

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 May 2, 2011 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms; Jane Hale, Dr. Jim Gates (arriving late), Tricia Spencer, Suzanne Jennings, Bill Weaver, Jim Owens and Jim Barker, Council Members; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Town Manager John E. B. Clark, Jr.; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Community and Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Police Chief Mike Roberts; Police Lieutenant Rex Anders; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Susan Clark.

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

VISITORS: Jeff Spickard, Sara Kegley, Kenneth Burkett, Susie Burkett

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 March 21, 2011 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Weaver, Owens, Ms. Spencer, Mrs. Jennings and Mrs. Hale voted affirmatively.

PUBLIC HEARING TO CONSIDER MOVING THE LOCATION OF RED BIRD TAXI: Mayor Helms opened the Public Hearing. Lieutenant Anders stated that Kenneth and Susie Burkett, Red Bird Taxi, would like to move their taxi cab stand from 207 Broad Street to 112 N Commerce Street due to the need for more space and parking. The Police Department sees no problem with this move. There was no public opposition to the proposed move. Mayor Helms closed the Public Hearing. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Ms. Spencer and vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the request was approved by Council.

Dr. Gates arrived.

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING HUNGRY MOTHER STATE PARK ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY: Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Barker and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was continued.

PROCLAMATION DECLARING MAY 6, 2011 ARBOR DAY: Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Owens and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the proclamation was approved. The Arbor Day events will be held at the Blue Ridge Job Corps Center on Friday May 6, 2011.

RESOLUTION-OLDER AMERICANS MONTH-MAY, 2011: Mayor Helms stated that there will be a celebration at the Riverbend Park on May 20, 2011 at 11:00 a.m. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES the Resolution was adopted.

SEWER TREATMENT PLANT PHASE 1 UPGRADE PROJECT: Mr. Jeff Spickard stated that F L Showalter was the low bidder at \$442,900. There were four (4) bids on the project. The Town must approve the bid so that Rural Development can release the funds. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Hale and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the bid in the amount of \$442,900 was accepted by Council. Mr. Clark reported that Mt. Rogers PDC will probably approve \$100,000 to the Town for the water and

wastewater funds. The town applied last year but finished below the threshold now another localities project fell through, which could make the town eligible for the funds.

PAVING SCHEDULE: Mr. Hicks stated paving bids will be opened Thursday, May 12 at 1:00 p.m. Mr. Hicks will report to Council of the low bidder at the May 16, 2011 meeting. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Owens and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, staff is to proceed with the bid process.

SIGNALIZATION PROJECT-UPDATE ON PROPERTY ACQUISITION FOR SEVEN PARCELS AT THREE INTERSECTIONS: Mr. Fenyk stated that the plats cannot be recorded or presented by VDOT. VDOT estimated cost to prepare is approximately \$4,000. Mr. Clark stated that all property owners are in agreement with the Town. Staff suggests acquiring a private surveyor to prepare the plats for lower costs.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Owens asked if VDOT would accept the plats from a private surveyor. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Owens and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Town staff is to meet with VDOT District Administrator to discuss preparing the plats or hiring a private surveyor to prepare them. VDOT must approve this in writing.

2011-2012 BUDGET: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Budget Workshop is set for May 20, 2011 at 3:00 p.m.

MARION DOWNTOWN: Mr. Heath stated that he has scheduled the Downtown Summer Events and would like Council approval to continue with the preparations. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Council approved the Downtown Summer Events.

SENIOR CITIZENS CENTER: Mr. Hicks stated that there are problems with the drainage and floors in the kitchen at the Senior Center. Estimated cost is not to exceed \$22,500, but staff feels it will be much less. Mrs. Jennings suggested that District Three contribute to the cost of the project.

PLANNING COMMISSION APPOINTMENT: Mayor Helms stated that Ms. Shirley Spencer's term will expire on June 18, 2011 and she does not want to be re-appointed to the Commission. Mr. Hicks stated that Planning Commission will meet Monday, May 9, 2011 and will give a recommendation to Council at the May 16th meeting.

BRIDGE REPAIRS: Mr. Hicks stated that Mattern and Craig has issued a bridge inspection report to the Town. Several older bridges in Town need repairs and maintenance. Mr. Hicks added that he is preparing the bid specifications for the Shugart Bridge. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Council approved bidding the repairs on the Shugart Bridge.

STAGE STREET RE-ALIGNMENT: Mr. Weaver explained the Counties project to re-align Stage Street at the Marion Primary School to help alleviate problems with traffic flow. Dr. Gates stated that adjoining property owners must be notified before proceeding with the project. The Town should not endorse

the project until the proper persons are notified. Mr. Clark will contact the School Board and advertise to have a public information meeting at the May 16, 2011 Council meeting.

STAGE STREET RE-ALIGNMENT-TOWN COST PARTICIPATION: Dr. Gates stated that he does not endorse participating in the cost of the project. The County cost participation in the Recreation Department and Senior Citizens Center is not adequate. He has been before the Board of Supervisors on numerous occasions to ask for help in the cost of the programs offered by the Recreation Department and Senior Citizens Center, as the participation in the various programs is over 70% from the County and their share is not adequate based on the participation.

CHATHAM HILL ROAD BRIDGE: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Barker and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, staff is to contact VDOT about the bridge repairs.

RADIO HILL ROAD PUMP STATION: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was continued.

WATER CONTRACT WITH SMYTH COUNTY: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was continued.

GLADE SPRING TORNADO DAMAGES: Mr. Owens stated that the Town should participate in any way possible. Upon motion of Mr. Owens, seconded by Mr. Barker and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Council gives Staff authority to lend aid to Glade Spring and Chilhowie in any way that is needed.

MARION COLLEGE REUNION: Mayor Helms stated that the Marion College Reunion will be held May 20 and 21, 2011.

MARCH OF DIMES WALK: Mayor Helms stated the walk will be held at the Riverbend Park on May 7, 2011.

YOUTH GOVERNMENT DAY: Mayor Helms stated that Youth Government Day is May 11, 2011.

BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS: Mr. Hicks informed Council that the Board of Zoning appeals will meet Thursday, May 5, 2011 to discuss the parking deck and the free standing sign at the new hospital.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: Mr. Clark stated that Mount Rogers Planning District Commission has presented a contract in the amount of \$7,000 with payments deferred to fiscal year 2012. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Council accepted the proposal from MRPDC.

LINE OF DUTY ACT: Mr. Clark explained that localities are now required to pay LODC for paid Police Officers and volunteer Fire and Rescue. He will present Council with more information as he receives it.

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

Mayor

Clerk