

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 April 1, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms; Jim Barker, Jim Owens, Dr. Jim Gates, Tricia Spencer, Suzanne Jennings, Bill Weaver and Larry Carter Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Police Lieutenant Rex Anders; Police Chief Mike Roberts; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Economic Development Director Assistant Olivia Hall; Assistant Town Engineer Todd Long; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Cindy Stanley.

ABSENT: None

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

VISITORS: Charles Wassum, Harley Pack, Bill Veselik, Branson Bowman, Leiann Thompson, Howard Burton and Jeff Spickard.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held March 18, 2013 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Owens, Carter, Barker, Jennings, Spencer and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

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

Mayor Helms presented retiree Harley Pack with his retirement gift.

Mayor Helms welcomed the new Town Manager Bill Rush.

Mayor Helms also acknowledged a Thank You note from Former Town Manager John Clark.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Chief Roberts introduced two interns from Wytheville Community College, Leiann Thompson and Branson Bowman. They thanked everyone for the opportunity to intern with the Marion Police Department.

RESOLUTION HONORING DELEGATE JOSEPH P. JOHNSON, JR. FOR SERVICE IN HOUSE OF DELEGATES: Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this Resolution was continued.

RESOLUTION DECLARING APRIL 2013 NATIONAL AUTISM AWARENESS MONTH: Mr. Heath read the Resolution. Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was accepted.

APPROVAL OF PAY REQUEST NUMBER 16 ON DIGESTER PROJECT: Mr. Hicks noted the breakdown from Thompson & Litton for this pay request was for engineering services in the amount of \$1,000. Expected date of delivery for the generator is June 28, 2013. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, pay request number 16 in the amount of \$1,000 was approved.

APPROVAL OF FEDERAL HOME LOAN BANK APPLICATION: Mr. Rush met with the Bank of Marion. The CDBG application score can become stronger if the Town is partnered with a bank for a 5% line of credit. This makes the project more viable for local contractors because of project cash flow timeliness. This could also increase the score of the application by a possible 15 points. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Carter and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, a partnership in the form of an operating line of credit not to exceed \$50,000 and specific to the Crescent/Palmer rehabilitation project with the Bank of Marion was approved to improve the quality of the application.

APPROVAL OF DRAWDOWN #1 FOR WAYNE HENDERSON SCHOOL OF MUSIC: Mr. Heath noted this is the first drawdown for the Old Schoolhouse Project in the amount of \$84,875. The amount of \$10,600 is for administrative, \$35,875 and \$38,400 for design. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, drawdown #1 in the amount of \$84,875 was approved.

ADVERTISEMENT ON SALE OF SURPLUS PROPERTY ON CRESCENT: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver, this item was continued.

NOTICE OF WORKER'S COMPENSATION HEARING ON APRIL 3, 2013: Mr. Rush will report to Council at next meeting.

RESOLUTION ON MEMBER CONTRIBUTION FOR PLAN 1 EMPLOYEES: Ms. Stanley noted for fiscal year 2013 Council had elected a 1 percent member contribution for employees. Council must elect to increase the member contribution by at least 1 percent for fiscal year 2014, as required by Virginia Code. Council may elect to increase it by more than 1 percent up to the full 5 percent. Council must also certify in the Resolution that employees will receive an offsetting salary increase effective July 1, 2013. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was approved to increase the member contribution 1 percent and implement an offsetting salary increase.

NOTIFICATION ON TOWN WINNING VIRGINIA MAIN STREET MILESTONE AWARD: Mr. Heath noted the award recognized the business creation success resulting from the "pop-up Marion" program. Mr. Heath also noted the second Small Business Boot Camp has been completed.

ORDINANCE COMMITTEE ON FIRE DEPARTMENT EMT'S: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was continued.

Mrs. Jennings attended the Senior Citizens Advisory Board meeting and it is the Advisory Boards recommendation to the Marion Town Council is the Older Americans Day event be held in Marion for 2013, with an intention of formulating and coordinating a county wide event next year with the other municipalities.

Mr. Owens noted that during the Courthouse construction citizens should be reminded to use the parking garage.

Mr. Barker noted that this Saturday from 8 to 12 a Fishing Day will be held on the South Fork of the Holston River at the Golf Course.

Mayor Helms attended the Main Street meeting in Richmond, where he was glad to be there to see Ken accept the award. We were one of six Main Street Programs to receive one of these awards. The March of Dimes Walk will be held May 11, 2013 at the RiverBend Park. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the March of Dimes walk was approved and the Police Department will coordinate the route. Dr. Gates will present a Resolution to Mr. Rodriguez on May 5, 2013 at the Lincoln Theatre. Roanoke College is working on the 140th Anniversary of the Marion College and will be honoring Leah Buchanan.

Mr. Heath noted the Farmers Market will open on May 11, 2013. Mr. Heath has met with property owners and tenants on the VDOT North Iron Street Project. Everyone is in agreement and ready to move forward with the contract. This is the last phase of the current Streetscape Project. A meeting regarding the Tax Credits for the Old Schoolhouse Project will be scheduled with Dr. Gates and Mr. Owens. Blue Ridge Public Television has some changes that may affect local reception of their programming.

Mr. Hicks noted digging on Main Street for the Courthouse renovations will begin tomorrow with lane rerouting and should take approximately 8 days. Mr. Hicks attended a scoping meeting for the South Church Street Drainage Project. February 2015 is a tentative start date. Chatham Hill Road Bridge was bid last Monday and will begin when school lets out for the summer.

Mr. Rush thanked Council for hiring him and allowing him 2 weeks to shadow Mr. Clark which was very helpful.

Mayor Helms noted the VFW Memorial Day Program has permission to place a POW/MIA Memorial at the Courthouse. Ms. Rebecca Pippin of WENT Fox 39 will be the key note speaker at the Memorial Day event at the VFW at 12:00 noon. There will be a meeting tomorrow night at 7 pm at the VFW to begin planning the event if anyone is interested in attending.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-7) 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 legal consultation. 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 vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES. The Town Clerk polled the Council Members. Messrs Owens, Weaver, Carter, Dr. Gates, Barker, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Ordinance Committee will meet regarding water ordinance and report back to Council.

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

Mayor

Clerk