

## **January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen of the Town of Canton held at the Municipal Building Boardroom, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, and Markey present, the following proceedings were held.

### **A. Call to Order**

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:36 p.m.

### **B. Roll Call**

Mayor Smathers noted that Alderwoman Smith was out due to the flu and the Town Manager, Town Attorney, and Town Clerk were all present.

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

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

### **D. Approval of Minutes: 1/11/18**

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the January 11, 2018 minutes as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members present voted in favor of the motion.

### **E. Mayor Comments**

Mayor Smathers announced that the Board would be holding a work-session on Saturday, January 27<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 5pm and that this would be an open meeting. Mayor Smathers expressed his eagerness to work with this new Board to start the strategic planning for the coming year.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Board had hosted the Council of Governments meeting on Monday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> and he was pleased to report that the new collaboration with the Haywood County Chamber and the Buncombe County Chamber was an exciting partnership and would be a great benefit economically for all of Haywood County.

Mayor Smathers stated that Canton lost one of our great WWII Veterans, Paul Willis, and what a positive impact he had on so many people over the years and he would be greatly missed by

all who knew him.

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

Alderman Markey reported that during the Council of Governments an update on the Greenways Project was given and that the statement that everything going East or West on I-40 must pass through Canton made him realize that this was in fact true and that Canton had a lot to offer people either traveling or relocating.

Alderwoman Mull thanked those in attendance for coming and taking an interest in Canton. Alderwoman Mull thanked all the employees that worked 24 hours a day to resolve utility issues in such cold temperatures this time of year.

### **G. Public Comments**

Neal McCracken stated that he felt the Board should consider doing a Billboard on I-40 directing motorists to Canton.

Carl Cortright stated that he would like to see the Colonial and Camp Hope allow alcohol sales. Mr. Cortright stated that the resource of the Colonial Theatre was not being captured and he felt that the programming needed to be vibrant and often allowing people to be seen in the downtown area. Mr. Cortright requested the Manager do a report on the Black Board conversion to Everbridge process.

Pastor Vos stated that he had flyers to try and get volunteers to help with the horticulture team and that he would also ask for prayer for the leaders as they started with their planning and strategic goals process.

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

Manager Burrell presented the cash report to the Board.

Manager Burrell informed the Board that he had received at least 10 applications for the Assistant Manager's position and had several qualified people to choose from so far and he would keep them updated as information was available.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that a Customer Service job would be vacant in February due to an employee choosing to stay home with a new baby and that the job had been

advertised and would be filled as soon as possible.

Manager Burrell reported to the Board that the conversion from the Black Board Connect system did not go as smoothly as planned due to the fact most of the information gathered for the Black Board system was done by a third party which became proprietary information and was not released. This left only around 500 accounts that were entered manually that could be pulled over. However, he and Town Clerk, Lisa Stinnett, had spent an entire day during the snowstorm working to be creative and pulled information from several places such as, water accounts, work orders, etc., also providing sign up materials to the Senior Center, Pickin' in the Armory events, as well as requesting newspaper articles from the local papers to try and get most of our residents entered into the system for Canton specific information. These efforts raised the user numbers to around 3,900 to date.

Manager Burrell also stated that he looked forward to collaborating with this new Board to set goals and strategically plan for the next year.

## **I. Old Business**

### **TDA Sub-Committee Appointments**

Manager Burrell reminded the Board that the TDA 1% Sub-Committee recommendations would need to be submitted before the February 23<sup>rd</sup> deadline. The Board did not have any recommendations at this time.

## **J. New Business**

### **Haywood County Fair Sponsorship Request**

Manager Burrell presented the Board with a sponsorship request from the Haywood County Fair. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to be a fair sponsor at the \$250.00 level. Alderman Markey seconded the motion with all members voting in favor of the sponsorship.

### **Wayfinding Sign Update**

Manager Burrell reported one last item to the Board regarding the TDA Wayfinding Signs planning. Manager Burrell stated

that he felt that this project would be beneficial for Canton and the County as a whole by having major and ancillary markers throughout the County and individual Towns to help people locate different areas with similar and aesthetic signage.

**K. Next Scheduled Meeting**

The next Special Called meeting will be held on January 27<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. in the Municipal Building second floor Boardroom.

**L. Adjournment**

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:10 pm.

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Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk