

## **June 13<sup>th</sup>, 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, June 13, 2019 at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, and Smith present, the following proceedings were held.

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

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Mayor Smathers stated that Alderman Markey had notified the Board that his property had sold and that he would no longer be a resident of the Town of Canton the first week of June and that he would be resigning his seat at this time. Mayor Smathers stated that Alderman Markey requested that he be allowed to publicly announce his resignation and address the public at the next Board meeting. At this time Mayor Smathers with consensus added item C. to the agenda. Mayor Smathers stated that Alderman Markey worked diligently while a member of the Board enduring positive and negative feedback from the public and continuing to always put the best interest of the community first. Mayor Smathers commended Alderman Markey for his commitment and work while serving on the Board and thanked him for his love and interest in the community.

### **B. Roll Call**

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

### **C. Public Resignation of Alderman Markey**

Mr. James Markey officially addressed the public to announce his resignation of his seat as Alderman on the Town of Canton Board of Aldermen/women. Mr. Markey stated that he always tried to focus on what was best for his community as he served on the Board always keeping his central values of faith, family, and community at the forefront. Alderman Markey stated that he and his wife accepted career positions and hour away from Canton and after much prayer and discussion with his spouse they concluded that it was time to leave Canton an move closer

to their work. Mr. Markey thanked the Board and Town Staff for their tireless work in promoting the best quality of life for the residents of our town. Mr. Markey thanked the people of Canton's amazing community by ending his comments stating, "Canton is truly great because her people are amazing".

Alderwoman Mull stated that it had been a wild ride and thanked Alderman Markey for his contributions to the Board and community in which he served.

Alderman Hamlett thanked Alderman Markey for his service to the community stating that he represented himself, faith and family eloquently. Alderman Hamlett stated that the Town of Canton is better because of Alderman Markey and that he would always have a home in Canton.

Alderwoman Smith thanked Alderman Markey for his dedicated service, time and especially his friendship. Alderwoman Smith wished him well in his endeavors.

Alderman Hamlett asked everyone to stand and applaud Alderman Markey for his dedicated service.

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

Mayor Smathers stated that a former Alderman Troy Mann had passed away and that he would be missed in the community and asked that his family be kept in your thoughts.

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

#### **E. Approval of Minutes: May 23, 2019**

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the May 23, 2019 minutes as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion with all members present voting to approve the minutes as presented.

#### **F. Mayor Comments**

Mayor Smathers welcomed everyone that was in attendance.

Mayor Smathers announced that the Papertown Coffee shop had opened and was doing well. Mayor Smathers thanked Alderwoman Smith for being instrumental in encouraging them to locate and open their dream business in Canton.

Mayor Smathers reported that the Abundant Labs was opening up a new industrial hemp business that should add jobs to the Canton area with room for future growth.

Mayor Smathers asked for an update on sidewalk and street repair at the next meeting.

### **G. Aldermen/women Comments**

Alderman Hamlett thanked Alderwoman Smith for her efforts with regard to Papertown Coffee choosing Canton for their location. Alderman Hamlett thanked Kyle Perrotti and Cory Vaillancourt for the job that they do reporting positive and negative information as allowed by first amendment.

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for attending the meeting. Alderwoman Mull thanked the media as well for their coverage of local events.

Alderwoman Smith thanked everyone for the kind comments regarding Papertown Coffee. Alderwoman Smith thanked town staff for all their work but especially Liz Rhine and Russ Grimmett for relocating and trusting their dream with the Canton community.

### **H. Public Comments**

Carl Cortright thanked Manager Burrell and Richard Hodge for their help resolving an issue for a family member in the crossroad hill project area.

Manager Burrell stated that he wanted to comment for a moment on former Alderman Troy Mann. Manager Burrell stated that Alderman Mann advocated for him to receive the Manager position and that he was very "Canton" minded and cared deeply for the Town and his passing was a true loss for the community.

## **I. Reports from the Manager**

Manager Burrell gave the cash report.

Manager Burrell reported that the Champion Credit Union Aquatics Center was operating smoothly thus far, and that new signage had been installed to help with hours and price for the public. Manager Burrell also informed the Board that staff was still working diligently to contract vending machines and food trucks that would be available daily for attendees.

Manager Burrell made the Board aware that Assistant Manager Scheuer had sent out request for proposals for the sidewalk project in the Newfound area and that he would keep them informed as that progressed.

Manager Burrell thanked Alderwoman Smith for being instrumental in the entire process to get Papertown Coffee located in Canton.

Manager Burrell informed the Board that Wendy's was set to have a soft opening in the coming weeks. Manager Burrell commented that we emphasize local downtown businesses but Wendy's and the jobs they create were just as important to the community and that they had been super to work with and Wendy's would be a good addition to Canton.

## **J. Old Business**

N/A

## **K. New Business**

### **1. 2019-2020 Budget and Budget Ordinance Adoption**

Manager Burrell stated that the proposed budget had been presented at the May 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting along with the required public hearing. Manager Burrell stated that the information presented had not been altered since last reviewed by the Board and that was the document that was being presented for adoption tonight. The Board thanked Manager Burrell for the budget he presented along with staff for their hard work. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to adopt the budget and

budget ordinance as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

## 2. Haywood County Fairgrounds Request

Manager Burrell presented a request for sponsorship to the Haywood County Fairgrounds. Alderman Hamlett made a motion to approve a green sponsorship of \$250.00 to the Haywood County Fairgrounds. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. After a brief discussion all members voted in favor of the motion.

## 3. Budget Amendments

Manager Burrell presented year end budget amendments. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

## **L. Closed Session**

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to enter closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(5) at 7:09 p.m. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

After a brief discussion, Alderwoman Smith made a motion to enter open session at 7:19 p.m. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

## **M. Adjournment**

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:21 p.m.

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Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk