

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 February 5, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Tricia Spencer, Suzanne Jennings, Avery Cornett, Bill Weaver and Larry Carter Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Clerk Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Police Chief Rex Anders; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings and Economic Development Director Ken Heath.

ABSENT: None.

VISITORS: Kathy Smith, Charles Hayden, Jeff Spickard, Jeff & Anna Leigh DeBord, Heather Goodpasture, Greg Tucker and Bob Brandenburg.

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

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held January 16, 2018 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Spencer, Jennings, Cornett, Weaver, Carter, and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

AGENDA: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Ms. Stanley introduced Heather Goodpasture, the new Fiscal Technician. She began work last Monday and is doing really great.

Mr. Barker thanked all the town crews for their hard work.

Mr. Weaver noted VML Legislative Day was a good experience.

Mr. Cornett noted he also enjoyed the VML Legislative Day in Richmond.

Mayor Helms reported the VML Legislative Day was very productive. He had the opportunity to speak with the Secretary of Public Safety and discuss the TDO transportations. The next Council meeting will be February 20, 2018 due to the holiday.

Ms. Stanley noted according to the new APA guidelines the auditors are required to present the Financial audit to the Council. She introduced Greg Tucker, CPA with Bostic, Tucker & Company. Mr. Tucker noted there were no findings or concerns in the audit. It was a clean report and the Town of Marion is in fairly good shape. He reviewed several sections of the audit and noted Virginia has a well-funded pension plan. Mr. Rush commended Cindy Stanley on her exceptional work as Clerk of the Town in general and the results of the audit specifically.

Mr. Jennings reported the annual youth basketball tournament will be held Saturday, February 10, 2018. There are 27 teams registered. The offender crew cleaned the carpet at the Golf Course. The new gate at the Golf Course bridge will be installed soon. There will also be a post and cable system barrier installed and a light to help drivers avoid the embankment.

Chief Anders expressed his appreciation for attending the VML Legislative Day. He noted Mr. Heath did a great job with his presentation to the sub-committee. The Police Department will be doing a presentation about scam and fraud for the elderly in the community.

Mr. Heath also expressed his appreciation of VML Day and talking to the Legislators and other agencies. Catherine Schrenker accepted a "50 for 50" Award while in Richmond. A check for \$10,000 was received today for a VA Tourism Grant called "Crush Fridays" to help promote tourism. Olivia McDonald attended a VA Main Street training in Fredericksburg last week. She and Shelby Farris will be attending a National Main Street Conference in Kansas. Mr. Rush noted Mr. Heath addressed the sub-committee regarding the Gateway Project with only about a 3 hour notice and did an amazing presentation. The WCYB Weather Tracker will be at Food City in Marion on March 14, 2018.

Mr. Hicks noted the Water Treatment Plant is operating more due to so many leaks. The Weisman screen for the Sewer Treatment Plant will be shipped back to us from Florida once the repairs are complete. There were 6 State of Good Repair applications submitted to VDOT. There were some Smart Scale applications submitted to VDOT as well.

Mr. Rush reported Phase II Water will close with VRA in the next couple of weeks. The Senior Citizen Center renovations are going well, with the last big demolition piece complete. The dates of all town committee meetings was distributed.

Mr. Carter reported lots of dog droppings around town and would like for this to go before the Planning Commission.

Mark Flynn, former VML Attorney, took a position as Director of Aviation for Virginia. He will remain on retainer until June 30, 2018.

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

Mayor

Clerk