

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 February 3, 2020 at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor David Helms, Vice-Mayor Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Tricia Spencer, Suzanne Jennings, Bill Weaver, Larry Carter and Avery Cornett Council Members; Town Clerk Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Police Chief John Clair; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks and Economic Development Director Ken Heath.

**ABSENT:** None.

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

**VISITORS:** Kathy Smith, Joe Naff, Jeff & Anna Leigh DeBord.

**MINUTES:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held January 21, 2020 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Dr. Gates, Spencer, Jennings, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

**AGENDA:** Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** None.

Ms. Spencer noted she had been approached by several business owners about changing the due date for business licenses. Discussion ensued. Upon motion of Mr. Cornett, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Finance Committee.

Mayor Helms noted the next council meeting will be Tuesday, February 18, 2020 due to the President's Day Holiday. VML Legislative Day will be February 6, 2020 in Richmond. The VFW will hold a meeting to discuss Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive Thursday at 8:00 pm at the VFW. Mayor Helms read a Resolution recognizing February 2020 as Black History Month. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution recognizing February 2020 as Black History Month was adopted.

Mr. Fenyk reported a warrant in debt has been filed and a court date set for the candidate that attended the Police Academy and failed to uphold the contract for payment.

Chief Clair previously conducted an interview with the Smyth County News regarding new training programs.

Mr. Heath and the Police Department have been working with business owners regarding patrols and safety assessments.

Mr. Hicks reviewed the paving of North and South Main Street that will take place in April. There were 92 meters replaced with the Commercial Meter Replacement Project. Phase V Sewer bids will be awarded February 27, 2020 at 2:00 pm.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm.

---

Mayor

---

Clerk