



**Town of Marshville
Town Council Work Session
September 18, 2023, 7 PM
Marshville Town Hall
118 East Union Street – Marshville, NC 28103**

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

Staff Attendance: Town Manager Franklin Deese and Town Clerk Ashlie Vincent

Work Session Minutes

Call to Order/Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor Smith called the meeting to order. Member Huntley gave the invocation. All shared the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments:

Thomas Goodman – 7916 Old Goldmine Road:

He stated what a great festival it was over the weekend. He handed out two more record requests. The reason for giving the requests to the council members is for their awareness of what truth in government is doing. He commented the council is responsible for what happens in this town.

Adoption of Agenda: The motion to adopt the agenda was made by Member Bivens and seconded by Member Marshall—all ayes.

Guest Speaker - Robert Parker: Mr. Parker presented to the council. The council thanked Mr. Parker for his presentation and his time. Emergency contact numbers discussed in the meeting are 988 for the crisis number and an alternative text number, 174-174.

Constitution Week Recognition: A resolution will be brought before the council at the October 2nd meeting to be voted on.

Manager's Comments:

Manager Deese said the engineering firm has submitted preliminary drawings and is working on getting renderings to show the council. He stated the hope is to have bids starting early next year possibly. He expressed concern about draining the lake and the potential rainy season. They are still working on water and sewer problems at the lake.

Mayor Smith asked Manager Deese about the potential of annexing the lake property. Manager Deese said it would be a satellite annexation and would look into it.

Pavement assessment 7k to 12k. Looking at streets and update to GIS information. Prelude to getting more grant money.

NC Economic Development study: need to make an RFQ for the project.

Council Comments:

Margaret Bivens: The Randy Travis festival had a great turnout. Kudos to Randy.

Paulette Blakeney: Glad to see everyone. Have a good week.

Gary Huntley: Looking forward to the movie in the park. He wishes everyone a safe week.

Monaca Marshall: Thanked the public for expressing their concerns.

Ernestine Staton: Recommended Healing Dragons for cancer survivors as a follow-up to the presentation from Mr. Parker.

Mayor's Comments:

Mayor Smith reminded the council of two events coming up. Oct 13th Forest Hills Kid's Night and Nov 3rd Forest Hills Concert. He thanked the staff for putting up the sign in Town Hall. He told the council to review the budget vs. actual report during downtime and bring back questions.

Kudos to the Chamber of Commerce and Randy Travis. Mayor Smith asked if there used to be a zoning/violation report. Manager Deese replied that there would be a monthly report when the town had a code enforcer.

Mayor Smith reminded the manager to place the ABC board on the upcoming agenda. He asked the manager if he had seen the email about rail-ready sites.

Mayor Smith spoke to the council about putting more items on the agenda to discuss.

Mayor Smith commented on the increase in record requests. Does the public think that something nefarious is going on? We are for truth in government.

Mayor Pro-tem Staton commented that these requests will take up time. It will get done, but it won't be fast. She feels everything the council has done has been on the up and up.

Manager Deese commented he is willing and able to speak with anyone with questions. Nothing nefarious is going on, and he stands behind his staff.

Member Marshall asked if the manager had reached out to the organization to have a meeting.

Manager Deese replied no, but he would if the council directed him.

Adjournment: The motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Member Bivens and seconded by Member Huntley—all ayes.

Approved this ____ day of October 2023.

Larry B. Smith, Jr., Mayor

ATTEST

Ashlie Vincent, Town Clerk