

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 March 23, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Larry Carter, Bill Weaver and Suzanne Jennings Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Linda Burchette; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Police Chief Rex Anders.

ABSENT: Tricia Spencer.

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

VISITORS: Michael Edwards, Michael Wright and Bill Powers.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held March 16, 2015 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Barker, Carter, Jennings and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved as distributed with the addition of a couple projects discussions under the Town Manager section.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Mike Edwards voiced his concerns about the dangers of the downtown crosswalks. He would like to see action on this item. The Police Department will patrol the crosswalks more closely. Michael Wright, downtown business owner, also spoke about the crosswalk concerns. He noted the only pedestrian light working is at the Bank of Marion intersection. Bill Powers noted the crosswalk issue is a matter of public safety. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the crosswalk issue was referred to the Street Committee.

Mr. Barker commended Mr. Heath for a nice job speaking at Mr. Owen's funeral. He also noted the Dam Removal Project looks good. He reviewed the letter from Trout Unlimited on the Fish On event. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the request from Trout Unlimited for \$225 to help with advertising the Fish On event to be held on April 4, 2015 was approved.

Mrs. Jennings has been appointed to the Mount Rogers Community Service Board.

Mr. Carter attended the District III meeting.

Mayor Helms reported that Emory & Henry College of Physical Therapy has released a publication noting their accreditation. Students will begin classes here on the Marion campus in August 2015. The VML Regional Supper will be April 15, 2015 in Bristol. The Town and County quarterly meeting will be tomorrow evening at 6:00 pm in Chilhowie. The Virginia Municipal League will be taking nominations for

Policy Committees. Please get your nominations to Ms. Stanley. The Blue Ridge Job Corp quarterly meeting will be Thursday, March 26, 2015 at noon.

Mr. Fenyk noted the Boundary Adjustment will be heard by the three judge panel on March 30, 2015 at 10:00 am at the Smyth County Court House. The court system approved the Pawn Brokers applications for business license.

Ms. Stanley distributed supplemental #24 for the Town Code books. She reminded Council and Staff to keep their books updated.

Mr. Barker noted Mr. Hamm and the various Fire Departments did a great job on the brush fire Thursday.

Chief Anders thanked Council for the opportunity to attend the Virginia Main Street Awards Banquet in Richmond. He noted there is one officer opening.

Mr. Hicks noted that the Town Spring went offline this past weekend, so the Water Treatment Plant has ran the last 39 out of 60 days. Wilden Street Water Line Replacement design is almost complete. The last pay request for the Sewer Treatment Plant Co-Gen project has been processed. The project is finally complete. The Dam Removal project is complete. The paving list will be ready by the next Council meeting. The new Zoning Ordinance book will be distributed at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Rush noted some of the committee meetings have been held. Staff met today to work on the proposed 2015 - 2016 budget. The first finance committee meeting is scheduled for this Friday. Mr. Rush reviewed a request for a Public Hearing on the Pawnbroker Ordinance. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, a Public Hearing on a Pawnbroker Ordinance will be held April 6, 2015 at 5:30 pm. Mr. Rush noted the influent pump station, which houses about \$350,000 worth of electronics, needs some roof repairs. The roof can be replaced with a long term solution for approximately \$3,000. Mr. Rush also noted that the service line to the Holston Hills clubhouse was leaking. It is currently partially located on private property and a plan has been implemented to relocate that portion onto Town property and install a new meter where the course connects to Fairway Drive.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-1), (A-6) and (A-7) upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Council entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of Personnel matters, Investment of public funds and legal consultation. 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 5 AYES and 0 NOES. The Town Clerk polled the Council Members. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Carter, Barker and Jennings voted affirmatively.

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

Mayor

Clerk