

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 15, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Jim Owens, Suzanne Jennings, 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; Police Chief Rex Anders; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Economic Development Assistant Samantha White; Fiscal Technician Paula McIntosh; Marion Downtown Director Olivia Hall McDonald; and Purchasing Agent/Fire Chief Billy Hamm.

ABSENT: None.

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

VISITORS: Jeff Spickard, Bill Kittrell, Bob Lincoln, Sandip Patel, Nicole Vachon-Hanlon and Melanie Carter.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held September 2, 2014 were approved as written. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Barker, Owens, Carter, Spencer and Jennings voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved as presented.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Nicole Vachon-Hanlon, Project Coordinator for the Former Marion Ice Plant Dam Removal Project, gave an update on the project. She noted there is still a need for In-Kind services or donations for the hauling. Melanie Carter, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service representative, noted the Biological Consultation is not complete. Bill Kittrell, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, noted his agency is supportive of this project. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town Manager will work with these agencies to place memorabilia on this site.

Mr. Heath introduced Samantha White, the newly hired Economic Development Assistant.

Paula McIntosh gave an update on the Relay for Life, which will be held in Chilhowie on Saturday, May 16, 2015. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town will participate in the Relay for Life and will hold a raffle for one year free garbage pickup.

Mr. Barker noted a rezoning request for 410 East Main Street from R -1 to M-A. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, a Joint Public Hearing with the Marion Town Council and the Marion Planning Commission will be set for Monday, October 20, 2014 at 5:30pm.

Mr. Owens thanked everyone involved in the Patriots Day Program and was very appreciative.

Dr. Gates also noted his appreciation of the Patriots Day Program and thanked Mr. Wassum for mowing Wassona Circle.

Mayor Helms also noted his appreciation of the Patriots Day Program. The RiverBend Amphitheatre Concert will be held Sunday, September 28, 2014 at 4:00 pm. Mayor Helms reviewed the Proclamation for Constitution Week 2014. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Constitution Week 2014 Proclamation was accepted. The next Council meeting will be held Thursday, October 9, 2014 at 5:30 pm due to the VML Conference. Mayor Helms presented to the Council members a copy of the Marion Music Mural for review. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Marion Music Mural was accepted as presented.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$653,397.51.

Mr. Rush noted the Tournaments at the Golf Course have been well attended and Terry Jennings is working on a grant application for a driving range.

Mr. Hamm gave an update on the Fire/EMS merger and reviewed the Fire Report for the month. New Federal Law now requires all EMS personnel and affiliates to be finger printed. This has been scheduled and when complete, those members will be the new roster. Mr. Rush reviewed the Fire/EMS Ordinance noting the Attorney included all requirements per Code. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Fire/EMS Ordinance was adopted as written.

Chief Anders thanked Council for allowing him to attend training and Virginia Association of Chiefs of Police Conference in Roanoke.

Mrs. McDonald thanked Council for allowing her to attend the Main Street Conference in Winchester. A Homecoming for the United States Army Reserve Unit 760 will be held at the Town hall on Friday, October 24, 2014 at 10:30 am.

Mr. Heath noted an agenda for the National Media Tour on September 18 & 19, 2014 has been distributed. Ms. Poole has designed a web page for the Wayne Henderson Appalachian School of Arts. She is also working toward getting the school accredited.

Mr. Hicks reported that the Contractor noted the Co-Gen Project is still not substantial complete. The three day training session still has not been completed. Baughman Avenue Bridge is scheduled to open tomorrow, September 16, 2014.

Mr. Rush attended a meeting in Richmond last Monday regarding the Boundary Adjustment. There needs to be a Public Hearing on the revised version of the Boundary Adjustment. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town Manager is to set the date for a Public Hearing on the revised version of the Boundary Adjustment.

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

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

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Mayor

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Clerk