

May 24th, 2018

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Canton held at the Walter Clark Board Chambers, May 24th, 2018 at 7:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, and Smith present, the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers noted that Alderman Markey had a school chorus function and would not be able to attend the meeting. Mayor Smathers stated the Town Manager, Assistant Manager, Town Attorney and Town Clerk were present.

C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

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

D. Approval of Minutes: May 10th and May 12th, 2018

Alderwoman Hamlett made a motion to amend the May 10th minutes as presented to read "Alderman Hamlett asked that the draft policy regarding displays be added to a future agenda" and approve as amended. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion with all members voting to approve the minutes as amended.

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to amend the May 12th minutes to show the adjournment time as 2:05 "pm" and approve as amended. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers stated that it had been a long but very good day. Mayor Smathers stated that the Fallen Officer Memorial ceremony was a very moving event. Mayor Smathers also reported that the FFA dinner was a wonderful event with a group of great kids and administration that make this program a success.

Mayor Smathers announced that the Champion Credit Union

Aquatic Center's grand opening would be rain or shine at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 26, as well as free swimming for the public at 11 a.m. Mayor Smathers also stated that the first to go down the slide would be local kids that had been hit with tragedy in the past year. Alderman Hamlett inquired if a photographer had been obtained? Manager Burrell stated that Mr. Roland Osborne would be onsite to take pictures of the event.

Mayor Smathers stated that he had received complaints about the unsightly condition of the business across from the gas station on Newfound Street. Mayor Smathers inquired if the Board needed to provide approval to progress to a civil action or if staff could start this process? Manager Burrell stated he would get with Code Enforcement and update him on the current violation status.

Mayor Smathers asked Town Attorney William Morgan for an update regarding the blocking a right of way situation on Thomson Avenue. Attorney Morgan stated that the Board should officially adopt a Resolution accepting this right of way as a Town street before the Towing and Citation process begins. Manager Burrell will forward Attorney Morgan's email to the Board on Friday.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderman Hamlett commended Mayor Smathers on his speeches at both the Fallen Officer ceremony and the FFA dinner stating that he represented the Board and the Town of Canton well. Alderman Hamlett stated that he had spoken with a 73-year-old citizen regarding the pool and encouraged them to attend the grand opening.

Mayor Smathers thanked staff for adding the Walter Clark Board Chambers to the agendas.

Alderwoman Mull stated that Mayor Smathers did a great job with his speeches representing the Town.

Alderwoman Smith stated that she was honored to have been a participant of the Fallen Officer ceremony. Alderwoman Smith stated that it was great to see kids such as the FFA students so passionate about what they do. Alderwoman Smith stated that she was excited about the pool opening on Saturday.

G. Public Comments

Juanita Dixon presented the Board with a report of the earnings to date for the Canton Senior Center. Mrs. Dixon also thanked Denise Holcombe and Johnny Gibson for their help with the Pickin' in the Armory event stating they do a great job. Mrs. Dixon also thanked Mr. Ed Underwood for his help with the event stating that he was a great asset to her and the center. Mayor Smathers thanked Mrs. Dixon for the report and her tireless efforts. Mayor Smathers also recognized that there was a new energy at the center with a lot of new programming.

Pastor Voss commented that he was equally impressed and alarmed with the security at Pisgah High School stating that he walked straight in without being buzzed in a locked door or scanned by a metal detector. Pastor Voss stated that he was impressed with the Administration, the School Resource Officer, and the politeness of the students, but we live in alarming times and the need for more officers at the schools was a necessity and asked the Board to consider adding more officers in the budget to guard our schools so that we are proactive instead of reactive. Alderwoman Smith thanked Pastor Voss for acting as the Police Department's Chaplain, also agreeing with Pastor Voss about security commenting that Sheriff Christopher was taking these concerns very seriously. Alderman Hamlett commented that the influence at home with more discussion about violence from parents would be of more benefit than a systematic solution of locking down the school. Alderwoman Smith asked Manager Burrell what part of the School Resource Officer program was part of the Town budget. Manager Burrell stated that we assign an officer and provide a vehicle for this officer but the County compensated the Town for all other costs incurred by this position. Pastor Voss inquired if other avenues could be explored to provide more assistance. Manager Burrell stated that the designation for officers at the schools came from the Haywood County School Board, however, assuring Pastor Voss that he felt that Sheriff Christopher takes the security and safety at the schools very seriously.

Mrs. Juanita Dixon stated that with the new pool and the park that people would drop their kids off and leave them and she had concerns about abduction and drugs use. Mayor Smathers interjected that this year would be touch and go as to how

things work at the pool, but the Town and the School System were in talks as to how to be diligent in patrolling the area and watch the kids after school.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell presented the cash report.

Manager Burrell updated the Board on the advertising for the grand opening of the Champion Credit Union Aquatic Center. Manager Burrell also stated that Pinnacle Church had been in touch and wanted to pay for the first 200 kids that entered the pool as a community service in the future.

Manager Burrell reported to the Board that he had been in touch with NCDOT regarding the crosswalk issues at Saint Andrews Church and he and Assistant Manager Scheuer did an onsite evaluation and they would try to develop a plan and touch base with the Church.

Manager Burrell reported that he had received a notice that Better Homes and Garden Realty was open for business in Canton and staff would orchestrate a ribbon cutting ceremony in the near future. Mayor Smathers bragged on Manager Burrell for being instrumental in getting this business to the downtown area. Manager Burrell stated that this shows the marketing for our area is growing rapidly.

Manager Burrell announced that the line-up release for the Labor Day Festival had been launched and the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band would be the headliner for Sunday with an admission of \$10.00 at the gate or \$8.00 at Ingles. Manager Burrell stated that Canton's hometown band, Balsam Range would be the headliner for Monday and would be presented for free to the public. Manager Burrell stated that a lot of good entertainment had been booked and full details could be found at www.cantonlaborday.com.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the Town would be producing the Fourth plus 1 event this year. Manager Burrell reported that Champion Credit Union would be providing the Fireworks again this year, Dutch Cove Baptist would be providing the Inflatable kids area, local churches would have food booths, Mike and Sherry Ray would give away watermelon, the Town would provide some type of music, and as requested, several local food trucks had been added.

Manager Burrell presented a request to participate in a Haywood County Program called "Base Camp" that would be a free camp for kids to participate in from 9 a.m. until 12:00 (noon) at different locations throughout Haywood County. The Town would participate by allowing use of the green space at the Recreation Park and Camp Hope for the camp along with personnel to be onsite during the camp. After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Board to participate in this program.

I. Old Business

Manager Burrell asked Attorney Morgan on the correct way to proceed with monetary request for future events that no longer had funds available until the next budget year? Attorney Morgan stated that a budget amendment would be the best way to handle these requests.

1. Shawn Blanton Remembrance Ride Sponsorship Request

Manager Burrell presented a sponsorship request for the Shawn Blanton Remembrance ride that would benefit the Mission Children's Neonatal Unit that would take place at the Southern Porch. Alderman Hamlett made a motion due to budgetary constraints to approve a budget amendment in the amount of \$200 dollars to sponsor the Shawn Blanton Remembrance Ride. Alderwoman Smith stated that she was not against the event at all, however she felt that a budget was black and white and that she felt that the Board should be accountable to operate within its limits. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. The motion carried with Alderman Hamlett and Alderwoman Mull voting in favor and Alderwoman Smith against.

2. Pisgah High School Football Program Request

Manager Burrell presented a request to do an ad in the 2018-19 Pisgah Football Program. Alderman Hamlett made a motion do a budget amendment in the amount of \$200 dollars to sponsor a full-page ad in the Pisgah Football Program. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Alderwoman Smith stated that hopefully next year this Board could do a better job throughout the year to stay within the Community Promotions budget and although she agreed with the request, could not support a budget amendment. The motion carried with Alderman Hamlett and Alderwoman Mull voting in favor of the

motion and Alderwoman Smith voting against.

3. WPTL Sponsorship Request for Pickin' in the Park

Manager Burrell presented a request to sponsor the weekly live broadcast of Pickin' in the Park with WPTL. Alderman Hamlett had complimentary comments about the WPTL station and staff, however, could not support this request as WPTL was a commercial business. Alderwoman Smith stated that she understood the benefit the community received from the live broadcast but again could not support a budget amendment. The request died for lack of a motion.

4. Resolution: Hazard Mitigation Plan Update

Manager Burrell presented a Resolution to update the current Hazard Mitigation Plan. Manager Burrell stated that he had reviewed and agreed with the plan update as presented. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the Resolution to update the Hazard Mitigation Plan as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

J. New Business

1. Rough Creek Watershed Management Plan Addendum

Manager Burrell presented an addendum to the Rough Creek Watershed Plan with regard to the access and parking around the care takers house to better serve the public access to the property. This would be Phase 1 and grant money would be sought for the project. Alderman Mull made a motion to approve the addendum to the Rough Creek Water Shed Plan. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

2. Set a Public Hearing for the 2018-2019 Proposed Budget

Manager Burrell stated that the Board needed to set a public hearing date of June 14, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. for the discussion of the 2018-2019 proposed budget. Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the 2018-2019 proposed budget would be in their mail boxes, emailed to them, on the website, and made available to the public on Friday. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to set the public hearing for June 14th at 6:30 pm in the Walter Clark Board Chambers. Alderwoman Smith seconded

the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

3. Regular Meeting Time Change

After a brief discussion Alderwoman Smith made a motion to change the regular meeting time of the Mayor and Board of Alderman/Alderwoman meetings to 6:30 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The next Regular Scheduled meeting will be held on June 14th at 6:30 p.m. in the Walter Clark Board Chambers.

K. Adjournment

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 8:49 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk