

December 14th, 2017

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Canton held at the Municipal Building Boardroom, December 14th, 2017 at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, Smith and Markey present, the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers noted that the Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Town Clerk were all present.

C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Vos gave the Invocation, Alderman Hamlett led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: 11/9/17 and 11/29/17

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the November 9th and November 29th minutes as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members present in favor of the motion.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers thanked all those responsible for allowing him to be the New Mayor for the Town of Canton. Mayor Smathers also commented how good the Christmas parade was and that the new route seemed to work. Mayor Smathers also commended Manager Burrell on the West Carolina Freightliner opening stating that Jason was extremely instrumental in getting this business to relocate to Canton.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderman Markey stated that the Christmas parade was a good event and thanked the Town employees for the immediate street clean-up as well as their efforts in the snow removal from the past storm that came through the area.

Alderwoman Smith stated that she was excited to be elected to serve the Citizens of Canton. Alderwoman Smith also agreed that the Christmas parade was a great event. Alderwoman Smith stated that she attended the grand opening for West Carolina Freightliner and it was a good event and she was glad they chose Canton to relocate their business.

G. Public Comments

Pastor David Vos of Canton stated that he had listed the local officials to a prayer guide and made these available for all in attendance.

Carl Cortright of 15 Allen Street commended the Street Department on a tremendous job scraping and removing the snow from the recent storm that hit our area. Mr. Cortright also inquired as to when we were going to start using the Everbridge Alert System, as well as review the content and functionality of the new website? Manager Burrell stated that we were in the process of getting acclimated to using the new alert system and that it would be utilized to disseminate pertinent information. Manager Burrell also commented that the new website was up and running and staff was in the process of reviewing the content.

Phil Smathers 4 Autumn Street stated that he thought the new alert system should be used to announce meeting dates and times. Mr. Smathers also asked the Board to revisit the speed cushions on Ferguson Street to see if maybe the number of cushions could be reduced as it was aggravating to the residents that live in the area. Mr. Smathers stated he understood the concerns and reasoning for the speed measures and that it had slowed traffic down in the area but he felt as if 1 speed cushion would be enough to accomplish the same goal. Mr. Smathers also thanked the Board for moving forward with the Spruce Street water improvements as low pressure was a constant problem in this area. Manager Burrell assured Mr. Smathers that staff would review his issues and see if measures could be taken to remedy at least some of his concerns.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell presented the cash report to the Board.

Manager Burrell stated that West Carolina Freightliner was open for business and he felt that this would be a great asset for Canton.

Manager Burrell thanked First Baptist Church for their generous gift of food and support to all the Canton emergency personnel and crews during the recent snow storm.

Manager Burrell thanked everyone for their kind comments and assured the Board that interest from people wanting to open businesses in Town was still active and we were working diligently to match these folks with buildings/ building owners to try and further fill the downtown area.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that he would be posting the job for the Assistant Manager Position in the first several weeks of January.

Manager Burrell also made the Board aware that a work-session in the early part of January would be necessary to discuss goals and get the new members up to speed with current projects as well.

Manager Burrell stated that the 2018 Polar Plunge benefitting Haywood Waterways would be held in the new pool this year in February and no heat would be provided to assure it was a "polar" plunge.

I. New Business

Resolution to Apply for State Loan Assistance-Spruce Street Water System Improvements

Manager Burrell presented a resolution to apply for state loan assistance for the Spruce Street Water System Improvement Project. Alderman Markey asked if this was different from any other projects. Manager Burrell stated that this was at the top of the infrastructure repair/replace list.

Public Hearing Date-Right of Way Closure Request-Randy Burrell

After a brief discussion, this item will be tabled for the next agenda.

Naming Rights for the Aquatic Facility

Manager Burrell presented to the Board the contract to name the new aquatics facility on behalf of Champion Credit Union for their generous donation. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the naming rights contract as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion with all members voting in favor of the motion.

Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast Ad Request

Manager Burrell presented a request for an ad in the program for the Martin Luther King Jr. Breakfast. After a brief discussion Alderman Mull made a motion to do the back cover of the program in color in the amount of \$150.00. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion with all members voting in the affirmative.

J. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next meeting will be held on January 11th at 6:30pm in the Municipal Building second floor Boardroom.

K. Adjournment

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:19pm.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk