

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 August 16, 2010 at 7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David P. Helms; Jane Hale, Jim Owens, Dr. James Gates, Mel Leaman, Suzanne Jennings, Bill Weaver, and Jim Barker, Council Members; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Town Manager John E. B. Clark, Jr.; Town Engineer/Assistant Town Manager Cecil Hicks; Police Chief Michael Roberts; Police Lieutenant Rex Anders; Community & Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Purchasing Agent Billy Hamm, Town Clerk/Director of Finance Susan Clark.

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

VISITORS: Donnie Necessary, Marty Holloway

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES, 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held August 2, 2010 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Leaman, Owens, Barker, Dr. Gates, Mrs. Hale and Mrs. Jennings voted affirmatively.

VDOT UPDATE ON TOWN URBAN MAINTENANCE PROJECTS: Mr. Marty Holloway explained that the projects are moving forward. The signal light upgrades will be ready for advertisement December 1 with four (4) signals having complete restructuring. Mayor Helms questioned why only four (4) lights were having complete restructuring when ten (10) lights were originally included in the project. Mayor Helms added that the Town had been misled to assume that all 10 signals would be restructured. Mr. Necessary added that each light will be approximately \$225,000 to \$300,000 for total restructuring. The four (4) proposed signals are at Wendy's, Route 16-Park Blvd., Hardees and Commerce-Cherry. Mr. Leaman added that the signal at Wassona needed attention because of the increase in traffic from the new hospital.

Discussion ensued.

Mr. Necessary stated that VDOT wanted to be as economical as possible and will do whatever pleases Council. The design of the Chatham Hill Road Bridge Project and the Baughman Avenue Bridge Project have already begun. Mr. Holloway added that the Town would have to absorb 100% of the cost if the bridge projects are halted in order to restructure all ten (10) signals. Mr. Necessary stated that VDOT will compile a written report of the cost of all signal lights and report to Council by the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Holloway stated that VDOT needs a Resolution for each of the bridge projects. The Resolution should state that the Town is requesting a five (5) foot sidewalk at the Baughman Avenue Bridge and the Chatham Hill Road Bridge instead of seven (7) feet, which is standard. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Council approved the Resolutions.

UPDATE ON COMMUNITY ARTS INITIATIVE AND MURAL REQUEST-KEN HEATH: Mr. Heath stated that the second community meeting had low attendance. He will schedule another meeting in early fall, with hope that the public will respond.

ACCEPTANCE OF HIGH BID FOR RENT OF PROPERTY AT SEWER TREATMENT PLANT: Mr. Clark explained that the Town received one (1) bid from Larry Bowman. The rent will be \$100 per year for five years beginning September, 2010 and ending August, 2015. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the bid was accepted.

ACCEPTANCE OF LOW BID FOR EAST CHILHOWIE STREET BRIDGE REPAIRS: Mr. Clark stated that there were three (3) bids. The low bid was from Ken Construction in the amount of \$64,200. Mattern & Craig is contracted to inspect the project weekly. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the bid was accepted.

APPOINTMENT OF MARION PLANNING COMMISSION MEMBER: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was continued.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts in the amount of \$758,867.82 were approved for payment.

INVESTMENTS: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the investment report was approved.

RESOLUTION IN SUPPORT OF THE WILDERNESS ROAD: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was adopted.

RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE END OF WORLD WAR II: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Barker and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution was adopted.

BIDDING OF INFLUENT PUMPS AT SEWER TREATMENT PLANT: Mr. Clark informed Council that the bids are due by August 26 and that a full report will be presented to Council at the next regular meeting.

PETITION REQUESTING STREET LIGHT ON CATRON STREET: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Dr. Gates and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Street Light Committee.

NOTICE OF VIOLATIONS FROM DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY AND TOWN'S RESPONSE: Mr. Clark stated that he has responded to the notice and has addressed the issues. Staff is currently working to correct the violations.

PERSONNEL ISSUES REGARDING VRS: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Personnel Committee.

ORDINANCE REGARDING PEDDLER/SOLICITOR LICENSES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, this item was referred to the Ordinance Committee.

REPORT FROM FINANCE COMMITTEE ON REQUEST FROM ERIC ALBANO YOUTH SOCCER FOUNDATION AND HERITAGE CELEBRATION: Dr. Gates explained that financially the Town cannot support these requests. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, requests were denied and staff will send letters explaining the denials.

APPOINTMENTS TO SENIOR CITIZEN ADVISORY BOARD: Mrs. Jennings presented Council with a proposed list of appointments. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the proposed appointments to the Senior Citizens Advisory Board were approved.

ABANDONED AEP POLES: Mrs. Jennings stated that she had been asked by several citizens about the abandoned poles and their removal. Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town Attorney will write a letter to Appalachian Power requesting removal of poles that are not being used.

TOWN OF MARION AUTO DECALS: Mr. Weaver questioned if the Town would add the Auto Decals to the personal property taxes, as the County plans to add the auto decals to their taxes. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 6 AYES and 1 NOE (Leaman), this item was referred to the Ordinance Committee.

FIRE DEPARTMENT SCBA'S: Mayor Helms informed Council that he and Mr. Heath had met with Brian Everett, Senator Warner's Aide, and asked why the State did not give aid to the Town in regards to purchasing the SCBA's. Mr. Everett will research this and report to the Mayor.

TOWN AND COUNTRY BBQ: The annual Town and Country BBQ will be Thursday, August 19 at 6:30 pm.

RESCHEDULE COUNCIL MEETING: Mayor Helms informed Council that the next Council Meeting will be September 7, 2010 due to the Labor Day Holiday.

PATRIOTS DAY-SEPTEMBER 11: Mr. Heath stated that plans are being made for the celebration and this year's plans include to have the celebration at the Farmers Market location.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION FOR FIRE DEPARTMENT FEES AND SCHEDULES FOR CHARGING INSURANCE COMPANIES FOR FIRE CALLS: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the proposed Resolution will be submitted to the County for review.

FIBER OPTIC LINE FROM TOWN HALL TO MARION POLICE DEPARTMENT: Chief Roberts explained that he could spend grant money to install the line. The cost is approximately \$14,000 and it has been approved to use the grant money for the purpose of extending the line. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Hale and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Council approved using grant money for the line installation.

OLD PRATER LANE CROSSING CLOSURE: Mr. Hicks explained that the contractor is currently working on the crossing and the closure of the street should be advertised. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Public Hearing will be set for September 7, 2010.

RIVERBEND SUBDIVISION PUMP STATION REPLACEMENT: Mr. Hicks informed Council that the project has begun.

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

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Mayor

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Clerk