

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 15, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms; Tricia Spencer, Suzanne Jennings, Bill Weaver, Jim Barker, Jim Owens 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 Lieutenant Andrew Moss; Purchasing Agent Billy Hamm; Golf Course General Manager Terry Jennings; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Town Engineer Assistant Todd Long; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Cindy Stanley.

ABSENT: Dr. Jim Gates.

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

VISITORS: Charles Hayden, Jeff Spickard, David Thomas, Charles Wassum, Susan and Mike Edwards, Linda Alexander, Michael Alexander, Aaron Coalson, James McNeil, Roy McNeil, Sarah McNeil and Teresa McNeil.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held July 1, 2013 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Owens, Barker, Carter, Jennings and Spencer 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.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: Dr. Michael Alexander introduced himself to Council. He is a new doctor in town and is interested in developing an Urgent Care facility in Marion. He will work with Ken Heath on this project.

Mrs. Susan Edwards, the new owner of the Collins House Inn, approached Council with some ideas to promote recycling. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Sanitation Committee.

MUNICIPALITY MEETING - AIRPORT: Mr. Rush noted the meeting was an overview on the Airport. The committee was asked to contact other Airports for a comparison. The committee also contacted a knowledgeable individual who has agreed to attend the next meeting which will be on July 29th at the Town of Marion Municipal Building.

RESOLUTION FOR MCNEIL FURNITURE: Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was approved. Mayor Helms read the Resolution in Appreciation and Recognition of the 70th Anniversary of McNeil Furniture and presented the Resolution to the McNeil Family.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$293,710.93.

INVESTMENTS: Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the investment report was accepted.

WTP LEASE: Mr. Rush noted the land lease agreement at the Water Treatment Plant will expire the end of July and needs to be re-bid. This is for a 5 year lease. Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 5 AYES, 0 NOES and 1 ABSTENTION (Mrs. Jennings had stepped out of the room to accept a phone call), this land lease will be advertised for renewal.

SHELTER CONSTRUCTION - CORNER OF PEARL & BUCHANAN - IN KIND GRANT MATCH: Mr. Rush noted that as part of this housing project the Town had agreed to provide a shelter and a green space as an in kind match. There will be 3 options put together for a shelter, primarily as a school bus stop for the children in this area. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Mr. Owens reminded everyone of the Chili Cook-Off Friday.

Mr. Barker commended the Marion Police Department for increased visibility in Town.

Mayor Helms noted the Town Picnic went well and thanked everyone for their help. He also noted the music at the Spirit Gallery and the concert at the Farmers Market Friday evening were very well attended. Mayor Helms reported a grant for the Streetscape Project and the Palmer/Crescent Housing Project had been awarded. There was an informational meeting last Thursday night for the Palmer/Crescent Housing project which was well attended.

Mr. Fenyk noted that in regards to the deed for Stage Street, this has been turned over to the County Attorney. Mr. Fenyk is also still working on the final plat for the deed on Crescent Avenue.

Ms. Stanley reported the auditor was on-site last Wednesday and Thursday and will return for a week-long visit the first week in August. The last payment on the Sewer Treatment Plant Rehab Loan has been received and this will be paid in full by the end of this month.

Mr. Heath noted School of Music has approximately 20 instructors, with several ready to teach in the fall. We are still looking at a completion of the Iron Street Project at the end of July. Reminder of the 27th Chili Cook-Off Friday. There are 13 teams signed up. The Grand Opening for the Distillery will be this Friday at noon. The 911 Memorial design has been scaled back and is anticipated to be completed by this 9/11. The Harwood IRF application will be submitted in August. Wolfe's BBQ is a new business downtown and a ribbon cutting will be coming soon. They sold out of food the first day of business and they have 27 employees in place.

Mr. Hicks informed staff and Council the dryers for the Co-Gen Project have been installed and a delivery for the generator is now the end of July. There were 4 contractors present for the Pre-Bid meeting on Edwynne Water Line Replacement and bids are due July 24th. The Dover Water Line Replacement is about 50% complete. Mr. Hicks noted the contractor on the Chatham Hill Road Bridge Rehab Project has informed him the deadline of August 15th will not be met due to set backs from the weather.

Mr. Jennings noted that the ABC Licensure is still requesting a couple more items. The Johnny Greer Tournament will be held August 1st and 2nd. He reported the lighting issues of the parking lot has been addressed and a plan of action has been implemented. The Golf Course will hold a Tennis Camp August 5th thru the 8th for ages 5-14 at a cost of \$10 each.

Mr. Rush clarified the plan for the lighting is not going forward yet due to clarification of cost. He reported some patching at the Golf Course is necessary, however the paving of the cart path must be further explored, due to the availability of a contractor with the correct equipment to pave the cart path. ISO 9000 rating is used by insurance companies to base their rates on in individual localities. We are currently a 6, with a 1 at best and a 10 at worst. We are currently developing a plan to reach a level 3 and the costs involved. A plan for review will be submitted soon for Guidelines for Operations of the Amphitheatre. The Smyth Bland Regional Library Audit is available. A breakfast by Morgan Griffith for elected officials will be held August 7th at 8am.

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

Mayor

Clerk

