

MINUTES
Town of Marshall Board of Alderman
Regular Meeting
July 17, 2023
6:00 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Nancy Allen, Aldermen Billie Jean Haynie, Thomas Jablonski, Aileen Payne, and Laura Ponder Smith. Alderman Christiaan Ramsey was absent. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Forrest Gilliam and Town Attorney Jamie Stokes.

Mayor Allen called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Item 1

Upon motion by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the agenda with the addition of the Land of Sky zoning contract as Item 3, Housing Authority Board Appointment as Item 4, and Island Concerns as Item 5.

Item 2

Upon motion by Alderman Jablonski, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the minutes from the June 19, 2023 Regular Meeting and the June 26, 2023 Special Meeting.

Item 3

The proposed contract for zoning services through the Land of Sky Regional Council of Governments was presented to the Board by Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator. The contract is to cover the period of July 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024. The contract is for a Planner from Land of Sky to serve 10 hours weekly as the Town's Zoning Administrator. This will be the second year that the Town has contracted with Land of Sky for zoning administration. The contract amount is increased by seven percent to cover a Land of Sky initiated cost-of-living adjustment for its employees. The annual contract amount is \$31,893.85, payable in monthly installments of \$2,657.82. Stuart Bass, who was the planner assigned to Marshall for the past year, is retiring, and Kayla DiCristina, will be the new planner assigned by Land of Sky. Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Smith, the Board voted 4-0 to approve the contract with Land of Sky.

Upon motion by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Jablonski, the Board voted 4-0 to appoint Kayla DiCristina as Zoning Administrator for the Town of Marshall.

Item 4

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Jablonski, the Board voted 3-0, with Alderman Laura Ponder Smith abstaining, to appoint Lawrence Ponder to the Marshall Housing Authority Board. The appointment fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Imogene Hughes. The term will expire on April 30, 2026.

Upon motion by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 4-0 to re-appoint Barbara Morton to the Marshall Housing Authority Board for a term that will expire on March 16, 2027.

Item 5

Alderman Payne brought up some issues taking place on the island with people who have been on the property after dark. Discussion took place regarding additional signage stating that the island park is closed after dark as well as replacing existing cameras near the restrooms and at the sewer plant for more reliable ones and looking at adding additional cameras. Town staff will order some signs to add regarding nighttime closure and will get cost information regarding additional cameras and will report back to the Board at a future meeting.

Item 6

Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, requested that the Board schedule a special meeting to discuss water and sewer projects and potential funding for those projects. Board members in attendance stated that they would be available for a special meeting on Tuesday, August 1 at 5:30 p.m. Mr. Gilliam stated that he would work with Mayor Allen to advertise the meeting after confirming Alderman Ramsey's availability.

Item 7

A report the Tax Collection and Water/Sewer collection rates for the month of June was presented to the Board.

A copy of the Monthly Operating Report for the Town's wells from Byers Environmental was presented to the Board, along with the monthly Unaccountable Water Report for June.

The financial report for the month of June was presented to the Board.

With the recent purchase of a new police vehicle, Chief Boone recommends that the 2012 Dodge Charger the Town purchased in 2021 be declared surplus so that it can be sold by competitive bidding on Gov Deals. The vehicle has approximately 112,000 miles on it. Upon motion by Alderman Jablonski, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 4-0 to declare the 2012 Dodge Charger surplus and authorize Town staff to list it for sale on Gov Deals.

Reports from Boards and Community Organizations

Downtown Marshall Association – No report

Board of Adjustment – No meeting

Planning Board – No meeting.

Parks and Recreation – No meeting.

Department Reports

Fire Department – No report.

Police Department – Chief Mike Boone

Chief Boone asked for the Board's thoughts regarding using the ghost striping recently added to the newly purchased Charger to the currently unmarked F-150 driven primarily by the Chief. After discussion there was consensus for the Chief to move forward with having the ghost striping added to the F-150.

Water Department – Jamie Chandler

Maintenance Department – Jamie Chandler

Zoning Department – Forrest Gilliam

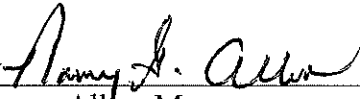
Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Smith, the Board voted 4-0 to enter into closed session pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(3), to consult with an attorney employed or retained by the Town in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege, which privilege is hereby acknowledged for the suit Gregory et. al. vs. Town of Marshall et. al. and the suit Firley v. Town of Marshall, and pursuant to North Carolina General Statute 143-318.11(a)(6) to consider the qualifications, competence, performance, character, fitness, conditions of appointment, or conditions of initial employment of an individual public officer or employee or prospective officer or employee.

Upon motion by Alderman Jablonski, seconded by Alderman Hayne, the Board voted 4-0 to return to open session.

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Jablonski, the Board voted 4-0 to adjourn at 7:38 p.m.



Nancy Allen, Mayor



Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator