

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

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

ABSENT: Jim Owens.

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

VISITORS: Jeff Spickard, Charles Hayden, Charles Wassum, Jarrod Lundy, Emily Kell, Aaron Coalson, Michael Alexander and Kurt Stallard.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held June 17, 2013 were approved as written. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Carter, Jennings, Spencer and Barker voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Agenda was approved.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held June 19, 2013 were approved as written. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Carter, Jennings, Spencer and Barker voted affirmatively.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held June 28, 2013 were approved as written. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Carter, Jennings, Spencer and Barker voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Mayor Helms introduced Specialist E4 Jarrod Lundy with the United States Army. He was accompanied by his sister, Emily Kell. When Specialist Lundy's troop was deployed to Iraq in 2011, Mayor Helms sent the troop a flag. The flag traveled with this troop and now Specialist Lundy is presenting the flag back to Mayor Helms.

MUNICIPALITY MEETING - AIRPORT - JULY 11 - HELMS, WEAVER, RUSH: Mayor Helms reminded everyone of the Airport meeting to be held July 11, 2013 at the County Office building in Wythe County.

COURT STREET PERMANENT CLOSURE AND DEED REQUEST: Mr. Rush noted this request has come to us by the County. Staff recommendation is to refer this to the Street Committee. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Street Committee.

BACK OF THE DRAGON - REDIRECTION OF ALLOCATED FUNDS REQUEST: Mr. Heath noted at last Council meeting \$5,000 was allocated for an event in the fall. However, the recommendation is to hold this event in the spring of next year to allow time for better planning. Staff recommendation is to consider use of the funds for signs and to help promote the next event. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, \$5,000 was redirected for marketing the Back of the Dragon events.

Mayor Helms noted the newspaper reported \$400,000 CDBG Grant for Crescent/Palmer Housing Project had been approved. The Song of the Mountains event held this past weekend raised approximately \$15,000. The Fireworks are still scheduled for the Fourth of July. The Town Picnic will be Friday July 12, 2013 at 12:00 noon at RiverBend Park. The VML Conference will be held in Arlington this year and registration forms need to be turned into Ms. Stanley. Mr. Heath, Olivia Hall, James McNeil and Kristen Untiedt were in Richmond to accept the SBA Award.

Mr. Fenyk reported that Dr. Cassell will provide information for the Release of Lien for Stage Street. He is still working on the Deed for Surplus lot on Crescent Avenue.

Ms. Stanley noted the end of year closing with the auditors went very well and they will return in a couple weeks to begin the detailed work for the audit.

Mr. Heath gave an update on the School of Music. There is a strategic plan in place and three to four classes pursuing to begin in September. The State is pleased this project is back on track. The Iron Street Mall Project will hopefully be completed by the end of July. There will be a Street Dance on Saturday July 6 on Broad Street. The Chili Cook Off will be Friday July 19 from 5 pm until midnight. Batman movie will be playing Saturday July 20 at the Lincoln Theatre. The Holston Harwood Building study has been completed. The IRF Grant needs to be applied for if we intend to proceed with purchasing this building. There is a local business still interested in the use of this building. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town will apply for this grant.

Mr. Hicks reported the Edwynne Water Line bid date is the end of July and the street will be paved this fall. Three leaks were noted after Dover Street was milled and paving was halted immediately. A two inch plastic line will be installed to correct this problem and this will be a good pilot project for the use of plastic lines. This project should be completed in about three weeks. The Downtown Crosswalk has been repaired.

Mr. Rush noted the Golf Course ABC License should be processed by the middle of July. Mr. Rush would like to see some operating guidelines put into place for all town properties. The repairs to the Chatham Hill Bridge are not significantly impacting the pool revenue.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-1) upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Council entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of personnel matters. 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 6 AYES and 0 NOES. The Town Clerk polled the Council Members. Messrs Weaver, Carter, Barker, Dr. Gates, Jennings and Spencer voted affirmatively.

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

Mayor

Clerk