

**Town of Marshville
Town Council Meeting
Monday, April 19, 2010
7:00 p.m.
Marshville Town Hall – 201 W. Main St.
PUBLIC HEARING:
Final Draft of Comprehensive Transportation Plan
Followed by:
REGULAR MEETING**

Present: Mayor Franklin Deese, Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens, Council Members Ned Beachum, Dora Bridget, Matthew Jefferson, and Denise Whitley, Attorney Bobby Griffin, Town Administrator/Manager Radford Thomas, Interim Town Clerk/FO Tonya Johnson, Chief of Police Mike Gaddy, Director of Public Works Bivens Steele, and Park Director Alan Thifault. Reporters present were John Edmondson of The Home News, and Lacy Hampton of The Enquirer Journal. Also present were Dana Stoogenke, Rocky River RPO, and Bill Clark, Transportation Planner, URS.

Public Hearing

Mayor Deese opened the Public Hearing: *Final Draft of Comprehensive Transportation Plan* at 7:04 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Mayor Deese invited citizens present and opportunity to speak regarding the CTP. There were no public comments. He introduced *Dana Stoogenke, Director, Rocky River RPO*, who gave a power point presentation explaining the Comprehensive Transportation Plan as it pertains to Marshville. There being no public comments, the public hearing was closed at 7:20 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Mayor Deese opened the regular meeting at 7:20 p.m. and again welcomed everyone in attendance. Council Member Beachum gave the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

Jim Rowell of 516 E. Union St., Marshville, NC, addressed council regarding a stormwater management policy. He conveyed that he felt this should be a part of the Town's infrastructure and should be considered an investment in the upcoming budget year. He encouraged Town Administrator/Manager Radford Thomas to look into the development of a stormwater management policy.

Norma Griffin Carpenter of 412 Norma St., Marshville, NC, addressed council regarding a housing development at E. Union Street. She indicated there are water drainage problems there that should be addressed before paving, building, etc., begins.

Adopt Agenda

Town Administrator/Manager Radford Thomas requested to have added to the agenda as Item #12 a special meeting to be held April 29, 2010 at 8:30 am, at the Union Co. Chamber of Commerce, for the Marshville Town Council for the purpose of a strategic planning session. Council Member Denise Whitley made a motion to add to the agenda Item #12 – Special Meeting for Strategic Planning, seconded by Council Member Jefferson. Vote: All ayes

Council Member Whitley made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of Item #12 – Special Council Meeting for Strategic Planning. The motion was seconded by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All ayes

Consent Agenda Items

A motion was made by Council Member Denise Whitley to accept the consent agenda as received, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens. Vote: All ayes

Presentation and adoption of final draft of Marshville Pedestrian Plan – William Clark, Transportation Planner, URS

William Clark, Transportation Planner with URS, gave a presentation of the final draft of the Marshville Pedestrian Plan, which allows for sidewalks, crosswalks, shared-use paths, etc., to make Marshville more pedestrian friendly. He presented handouts and a CD of the plan to council. Mayor Pro-Tem Bivens questioned Mr. Clark as to why some streets on the west side of town were not included in the Pedestrian Plan. Mr. Clark responded that the Pedestrian Plan is in fact only a plan, and sidewalks can be installed wherever they are most needed. A citizen, Robert Riser commented regarding the need for a sidewalk at Old 74 to First Baptist Church. Council Member Whitley agreed there is a lot of pedestrian traffic in that area. Mayor Deese stated that work is being done to look into better sidewalks. The difficult part is getting easements. DPW Steele commented that plans are already in process and is currently working on obtaining easements. A citizen, Fred Burton, raised several questions/concerns. First, he questioned policy about addition of sidewalks whether a new street or new development and whether or not it would encourage the propagation of piece mill sidewalks like we have now. Mr. Clark's response was you have to start somewhere. This plan ranks projects that should be done as soon as

possible. It suggests policy recommendations that should be considered by the Town. Mr. Burton also commented about roadways in excess of what is needed for vehicular travel. He questioned the possibility of striking off the sides and using thermoplastic. This would allow for pedestrian use and would give the effect of a sidewalk at a low cost. Mr. Clark commented that he had looked at that but Marshville doesn't have many roads wide enough to do that. That could, however, provide a temporary solution in some areas until funds for sidewalks are available.

Approve audit contract from J.B. Watson & Co., PLLC, for FY09-10

Upon a recommendation to council from Town Administrator/Manager Radford Thomas, a motion was made by Council Member Dora Bridget to approve the audit contract from J.B. Watson & Co., PLLC, seconded by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All ayes

Special Meeting for Strategic Planning Session

Town Administrator/Manager Radford Thomas requested calling a special meeting of the Town Council for the purpose of a strategic planning session. This meeting will be held April 29, 2010, beginning at 8:30 am at the Union County Chamber of Commerce. A motion to call this special meeting was made by Council Member Dora Bridget, seconded by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Comments

PD Thifault referenced a handout regarding summer camp ideas and possible changes to the summer camp program. Council Member Whitley suggested having this added to the agenda for 5/3/2010. She asked PD Thifault to come back with some cost estimates. It was the consensus of council to add this to the next meeting's agenda. PD Thifault reminded council of a concert in conjunction with HeBrews Coffee Shop scheduled for May 8, 2010. HeBrews Coffee Shop is taking care of providing the band(s). Town will help with stage set-up, port-a-johns, and prizes. Council Member Whitley questioned if there needed to be a vote to close the parking lot. Chief Gaddy commented that the Town owns the lot and would just need a vote from council.

Chief Gaddy commented that the police department is moving along with the Community Outreach Projects.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bivens agreed with Mr. Rowell's earlier comments that we need stormwater drainage control. She also expressed concern about the upkeep of Marshville's mini park. She suggested planting shrubbery and making other improvements.

Council Member Beachum commented about sidewalks and how obtaining easements is a big problem. He suggested that residents should talk to their neighbors about the need for sidewalks. Mayor Pro-Tem Bivens stated that this could be a problem because some properties are vacant, or tenant-occupied. Council Member Bridget commented that street setbacks are also a problem in some areas. Mayor Deese agreed that easements are an issue, but we are making progress.

Council Member Jefferson stated that he is enthusiastic and optimistic. He appreciates receiving his "homework" assignment for the planning session and being informed.

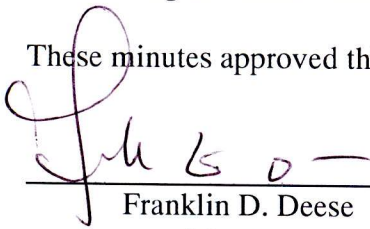
Council Member Whitley thanked Town Administrator/Manager Radford Thomas for getting agenda packets and needed information out early. She feels that hiring him is a good move for the Town.

Town Administrator/Manager Thomas commented that Dept. Heads have received and are working on budget information. At the May 3rd meeting he hopes to have dates available for budget work sessions. He stated that there will be some tough decisions to be made. He looks forward to everyone working together.

Mayor Deese commented that he attended a portion of the Union County Commissioners meeting where he was asked to read the Town's resolution opposing the sale of the hospital. Due to the council meeting, Scott Byrum, a citizen of Marshville, agreed to read the resolution in Mayor Deese's absence. He commented that he looks forward to council's planning session.

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

These minutes approved this 3rd day of May, 2010.



Franklin D. Deese
Mayor

Attest: 

Tonya Johnson
Interim Town Clerk

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