

**Marshville Town Council
Regular Meeting
7:00 P.M. Monday, April 20, 2009
Marshville Town Hall
201 West Main St., Marshville, NC**

Present: Mayor Franklin D. Deese, Mayor Pro-Tem Gail Kiker, Council Members Ned Beachum, Margaret Bivens, Dora Bridget and Denise Whitley, Attorney Bobby Griffin, Town Administrator Carl Webber, Interim Town Administrator John Munn, Town Clerk/Finance Officer Shelley Maness, Director of Public Works Bivens Steele and Police Chief Mike Gaddy.

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:

Council Member Bridget made a motion to adopt the agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Consent Agenda:

The consent agenda included only the approval of the minutes of the April 6, 2009 Regular Meeting. Council Member Bridget made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Council Member Beachum. Vote: All ayes.

Discuss vacancies on Police Auxiliary. Chief Gaddy informed Council that TA Webber's position would make three auxiliary police vacancies. He noted that he would like to fill those positions with officers that have the potential to serve as full-time officers in the future. Chief Gaddy said that auxiliary officers work on a voluntary basis, but the Town does provide ammunition, uniforms and required training. TA Webber said that this is a good opportunity to "test drive" a potential employee. Council Member Bridget asked if there were any interested candidates for the position. Chief Gaddy said that Felix Blakney had expressed interest and had actually ridden with an officer the previous weekend. Council Member Whitley felt that the hiring policy should be followed. Mayor Deese appointed Council Member Beachum and Chief Gaddy to serve on the hiring committee and he asked TA Webber to bring back a recommendation for a community member to also serve.

Consider National Police Week Proclamation. TA Webber said that Elizabeth Cooke asked that the Council sign a proclamation in regards to National Police Week (May 10-16th) and Peace Officers' Memorial Day (May 15th). The proclamation recognizes past and present Marshville Police Officers and their role in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the citizens of Marshville. TA Webber also noted that Union County will host a Police Week Ceremony on May 15, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. on the Main Street Plaza Courtyard in Monroe. Council Member Whitley made a motion to approve the

National Police Week proclamation as presented, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Report on Investigation into Drainage. DPW Steele said that he had investigated the drainage issue at 608 and 610 Hallman Drive. He concluded that the drainage issue was simply the result of the natural flow of water from adjacent properties and there was nothing that the Town could do about it. Although not a contributing factor to the drainage issue, Public Works did cut a root away from a drainage pipe to ensure that the pipe would maintain its flow. DPW Steele offered suggestions for possible solutions to the property owner, but noted that the solutions were expensive. Mayor Deese commented that a precedent would be set if the Town took any action to fix the problem. Council Member Whitley made a motion to excuse DPW Steele from the remainder of the meeting, seconded by Council Member Bivens. Vote: All ayes.

Updates on upcoming Park Events. Council Member Whitley reported on the plans for Day in the Park. She said that Pilgrim's Pride had agreed to donate chicken to serve at the event and the High School Beta Club will serve Icees. Other ideas for the event included possibly having a dunking booth and inflatable bouncing units. The event is planned for 4:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 2nd with Marty Vanderlip providing entertainment. TA Webber said that the Pedestrian Steering Committee will be handing out surveys at the event.

Comments

Each Council Member thanked TA Webber for his hard work and dedication to the Town of Marshville. C/FO Maness echoed Council's sentiments. Attorney Griffin added that Mr. Webber had been very professional during his tenure and always kept his cool under fire.

Council Member Bivens said that she rode through Marshville on Saturday and the town was "dead." She said that there were not many businesses and she wondered what they could do as a Council to get people to come to Marshville. She suggested Council get out of their "comfort zone" and think about things like Pinky Marsh's rodeo.

TA Webber thanked everyone for their kind words. He proceeded to update Council on upcoming events and issues, including: Project Legacy Landowner Update at Marshville Community Center on April 29th; a letter from Bobby Chambers regarding a Code Enforcement issue; CMAQ Grant awarded to Town for a \$236,266 mile-long sidewalk project; and notification that Marshville was not selected as a recipient for the Service Corp grant.

TA Webber also reported that Land Use Administrator, Jana Finn, would attend a meeting with NC Emergency Management on April 28th regarding the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The Town had applied to be a member of the program several years prior, which would allow Marshville citizens to be eligible for flood insurance if their property was situated in flood hazardous areas. Prior to 2006, there was only one piece of property in the city limit that was in a flood hazardous area. After the area was remapped, a substantial amount of property has been identified as flood hazardous.

TA Webber said that the State did not process the Town's application into the NFIP because they changed the model ordinance at about the same time the application was submitted. They failed to notify the Town that the application was not processed. Three other Union County municipalities were in the same situation. Ms. Finn, representing several municipalities, will determine at the NCEM meeting why the applications were never approved.

TA Webber said that it should not take very long to do what needs to be done to correct the situation. He noted that the Planning Board could probably have their end complete in May and have it ready for Council's approval in June. TA Webber said that Interim TA Munn had been to a Planning Board meeting and met with Ms. Finn and would see that the process keeps going.

TA Webber said that he had met with the department heads to discuss the budget and was working with C/FO Maness on revenue projections. He noted that he planned to have a foundation for a budget by the early part of May.

TA Webber said that it had been a pleasure working for the Town of Marshville and that he planned to continue living in Marshville and stay involved. He noted that Centralina COG stands ready to assist in the search for a permanent town administrator and that Hartwell Wright with NCLM had offered to meet with Council at no extra charge regarding the matter.

Mayor Deese announced that there would be a drop-in reception for TA Webber at Town Hall on Wednesday from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. He also noted that there was a bill proposed by Rep. Blackwood that may undo what the Town had already done in regards to the area of ETJ. Mayor Deese said that TA Webber knew how he felt about his service to the Town and that he felt confident in Mr. Munn's knowledge and ability.

There being no further comments, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:00 p.m.

These minutes approved this ____ day of _____, 2009.

Franklin D. Deese
Mayor

Attest: _____
Shelley H. Maness
Town Clerk