

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 October 7, 2013 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms; Dr. Jim Gates, 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; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings (arrived late); Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Town Engineer Assistant 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, Charles Hayden, Jeff Spickard, James McNeil and Joanna Kelly.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held September 16, 2013 were approved as written. Messrs Gates, Weaver, Owens, Carter, Spencer, Jennings and Barker voted affirmatively.

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

PUBLIC PRESENTATION: None

REMINDER BOUNDARY ADJUSTMENT PUBLIC HEARING OCTOBER 17, 2013 6 PM LINCOLN THEATRE: Mr. Rush reminded everyone of the Joint Public Hearing on the requested boundary adjustment between the Town of Marion and Smyth County which will be held at the Lincoln Theatre on October 17, 2013 at 6:00 pm.

STREET LIGHTS BAUGHMAN AVENUE AND RIVERBEND PARK: Mr. Rush noted this is a very dark area and lighting needs to be installed for safety. The quote to install additional lighting is in the amount of \$4,200. Upon motion of Ms. Spencer, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the additional lighting was approved.

AIRPORT FUNDING REQUEST AND UPDATE: Mr. Rush reviewed this request. Staff recommends releasing the funds. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the first quarterly payment of funds for the Airport was approved.

WASSONA PARK PATHWAY REQUEST: Mr. Rush reviewed this citizens request for a pathway to be installed in Wassona Park. Discussion ensued in regards to the possibility of the Boy Scouts doing this as one of their projects. Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Carter and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was tabled until we get more information.

Mr. Barker noted citizens seemed to be pleased with the pavement striping.

Dr. Gates noted some citizens are interested in helping the Town to maintain the flowers and planters on Main Street. Anyone interested should be advised to contact Mr. Heath and he will arrange the details of this project.

Mayor Helms reminded everyone of the upcoming Virginia Municipal League Conference to be held in Arlington. Nomination forms for the Extra Mile Day are included in the packet. Please have these turned into Mr. Heath by October 21, 2013. The nominations will be presented at the Council meeting on November 4, 2013. There is an Appreciation letter in the packet from Delegate Johnson for the Resolution Council presented to him.

Mr. Heath noted people have signed up for classes for the Wayne Henderson School of Appalachian Arts. The Director position for the Wayne Henderson School of Appalachian Arts has been advertised. A

Notice to Proceed has been issued for the construction phase of the School of Arts. Discussion ensued in regards to Wayne Henderson not being included on the Mural. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Mr. Heath is to express to Mr. White if the funds go through the Town of Marion for the School of Music then the Town will have some control in regards to the Mural. Mr. Heath submitted a response to the Executive Committee of the Tobacco Commission in regards to a request for repayment of funds for First Fruits Beverage Company. The Tobacco Commission issued a two year agreement to allow the Town to bridge this gap with the current Bottling Company. Mr. Heath and Mr. Barker will work on the Arbor Day application. Mr. Heath presented a Resolution of Support for a Scenic Overlook for Back of the Dragon. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was approved. Mr. Heath reviewed Pay Request #11 for the Streetscape project. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, pay request # 11 for the Streetscape Project was approved in the amount of \$13,300.

Lieutenant Anders noted Officer Hagy and Sergeant Hamm are now trained as Child Safety Seat Technicians. The Police Department now has 6 officers currently trained to instruct the proper installation of child safety seats to the public.

Mr. Hicks noted the Generator for the Co-Gen Project is on site and is ready to be installed. The Edwynne Water Line Replacement will begin tomorrow. Striping should be complete in two to three more weeks. The Virginia Department of Transportation investigated the intersection of Baughman Avenue and Lincoln Avenue and determined there is no need for a yield sign.

Mr. Jennings gave a brief update on the Golf Course. The ballroom was busy the month of September. They have finished the bookings of the former Leasee. The paving of the cart path will continue to be researched until next spring.

Mr. Rush has met with Dr. Robinson of the Smyth County School Board and the Town of Marion will partner with them on the recycling project. Discussion ensued in regards to the cable/phone/internet with Comcast. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Mr. Rush is authorized to sign the agreements with Comcast.

Mr. Long spoke about our safety training goals.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-1), (A-3) and (A-7) upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Dr. Gates and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Council entered into Closed Session for the purpose of discussion of personnel matters, discussion of the disposition of publicly held real property and a potential legal issue. 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 Weaver, Carter, Barker, Owens, Dr. Gates, Jennings and Spencer voted affirmatively.

Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Owens and a vote of 6 AYES, 0 NOES and 1 ABSTENTION (Barker), Council empowered Mr. Barker and Mr. Hicks to contact the State as to the availability of a hydrologist/geologist to evaluate a land purchase.

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

Mayor

Clerk