

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 20, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

PRESENT: Mayor David Helms, Dr. Jim Gates, Jim Barker, Tricia Spencer, Bill Weaver and Larry Carter Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Clerk Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representatives Stephanie Porter-Nichols and Linda Burchette; Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer Cecil Hicks; Police Chief Rex Anders; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Wayne Henderson Appalachian School of Arts Director Catherine Schrenker; Deputy Clerk Anita Catron and Purchasing Agent/Fire Chief Billy Hamm.

ABSENT: Suzanne Jennings and Avery Cornett.

VISITORS: Kathy Smith, Katie Smith, Charles Hayden, Jeff & Anna Leigh DeBord, Jeff Spickard and William Fields.

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

MINUTES: Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held February 5, 2018 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Weaver, Spencer, Carter, and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

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

PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS: Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the Resolution for Black History Month 2018 was accepted. Mayor Helms read and presented the Resolution to Mr. William Fields. Mr. Fields thanked everyone and noted there will be a Black History Program this Saturday at the Mt Pleasant Museum.

Ms. Stanley recognized Deputy Clerk Anita Catron on receiving her CMC, Certified Municipal Clerk, designation. Ms. Stanley noted this is an achievement not easily attained, as you must complete 60 education points and 50 experience points. Mrs. Catron has been working toward this designation for several years and is very deserving. Ms. Stanley presented her with her recognition plaque from the International Institute of Municipal Clerks.

Mayor Helms distributed a proposed committee meeting schedule. There will be a Memorial Day planning meeting March 6, 2018 at 6:30 pm at the VFW. The DAR Awards will be tomorrow at the Lincoln Theatre at 1:00 pm. Mayor Helms has had much discussion with legislators about the transportation of mental health patients by Law Enforcement Officers. The House and Senate are proposing funds in the upcoming Virginia budget to help alleviate some of the burden on localities. Mayor Helms expressed his appreciation to Council Members on the ongoing, respectful relationship the council enjoys. Staff works well with the council and keeping them updated.

Mr. Fenyk followed up Mayor Helms' discussion on Mental Health Transports noting Ridgeview Pavilion, a 31 bed facility in Bristol, Va, is considering closing. Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, a Resolution in support of Ridgeview Pavilion not closing is to be drafted.

ACCOUNTS: Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Dr. Gates and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the accounts were approved for payment in the amount of \$1,398,000.19. Messrs Barker, Weaver, Spencer, Carter and Dr. Gates voted affirmatively.

Mr. Muncy's report was submitted by Mr. Rush. Mr. Rush noted he is very appreciative of Mr. Muncy's hard work. Mayor Helms commended him on doing an outstanding job with the Public Works department. Dr. Gates noted the CIRP crew is doing a good job cleaning the roads and work area at the end of the work day.

Chief Anders noted Mr. Muncy is doing a great job with the crews renovating the Senior Citizen Center.

Chief Hamm noted January call volume was 198. The new ambulance should be back in service in March. At the time of the merger, the call volume was approximately 1400 annually. We are currently on track to reach 2200 this year. Mr. Rush reviewed the recent 911 meeting.

Mr. Heath reported WCYB Weather Tracker will be at Food City March 14, 2018. He also noted there will be several ribbon cuttings for new businesses in March. Mr. Heath reported there is \$10,000,000 in new construction in town.

Ms. Schrenker noted an article about the Henderson School was in the Virginia Commission of the Arts January 2018 magazine issue. She noted Wayne Henderson's guitar workshops will hold a reconvening concert Sunday, March 11, 2018 at 3:00 pm at the Henderson Auditorium. Fiddle making classes will begin soon. Thru connections with George Mason University, there will be a guitar making class for Wounded Warriors. One sponsor has already committed \$5,000. The Letterpress Workshop is going well.

Mr. Hicks noted water accountability is still very low due to lots of water leaks. Some of this is being rectified by isolating some very old unused lines. The Weisman screen should be repaired and returned to the Sewer Treatment Plant next week. There have been 6 applications submitted to VDOT for the State of Good Repair Grants.

Mr. Rush reported the Phase II Water Loan will be closing in March. The Senior Citizens have been temporarily moved to the Rescue Squad Building to keep them in a safe and clean environment.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 5 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned.

Mayor

Clerk