

## **October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the Walter Clark Board Chambers, October 11<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, Markey and Smith 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 stated the Manager, Assistant Manager, Town Attorney and Town Clerk were present.

### **C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance**

Pastor Vos gave the Invocation. Alderwoman Smith led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **D. Approval of Minutes: April 12, 2018**

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the September 27<sup>th</sup> minutes as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion with all members voting to approve the minutes as presented.

### **E. Mayor Comments**

Mayor Smathers thanked those in attendance for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Community meeting with the Down-Home organization regarding the needle exchange program was a successful event full of information for the community. Mayor Smathers reported that Chief Shawn Gaddis displayed his leadership skills during the meeting interjecting beneficial information to the public and maintaining an open dialogue with those in attendance.

Mayor Smathers read a thank you note from Camp Ability for allowing them to utilize the pool for those that have different disabilities that might otherwise keep them from enjoying a day at the pool.

## **F. Aldermen/women Comments**

Alderman Markey stated that it was a beautiful time to live in Canton and that the Town was blessed to have dodged adverse ramifications from the hurricane and suggested that we keep those that were affected in our thoughts and prayers. Alderman Markey stated that the "quality of life" factor that Canton has to offer overtakes the dollar and cents aspect, especially with venues as beautiful as Camp Hope, Colonial Theater, and Armory that we have to offer our Citizens for their utilization.

Alderwoman Mull stated the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Pigeon River Mercantile was a great event and the store was very nice and should be well received. Alderwoman Mull reiterated Alderman Markey's comments that it is truly a great time to live in Canton. Alderwoman Mull thanked those in attendance for their interest and support for Canton.

Alderwoman Smith echoed Mayor Smathers comments regarding the community meeting on harm reduction and needle exchange also adding that it was a very productive meeting. Alderwoman Smith commended Canton Police Chief Gaddis and Chelsea White from the Harm Reduction team on a meeting full of good conversations and a community coming together. Alderwoman Smith stated that it was good to see the businesses in Canton doing well.

Mayor Smathers reminded everyone about the spaghetti dinner that would be held on Friday October 12<sup>th</sup> to benefit the Canton Senior Center.

## **G. Public Comments**

Mr. Cecil Yount thanked the Mayor and Board for their past support of the Christmas Toy Run and inquired if they would be willing to continue to support their efforts with use of Town properties and lane closures to start the event. Mr. Yount reported to the Board that all monies raised stayed in the Haywood County area either by cash donations or providing donated toys to those in need. Mayor Smathers thanked Mr. Yount for all the "Toy Run" participants did for the community and stated that if the Town could do more to help, maybe ending in Canton at some point the Town could try to host that as well. Consensus of the Board was to help with the logistics of the "Toy Run".

## **H. Reports from the Manager**

Manager Burrell gave the cash report.

Manager Burrell updated the Board on the progress of the Crossroad Hill project. Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the project was a little behind; however, still moving forward.

Manager Burrell stated that the Spruce Street project would start moving forward around March 2019. Manager Burrell stated that the engineering phase was going smoothly.

Manager Burrell reported to the Board that he had been in contact with the County regarding the "Opioid Lawsuit" and that they would be providing a copy of the Resolution they adopted as well as the contact information of the firm they were using.

Manager Burrell informed the Board that the power pole on Spring had been determined to belong to Duke Progress. The structural safety concern had been determined by Duke Progress not to be an issue at this point; however, had been assigned to an engineer for replacement.

Manager Burrell reported to the Board that he would be bringing a draft parade policy to the Board incorporating some of the language and ideas from the policy Alderman Hamlett had suggested in the past. Manager Burrell stated that this would address the gap closures and safety concerns with people entering the parade at other locations.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the Round-A-Bout project on Pisgah Drive would be let in December.

Manager Burrell reminded the Board about the Council of Government meeting that would take place on Monday, October 22 at the Waynesville Recreation Center.

Manager Burrell complimented the Street Department on continuing to decorate the Town in Emily Wilson's absence and assured the Board that this would continue throughout the Christmas season.

Mayor Smathers inquired about an issue at the Food Lion property about free ranging chickens. Manager Burrell stated that the owner of the free ranging chickens property was

outside the corporate limits but that Chief Carver had contacted Animal Control as well as the Sheriff's Department for assistance. Manager Burrell stated that he would continue to monitor this situation until it had been resolved.

## **I. Old Business**

### **1. Christmas Parade Theme**

Alderman Hamlett stated that Alderwoman Mull had mentioned "A Wonderful Life in Canton" as the theme and he agreed that this would be a good theme this year. After a brief discussion the Board agreed that this theme would be okay.

Mayor Smathers also suggested that Hubert Thomas should be named the Grand Marshal. Mayor Smathers stated that Mr. Thomas had worked tirelessly with the youth in the area for years and should be recognized for his willingness to give back to his community. Alderwoman Mull stated that maybe a business could be recognized on the same float. Manager Burrell stated that it would be better to implement the business side of the float for next year allowing staff to set criteria and a method that would be fair to all businesses. The Board agreed by consensus to name Hubert Thomas as the Grand Marshal.

### **2. Evergreen Packaging Agreement**

Manager Burrell presented the Board a copy of the amended copy of the lease for usage of the parking lots at 90 and 92 Park Street. Alderwoman Smith inquired if the Town would have the vehicles towed if not in compliance as stated in the agreement? Manager Burrell stated that the Town would contract with a towing service for this if need be. Mayor Smathers inquired when this would go in to effect. Attorney Morgan stated that before the agreement could be signed, it would need to be advertised in the paper 30 days prior to the adoption of the resolution per G.S. 160A-272 (which changed as of July 1, 2018). Attorney Morgan stated that a public hearing was not required but according to the statute a notice had to be run in a local paper one time before the resolution could be adopted.

## **J. New Business**

### **1. TDA 1% Funding Report: Director Lynn Collins**

Manager Burrell introduced Mrs. Lynn Collins, Director of the Haywood County Tourism Development Authority. Mrs. Collins presented the Board a packet of information and statistics regarding the collection and funding of the TDA monies (see attached). Mrs. Collins stated that the Labor Day event was a very impressive event and she enjoyed it. Mrs. Collins stated that the second round of funding would be delayed due to the numbers really being wonky this year, especially with the leaves still being green at this point. Mrs. Collins also reminded the Board that the zip codes did not just include the corporate limits and that it would also benefit the Town to help to promote these types of events. Mrs. Collins suggested that maybe the Town join the co-op opportunity with the TDA to help promote Canton. Manager Burrell stated that he would get with Lynn to see the benefits of this partnership. Mayor Smathers thanked Mrs. Collins for her report and the support that the TDA Board had given the Town with the Labor Day festival "Canton's signature event". Mrs. Collins also stated that she would be happy to provide the analytics showing the benefit of the co-op program. The Board thanked Mrs. Collins for her report.

Manager Burrell also asked Mrs. Collins to report on the "Wayfinding Signs". Mrs. Collins reported to the Board that this would be done in two phases. The process was in the first phase with designing the signs and deciding the placement of said signs that would be most beneficial. Mrs. Collins stated that they had approached NCDOT and were waiting to hear from them to see if they had any issues with sign placement. Mrs. Collins stated that most used traffic paths is where the signs were suggested to be placed. The Mayor and Board thanked Mrs. Collins for the update.

### **2. Papertown Coffee: Elizabeth Rhine and Russell Grimmett Interior Façade Grant Application**

Manager Burrell gave a brief description of the improvements that had been completed at 119 Main Street the location of the Papertown Coffee Shop (see attached). After a brief discussion regarding funds available and required criteria being met Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the \$15,000

interior façade grant as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

### 3. Commission for a Clean County Request

Manager Burrell presented a request from the Commission for a Clean County. Manager Burrell stated that he and the Assistant Manager, Nick Scheuer, were participants in this Commission. Manager Burrell stated that this Commission also funded the Recycle Your Art Off program that the Haywood County school art programs participated in developing art out of recycled materials, as well as the Community Pride Awards. After a brief discussion, Alderman Hamlett made a motion to sponsor \$500.00 for the Clean County Commission. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

### 4. "Fright Night" Sponsorship Request: Pisgah Marketing Department

Alderwoman Mull stated that she had been approached about sponsoring the "Fright Night" event that was produced by the Pisgah Marketing Club. This will take place in the Pisgah Auditorium and will be free for all to attend. Alderwoman Smith suggested that the club be approached about using the Colonial Theater for next year's event. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to sponsor the event in the amount of \$150.00. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

### 5. Veteran's Day Ad Request

Manager Burrell presented a request from the Mountaineer to take out an ad in the Veteran's Day Program. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the ad. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Alderman Hamlett stated that he asked the Mountaineer last year how much that they donated to a Veteran's group. Alderman Hamlett stated that the Mountaineer replied they did not donate any monies. Alderman Hamlett stated that for this reason he was against using taxpayer's money to take out an ad for a for profit organization, he would rather give money directly to an organization that benefitted the Veterans. Alderwoman Smith stated that she felt the Veterans were honored by the stories that were included in the publication and that this plays as a supportive role for Veterans. Alderwoman Mull suggested that the Board give

\$150 dollars to the American Legion. Alderman Markey stated that he felt it would be more appropriate to only give money when approached and that the American Legion had not approached the Board for a donation. Mr. Ed Underwood an attendee suggested that the VFW be considered for a donation since they were in the process of re-organization. After a lengthy discussion Alderwoman Smith made a motion to table this issue. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. All were in favor to table the request.

### **K. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next Regular Scheduled meeting will be held on October 25th at 6:30 p.m. in the Walter Clark Board Chambers.

### **L. Adjournment**

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 8:14 p.m.

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Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk