

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 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; Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings (arriving late) and Economic Development Director Ken Heath.

ABSENT: None.

VISITORS: Kathy Smith, Katie Smith, Charles Hayden, Jeff Spickard, Jeff & Anna Leigh DeBord, CB Gwyn, Mike Edwards and Lili Figueredo.

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

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held February 20, 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 with the addition of two closed sessions..

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Mr. Edwards gave an update on the Airport noting fuels sales has increased greatly. He reviewed some proposed upgrades including fencing and runway lights. (Terry Jennings arrived.)

Mr. Barker thanked the Police Department for patrolling at the schools.

Mr. Weaver noted Marion is growing and doing well.

Mr. Cornett reported his absence last week was due to a meeting about grants for the playground renovations. He plans to officially announce his drive for donations in the next couple weeks.

Mayor Helms attended a ribbon cutting today for 81 Boutique which is owned and operated by a wife of one of the Physician Assistant students. Also attending were 10 of her family members from Knoxville. A Memorial Day planning meeting will be held tomorrow night at 6:30 pm at the VFW. An updated Committee schedule was distributed.

Mr. Fenyk attended a Rotary training session in Charleston, WV Saturday.

Mr. Jennings reported children's soccer registration was held February 26 with 214 participants. There was a Youth Basketball Tournament on February 10th, hosting 32 teams. The Driving Range will open May or early June.

Chief Anders met with the school board safety team this morning regarding the written bomb threats at the high school. The K-9 report was included in the agenda packet.

Mr. Heath reported the Chamber breakfast will be held at the Holston Hills Community Golf Course Wednesday, March 7, 2018 at 8:00 am. Three ribbon cuttings will take place this week. An unveiling of the LOVEWORKS sign will be Wednesday, March 14, 2018 at 4:00 pm. WCYB Storm Tracker will be at Food City later that day at 5:00 pm. A CDBG Public Hearing will be at the Town Hall at 2:00 pm on Wednesday, March 21, 2018. Burger King will open on Monday, March 19, 2018.

Mr. Rush reported for Mr. Hicks. The Streetscape Project had concrete poured today and trees and lights will be delivered soon. The Army Reserve will begin the RiverWalk step project March 16, 2018. The Sewer Treatment Plant Weisman screen is repaired, installed and working. The Virginia Department of Health will allow an application for a Prater Lane Pump Station generator. This is the heartbeat of our high pressure system. An extended power outage could possibly cause us to be unable to get water to

our customers. A Resolution for this will be presented at the next council meeting. The closing on Water Phase II was Thursday, March, 1, 2018. We received a good report from Bud Owens, Building Inspector, on the Scott Center Renovations. Billy Buchanan has resigned from the Board of Zoning Appeals due to moving outside town limits. The Board of Zoning Appeals will hold its annual meeting April 9, 2018 for election of officers.

CLOSED SESSION: Pursuant to Code of Virginia, as amended, Section 2.2-3711 (A-3) and (A-7) upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES, Town Council entered into Closed Session for discussion of Real Property and legal counsel. Mrs. Jennings moved that Town Council return to Open Session and identified it be known that only those matters legally exempted from Open Session and identified in the motion were discussed during Closed Session. The motion was seconded by Mr. Weaver and carried by a vote of 7 AYES and 0 NOES. The Town Clerk polled the Council Members. Messrs Weaver, Dr. Gates, Barker, Spencer, Jennings, Cornett and Carter voted affirmatively.

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

Mayor

Clerk