

**Marshville Town Council  
Regular Meeting  
7:00 P.M. Monday, March 2, 2009  
Marshville Town Hall  
201 West Main St., Marshville, NC**

Present: Mayor Franklin D. Deese, Council Members Ned Beachum, Margaret Bivens and Denise Whitley, Attorney Bobby Griffin, Town Administrator Carl Webber, Town Clerk/Finance Officer Shelley Maness, Chief of Police Mike Gaddy, Director of Public Works Bivens Steele, Park Director Alan Thifault, Tax Collectors Carolyn Haigler and Debbie Morton and Lieutenant Matt Tarlton. Council Member Dora Bridget arrived late. Mayor Pro-Tem Gail Kiker was absent.

Mayor Deese opened the meeting at approximately 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance. Council Member Beachum gave the invocation. All gave the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

There were no public comments.

Adopt Agenda:

At the request of staff, Council Member Bivens made a motion to add to the agenda consideration to apply for a new Governor's Highway Safety Grant and consideration of purchasing a replacement police vehicle. The motion was seconded by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All ayes. (Added as Items 12 & 13, respectively.)

Council Member Whitley made a motion to adopt the agenda as amended, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included only the approval of the minutes of the February 16, 2009 Regular Meeting. Council Member Beachum made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Introduction of new Tax Collector/Payroll/Accounts Payable Clerk. Outgoing Tax Collector Carolyn Haigler introduced Debbie Morton as the new Tax Collector. Mayor Deese welcomed Mrs. Morton to the team.

Set date to advertise delinquent taxes, April 15, 2009. Council Member Whitley made a motion to set the date to advertise delinquent taxes as April 15, 2009, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Junior National Young Leaders Conference, Invitee Lena Rushing – Allison Rushing. Allison Rushing appeared before Council to announce that her daughter, Lena Rushing, had been selected to attend the Junior National Young Leaders Conference. She was selected based on her academic achievement and leadership potential. Mrs. Rushing said that she was proud that her daughter was selected to attend the conference and represent Marshville and the state of North Carolina. Mrs. Rushing noted that the cost

for her daughter to attend the conference exceeded \$2,000 and she asked Council to consider making a donation. Mayor Deese and Council said that they were proud of Miss Lena Rushing and were glad to hear such good news. Mayor Deese said that a decision regarding a donation would be made at a future meeting.

Consider approval of Assignment of Solid Waste Collection Agreement due to sale of Allied Waste local operations to Waste Connections, Inc. – Representative, Alex Churchill. Alex Churchill, General Manager of Republic Waste Services, appeared before Council to explain that the U.S. Department of Justice had mandated a series of transactions that included selling some of its assets. As a result, the Town's contract with Allied Waste (Republic) would be transferred to Waste Connections, Inc. Mr. Churchill assured Council that the Town would receive the same level of service and that the only real change that the Town should notice is the name change. Mr. Churchill said that the terms of the contract did not change. Council Member Whitley made a motion to approve the assignment of the solid waste collection agreement due to the sale of Allied Waste local operations to Waste Connections, Inc. for the remainder of the contract. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Consider Appointment to Union County Commissioner Governance Advisory Committee. TA Webber informed Council that Union County has decided to establish a 25-member Governance Advisory Committee to research and craft proposals regarding the governance structure of the Union County Board of Commissioners. The committee will be comprised of one member from each municipality, ten members appointed at-large by the Board of County Commissioners, and one member of the BOCC to serve as an ex-officio chairman. TA Webber felt that this was the BOCC's attempt to address the issue of the number of commissioners on the BOCC as well as any potential district representation. Council Member Beachum made a motion to have Mayor Deese serve on the Union County Commissioner Governance Advisory Committee, seconded by Council Member Whitley. Vote: All ayes.

*\*Council Member Bridget arrived at approximately 7:20 p.m.*

Discussion of a project planned by Town of Marshville that could qualify for Stimulus Funding under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009. TA Webber said that the rules regarding how the Stimulus Funding would be distributed were not yet clear, but he did know that a project must be "shovel ready" within 120 days. TA Webber asked Council to be thinking of such projects so that the Town may take advantage of the funds. He noted that stimulus funding could not be used for the Sewer Rehab Project that was recently approved for grant funding through the NC Rural Center. He also noted that the Town would not have time to get the permits required for any project that would have an environmental impact. Mayor Deese asked everyone to "think outside the box" and said that even if a project was not feasible for this round of stimulus funding, it may be feasible for the next round. He said the Town needed to be ready for that. DPW Steele reminded Council that a sewer study had been done several years ago that prioritized the sewer needs for the Town. He suggested getting the engineering done on some of those projects so that they will be ready for the next round of funding. TA Webber said the Town needs a similar plan available for the Town's water needs. He suggested not waiting for grant funds to develop such a plan, but to go ahead and budget for it. Mayor Deese concurred that the Town needs to be ready.

Approve proposal for Day in the Park events. PD Thifault said that the committee had a lot of good ideas and had agreed to spend a maximum of \$2,500 of Town funds on Day in the Park. Entertainment will include Smokey the Bear, a motorcycle show and a talent contest, among others. There would also be fund-raisers, as approved by the committee. Marty Vanderlip will emcee the event. PD

Thifault noted that the date had been changed to May 2, 2009 from 4:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. He also said that Marc McCann, Pilgrim's Pride Plant Manager, agreed to donate 800 chicken breasts for sandwiches. PD Thifault said, in addition to chicken sandwiches, there would be hotdogs and drinks available free to the attendees. He said that donations would help cover some of the expenses. Council Member Whitley commented that PD Thifault and the committee had done an excellent job coming up with ideas for the event and ways to cut costs. Council Member Whitley made a motion to approve the proposal not to exceed \$2,500 for Day in the Park to be held on May 2, 2009, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

PD Thifault was excused from the remainder of the meeting.

Consider applying for Governor's Highway Safety Grant. Lieutenant Matt Tarlton presented information to Council regarding a new 3-year grant from the NC Governor's Highway Safety Program. He explained that the grant would pay a percentage of the salary and benefits of a new employee for the first three years. Lt. Tarlton said that it costs approximately \$42,000 per year to employ an officer (including benefits). The Governor's Highway safety grant would save the Town more than \$80,000 in personnel costs over the first three years. Lt. Tarlton also said another \$17,000 grant was available that would pay for 100% of a trailer, generator, etc. Lt. Tarlton asked for Council's approval to apply for the grants. Council Member Beachum made a motion to allow Lt. Tarlton to apply for both grants and allow Mayor Deese to sign the application document. The motion was seconded by Council Member Whitley. Vote: All ayes.

Consider purchasing a replacement police vehicle. Chief Gaddy explained that the 2002 Ford Explorer driven by Lt. Tarlton had in excess of 100,000 miles on it and had been in and out of the shop. He said that there were electrical and rear-end issues. Chief Gaddy reminded Council that the budget included funds to purchase a new vehicle, but Council had stipulated that they must approve the purchase. Chief Gaddy said that equipment in the vehicle would be transferred to the new vehicle, which would likely be a Dodge Charger. Council Member Whitley made a motion to approve the purchase of a new police vehicle not to exceed \$23,130 without coming back to the board. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Council Member Bivens made a motion to excuse Chief Gaddy from the remainder of the meeting, seconded by Council Member Whitley. Vote: All ayes.

Consider Resolution in support of Project Legacy. Mayor Deese reminded Council that Project Legacy was a proposed 5,000-acre business park planned to be developed just east of Marshville. He explained that the resolution would show that the Marshville Town Council supports the development of Project Legacy. Council Member Whitley made a motion to approve the resolution in support of Project Legacy and authorize the Mayor to sign, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Approve letter requesting NCDOT consider potential impact of Project Legacy on Rural Union County Comprehensive Transportation Plan. TA Webber explained that Project Legacy had not been unveiled at the time that the Marshville Comprehensive Transportation Plan was prepared by Mr. Rockne Bryant of NCDOT. He noted that NCDOT was currently conducting a CTP of the rural areas of eastern Union County, outside the scope of Marshville's CTP. TA Webber said that he had spoken with the engineer for the rural, eastern Union County CTP, Mr. Jamal Alavi, and he said that they would consider the impact of Project Legacy as long as the Town requested it. Council Member Whitley made a motion to approve the letter requesting NCDOT consider potential impact of Project

Legacy on Rural Union County Comprehensive Transportation Plan. The motion was seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Consider Joint meeting with Beaver Lane Volunteer Fire Department, March 16, 2009, 7:00 p.m. at Fire Station. TA Webber reported that the Beaver Lane VFD Chief had invited Council to have a joint meeting with their board at the Fire Station on March 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., the next regular meeting date for both boards. After some discussion, Council Member Bivens made a motion to have a joint meeting with Beaver Lane at the Beaver Lane Fire Station on March 16, 2009 at 7:00 p.m., seconded by Council Member Whitley. Vote: All ayes.

### Comments

Council Member Whitley said that she attended the NCLM Planning Service Committee meeting last Thursday and that it was very interesting. She said that the committee meets four times a year and helps formulate legislative bills.

Council Member Bivens reported that she had received several phone calls about drainage problems on Hallman Drive. She said that she went out to look at some of the areas after the rain and she agreed that there were drainage problems. Council Member Bivens said that the Town really needed to consider installing French drains, drainage pipes in ditches and/or curb siding in some of the problem areas.

Council Members Beachum and Bridget had no comments.

C/FO Maness said that she was glad to have Debbie Morton on board and that Mrs. Morton was doing a great job so far.

TA Webber said that there would be an Essentials of Economic Development workshop in Boone, NC on April 8, 2009. He also said he would speak later in the week with Mr. Will Lamb, Director of NC Service Corps, regarding the application for funding for an advisor for the Marshville/Wingate Joint Economic Development study.

DPW Steele notified Council that one of his employees had resigned. He planned to wait until late spring to fill the position. He also reported that they were currently taking bids on the Sewer Rehab project and he would bring the bids before Council after they are opened on March 26<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Deese commended all department heads and also thanked several Forest Hills High School students that were in attendance. Mayor Deese reminded everyone that budget time was fast approaching.

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

These minutes approved this \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2009.

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Franklin D. Deese  
Mayor

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Shelley H. Maness  
Town Clerk