

September 26, 2019

At the Special Called Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the Walter Clark Board Chambers, September 26, 2019 at 5:30pm 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 5:42 p.m.

B. Roll Call

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

C. Public Comments

D. Planning Session

Manager Burrell started the planning session off by explaining that the planning session would be discussing potential projects that could be partnered with Cruso Endowment Fund. Manager Burrell stated that these funds could be applied for several different uses, however must meet the guidelines for the Endowment Fund. The guidelines that apply states that the monies must be used for Recreation, Beautification, Community Engagement, and Economic Development. Manager Burrell stated that he was proposing several options for the Board to consider.

Manager Burrell stated that a Dog Park at the Canton Recreation Park behind the Tennis Courts would be one suggestion and he had been in discussions with the Canton Rotary Club to maybe partner with the Town to help with the project in some capacity.

Manager Burrell proposed that the Sorrells Street Park planning and engineering for year-round usage be a project to consider with possible shade shelters, splash pad, sidewalks, shelters, electrical and water usage all strategically placed to allow for the Labor Day event, as well as year-round usage for other events.

Manager Burrell reported that another option would be to resurface the basketball courts, moving and fencing the walking trail, adding trees and plants, repair the rock wall, and update

the playground in the recreation park.

Manager Burrell stated that Park Street beautification would be a benefit for the downtown area by adding planters and banners to make the Park Street side of town more eye appealing.

Alderwoman Mull inquired how the application process worked? Manager Burrell explained that once the projects were determined, cost estimates, and phases were determined, he would then meet with the Cruso Endowment Fund and see if it would be something they would be willing to partner with the Town on. Mayor Smathers inquired if when applying for these monies if using Town resources would be considered in that application? Manager Burrell explained that everything that Town staff could provide would be determine and utilized in all the projects to help cut the cost. Alderwoman Smith inquired if this would work with the bike and ped plan that was already in the works? Manager Burrell stated that the bike and ped plan would still utilize Powell Bill monies and working with the NCDOT. Alderman Hamlett asked if the Colonial Theatre Projector Project was still being considered and if these monies could be used for that project? Manager Burrell stated that it could be and that an outdoor movie screen projector had also been discussed to be able to show outdoor movies in Sorrells Park or in the Recreation Park. Manager Burrell stated that even though others were applying for monies that if they wanted to use Town property then they would have to have permission from the Board before applying for the money. Alderman Hamlett asked for a work session where the Manager would present a prioritized list of projects and timeline and allow the Board to give feedback and how they would like these projects accomplished. Mr. Roland Osborne inquired if a swinging bridge could be a project to be considered. Manager Burrell stated that he did not think this would be a project that would be allowed or considered due to floodway and liability issues. Mr. Carl Cortright inquired if new murals or refurbished murals Could be an option? Manager Burrell's responded that that was already being explored.

L. Adjournment

There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 6.13 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk