

May 9th, 2019

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, May 9th, 2019 at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, Smith and Markey present, the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:32 p.m.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers stated the Manager, Assistant Manager, Town Clerk, and Town Attorney were present.

C. Invocation/Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Pam Kearse gave the Invocation. Alderman Markey led those present in the reciting of the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: May 25th, 2019

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the April 25, 2019 minutes as presented. Alderman Markey seconded the motion with all members present voting to approve the minutes as presented.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers welcomed everyone that was in attendance.

Mayor Smathers commented that the grand opening for the Mountain Pediatric Group was a great event and that they make a great addition to the Town. Mayor Smathers stated that this shows the growth and the need for these types of services being added to the Canton area. Mayor Smathers congratulated Haywood Regional Medical Center's CEO, Rod Harkleroad, on a job well done.

Mayor Smathers stated that progress was still being made and hopefully soon the Pisgah girls' softball field will have new lighting installed.

Mayor Smathers commented that the recent tragic death of Riley Howell was a testament to the heroism of this young man that saved numerous lives in the UNCC shooting and that the

rest of America should take lessons from him on the way in which we live. The willingness to help others without thought or hesitation are qualities that we should all demonstrate in our daily lives. The community will continue to mourn his death and without doubt honor his memory!

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Smith commented that it was teacher appreciation week and the tragic death of Riley Howell hits close to home and that she echoed the comments from Mayor Smathers. Alderwoman Smith stated that the budget workshop went well and that she looked to the future and that she looked forward to one of the new businesses grand opening soon.

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Alderwoman Mull stated that the actions of Riley Howell should be remembered and that everyone should put their political affiliations aside and strive to fix the mental health and violence issues that keep causing tragic results in this Nation.

Alderman Hamlett echoed the sentiments of the Mayor and other Board Members. Alderman Hamlett stated that the best way to honor this young man would be to have conversations instead of violence, love one another, and to work together as people, community, and a Nation; then one day maybe we will not have to be talking about violent acts.

Alderman Markey commented that it was good to see everyone in attendance. Alderman Markey commented that Riley Howell's actions without hesitation is a true testament to his life and that we as a people should do our part to do the right thing and help one another daily.

G. Public Comments

Steve Pressley a resident of Pisgah Drive commented that he once was a security officer at UNC Charlotte and that during training so many what ifs came up and the discussion was always what if a student stood up? The answer is, his selfless actions saved numerous lives without regard to his own safety and he is a true hero.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell gave the cash report.

Manager Burrell reminded the Board that Relay For Life would be in the Recreation Park on Friday, May 17th .

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that the Lions Urban Assault event would be held in Sorrells Street Park throughout the downtown area on Saturday, May 18th.

Manager Burrell stated that the Champion Credit Union Aquatics Center would be opening on May 25th for weekends until school was out. The opening day will be free admission for all from 11am to 5:00pm.

Manager Burrell stated that due to the habitual violation notices that are being sent out that he would like to discuss with the Board the possibility of immediate citations to offenders. This would eliminate the 14-day notice being repeated every 14 days. As it stands, a resident would only have to mow their yards/property twice a month in the notice cycle and never reach citation. This still allows for a nuisance to neighbors etc.

I. Old Business

1. Opioid Resolution

Manager Burrell requested that Attorney William Morgan present the Resolution that declares the opioid crisis a public nuisance which must be abated for the benefit of the Town of Canton and its residents and citizens. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

J. New Business

1. Historical Museum Volunteer Recognition

Manager Burrell introduced Mrs. Caroline Ponton, curator of the museum, to present Mr. Nathan Ingle, Mr. Jimmy Clontz, and Ms., Edie Burnette with a certificate of appreciation for their selfless contributions of items, time, and knowledge to the museum, citizens of Canton, and visitors alike. The Board

asked for a standing ovation for the volunteers as well as Mrs. Ponton for a job well done.

2. Co-Sponsorship: Pisgah Marching Band

Manager Burrell presented the Board with a co-sponsorship request from the Pisgah Marching Band to have a free concert in Sorrells Street Park on May 25th to showcase the talent of students as well as provide entertainment for the community. The request of co-sponsorship was to waive the fee to rent Sorrells Street Park and partner for marketing information. Mr. Steve Pressley, a band booster member, stated that if folks wanted to donate to the band it would be welcomed but the event would be free for all. Alderman Markey made a motion to approve the co-sponsorship as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

3. Co-Sponsorship Request: Camp Ability

Manager Burrell presented a co-sponsorship request from Camp Ability to utilize the Armory from June 17th to June 20th for events for those with special needs. Alderman Mull made a motion to waive all associated fees for this organization. Alderman Markey seconded the motion. Alderman Markey asked for a brief discussion with regard to staff being called in or staff already scheduled to work. Manager Burrell stated that Denise Holcombe could utilize her daily hours at the facility without requiring additional staff. All members voted in favor of the motion.

4. Sponsorship Request: The Community Kitchen

Manager Burrell presented a flyer requesting sponsorship for the Community Kitchen golf tournament. The sponsorship dies for lack of a motion.

5. Rotary Club Sponsorship Request

Manager Burrell presented a sponsorship requesting a sponsorship for the Rotary Club's "40 years of Service" banquet. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to sponsor at the Bronze level of \$250.00. Alderman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

6. Spruce Street Project Notice of Award

Manager Burrell presented a notice of award from McGill and Associates to award the low bidder Hyatt Pipeline, LLC for the Spruce Street Area Water System Improvements. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the notice of award to Hyatt Pipeline, LLC for the Spruce Street Water Project. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

7. Resolution: Support of Local ABC Control System for Sale of Liquor

Manager Burrell presented the Board with a resolution in support of local ABC Control Systems for the sale of Liquor. Alderman Markey made a motion to approve the resolution as presented, Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

8. Resolution: In Opposition of Catawba Indian Nation Casino in North Carolina.

Manager Burrell presented a resolution that would oppose allowing a Catawba Indian Nation Casino in North Carolina. Manager Burrell explained that this Indian Nation was from South Carolina and a bill had been introduced to allow them to build a casino in North Carolina. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

9. Set Public Hearings: Proposed Budget Hearing and Proposed Lease of Property

Manager Burrell asked the Board's pleasure on setting the proposed budget presentation and Proposed Lease of Property public hearing for May 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to set the hearings for May 23, 2019 at 6:30 p.m. Alderman Markey seconded the motion. A brief discussion with regard of the necessity for a public hearing for the lease of property. Manager Burrell stated that it was not mandated because it was less than a year, however, he thought it would be a good idea to hear from the public. All members voted in favor of the motion.

K. Closed Session: Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 142-318.11 (a) (3)

Alderwoman Smith made a motion to enter Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. 142-318.11 (a) (3) at 7:45 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

After a brief discussion, Alderman Hamlett made a motion to enter Open Session at 8:27 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

L. Adjournment

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 8:28 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk