

MINUTES
Town of Marshall Board of Alderman
Regular Meeting
April 19, 2021
6:00pm

Mayor Nancy Allen invited everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and moment of silence.

Aldermen in attendance were Billie Jean Haynie, Thomas Jablonski, Aileen Payne, Christiaan Ramsey, and Laura Ponder Smith. Also in attendance were Town Administrator Forrest Gilliam and Town Attorney Jamie Stokes.

Mayor Allen called the meeting to order at 6:01pm.

Item 1

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Jablonski, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Item 2

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the minutes from the March 15, 2021 Regular Meeting and the April 12, 2021 Special Meeting.

Item 3

Connie Molland presented information to the Board regarding the potential for Marshall being the host site for the Cycle NC 2022 Weekend Mountain Ride. The event is tentatively set for the first or second weekend of August in 2022. Before moving forward with putting together a proposal to submit to Cycle NC, Ms. Molland is approaching each property owner on the Island to see about their willingness to allow tent and trailer camping on their property for the weekend of the event. The event would still have to be permitted through the Special Event Permitting process for the Town of Marshall, including all fees and payment for police coverage. Upon motion by Alderman Jablonski, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the request for camping on the Town's property on the Island if Marshall is selected as the host for the event in 2022.

Item4

Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, presented two requests from the Youth League. The first was a request to use the existing ballfield as a practice field. The Youth League chose in 2019 to move off the Island due to continued time and money tied to cleanup after flooding. The Town has preserved the space for the Youth League since that time in the event that they wished to return to the property. The request from Scott Greene is to use the field for a practice field. Upon motion by Alderman Ramsey, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted 5-0 to approve the use of the field as a practice field.

The second request was for the use of bleachers formerly used at the ballfield to be moved to the new baseball fields that are being planned for property in the Madison County Industrial Park. The Board discussed the need for the Town to use the bleachers for other Town events on the Island and downtown, and the possibility of them being needed for baseball practice and possible future games on the Island. Mayor Allen called for a motion to approve the request. No motion was made.

Item 5

Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, presented updated information on the proposed filming of a streaming web series in Marshall in the fall of 2021. Representatives of the production company met with Mr. Gilliam and Chief Boone in March and discussed details for film locations and potential impact on traffic and other activities in town. Filming will take place during an approximately four-week period from late September through October. Intermittent holding of traffic in affected areas will not exceed three-minute intervals. To ease inconvenience on weekday traffic, the company has agreed to work a Wednesday-Sunday schedule and schedule scenes that would impact traffic on weekends when traffic is lighter. The use of off-duty Town Police will be needed to assist with traffic control and security, and the company will have to supplement with other off-duty law enforcement from other agencies and from a private security company. Public Works and other employees who are flagger certified can also be paid to assist with traffic control. The company would like to rent the baseball field on the Island for use as a staging location for parking trucks, trailers, and other equipment for the duration of the project. They would not impact the playground or the pavilion. The company has also contacted the County regarding use of their property on the Island. The company is also interested in using the Depot for an interior and exterior location, and has met with the Depot Board chair about logistics and payment for the space. The company would also like to use Town Hall for an exterior shot in which an actor would be filmed entering and exiting the front door and using the front steps. This would allow Town Hall to be open with use of the side and back doors but there could be times while filming is taking place where people could not be in the lobby. We could work to schedule these dates at the right point in the billing and payment cycle where foot traffic is minimized. The company will provide a \$5,000 deposit to the Town for the duration of filming, will pay for all use of Town property, as well as payment to private property owners for use of their property.

Upon motion by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Jablonski, the Board voted 5-0 to support moving forward with the project, and authorize the Town Administrator to continue to negotiate with the film company representative, with the understanding that the hourly rate for any on or off-duty Town employee paid to assist with traffic control or security would be \$35.00, paid directly to the individual, and that the weekly fee for rental of the Island will be \$2,500.00.

Item 6

Garry Moore, Vaughn and Melton, refreshed the Board on options he had presented for flood damage repairs to Fortner Hollow at the April 12 special meeting. Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Smith, the Board voted 5-0 to authorize Mr. Moore to move forward with engineering for the option that would include repair to most urgent or high risk slide areas, with the finished road being one-lane in some areas with pull-asides for passing.

Mr. Moore also let the Board know that copies of the Comprehensive Water Study would be delivered soon, that repairs on Sunset and Nix are complete, and that a proposal for crack monitoring for Town Hall from ECS was submitted last week to the town administrator.

Item 7

Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, presented the Tax Collection and Water/Sewer Collection Report for March, 2021.

A copy of the Unaccountable Water Report and Monthly Operating Report for the Roberts Wells from Don Byers was presented to the Board.

The financial report for the month of March was provided to the Board.

Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, presented information on an army surplus generator that the Town has not used in the past ten years. Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Ramsey, the Board voted 5-0 to declare the item surplus and authorize its listing for auction on Gov Deals.

Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, provided an update to the Board on the status of plans he and Mayor Allen have been working on for the Town's Memorial Day observance and dedication of a new flagpole in memory of Mayor Jack Wallin. After discussion, there was consensus to erect a 15-foot flagpole at the front-right corner of Town Hall, and to

proceed with researching the appropriate plaque or marker to go at the base of the pole. There was also consensus to hold the Memorial Day observance and dedication at 11:00 a.m. on Memorial Day, Monday, May 31.

Mr. Gilliam updated the Board on planning for the renaming dedication of Back Street to Jerry Plemmons Way, to be scheduled for a Thursday evening in May on the Post Office end of the street.

Upon motion by Alderman Payne, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted 5-0 to set the date for a special meeting for the purpose of a budget work session for Monday, May 3 at 5:30 p.m.

Boards Reports

Board of Adjustment – Met April 13th

Planning Board – No meeting.

Parks and Recreation – No meeting.

Department Reports

Fire Department – Report is in packet.

Police Department – Report is in packet.

Water Department – Report is in packet.

Maintenance Department – Report is in packet.

Zoning Department – Forrest Gilliam

Public Comment


Mr. Jim Tibbetts spoke regarding the public hearing and comment period the North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality is holding regarding the application for an air quality permit by Madison Asphalt, LLC.

Upon motion by Alderman Ramsey, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted 5-0 to enter into closed session for the purposes of attorney-client privilege, property, and personnel.

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 5-0 to return to open session.

Upon motion by Alderman Smith, seconded by Alderman Jablonski, the Board voted 5-0 to approve a 50-cent per hour pay increase for Devin Walburn Nash, effective March 11, 2021, the date of his certification by the State of North Carolina Water Pollution Control System Operators Certification Commission as a Grade 1 Collections Operator.

Upon motion by Alderman Jablonski, seconded by Alderman Ramsey, the Board voted 5-0 to adjourn at 8:25pm.



Nancy Allen, Mayor



Forrest Gilliam, Town Clerk