

## **Town of Marshville**

### **Town Council Meeting**

**Monday, March 7, 2011 at 7:00 PM**

**Marshville Community Center – 118 E. Union St.**

Present: Mayor Deese; Mayor Pro-Tem Bivens; Council Members Jefferson & Beachum; TM Thomas; Clerk/FO Johnson; DPW Steele; Chief Tarlton; Attorney Bobby Griffin. Note: Council Member Bridget arrived at 7:10 p.m. PD Thifault was out of town. Also present were John Edmondson, with *The Home News* and Lacy Hampton with *The Enquirer Journal*.

#### Open/Welcome/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Deese opened the meeting of the Marshville Town Council at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all those in attendance. MPT Bivens gave the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments: Limited to 2 minutes per person, 10 minutes total, if any

There were no public comments.

#### Adopt Agenda

A motion to adopt the agenda as received was made by CM Jefferson, and seconded by MPT Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

#### Approve minutes from February 21, 2011 meeting & February 24, 2011 special meeting

A motion to approve the minutes from the February 21, 2011 meeting, and the February 24, 2011 meeting was made by CM Beachum. The motion was seconded by MPT Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

#### Approve Budget Amendment #2011-01 for GHSP Contract No. K8-10-02-048 (checkpoint equipment)

TM Thomas commented that this budget amendment was to appropriate revenue and expense amounts into the Police Dept. budget for the police trailer and related equipment. A motion to approve budget amendment #2011-01 was made by CM Jefferson, and seconded by MPT Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

#### Approve Budget Amendment #2011-02 for GHSP Contract No. PT-11-03-04-02 (safety traffic officer)

TM Thomas commented that this budget amendment is for year two of a GHSP grant that provides for a traffic officer. A motion to approve budget amendment #2011-02 was made by CM Bridget, and seconded by CM Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Mayor Deese commented that acting Chief Tarlton wrote these two grants and thanked him for doing so.

#### Approve Budget Amendment #2011-03 for Hwy. 74 E. Water Line Replacement Project

TM Thomas commented that this budget amendment is for the water line replacement project that was approved at the last regular council meeting. He informed council that we have begun advertising for bids. He stated that \$50,000 was budgeted in this year's budget for this project. The \$200,000 should be an amount sufficient to complete the scope of work. A motion to approve budget amendment #2011-03 was made by MPT Bivens, and seconded by CM Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

#### Approve final draft of the revised Marshville Town Charter

TM Thomas informed council members that a few corrections were made to the revised charter. The charter continues to create a bird sanctuary in the Town of Marshville. TM Thomas commented that the current charter was a "hodge-podge" collection from over the years. The revised draft has already been introduced into the House. By the end of this session we should have a new Town Charter. CM Jefferson commented that he's glad to get this done. A motion to approve the final draft of the revised Marshville Town Charter was made by CM Bridget, and seconded by MPT Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

#### Summary review of the planning retreat

TM Thomas commented that as a result of the recent planning retreat, it is a priority of the council to work on putting information together to get a message to the citizens of Marshville regarding things we'd like to do for Marshville and how we're going to get it done. Mayor Deese conveyed that the members of this council are "on the same page". He commented that all agreed that infrastructure is a top priority. He also commented that council agrees that improving communication with the public & improving the Town's website is a priority. This council has the best interest of Marshville at heart. He commended the facilitator, Mr. David Long, for a great job. MPT Bivens added that council desires input from the public about what the citizens' feel is important for Marshville. CM Jefferson added that the consensus of the council is to improve public relations. He commented that council needs better dialogue with the citizens. He hopes to create a "spark of enthusiasm" among everyone.

#### Update on the community-wide survey

TM Thomas informed council members that he needs input from each of them in order to formulate questions for the survey. He asked that they come up with questions about topics they feel are important for the Town of Marshville and drop them off at Town Hall so they can be sent to Insight Research. He also informed council that he met with the Chamber of Commerce and invited them to be a part of this process. Once the questions are submitted to Insight Research, a draft of the survey will be sent back to us for approval. Upon approval, the surveys will be ready to mail. The more response we receive the better our data will be. John Edmondson asked when the survey will be available. TM Thomas commented that the target date is approximately thirty days.

#### Comments

CM Bridget apologized to the council for being tardy. She expressed her desire to see Marshville get a town seal.



MPT Bivens commented that she's received complaints about storm water drainage problems from some citizens.

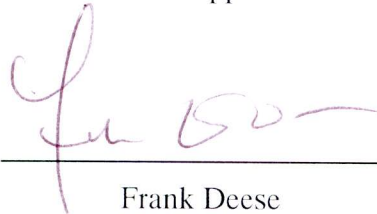
CM Beachum commented that he would like all council meetings to be conducted at Town Hall. He also commented on code enforcement, in particular, a property on Union St. He stated it doesn't look much better. He doesn't feel much is being done in the way of code enforcement as far as some properties are concerned. MPT Bivens interjected that she rode around within the past week or two and photographed some properties in bad condition. Mayor Deese suggested we get Mr. Luster back for an update on properties with code enforcement issues. He reminded council that code enforcement procedures must follow a certain (legislative) process. TM Thomas commented that the Austin St. property has been cleaned off and looks much better. MPT Bivens asked if the town staff could handle code enforcement. TM Thomas responded that we don't want to be in that business. Attorney Griffin commented that we could only handle code enforcement if a statutory reason applied.

CM Jefferson informed council that he attended a Monroe City Council meeting in which they met jointly with the Union Co. Commissioners. He stated that Monroe did a great job hosting and steering the meeting with the commissioners. He commented that we have a lot of work to do to prepare for a joint meeting with our commissioners. CM Jefferson talked briefly about the Main Street USA program and expressed his desire to invite someone from Monroe to come speak with us about this program.

#### Adjourn


There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

These minutes approved this 21<sup>st</sup> day of March, 2011.



Frank Deese  
Mayor

Attest:



Tonya D. Johnson  
Town Clerk

*\*A brief recess may be called every 45-60 minutes, as desired by Council.*

