



**Town of Marshville  
Town Council Regular Meeting  
September 05, 2023, 7 PM  
Marshville Town Hall  
118 East Union Street – Marshville, NC 28103**

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

**Staff Attendance:** Town Manager Franklin Deese, Town Attorney Bobby Griffin, and Town Clerk Ashlie Vincent

## **Regular Meeting Minutes**

**Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:** Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Member Huntley gave the invocation. All shared the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Public Comments:**

Thomas Goodman – 7916 Old Goldmine Road:

Truth in Government is an organization recently formed due to activities that cause concern among the citizens. He mentioned that people felt like they had been lied to. He had submitted an information request on August 7<sup>th</sup> to the Town Manager. Wants to build trust with the town. Wants to make sure the town is doing everything it should be doing. Concerned about conflicts of interest. Wants to make this the best town we can. Wants to work with the town.

Barbara Simpson – 6911 Austin Grove Church Road:

She stated she attended the Planning Board meeting on August 14<sup>th</sup>. She said at the meeting, the Land Use Admin stated there had been permits issued for a food truck and flower cart. He also stated that he had waived the fees for the permits. She is asking what the waiving of fees criteria and standards are. She asked if there are standards in place for a copy to be given out. This could cause issues down the road.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The motion to add a closed session per G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5) as item 10a was made by Mayor Pro-tem Staton and seconded by Member Blakeney—all ayes.

The motion to adopt the agenda was made by Mayor Pro-tem Staton and seconded by Member Marshall—all ayes.

**Consent Agenda:** The motion to adopt the consent agenda was made by Mayor Pro-tem Staton and seconded by Member Huntley—all ayes.

**Union County Emergency Plan Presentation by Andrew Ansley:**

Presenter Andrew Ansley gave his presentation about the updated Union County Emergency Plan. Mayor Smith thanked him for his time.

**Discussion/Action Resulting from EOP Presentation:**

The motion to adopt the resolution adopting the Union County Emergency Operations Plan was made by Member Bivens and seconded by Mayor Pro-tem Staton—all ayes.

**Setting Public Hearing for Forest Drive Lots:**

The motion to set October 02, 2023, as the date to have the annexation public hearing was made by Member Bivens and seconded by Member Huntley—all ayes.

**Manager's Comments:**

Manager Deese mentioned that the HVAC at the museum is having issues. He asked if the council would allow funds to be used to repair the system. No one was opposed. He presented the council with an invitation to the NAACP event on October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m. He asked if any council members were interested in attending for them to reach out. Manager Deese responded to Mr. Goodman's comment, stating that the information had been brought to the front but was never picked up. It will be available for him at the front desk tomorrow morning.

**Council Comments:**

Margaret Bivens: She apologized for being late.

Paulette Blakeney: She said she was happy to see everyone and told everyone to stay cool.

Gary Huntley: He thanked everyone for their well wishes.

Monaca Marshall: She thanked the public for their attendance. Looking to implement a 'little library' project in three locations in town.

Ernestine Staton: She said the kids really enjoyed the End of Summer Jam. She mentioned at the Back to School Art Party, since there weren't many in attendance, the parents were allowed to join in, and it was fun.

**Mayor's Comments:**

Media Relations: Things on Facebook – the town's Facebook page is more informational rather than an exchange. Mayor Smith asked about possibly looking into getting meetings on the website.

Manager Deese said would have to look into upgrading the website. Having conversations with people about these types of upgrades. It is policy that staff cannot meet with an opposing attorney without the town attorney present. Not trying to hide anything.

Veteran's Memorial: What is the zoning for the property? Does it need a zoning permit? Mayor Smith stated he wants to be on the front end of discussions or problems.

During the meeting, the manager looked up the parcel and determined it was zoned civic.

**Closed Session G.S 143-318.11(a)(5) - Negotiation on real property:**

The motion to go into a closed session was made by Member Huntley and seconded by Member Marshall—all ayes.

The motion to end the closed session was made by Member Huntley and seconded by Member Marshall—all ayes.

No action was taken as a result of the closed session.

**Adjournment:**

The motion to adjourn was made by Member Bivens and seconded by Member Marshall—all ayes.

Approved this \_\_\_\_ day of October 2023.

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Larry B. Smith, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST

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Ashlie Vincent, Town Clerk