

September 27th, 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, September 27th, 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.

Alderman Markey joined the meeting at 6:35 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. Alderman Markey 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 13th minutes as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion with all members voting to approve the minutes as presented.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers thanked Town staff for a well-organized and well attended Labor Day festival. Mayor Smathers stated that he had received an overwhelming amount of positive remarks and a few negative remarks. Mayor Smathers stated that staff always seek ways to make the festival better each year.

Mayor Smathers asked Town Attorney William Morgan on an update regarding the Opioid Lawsuit that was pending. Attorney Morgan stated that there were two class action law suits at this time and that he would recommend that if the Board chose to take action that they go with the action that Haywood County was filing. Mayor Smathers asked that this be added to the agenda for discussion.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Pigeon River Mercantile

would have their grand opening the next week. Mayor Smathers stated he had been in the store and that the Conard's had done an amazing job. Mayor Smathers commented that Canton was lucky to have them be a part of the downtown business district. Mayor Smathers encouraged all to stop in the store and see what they had to offer.

Mayor Smathers stated that he had been invited to the Haywood Realty fall meeting on behalf of the Town of Canton and that this spoke volumes as to how the Town was growing. Mayor Smathers stated that the market showed that a house in Canton was only staying on the market for 27 days before selling. Mayor Smathers stated that he feels a lot of this success is due to the previous and current Board's willingness to move forward and make changes.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Smith complimented Town staff for their work with the Pigeon River Mercantile owners Rick and Lisa Conard and that she was excited to have them be a part of Town. Alderwoman Smith also thanked Mrs. Henry, owner of Maddie's, for attending the meeting and her hard work with her business, also noting they would be moving locations soon. Alderwoman Smith thanked Emily Wilson for all the beautiful fall decorations and hoped she was enjoying her maternity leave. Alderwoman Smith stated that the Reynold's School project was still ongoing and in need of volunteers to keep the project moving forward. Alderwoman Smith thanked the Town Manager and his team for the constant communication during the pending weather from Hurricane Florence.

Alderwoman Mull stated that the fall decorations looked great throughout the Town and thanked all staff that would be filling in to keep the decorating going during Emily Wilson's maternity leave. Alderwoman Mull thanked all the new businesses for coming to Canton as well as the already established businesses for all that they do to make Canton a great place to live and shop.

Alderman Hamlett jested that men would have to take at least a year off if they were to have a baby and seriously congratulated Mrs. Wilson on the birth of her son and wished them both well. Alderman Hamlett commented at the last meeting with regard to a proclamation for Constitution Week which was passed and that he wanted to give those in

attendance a free copy of the Constitution. Alderman Hamlett stated that the Constitution was the oldest written document in government in the world and if it was adhered to it would maintain the health of our government. Alderman Hamlett stated that he had watched the Senate hearing during the day and that he was proud to be on the Board as they had the ability to discuss issues disagreeably without being disagreeable and that it was frustrating to watch other Boards that could not do the same.

Alderman Markey stated that it is often that decisions were made from the top down, but it was designed to be from the bottom up and he encouraged all to get out and vote.

Alderman Markey stated that he was proud that he was at the level that you could see your decisions affect people hopefully in a positive manner. Alderman Markey asked the Manager if he had a report on the safety concerns for the breaking in line at the Labor Day parade. Manager Burrell stated that he had not had a chance to discuss this with the Police Chief but would do so. Alderman Hamlett reminded the board again that he had a draft policy that was tabled that had measures to alleviate this problem.

Alderwoman Smith inquired what the monies were in the budget for regarding ordinances and if that was being done? Manager Burrell stated that these monies were for the code to be added to and reviewed by attorneys to make sure we were within the law and to make sure that they were referenced properly in the code book. Manager Burrell stated that this was a yearly process and was being done.

G. Public Comments

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cortright thanked Chief Gaddis for his efforts in facilitating a meeting with the Down-Home group to answer questions regarding the needle exchange program that was scheduled at the Canton Presbyterian Church. The Cortright's invited all in attendance to join the meeting on October 9th from 7pm to 8:30pm. Mr. Cortright also asked if there had been any reduction in the deficit for the Recreation Fund or any plans had been made on cutting losses? Mayor Smathers stated that Recreation was always going to be a fund that did not make money but was considered valuable because it was a key element to economic development and growth for new residents. Mayor Smathers also stated that talks were ongoing with Haywood County to see how to better utilize our parks and

explore programming. Mayor Smathers also inquired from the Manager if any rise in crime had been reported near the needle exchange site. Manager Burrell stated that no rise in crime had been reported and stated that Chief Gaddis had done a good job reaching out to the community to facilitate a discussion regarding the needle exchange program and that the site met all zoning requirements.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell gave the cash report.

Manager Burrell reminded the Board that the ribbon cutting ceremony for 81 Main Street had been moved to October 4th at 1:00 p.m.

Manager Burrell updated the Board on the pedestrian crossing measure stating it would be implemented within the next week and hopefully that this would make this a safer area for all.

Manager Burrell stated that the Street Department did a good job on the median at Williams Street and that this should deter tractor trailers from taking this route in the future.

Manager Burrell informed the Board that the power pole on Spring had been reported numerous times. Manager Burrell stated that the pole was not marked with a pole number and it was uncertain who the pole belonged too but had been reported to Duke Progress to be looked at for safety concerns. Manager Burrell stated that the Town did not own the pole and could only report the concerns.

Manager Burrell reported to the Board that the Labor Day Festival to date had generated approximately \$8,500 dollars in revenue. Manager Burrell stated that this was the highest attendance to date and was a great festival. Manager Burrell also commented that the Haywood County Tourism Development Director, Lynn Collins, was very complimentary of the event.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that he would be bringing a façade grant request to them from Papertown Coffee at the next meeting for their consideration.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the auditor had been in the office all week and at this time no write ups had occurred remarking that the newly hired Chief Financial Officer,

Natalie Walker, had stepped in and done a good job. Manager Burrell stated that a formal presentation by the auditor would be presented to the Board in the near future.

I. Old Business

1. Bethel Christian Academy Sponsorship Request for their yearbook:

Alderman Hamlett made a motion not to sponsor the year book ad as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. After a brief discussion the Board would like to see a yearbook, how many Seniors they have, and sample of the ad before sponsoring the yearbook. All members voted against the ad request. Request Denied.

J. New Business

1. Public Hearing: Proposed Amendment to the Mobile Food Unit Ordinance

Manager Burrell gave a brief overview of the changes that would be implemented in the Mobile Food Truck Ordinance. 1. of Subsection (d) "Special Requirements for Mobile Food Units" be amended as such (see attached).

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to enter the Public Hearing at 7:20 p.m. Alderman Markey seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alderwoman Smith inquired that this Ordinance would only allow food trucks if permitted by the Town of Canton. Manager Burrell confirmed that a Food Truck would have to comply with the requirements as stated in the ordinance with permission of the Town of Canton before being able to operate. Manager Burrell stated that you could not just show up and park somewhere to operate. Mayor Smathers welcomed all the food truck owners and thanked them for coming to Canton either to operate or just for the special events.

Mr. Schoen of the Big Bun Eatery in Clyde and the Wing It Food Truck stated that this was a fast-paced industry. Mr. Schoen stated that he had tried to operate during a home football game and was not allowed and he inquired if he could set up during home games? Manager Burrell stated that he could not

unless he had Haywood County School Board approval and operated inside the gate on school property. Manager Burrell encouraged Mr. Schoen to read the ordinance and if he had a property that met all the specifications to please come meet with him and he would go over the requirements and try to help him if possible.

Mrs. Tina Tuten was very complimentary of the Town of Canton for being progressive allowing food trucks and for all their help.

Mr. Jeff McLeod, owner of Hit the Pit Barbeque, thanked the Town for their help and for allowing food trucks to operate at the Recreation park during the summer.

Mr. Carl Cortright inquired if a food truck could set up in front a brick and mortar business. Manager Burrell stated that they could not be but within 100 feet from a brick and mortar restaurant.

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:35 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to adopt the amended mobile food truck ordinance as presented, stating that the amendment presented was consistent with the intent of the zoning ordinance of the Town of Canton and previously adopted plans (including the economic development plan) and in his opinion was in the best interest of the public and continued efforts in economic development of the Town. Alderman Hamlett also stated that the proposed amendment was previously approved for recommendation by the Town of Canton Planning Board to this Board for adoption. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion with all members voting in favor of the amendment as presented and the consistency thereof.

2. Co-Sponsorship Requests Haywood County Arts Council: Leah Forrester, Executive Director

Manager Burrell introduced Ms. Leah Forrester, Executive Director, of the Haywood County Arts Council. Ms. Forrester explained that the request would be for the use of the Colonial Theatre to present "Masque of the Red Death", and a narrator from the NCS of the Arts will read from Edgar Allen Poe for the 8th graders of Bethel and Canton Middle School on April 17, 2019. After a brief discussion, Alderman Markey made a motion to waive all fees and to co-sponsor the event.

Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

3. Christmas Parade Theme

Manager Burrell asked the Board for the 2018 Christmas parade theme. After a brief discussion this item will be tabled until the next meeting by consensus.

K. Next Scheduled Meeting

The next Regular Scheduled meeting will be held on October 11th 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 7:52 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk