



**Town of Marshville  
Town Council Work Session and  
Special Meeting  
Monday, March 20, 2023 7 pm  
Marshville Town Hall  
118 East Union Street-Marshville, NC 28103**

**In Attendance:** Mayor Larry Smith, Mayor Pro-tem Ernestine Staton; Council Member Monaca Marshall, Paulette Blakeney, Gary Huntley, Margaret Bivens

**Staff Attendance:** Town Manager Franklin Deese, Town Clerk Ashlie Vincent, Financial Officer Richard Dixon, Town CPA Eddie Carrick

**Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance:** The meeting was called to order by Mayor Larry Smith. Council Member Gary Huntley gave the invocation. All shared the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Special Meeting Minutes**

**Open Meeting:** Mayor Smith opened the meeting at 7:06 pm.

**Auditor's Presentation of the 2021-2022 Financial Statements**

Town CPA Eddie Carrick gave handouts to the council of the 2021-2022 Financial Statements. He spoke to the council about the contents of the report. Mr. Carrick said the audit would be available to the public to view. Mr. Carrick told Manager Deese that a letter would need to be submitted to the State Treasurer's office for clarification on the lateness of the audit report.

**Discussion/Action as a result of Audit Presentation**

A motion to approve the audit as presented subject to changes made by the state treasurer at any date was made by Ernestine Staton and seconded by Gary Huntley- all ayes.

**Close Special Meeting:** A motion to close the special meeting was made by Margaret Bivens, seconded by Ernestine Staton.

## **Work Session Minutes**

**Public Comments:** Toby Kikes – presented the council with concern for the gazebo at the Marshville cemetery. He said it needed repair. A quote from Davey Griffin of \$12,000 for the repairs excluding painting, was given to the council to consider.

**Adoption of Agenda:** The motion to adopt the agenda was made by Margaret Bivens, second by Ernestine Staton—all Ayes.

### **Manager's Comments:**

Manager Deese introduced the town's new financial officer Richard Dixon to the council. Afterward, the new town clerk and financial officer were sworn in by Mayor Smith. A contractor will be starting work on the lake property this week. Manager Deese met with NCDOT about the crosswalks and intersections to find a solution.

### **Council Comments:**

Ernestine Staton suggested having a ribbon-cutting ceremony for the lake. Manager Deese said there would need to be a date agreed upon by the council. Ernestine Staton said she would like a trash pick-up event for Earth day this year. She commented on the lack of information about the basketball court opening on Saturday, March 25, 2023. She also suggested adjusting the T-Ball registration fees to have separate costs for in-town and out-of-town participants.

Monaca Marshall thanks Ernestine Staton and Manager Deese for speaking about the basketball courts.

Paulette Blakeney wished everyone a blessed and safe week.

Gary Huntley welcomed the newly appointed town clerk and financial officer.

Margaret Bivens stressed the importance of having a code enforcer for the town. Manager Deese said he would work on getting it into the budget to hire one. She also brought up the trash along the streets becoming a problem again.

### **Mayor's Comments:**

Mayor Smith asked for the contact information of the property owner of the First Baptist church. He wants to speak with him to work out how to fix up the property. Mayor Smith asked about budget dates, and Manager Deese said he would have a calendar ready at the next meeting. Mayor Smith asked about the Easter event on Thursday and Friday. Manager Deese noted there would be activities for the kids on both days. Signups will allow only 30 kids per day each day of the event.

**Adjournment:** The motion to adjourn was made by Margaret Bivens, seconded by Ernestine Staton- all ayes.