

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 21, 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; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Police Chief Rex Anders; Economic Development Director Ken Heath (left early); Wayne Henderson Appalachian School of Arts Director Catherine Poole; Marion Downtown Director Olivia Hall McDonald (left early) and Purchasing Agent Billy Hamm.

ABSENT: None.

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

VISITORS: Michael Edwards, Jeff Spickard, Bob Lincoln, Avery Cornett, Ed & Karen Fouts, Greg Vannoy, Charles Hayden, Lou Fincher, Kathy Boatwright and Joseph Taylor.

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 September 8, 2015 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Barker, Carter, Spencer, Jennings and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved as distributed with one addition under Town Manager for Sewer Treatment Roof Proposal.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: None.

Mrs. McDonald noted receipt of a VML Safety Grant to purchase 75 barricades. Mrs. McDonald left.

Mr. Heath introduced Emory & Henry College guests, Lou Fincher, Kathi Boatwright and Joseph Taylor. Mr. Heath reviewed a Resolution in Support of a Grant Application for DHCD IRF Funds for the EHC School of Health Sciences. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution in Support of this \$600,000 Grant was adopted. The Tobacco Commission is hosting a Reception in Wytheville tomorrow night. The trip to Marion, NC, to establish a Sister Community Partnership, has been rescheduled to Wednesday, September 30, 2015. Mr. Heath left.

Mr. Vannoy with Mount Rogers Planning District Commission reviewed the Crescent/Palmer Rehab Project as we are wrapping up Phase I. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Fair Housing Resolution was adopted for Crescent/Palmer Rehab Phase II. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Program Management Plan/Program Design for Crescent/Palmer Phase II was adopted.

Mr. Barker invited anyone that is interested to serve on the Tree Commission.

Mayor Helms reminded everyone of the VML Conference October 4-6, 2015 in Richmond. The first week of November will be Extra Mile Week. The Council meeting scheduled for Monday, October 5, 2015 will be rescheduled for Thursday, October 8, 2015. The Medical Science Reception and Golf Tournament had 108 participants. Mayor Helms attended the Fly In at the Mountain Empire Airport Saturday. Smyth County Tourism Most Beautiful People nominations will be presented September 29, 2015 at 4:00 pm at the Chilhowie Town Park. Mayor Helms thanked Mr. Heath for the 9-11 Program.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$973,145.75. Messrs Weaver, Barker, Carter, Dr. Gates, Spencer and Jennings voted affirmatively.

Chief Hamm reported that an EMS Grant has been applied for through the Virginia Department of Health. This is an 80/20 grant that if awarded could purchase a new ambulance as well as training aids. The two quints are repaired and back in service. There is a state funded fire fighter class being taught in Smyth County. We have 4 members registered. Newly hired EMS personnel will begin October 1, 2015. There are 7 new part time staff members. October is Fire Prevention Month.

Chief Anders thanked Council for the opportunity to attend two conferences this month. Chief Anders is a member of the Iron Warriors Motorcycle Club for the Eastern Region. June 2016 their meeting will be held in Marion with 50-250 participants.

Mr. Hicks reported paving of Highway 16 will begin in about two weeks. Mr. Hicks reviewed a Special Use Permit application for 613 Goolsby Street for Steve Horne. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, a Public Hearing will be scheduled for October 8, 2015 for consideration of the Special Use Permit request for 613 Goolsby Street by Steve Horne.

Mr. Rush reported that the Department of Environmental Quality application has been submitted. Mr. Rush reviewed a proposal from Cornett Roofing for repairs at the Sewer Treatment Plant digester building. Discussion ensued regarding gathering proposals from other contractors. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Request for Proposals must be submitted to two more vendors, if no others respond accept the bid from Cornett Roofing for \$23,000, if other proposals are submitted then it will be brought back to council for consideration.

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

Mayor

Clerk