

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Marion, Virginia held in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building on September 6, 2016 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Tricia Spencer, Jim Barker, Bill Weaver, Larry Carter, and Suzanne Jennings Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Deputy Clerk Samantha White; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representatives Stephanie Porter-Nichols and Linda Burchette; Police Lieutenant Andrew Moss; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings and Public Works Director Jack Perry.

ABSENT: Avery Cornett

INVOCATION/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Mr. Heath rendered the invocation. Mayor Helms led the Pledge to the Flag.

VISITORS: Jeff Spickard, Kathy Smith, Herbert "Turk" Johnson, Penny Johnson, A.V. O'Neal, Wanda Owens, Kelly Parnell, Olivia Parnell, Owen Parnell, Ronald Null, Major Bowen, LaTara Cross, Delegate Israel O'Quinn, Delegate Jeff Campbell.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held August 15, 2016 were approved as written. Messrs Dr. Gates, Barker, Spencer, Weaver, Carter, and Jennings voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Delegates Jeff Campbell and Israel O'Quinn presented the family of Jim Owens with a Resolution passed by the State of Virginia General Assembly in his Honor and Memory.

RESOLUTION: Mayor Helms read a Resolution in Honor of A.V. O'Neal and presented it to Mr. O'Neal. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was accepted.

Mrs. Jennings provided an update on Lola's, the new Lincoln Theatre shop and business offices. It is open to the public now and will host an Open House soon.

Mayor Helms reminded council members of the annual VML Conference to be held October 9-11 in VA Beach. The Town Employee Picnic will be held Thursday, September 8 at noon at Riverbend Park. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Barker and with a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, a Resolution declaring September 2016 as Alcohol and Drug Recovery Month was accepted. During the month of October, 2016, the USDA will distribute oral rabies vaccine to vaccinate raccoons in Southwest Virginia. On Tuesday, September 27, Smyth County Community Hospital will host a Meet & Greet to introduce Mr. Stan Hickson, the new vice president and chief executive officer of Mountain States Health Alliance's Northeast Market. The Emory & Henry Ribbon Cutting for their new facility, the old Smyth County

Community Hospital, will be held on September 30 at 10:00am. Mt. Zion Temple Church will host a 9/11 program on Sunday, September 11 at noon.

Mr. Jennings reported that the Recreation Department's summer sports have ended and fall programs have begun. Both pools have closed for the year and will be winterized in the upcoming week. On August 17, Smyth County Family Physicians provided free Physical Evaluations for over 50 children who will be participating in Recreation Department sports this fall. Girls' Basketball signups will be held on September 27. The Emory & Henry golf tournament will be held at Holston Hills Community Golf Course on September 23. Emory & Henry's Men's Golf Program will be using HHCGC this year.

Mr. Perry reported that striping is going well. Patching of 16 – 20 areas has recently been completed. Holston Hills Community Golf Course cart paths are currently being patched. The offender crew is clearing underbrush on Brunswick Lane.

Lieutenant Moss reported the Henry Street case is ongoing. The Blue Ridge Job Corps is hosting a Peace Walk on September 21 from 9:30am to 10:30am. Officer Horne started a 14 week police canine training. Officer Horne will be working with two dogs during this training. The new Parking Ordinance began on September 1, 2016 and is going well.

Mr. Heath reported that Patriot Day programs will be held at the Lincoln Theatre on September 10 before the Nathan Stanley show and at Mt. Zion on September 11. Also, Ebenezer Lutheran Church will host a lunch for first responders on September 11. Ohio ARC delegation will be visiting on September 19 & 20. A travel writer from the Washington Post will be in town on September 30. Mr. Heath and Olivia McDonald attended an ARC conference with representatives from twelve states where Marion's Entrepreneurial Challenge was discussed. Nathan Stanley has partnered with the Lincoln Theatre to bring touring artists to the Theatre. Mr. Heath presented a Small Business Loan application from Blevins & Little LLC. Upon motion of Ms. Spencer, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Small Business Loan application for Blevins & Little LLC was approved.

Mr. Hicks reported that Striping has gone well. After research by Councilman Weaver, Mr. Rush, and Purchasing Agent Billy Hamm, it is recommended that the Town purchase a Striping Self-Propelled System from Sherwin Williams at a cost of \$20,596.95 which will save the town money on contract work since the current machine is irreparable. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, purchase of the Striping System from Sherwin Williams at the stated cost was approved. Work on the Matson Drive Culvert will begin soon and will be paid for with VDOT carryover funds. The East Chilhowie Street Bridge Joint Application Permit will be submitted to the state by the end of this month. The Zone-Meter project is complete pending the final report. Phase I Water and Phase I Sewer work will begin in the next couple of weeks. Todd Long and the Planning Commission are finalizing the draft of the updated Property Maintenance Code. Mount Rogers Planning District Commission has awarded the town a 50% matching grant up to \$12,500.00 for the Buster Brown Sewer Project and materials have been ordered.

Mr. Rush stated that the Virginia Department of Health has approved the CIRP Phase I and Phase II applications for funding and they will now go to Virginia Resource Authority for their approval. There will be a teleconference meeting regarding Streetscape on September 7 at 10:35am.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-3) and Section 2.2-3711 (A-7) upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Council entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of Real Estate and Litigation. Mrs. Jennings moved that Town Council return to Open Session and identified it be known that only those matters legally exempted from Open Session and identified in the motion were discussed during Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weaver and carried by a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES. The Town Clerk polled the Council Members. Messrs Weaver, Carter, Barker, Dr. Gates, Spencer and Jennings voted affirmatively.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk