of the background checks had been completed.

Interim Clerk/Finance Officer McAdam had no comments.

TA Webber reviewed several pieces of correspondence that he had written or received with Council. Copies had been given to Council Members prior to the meeting.

Mayor Deese had no comments.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned.

These minutes approved this ____ day of _____, 2007

Franklin D. Deese
Mayor

Attest: _____
Ron McAdam
Interim Town Clerk