

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Marion, Virginia held outside on the front steps of the Municipal Building (due to social distancing requirements for COVID19) on April 20, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor David Helms, Jim Barker, Tricia Spencer, Bill Weaver, Larry Carter and Avery Cornett Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush, Town Clerk Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Police Chief John Clair; Purchasing Agent/Fire Chief Billy Hamm; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; IT Director Todd Long; Economic Development Director Ken Heath and Economic Development Deputy Director Alexandra Veatch.

**ABSENT:** Vice-Mayor Dr. Jim Gates and Suzanne Jennings.

Mayor Helms requested a moment of silence in memory of five citizens that recently passed away, Sue Morrell, a beloved educator; Rev Neville Mazingo, a pastor and chaplain; Preston Coleman, a World War II veteran and postal worker; Herman Henderson, a one-time captain of the Marion Lifesaving Crew, who was instrumental in bringing the Jaws of Life to the squad; and Stuart Buchanan, a longtime Marion Fire Department Chief.

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

**VISITORS:** Joe Naff, Charles Hayden, CB Gwyn and Ralph Price.

**MINUTES:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held March 16, 2020 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Spencer, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

**AGENDA:** Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** None.

Mayor Helms expressed his appreciation of the citizens, businesses and town staff during the COVID19 health crisis. He thanked citizens and businesses for staying positive during this time and adhering to the CDC, State and Federal guidelines.

**ACCOUNTS:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$1,301,367.20. Messrs Barker, Spencer, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

Mr. Rush reviewed a Resolution on CIRP Phase VI Water application process. Upon motion of Mr. Cornett, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, a Resolution to apply for funding from the Virginia Department of Health – Office of Drinking Water’s Water Supply Assistance Grants Program for Phase VI Water Line Replacement was accepted.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 5:36 pm.

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Mayor

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Clerk