# TOWN OF MARLINTON

**Marlinton Town Council**
July 1, 2024
Regular Meeting Minutes

Location: Municipal Building Auditorium with Zoom and call-in options.

Mayor Sam Felton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Mayor led the Council and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Recorder called the roll.

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| Present: | Sam Felton, Mayor | Mary K. Clendenen, Recorder |
| | Olivia Dean | Joe Smith |
| | Scott Gibb | Roger Trusler |
| | Tom Miller | |
| Absent: | None | |

**Reading and Approval of Prior Council Meeting Minutes:** The Council reviewed the minutes of the June 3, 2024 Regular Meeting, and the June 12, 2024 Special Meeting.

- Scott Gibb moved to approve both sets of June minutes as presented. Roger Trusler seconded the motion. **Motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Mayor's Report:** The Mayor reviewed his monthly report with the Council. He said the Overlook Trail is finished, but the fencing by the water tank must be installed before the trail can be opened. The block party that was held by Old Mountain Tavern was attended by 1,500-2,000 people and seemed to go very well.

**Hear Public Input:** Wolfe "Dan" Knight requested "no parking" stripes at the end of his driveway on 3rd Avenue to prevent vehicles from blocking his access. The Mayor said the Town will try to address the problem.

**Committee and Department Reports:** Olivia Dean commented that Chronicle has mapped the cemetery, but some corrections need to be made for the county section. Revisions should be complete by July 15th.

**Unfinished Business:**

1. **None.**

**New Business:**

1. **Discuss and/or Act on Fire Department Issues/Concerns – Chief Herb Barlow:** Chief Barlow requested that the Town flow-test its fire hydrants, stating that they had not been tested for three years. The Fire Department is unable to perform the testing due to lack of personnel. Fred Hypes, of Thrasher Engineering, was in attendance and replied that replacement of 24 hydrants is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year as part of the Town's 5.5 million water system improvement project. There are a total of 153 hydrants on the Town's system. The Public Service Commission is working on new rules for testing and marking fire hydrants, which will be issued later this year.

   Chief Barlow was concerned that the Fire Department could lose its ISO rating of 4 if the hydrants are not flow tested. A higher ISO rating causes insurance costs to increase in the fire

department's service area. The Mayor said the Town has a meter to test the flow, but staff time is limited due to other responsibilities. Mr. Hypes said hydrants must be inspected each year, but they are not required to be flow-tested yearly.

The Mayor was concerned that flow testing all the hydrants would require many hours of overtime for the Town employees. Mr. Hypes suggested a hydrant maintenance plan be incorporated into the new water and sewer plan that is being developed, and recommended the Town advertise and test a certain area each month until all the hydrants have been tested. The standard protocol is to furnish the report to the Public Service Commission and the local Fire Department after testing is completed. Mayor Felton advised that a notice will be placed in the Pocahontas Times stating that testing will begin on July 22nd.

2. **Discuss and/or Act on Reconsideration of Invoice for Curb Replacement – J. L. Clifton:** Mr. Clifton attended the meeting and requested that the Council reconsider payment of an invoice for $1,600.00 from Garber Concrete Work to replace a curb in front of his home on 3rd Avenue. He said he was not aware that Mr. Garber had submitted the invoice to the Town and he did not have the opportunity to address the council at the June meeting because he was not aware that it was on the agenda. During his explanation to the Council, Mr. Clifton stated that the Department of Highways had informed him at the time the work was done that the Town was responsible to replace the street or curb in the same or better condition than it was prior to the installation of the sewer line. He also asked that, in addition to paying the invoice, the Town backfill dirt behind the curb and reseed the grass.

    - Roger Trusler moved that the Town pay the invoice and complete the backfilling and seeding. Scott Gibb seconded the motion. **The motion passed unanimously.**

3. **Discuss and/ or Act on First Reading of Ordinance Prohibiting the Use of Recreational Vehicles and Tents as Permanent Dwellings**

    - Roger Trusler moved that the Council approve this ordinance on the first reading. Scott Gibb seconded the motion. **The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

**Approve Invoices/Payment of Bills:**

- Joe Smith moved to approve the bills for payment. Scott Gibb seconded the motion. **Motion passed unanimously with Mary Clendenen abstaining from voting on SecuriTech's invoice.**

**Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Sam Felton
**Sam Felton, Mayor**

Mary K. Clendenen
**Mary K. Clendenen, Recorder**