

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 November 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Vice-Mayor Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Larry Carter, Bill Weaver, Avery Cornett, Tricia Spencer and Suzanne Jennings Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Cindy Stanley; Deputy Clerk Anita Catron; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Police Chief Rex Anders; Purchasing Agent Billy Hamm and Planning Commission Members Cameron Wolfe, Bob Ramsey, Dan Surface, and Ben Reedy.

ABSENT: Mayor Helms.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Mr. Hicks rendered the invocation. Vice-Mayor Dr. Gates led the Pledge to the Flag.

VISITORS: Jeff Spickard, Charles Hayden, Karen and Ed Fouts, Bill Huber (arriving late) and Malcolm Brown, IV .

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held November 2, 2015 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Barker, Carter, Jennings, Spencer, Cornett and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved as distributed with one change under Councilman Weaver, his Extra Mile Nomination will be moved to the next meeting.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: None.

PUBLIC HEARING ROBERT FRANCIS REZONING REQUEST: Vice-Mayor Dr. Gates turned the public hearing over to Chairman Wolfe of the Planning Commission. Chairman Wolfe stated the request from Robert Francis is for rezoning the Old Francis Brothers Building from Commercial General to R-3 Residential. Mr. Hicks reviewed the request with a description of the property noting the intended use is for 19 apartments for Emory and Henry students. Mr. Hicks noted that the requirement is for 2 parking spaces per dwelling and the proposed plans allow for 49 parking spaces, which more than meets the requirements. Mr. Huber, the potential buyer for the property was not present. Chairman Wolfe opened the public hearing for comments and questions. Mrs. Jennings noted this is a good use for this property. Mr. Ed Fouts expressed his concerns about the ingress and egress of traffic at this corner which already has a traffic congestion issue. With no further comments Chairman Wolfe closed the public hearing. Upon motion of Mr. Surface, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 4 AYES and 0 NOES, Planning Commission recommends to Council to rezone the properties 309, 311, 315 and 317 North Main Street from Commercial General to R-3 Residential with the exception of building "I" on the plat as it is to remain as currently zoned. Mr. Rush noted a revised plat has been submitted and building "I" is now labeled as "H". Mr. Hicks produced the revised plat, Planning Commission and Council reviewed and the motion was amended. Upon motion of Mr. Surface, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 4 AYES and 0 NOES, the previous motion is amended to 309, 311, 315 and 317 North Main Street with the exception of "H" on plat dated 11/12/2015 be rezoned from Commercial General to R-3 Residential. Mr. Barker, Council's representative on the Planning Commission, moved to the Council diaz. Vice-Mayor Dr. Gates welcomed newly elected Council Member Avery Cornett. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, 309, 311, 315 and 317 North Main Street are rezoned to R-3 Residential with the exception of "H" on the plat dated 11/12/2015.

Mrs. Jennings reported neighbors were complementary of the leaf pick up currently underway.

Mr. Barker welcomed Mr. Cornett.

Vice-Mayor Dr. Gates noted the Girls Volleyball State Semifinals game will be at 6:00 pm Tuesday night. Extra Mile Nominations are still being accepted. Celebrity Bagging Day at Food City will be Tuesday, November 24, 2015 at 3:00 pm. The SWVA Legislative Breakfast was this morning at the Bristol Holiday Inn. He also reviewed the request for a Public Hearing. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mrs.

Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, a Public Hearing was set for December 7, 2015 at 5:30 pm regarding an ordinance change for the Police Department and Planning Commission to fall under the administrative control of the Town Manager.

Mr. Fenyk reminded everyone of the Chamber of Commerce Dinner Thursday, November 19, 2015 at 6:30 pm at the Riverfront in Chilhowie.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$664,661.85. Messrs Weaver, Barker, Carter, Cornett, Spencer, Dr. Gates, and Jennings voted affirmatively.

Chief Hamm reviewed the Fire/EMS report. He noted that Fire Member Jim Talley had completed an extensive report regarding our presence on facebook and noted that it is included in the packet.

Chief Anders reminded everyone of the Christmas parade Sunday, November 22, 2015 at 3:00 pm. Chief Anders reported that a felony warrant had been served today for Mr. Parks at 633 Henry Street.

Mr. Huber arrived and apologized for being late and thanked Council for the rezoning of the Old Francis Brothers Property.

Mr. Hicks reported that Highway 16 has been paved and will be striped soon. He also noted that the work being completed on the Co-Gen Project at the Sewer Treatment Plant should be under warranty. The repairs to the digester building roof began November 11, 2015. The zone meter project will be done by force account and the material bids are due December 3, 2015.

Mr. Rush noted the Mutual Aid Agreement between the Town and Counties for Police Force expires December 31, 2015. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Mutual Aid Agreement between the County and three Towns was accepted. Mr. Spickard gave an update on the CIRP project and noted Phase I has 27 projects (block to block intersections). Some of the projects will be done by force account and some projects will need to be completed by outside contractors. Mr. Hamm is preparing a rough draft on specifications for a new garbage truck. Mayor Helms has been asked to serve on the VML Executive Committee again. Mr. Rush distributed a list of potential candidates for the Planning Commission and Council members ranked them according to their preference and returned to Mr. Rush.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk