

MINUTES
Town of Marshall Board of Alderman
Regular Meeting
January 22, 2024
6:00 p.m.

In attendance were Mayor Aaron Haynie, Aldermen Billie Jean Haynie Aileen Payne, and Christian Ramsey. Also in attendance was Town Attorney Jamie Stokes.

Mayor Haynie called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Item 1

Upon motion by Alderman Ramsey, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted 3-0 to approve the agenda as presented.

Item 2

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Payne, the Board voted 3-0 to approve the minutes from the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting and the January 8, 2024 Special Meeting.

Item 3

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Ramsey, the Board voted 3-0 to appoint Benjamin Smith to a three-year term on the Board of Adjustment. Term will expire January 31, 2027.

Upon motion by Alderman Payne, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted 3-0 to appoint Betty Hurst to a three-year term on the Planning Board. Term will expire January 31, 2027.

Item 4

Upon motion by Alderman Ramsey, seconded by Alderman Haynie, the Board voted to approve the contract with Lowdermilk Church and Co. in the amount of \$20,200 to complete the Town's audit for Fiscal Year 2023-2024.

Item 5

In the absence of Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator, Mayor Haynie directed Board members to the Tax Collection/Water and Sewer Collection Rate Update and Monthly Financial Report in their packets and encouraged Board members to reach out to Mr. Gilliam with any questions.

Reports from Boards and Community Organizations

Downtown Marshall Association – Hollie West shared an update from the Downtown Marshall Association regarding events they are planning for 2024. She also shared that the Association has elected officers for 2024: Hollie West, President; Kate Sonoskus, Vice President; Rhesa Edwards, Secretary; and Connie Molland, Treasurer.

Board of Adjustment – Met January 8

Planning Board – Met January 2

Parks and Recreation – No meeting

Department Reports

Fire Department – No report.

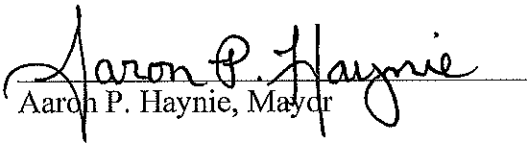
Police Department – Chief Mike Boone referred to his written monthly report in Board member packets and stated that all year end reports due to the State regarding crime statistics have been submitted, along with all of the annual information required for sworn officers to the Criminal Justice Standards Commission. He also shared that 2024 Police calendars should arrive later in the week.

Public Works Department – Jamie Chandler shared an update regarding the recently completed project to remove excess sludge from the wastewater treatment plant. Mr. Chandler and Mr. Gilliam are working with the Town's engineering firm on options for further short and long-term repairs and improvements to the plant. The unaccountable water rate is above average for the month. The Maintenance crew is working to identify leaks in the Town's lines, and the NC Rural Water Association is providing assistance in this effort. So far the crews have identified and repaired two leaks, one of which was causing significant loss. The Maintenance team will continue to search for leaks and work to repair them, but the winter months create conditions for the most line breaks and it is difficult to identify underground leaks.

Zoning Department – Kaitland Finkle provided updates regarding January meetings of the Board of Adjustment and Planning Board. She also shared a copy of a proposed zoning text amendment recommended by the Planning Board that would increase the maximum density for residential units in the Central Business District while adding parking requirements that are currently non-existent in Central Business. A public hearing regarding the proposed text amendment will be held during the Board's regular February meeting.

Public Comment – No one signed up for public comment.

Upon motion by Alderman Haynie, seconded by Alderman Ramsey, the Board voted 3-0 to adjourn at 6:21 p.m.


Aaron P. Haynie, Mayor


Forrest Gilliam, Town Administrator