

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 June 2, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Jim Owens, Tricia Spencer, Larry Carter and Bill Weaver 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; Town Engineer Assistant Todd Long; Police Chief Rex Anders; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Marion Downtown Director Olivia Hall; Public Works Director Jackie Perry; Recreation Program Coordinator Jamie Hall and Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings.

ABSENT: Suzanne Jennings.

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

VISITORS: Mike Edwards, Bob Lincoln, Charles Wassum, Dave Thomas, Christy Moss and Jeff Spickard.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held May 19, 2014 were approved as written. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Owens, Barker, Spencer and Carter voted affirmatively.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the joint meeting and joint Public Hearing with Smyth County and the Commission on Local Governments held May 13, 2014 were approved as written with one correction under members present. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Owens, Barker, Spencer and Carter voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Mr. Bob Lincoln, General Francis Marion Hotel, thanked everyone involved in the Memorial Day Festivities. This was a great weekend for local businesses.

Mr. Owens noted that he has received many positive comments about the Memorial Day Weekend events. He noted that one of the Pedestrian Cross Walk Lights was not working at Nain and Church Street.

Ms. Spencer had received citizen requests about the mowing of Wassona Circle. Mr. Rush noted this was going to be moved up on the mowing schedule.

Mayor Helms noted that June is Business Appreciation Month and asked Mr. Heath to read the Resolution. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Business Appreciation Resolution was accepted. Mayor Helms noted that the Extra Mile Day is November 1, 2014 and nominations need to be submitted if Council would like to continue this program. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Extra Mile Day Program will continue with nominations being due late summer. The Regional VML meeting will be June 25, 2014 at 5:30 pm at the General Francis Marion Hotel. Let Ms. Stanley know if you will be attending. Mayor Helms thanked the VFW for all their hard work on the Memorial Day weekend. Mayor Helms also noted that he had received a note regarding excellent service on garbage pickup.

Ms. Stanley reviewed a Resolution needing to be submitted to Virginia Retirement System no later than July 1, 2014 to elect the Employer Retirement Contribution Rate. Ms. Stanley noted the difference in the two rates is \$14,190. Mr. Rush reviewed information received from Mr. Rohn Brown with VRS. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Carter and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Employer Retirement Contribution Rate Election Resolution was accepted at the Certified Rate of 15.92%.

Mayor Helms noted that on June 17, 2014 there will be a news conference in Richmond in regards to getting the State Budget passed.

Mr. Jennings noted a 12% increase from last May at the Golf Course. Memorial Day weekend was so busy they actually ran out of carts. Swimming lessons will begin on June 16, 2014. Jerry Breen and Mike

Sage rebuilt the pumps for the pool, saving approximately \$9,000. An activities calendar has been drafted for the Senior Citizen Center and will be available online.

Mr. Hall reviewed the activities for the recreation department for the month. He noted that the pool opened May 24, 2014. The first two weekends have been very busy and has created more than expected revenue. Citizens have been inquiring about reserving the shelter at the RiverBend Park. Research has determined \$50 should be a fair cost to reserve. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the shelter facility use agreement will be referred to the Recreation Committee.

Mr. Perry noted that the garbage truck is back in service. He will have Wassona Circle placed on the schedule to be mowed tomorrow. Brush pickup should be 100% complete in approximately 30 days. Mr. Barker noted that the brush pile can be burned now.

Chief Anders thanked all departments for helping with the Memorial Day Weekend festivities.

Ms. Hall thanked everyone for their help with the Memorial Day weekend festivities. There were 50 hikers that camped at RiverBend Park. The Farmers Market is going very well. The next Pop Up Boot Camp begins tomorrow night with 16 participants registered. The draft for the Centre Building Feasibility study has been received. Ms. Hall attended a National Main Street Conference in Detroit. The Chili Cook Off will be July 18, 2014.

Mr. Heath noted that retail recruitment continues. Construction has began on the Wayne Henderson Appalachian School of Arts. There were 28 applications received for the Director position for the School.

Mr. Hicks noted that the generator manufacture representative has tested the generator and is ready to start training our staff at the Sewer Treatment Plant. Baughman Avenue Bridge project has begun. He noted the paving bids are on page 26 of the packet. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the bid was awarded to W-L Paving in the amount of \$200,997.86 with a haul rate of \$98. A recommendation on paving the cart paths at the Golf Course will be presented at the June 16, 2014 meeting. Mr. Hicks noted that Michael Armbrister is leaving the Mt Rogers Planning District Commission.

Mr. Rush reported the Commission on Local Governments granted a two month extension on Voluntary Boundary Settlement. He is working to complete their request. The budget process is complete following the Public Hearing at the last meeting.

ADOPTION OF 2014-2015 BUDGET: Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the 2014-2015 Annual Budget was adopted in the amount of \$9,786,830.

The budget includes the following:

Garbage Rate increase to \$15.00

Mr. Rush continued with reviewing the debt refinancing options with Davenport & Company. A special called meeting is needed on June 26, 2014 to consider a Resolution for this process. He also reminded Council of the Meeting on June 30, 2014 to close out the Fiscal Year. Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Council will have a Special called meeting on June 26, 2014 at 5:00 pm and a Special called meeting on June 30, 2014 at 5:00 pm.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-1), (A-3) and (A-7) upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Council entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion or consideration of personnel matters, the acquisition of real property for a public purpose and consultation with legal counsel. Dr. Gates 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 6 AYES and 0 NOES. The Town Clerk polled the Council Members. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Carter, Barker, Spencer and Owens voted affirmatively.

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

Mayor

Clerk