

Marshville Town Council
March 8, 2010 Regular Meeting
held at 7:00 P.M.
Marshville Community Center
118 East Union, Marshville, NC

Present: Mayor Franklin D. Deese, Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens, Council Members Ned Beachum, Matthew Jefferson, and Denise Whitley, Attorney Bobby Griffin, Interim Town Administrator John Munn, Interim Town Clerk/Finance Officer Tonya Johnson, Director of Public Works Bivens Steele, Police Chief Mike Gaddy, Lieutenant Matt Tarlton. Council Member Dora Bridget was absent.

Mayor Deese called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens gave the invocation. All in attendance gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Presentation Honoring Mrs. Elsie Chambers

Mayor Deese recognized Mrs. Elsie Chambers as the oldest resident of Marshville and Union County. Mrs. Chambers is 104 years old. On behalf of Mayor Deese and the Council, Mrs. Chambers was presented a key to the Town, and a proclamation recognizing her as the oldest living resident in Marshville & Union County. Mrs Chambers thanked the Council for the recognition.

A one minute recess was called by Mayor Deese before going into public comments.

Public Comments:

John Edmondson – 2100 High Ridge Church Road, Marshville – Mr. Edmondson made a request to the Board that the Marshville Chamber of Commerce host a guest speaker at Town Hall on Tuesday, March 23, 2010. The guest speaker, _____, will be speaking to businesses in the Town of Marshville. It was the consensus of the Council for the Marshville Chamber of Commerce use the Town Hall building for this evening.

John Pigg – 618 Old Pageland Marshville Road, Marshville – Mr. Pigg spoke to the Board about a committee, of which Mayor Deese is a member, that has been exploring different ways to govern Union County. Mr. Pigg has been attending meetings with a group of approximately 12 others. He would like to see five electoral districts and two at large. Due to the present set-up, there is not good representation for some areas of Union County. This committee is currently working with state representatives on this issue.

Adopt Agenda

A motion was made by Council Member Denise Whitley to add to the agenda as item #8 the discussion and probable action regarding a vote on Town Administrator. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

A motion was made by Council Member Denise Whitley to adopt the agenda with addition, seconded by Council Member Ned Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Council Member Denise Whitley to approve items on the Consent Agenda. The motion was seconded by Council Member Ned Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Approve Letter to First Baptist Church

Public Works Director Bivens Steele reviewed with Council the letter written to First Baptist Church. Mayor Deese inquired as to why pump wouldn't have to be approved by our engineers. According to PW Director Bivens Steele, this is because the pump is on the homeowner's side of the meter. Interim TA John Munn elaborated more about fire flow, pipe size, and pressure relief valves. A connection at the church wouldn't do the Town any good. Feels it is okay if church wants to hook onto our line at their cost with approval of our engineer. PW Director Bivens Steele agrees. Council Member Denise Whitley made a motion to approve letter for First Baptist Church as presented. Motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Attorney Griffin questioned if there was going to be a contract. PW Director Bivens Steele commented that First Baptist Church would have to install at their costs. Town would charge only for meter service. The letter is to clear up a matter regarding emergency connection. The town's emergency connection will not solve the church's issue. Mayor Deese commented that the town is not obligated to, but can provide a regular tap. Mayor Deese commented that he sees no problem with this.

Use of Town Hall

Regarding the use of the Town Hall building by the Marshville of Commerce, Attorney Griffin commented that Council should have a motion and vote on this. Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens made a motion to grant the use of Town Hall for a public presentation with no reimbursement. Motion was seconded by Council Member Ned Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Discussion and Action Regarding Town Administrator

Mayor Deese suggested to Council that we need a motion to present to Mr. Radford L. Thomas a contract for employment with specified terms/conditions. Council Member Denise Whitley made a motion to hire Mr. Radford L. Thomas at \$62,500 with the basic benefits of all Town employees, with a three year contract, moving expenses to \$2,000 to \$2,500, six month severance pay with health insurance if terminated early, and two weeks vacation advanced (to be earned) pending details of contract. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Margaret Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Attorney Griffin questioned if there is an effective date of employment for Mr. Thomas. Mayor Deese responded that the effective date of employment is March 22, 2010. Mayor Deese commented that he would forward Mr. Thomas's resume and a photo to Mr. Edmondson of the Home News.

Comments:

Council Member Matthew Jefferson commented that he is optimistic about the new town administrator. He is looking forward to Marshville's future.

Council Member Ned Beachum commented that he is proud we have a town administrator on the way. Mr. Thomas seemed like a good guy with good ideas. Mr. Beachum shared with council and those present of a call received from Mr. Bill Walters commending the public works department for a job well done with a sewer problem. Mr. Beachum also commented about some streetlights that are still

out, and asked PW Director Bivens Steele about an update on a sidewalk project. PW Director Bivens Steele commented that the construction plans are ready to be mailed and he hopes for a quick response.

Mayor Pro-Tem Bivens conveyed to council members a request from New Salem Elementary School Principal Hawkins to have their school included on the Town's website. Mrs. Bivens also conveyed to council complaints from a resident regarding vacant houses. She also suggested the need for an ordinance for dog problems which hopefully can be addresses by new town administrator.

Council Member Denise Whitley asked Interim Clerk/FO Tonya Johnson about progress on minutes. Need to inquire with Shelley Maness regarding progress on those minutes. She commented that she is happy about the new town administrator. Commended council for their hard work getting the right person for the job.

Interim Clerk/Finance Officer shared with council that, to date, there area approximately thirty-two applicants for Town Clerk/Finance Officer. Also, fifteen applicants for Police Officer.

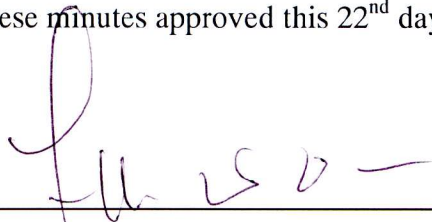
Chief Gaddy commented on number of applicants for police vacancy, and also that they are working on the streetlight issue.

PW Director Bivens Steele commented about a position vacancy in the Public Works department.

Mayor Deese expresses his appreciation to Mr. John Pigg for his comments. He commented on his enthusiasm about what lies ahead for Marshville. He feels Marshville is the gem of the county. He commented that as a council we need to stay focused and move forward. Applauded council for their work.

There being no further comments, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

These minutes approved this 22nd day of March, 2010.



Franklin D. Deese

Mayor

Attest:



Tonya Johnson

Interim Town Clerk