

November 8th, 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, November 8th, 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, Town Attorney and Town Clerk were present.

C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Pam Kearse gave the Invocation. Alderwoman Mull led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: October 25, 2018

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the October 25th minutes as presented. Alderman Markey seconded the motion with all members voting to approve the minutes as presented.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers welcomed everyone that was in attendance. Mayor Smathers remarked that he was glad the election was over and hopefully those elected would work together for the good of the people.

Mayor Smathers thanked all that were involved for the Veterans Day Ceremony stating that it was going to be a wonderful event. Mayor Smathers commented that Ms. Laura Murray did a wonderful job as usual organizing the event and that he looked forward to this year's celebration.

Mayor Smathers invited all to come out and enjoy the local talents of Haywood County at the "Sunday at the Opry" that would be held in the Colonial Theatre starting at 3pm on November 11th.

Mayor Smathers requested a Resolution honoring the Pisgah Band for their accomplishments. Alderwoman Mull made a

motion for the Manager to construct a Resolution recognizing the Band. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. All were in favor of the motion.

Mayor Smathers stated that work repairing a sink hole at McDonalds was ongoing and should be completed in the future.

Mayor Smathers reminded the Board and invited the public as well to attend the Remembrance Ceremony that would be held in the Colonial Theatre on December 1st.

Mayor Smathers reminded the Board and the public about the "Tour of Homes" that would be held on Sunday, December 2nd to benefit the Haywood County Educational Foundation.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderman Markey welcomed everyone to the meeting. Alderman Markey stated that he agreed with Mayor Smathers on being glad the election was over and that the Citizens should hold all elected officials accountable. Alderman Markey inquired if a work session could be held in the winter to discuss the Colonial Theater, Armory, and Camp Hope. Manager Burrell stated that was an option, also commenting that staff had spoken with several different marketing companies with regards to different options for these venues and how to do a better job with the marketing of these facilities. Alderman Markey asked if any grants would be available to finish the upstairs of the Armory to make it ADA compliant? Manager Burrell stated that staff would always seek grants when available but also had to be mindful if such grants had to be matched with Town money.

Alderman Hamlett commented that he hoped Alderwoman Smith felt better soon.

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Alderwoman Mull also reported that the Lifeworks event the Board co-sponsored was a successful event for a very good cause.

Alderwoman Smith thanked the media for the coverage on the past election stating that the information provided gave the voters the knowledge needed to make an educated vote. Alderwoman Smith also made the Board aware that construction had begun on the Papertown Coffee building.

G. Public Comments

Mr. Caleb Simmons of Pinnacle Church stated that the Church was seeking to work with the Town on an event called "Night to Shine" from the Tim Tebow Foundation for people with special needs. Mr. Simmons is asking for the use of the Armory at no cost for this event to be held on February 8, 2019. Mayor Smathers instructed Mr. Simmons to get with Lisa Stinnett to fill out the appropriate paperwork for the request and staff would then add to the next agenda for decision.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell gave the cash report.

Manager Burrell commented that the Veterans Day event was a going to be held at the Pisgah Memorial Stadium on November 11th to honor all Veterans for their service.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that over the weekend that that the annual "Toy Run" starting from downtown and ending in Maggie Valley would be taking place as well as the "Heart Smart 5k" race starting at Bearwaters Brewery looping to Pisgah High School and ending back at the Brewery. Manager Burrell stated that the Police and Fire Departments were prepared for both events.

Manager Burrell stated that the Papertown Coffee building construction had started and that he looked forward to the opening of the new coffee shop.

Manager Burrell stated that news of several new economic development ventures would come to fruition in the next several weeks and that these new businesses and their store fronts like 81 Main was making a huge visual impact on the downtown area.

Mayor Smathers reminded us all that Saturday was "Shop Local" day and that when you shopped small your money was a direct benefit to the community in which you lived.

J. New Business

1. Audit Report: Sheila Gahagan CPA

Manager Burrell introduced Mrs. Sheila Gahagan and asked her to please give the annual audit report (see attached) to the Board. Mrs. Gahagan stated that the audit was good including the checks and balances process that the Town had in place. Mrs. Gahagan stated she found no issues to report and that Finance Officer Natalie Walker really had done a good job, especially since it was her first year working with local government. Mrs. Gahagan made the Board aware that the North Carolina League of Municipalities were thinking of implementing several changes regarding retiree benefits and the method to fund these benefits and that she would continue to discuss with the Finance Officer.

2. Canton Middle School Yearbook Request

Manager Burrell presented the Board a request from Canton Middle School asking for a donation to help purchase yearbooks for those students that could not afford to purchase one. After a brief discussion Alderman Hamlett made a motion to donate \$150.00 to help with the purchase of yearbooks for those that could not otherwise afford one. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

3. Order to Collect 2018 Taxes

Manager Burrell presented the Board with an Order to Collect 2018 taxes. Alderman Markey made a motion to approve the Order to Collect 2018 taxes as presented. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Tax Settlement

Manager Burrell presented the Board with a Tax Settlement which was discovered taxes or releases sent from Haywood County. Alderwoman Mull made the motion to approve the tax settlement as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

5. Advertise Delinquent Taxes

Manager Burrell presented a list of delinquent taxes to be advertised. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to authorize the advertisement of delinquent taxes as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. 10 Year Tax Releases

Manager Burrell presented a list of 10-year tax releases. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to authorize the 10-year tax releases as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Resolution: Water Shortage Response Plan

Manager Burrell presented the updated Water Shortage Response Plan that must be updated yearly with the State. Manager Burrell stated that the plan can be amended at any time if necessary. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the Resolution as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

K. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next Regular Scheduled meeting will be held on December 13th at 6:30 p.m. in the Town of Canton Board Chambers.

L. Adjournment

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:28 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk