TOWN OF MARLINTON

Marlinton Town Council
August 11, 2025
Regular Meeting Minutes

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

Mayor Sam Felton called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

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

The Recorder called the roll.

Present:	Sam Felton, Mayor	Mary K. Clendenen, Recorder
	Tina Barkley	Joe Smith
	Tom Miller	
Absent:	Olivia Dean	
	Scott Gibb	

Reading and Approval of Prior Council Meeting Minutes: The Council reviewed the minutes of the July 7, 2025 Regular Meeting and the July 14, 2025 Special Meeting.

- Joe Smith moved to approve the July 7, 2025 minutes as presented. Tom Miller seconded the motion. **The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

- Tina Barkley moved to approve the July 14, 2025 minutes as presented. Tom Miller seconded the motion. **The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Mayor's Report: Mayor Felton reviewed his monthly report with the Council. He said he has recently learned through a conversation with a DOH superintendent that the engineering costs could possibly be reduced for the remaining portion of the sidewalks since the corners have already been replaced. Rhonda Brizendine informed the Mayor that the $20,000 copayment could take us further with the project than we anticipated. She also said when the copayment is requested that usually means the DOH is ready to proceed with the project. Ms. Brizendine will have a Zoom meeting with the Mayor on the second Tuesday in September at 9:30 a.m. to update the scope of work and a possible timeline for our project. Mon Forest Towns has hired Emily Cook to help coordinate the project, and she will probably request assistance from some community members who can help monitor the work as it proceeds. Mayor Felton also reported that Larry Barr, a resident of Lake Street, has been complaining about garbage from a neighbor's property that is being spread over his neighborhood. The Mayor said he and Bruce had been in contact with Mr. Barr and the neighbor to try to resolve the problem. He said he planned to visit the neighbor again on the day the garbage truck runs in that area.

Hear Public Input: No members of the public signed in or requested to speak.

Committee and Department Reports: Joe Smith reported that so far there has been no interest in the nation's 250th birthday celebration that is to be held in July 2026. He will continue to speak with community groups to see if he can get any participation.

Unfinished Business:

None

New Business:

1. **Discuss and/or Act upon Transition of Municipal Election Cycle to Coincide with County Election Dates as Required by Senate Bill 50:** The Mayor informed the council members that this bill will require municipal elections to be held at the same time as county elections by the year 2032. A copy of the bill was included in the meeting packets. Mary Clendenen said she had spoken to County Clerk, Missy Bennett, about the requirements of the bill. Mrs. Bennett will have more details about how the transition will take place after she attends training on the bill's requirements. The Mayor said this might be an opportunity to begin staggering the terms of the Town's elected officials since the charter will need to be amended.

2. **Discuss Comprehensive Plan Update Process:** The council reviewed a copy of the requirements for updating the Town's Comprehensive Plan. The last plan update was performed in 2019. The Mayor said, although the plan is only required to be updated every ten years, he would like to see it happen before a new council is elected so there will be some continuity of ongoing and future projects. He asked the council to think about what they would like to see in the future plan.

Approve Invoices/Payment of Bills:

- Joe Smith moved to approve the bills for payment. Tom Miller seconded the motion. **The motion passed by unanimous vote.**

Adjournment: As there was no further business, Mayor Felton adjourned the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Sam Felton

Sam Felton, Mayor

Mary K. Clendenen

Mary K. Clendenen, Recorder