

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

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Vice-Mayor Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Tricia Spencer, Bill Weaver, Larry Carter and Avery Cornett Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush, Town Clerk Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Police Chief John Clair; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks and Purchasing Agent/Fire Chief Billy Hamm.

ABSENT: Suzanne Jennings.

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

VISITORS: Joe Naff, Kathy Smith, Charles Hayden, Mike Edwards and CB Gwyn.

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Ms. Spencer and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held November 4, 2019 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Dr. Gates, Spencer, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed with the correction of the date from November 4 to November 18.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Mike Edwards, Smyth-Wythe Airport Representative, gave an airport update, noting airport traffic is picking up and freight haulers are beginning to utilize the airport. The airport will be hosting an Eagle Foundation event. This is part of the Dolly Parton Imagination Library Program. The eagle will fly at the Lincoln Theatre during this event.

Dr. Gates attended the Downtown 25th Anniversary event. Ms. Spencer noted planners did an excellent job. Mr. Carter reported good attendance at this event. Mr. Cornett reported good responses about the event.

Mayor Helms noted the 2019 Southwest Virginia Legislative Breakfast & Forum will be November 22, 2019 at 8:00 am at Holston Hills Community Golf Course. Extra Mile Proclamation Nominees should be submitted to Ken Heath. He reviewed the Holiday garbage schedule noting Thursday, November 28, 2019 will be collected on Wednesday, November 27, 2019. Several Thank You notes were received from Oak Point Elementary for the Town's budgeted allocation. An update on the Trap, Neuter, Release program is included in the agenda packet. There were three Historical Markers dedicated last Friday.

Ms. Stanley reminded everyone of the Conflict of Interest Act online training that must be completed by all elected officials before December 31, 2019.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Cornett and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$1,132,126.87. Messrs Dr. Gates, Barker, Spencer, Weaver, Carter and Cornett voted affirmatively.

Chief Clair reviewed a Resolution of Support from Loudoun County on Traffic Incident Management. This resolution is to support amending Virginia code to mandate drivers yield to traffic management support vehicles. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Carter and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution of Support for Traffic Incident Management Legislation was accepted. Chief Clair is working with Walmart on a First Responder Grant for \$5,000.

Mr. Hicks reported soil samples from the Church Street Drainage project all came back fine and no remediation is required. Fall paving will begin Thursday. The employee Christmas Luncheon will be Friday, December 6, 2019 at noon at the Golf Course.

Mr. Rush noted VDOT had an onsite meeting on the Park Boulevard Sidewalk Project. Another plan will be submitted addressing the concerns. The crosswalk at Walgreens and Park Boulevard is problematic. The Topsoil Project is going very well.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 6:24 pm.

Mayor

Clerk