

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 8, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Larry Carter, Bill Weaver, Tricia Spencer and Suzanne Jennings Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Police Sergeant Steve Widner; Public Works Director Jackie Perry; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Marion Downtown Director Olivia Hall McDonald (left early) and Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings.

ABSENT: None.

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

VISITORS: Michael Edwards, Jeff Spickard, Charles Hayden, Duane & Louise Apland and Richard Dority.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held August 17, 2015 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Barker, Carter, Spencer, Jennings and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved as distributed with one addition under Town Manager for garbage truck and dumpster.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Duane & Louise Apland, 100 Millerwood Circle, expressed their concerns about dogs barking in their neighborhood. The dogs posing the problems are located at 216 and 218 Millerwood Avenue. Mr. Rush will follow up on this issue.

Richard Dority expressed some concerns he has regarding the building on Dover Street that the town is considering purchasing. Mr. Rush reviewed the status of this proposal.

Mrs. Jennings distributed a brochure for the Lincoln Theatre.

Mayor Helms read a Proclamation recognizing September 17 through 23, 2015 as Constitution Week. September 17, 2015 marks the two hundred twenty-eighth anniversary of the framing of the Constitution of the United States of America. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Proclamation was adopted. Reminder of the VML Conference October 4-6, 2015 in Richmond. Mayor Helms attended Song of the Mountains Saturday and noted there was a great attendance and glad the issues have been resolved. The Extra Mile Nominations need to be submitted by the first meeting in November. A thank you letter from Emory & Henry for our support is included in the agenda packet. Ms. Lawrence's family was appreciative for those attending her Celebration of Life Sunday.

Mr. Jennings reviewed the programs currently in session at the Recreation Department. The pools have closed for the season. The site inspection for the mixed beverage license should be scheduled soon.

Mrs. McDonald reported Bedford Main Street group will be here tomorrow for a meeting with our Economic Development Department. This Saturday the Southwest Virginia Outdoor Expo will be held at Heartwood in Abingdon. Mrs. McDonald left.

Mr. Perry reviewed the operations of the Public Works Department. The water crew has finished the Holston Hills Lane Project. Mr. Perry was asked to check Prescott and Oakley intersection as there is no Yield or Stop sign present. A work program will be implemented soon that will allow prison inmates to work with the Town of Marion with a guard being provided by the prison.

Sergeant Widner reported for the Chief as he is at a Conference sponsored by the Academy. The Police Department is doing random security checks at the Wayne Henderson School. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Carter and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Iron Street from High Street to Orange Street will be closed from 12:00 noon until 4:00 pm on Sunday, September 13, 2015 for the Annual Mt Zion Church Event.

Mr. Heath noted the 9-11 Program will be Friday evening September 11, 2015 at the Fire Station. There will be a free concert after the program featuring Wilson Fairchild. Mr. Heath met today with Emory & Henry college about a grant for \$600,000 for the College that would be administered through the Town of Marion through DHCD Department of Housing and Community Development. More information will be presented at the September 21, 2015 meeting. There is another grant the Town is pursuing called a Vibrant Communities Grant for 2.5 million dollars. This would be available for shovel ready projects. Smyth County Community Hospital will hold a Public Hearing at the Holston Hills Community Golf Course September 15, 2015 at 5:30 pm about regional healthcare. The Chamber of Commerce networking breakfast will be held Wednesday, September 16, 2015 at 7:30 am.

Mr. Hicks reported W-L Construction will be scheduling paving Highway 16 in two to three weeks. Holston Hills Lane will be paved at the same time. Water tank maintenance repairs will need to be addressed between now and spring. The five year inspections are also due on the tanks. Virginia Department of Health approvals for the Zone Meter project force account may be a slight hold up. Mr. Spickard noted the Categorical Exclusion is project specific and may need to be re-advertised.

Mr. Rush reviewed the CIRP plan and noted after the first few projects he anticipates a great saving by using the force account. He also reviewed the CIRP checking account and how it will be tied to a Line of Credit Sweep account. The hopes are that this project will be a fifteen year project and in year eleven, year one loans will have been paid for and all water and sewer lines in town will have been replaced. The two dollar increase for the garbage rates last July has been set aside in a checking account which has approximately \$60,000 currently. We are in need of a new garbage truck very soon. These funds could be used as a down payment for the new truck. Also a rolling dumpster is needed to help with junk and when the garbage truck is out of service. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Manager is authorized to purchase one dumpster from these funds and research the purchase of a heavy duty garbage truck and refurbish the current truck as a backup and place the third truck in surplus property.

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

Mayor

Clerk