

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 March 18, 2019 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Vice-Mayor Dr. Jim Gates, Tricia Spencer, Bill Weaver, Larry Carter and Avery Cornett Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush, Deputy Clerk Samantha White; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Police Chief John Clair; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Purchasing Agent Assistant Mandy Wolfe; Economic Development Director Ken Heath (arriving late) and Deputy Director Alexandra Veatch.

ABSENT: Jim Barker and Suzanne Jennings Council Members.

INVOCATION/PLEDGE TO THE FLAG: Chief Clair rendered the invocation. Isaac Bowman led the Pledge to the Flag.

VISITORS: CB Gwyn, Joe Naff, Kathy Smith, Tim Henson, and Isaac Bowman.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held March 4, 2019 were approved as written. Messrs Dr. Gates, Spencer, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

Mayor Helms informed members of Mt Rogers Planning District Commission Annual meeting celebrating its 50th Anniversary on April 4 at Holston Hills Community Golf Course. The Blue Ridge Job Corps Quarterly Luncheon will be held March 28 at noon. A Memorial Day planning meeting will be held Thursday night at the VFW. Mayor Helms attended the Change of Command at the Reserve Center. The 2018 Salvation Army Red Kettle Drive in Smyth County raised \$41,000 to \$42,000. The Town will host the VML Regional Supper on April 23 at Holston Hills Community Golf Course.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Carter and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$936,640.68. Messrs Dr. Gates, Spencer, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

Chief Clair reported there is an excellent candidate for the open Police Officer position working through the hiring process at this time. Officer Taylor will be honored as the VFW 2018 Officer of the Year. Jerry Breen has gotten all Police Department vehicles equipped and on the road. Chief Clair is currently working with the Virginia Department of Health to establish a Peer Support Group.

Mrs. Veatch reported the VA Main Street meeting held here last week went well. There will be an article in the upcoming Travel South featuring Marion as a Patriotic Town.

Mr. Hicks noted one bid, W-L Construction & Paving, Inc., for paving was received. This must be completed by June 1, 2019. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town Manager has authorization to enter contract with W-L. Mr. Hicks reviewed the plans for calibrating and/or replacing industrial meters. The new correlator is here and working well.

Mr. Rush received authorization to proceed to bid Church Street Drainage project. Upon motion of Dr. Gates, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution to seek funding from the Virginia Department of Health - Office of Drinking Water's Water Supply Assistance Grants Program, for its Phase 5 Water Line Replacement Project and Prater Lane Pump Station Backup Generator was adopted.

The roll call vote was as follows:

Mr. Cornett	AYE
Mr. Carter	AYE
Mr. Weaver	AYE
Ms. Spencer	AYE
Dr. Gates	AYE

Mr. Rush noted the Noon Rotary Club is now accepting its Citizen of the Year nominations. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Cornett and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, Mr. Bob Ramsey was reappointed to serve on the Town of Marion Planning Commission. (Mr. Heath arrived.)

Mr. Heath reviewed two RBEG Loan applications. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the RBEG Loan request for Pretty in Pink in the amount of \$15,000 with a term of 60 months at two percent interest was approved, contingent on state licensure. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the RBEG Loan request for Rufflections in the amount of \$15,000 with a term of 60 months at two percent interest was approved.

Mr. Helms reviewed a \$1,000 funding request from Micah’s Backpack program. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the funding request was referred to the Finance Committee.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 pm.

Mayor

Deputy Clerk