

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 July 2, 2018 at 5:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Mayor David Helms, Tricia Spencer, Jim Barker, Bill Weaver, Larry Carter, Avery Cornett and Suzanne Jennings Council Members; Town Manager Bill Rush; Town Clerk/Director of Finance Cindy Stanley; Town Attorney Mark Fenyk; Smyth County News Representative Stephanie Porter-Nichols; Police Chief John Clair; Economic Development Director Ken Heath; Purchasing Agent/Fire Chief Billy Hamm; Golf Course Manager Terry Jennings and Assistant Recreation Director Jamie Hall.

**ABSENT:** Vice-Mayor Dr. Jim Gates.

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

**VISITORS:** Kathy Smith, Katie Smith, Lieutenant Rusty Hamm, Lieutenant Andrew Moss, Police Officers Amber Eades, Josh Taylor, Kevin Testerman and April Morgan, Lee Anne Hamm, Mike Edwards, Joe Naff, George Owens, CB Gwyn, Charles Hayden, Emily Brittingham, Amy Anders, Rex Anders, Lee & Patty Farmer.

**MINUTES:** Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the meeting held June 18, 2018 were approved as written. Messrs Barker, Spencer, Weaver, Carter, Cornett and Jennings voted affirmatively.

**MINUTES:** Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the minutes of the Special Called meeting held June 29, 2018 were approved as written. Messrs Weaver, Cornett, Barker, Spencer, Jennings and Carter voted affirmatively.

**AGENDA:** Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the agenda was approved as distributed.

**APPOINTMENT OF TOWN MANAGER:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Bill Rush was reappointed as Town Manager. Messrs Carter, Barker, Cornett, Weaver, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

**APPOINTMENT OF TOWN CLERK/DIRECTOR OF FINANCE:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Cindy Stanley was reappointed as Town Clerk/Director of Finance. Messrs Carter, Barker, Cornett, Weaver, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

**APPOINTMENT OF ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER/TOWN ENGINEER:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Cecil Hicks was reappointed as Assistant Town Manager/Town Engineer. Messrs Carter, Barker, Cornett, Weaver, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

**APPOINTMENT OF POLICE CHIEF:** Upon motion of Mrs. Jennings, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, John Clair was reappointed as Police Chief. Messrs Carter, Barker, Cornett, Weaver, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

**APPOINTMENT OF FIRE CHIEF:** Upon motion of Mr. Weaver, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Billy Hamm was reappointed as Fire Chief. Messrs Carter, Barker, Cornett, Weaver, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

**APPOINTMENT OF TOWN ATTORNEY:** Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mr. Weaver and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, Mark Fenyk was reappointed as Town Attorney. Messrs Carter, Barker, Cornett, Weaver, Jennings and Ms. Spencer voted affirmatively.

**PUBLIC PRESENTATIONS:** Upon motion of Mr. Barker, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, a Resolution in Honor of Rex Anders on the Occasion of his Retirement was accepted. Mayor Helms read and presented the Resolution to Chief Anders. Mr. Barker presented him with his service weapon. Lieutenant Hamm read and presented Chief Anders with a plaque. Chief Anders thanked everyone.

Mr. Edwards reported the contract for the tree removal at the Airport has been signed and submitted to the FFA. The Airport Board has a new commission member.

George Owens, United Way of Southwest VA Representative, gave a presentation on plans and initiatives for better nutrition and exercise programs in our area. United Way partnered with the Town of Saltville to construct a new playground which has now expanded into a learning center. Mr. Owens has been working with the 7 elementary schools in Smyth County and 4 of the 7 have built 3 hole disk golf onsite. Mr. Owens is interested in partnering with Marion to construct Frisbee golf at the Amphitheatre portion of RiverBend Park at no cost to the Town. He distributed a draft copy of proposed plans.

**COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS:** Mayor Helms presented a list of Committee Assignments for 2018 – 2020, noting there are no changes from the prior approved assignments. Upon motion of Mr. Carter, seconded by Mrs. Jennings and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the list of Committee Assignments for 2018 – 2020 was approved.

Mr. Cornett noted the Recreation Committee needs to meet soon.

Mayor Helms reminded everyone of the VML Conference in Hampton, September 30 thru October 2, 2018. Mayor Helms attended Preston Coleman’s 100<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration.

**ADOPTION OF THE VIRGINIA CODE AS AMENDED JULY 1, 2018:** Mr. Fenyk noted that the Town needs to adopt those changes. Upon motion of Mr. Cornett, seconded by Mr. Barker and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the Town adopted the Code of Virginia as amended July 1, 2018.

Mr. Jennings gave an update on the driving range noting it is draining appropriately after the last rain.

Mr. Hall gave an update on the Recreation Department noting all football helmets have been inspected, with approximately 200 needing to be disposed of and 61 reconditioned. There have been 70 new helmets ordered. The Sandlot Football Program will be implemented using new rules; 1<sup>st</sup> thru 3<sup>rd</sup> graders will participate in flag football and 4<sup>th</sup> thru 6<sup>th</sup> graders will participate in tackle football.

Chief Clair reported he is learning the department operations and has worked with the two lieutenants today.

Mr. Heath reported the Airport has requested a meeting with the Town Manager and Finance Committee. He reviewed a Hazmat Program which would allow citizens to drop-off paint, insecticides and such at a location on Brunswick Lane once per year. The town would need to budget \$3,000 - \$5,000 for this program.

Mr. Rush reviewed Mr. Hicks’ report noting spring paving is complete. Streetscape is scheduled for a VDOT inspection next week. The town is ready to proceed with Phase III Water materials procurement. Country Club Crossing renovations are scheduled to begin July 16, 2018. Radio Hill Road apartment renovations traffic issue was referred to Chief Clair.

Upon motion, duly seconded and a vote of 6 AYES and 0 NOES, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47pm.

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Mayor

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Clerk

