

January 20, 2020

At the Special Called Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held in the Town of Canton Boardroom, January 20, 2020 at 11:00am with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Smith, and Shepard present, the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 11:00 a.m.

B. Roll Call

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

G. Public Comments

N/A

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Burrell stated that he wanted to update the Board on ongoing projects and future projects to hear the Boards vision so that work can begin on the upcoming budget.

Manager Burrell stated that the Spruce Street Water Project should be completed around March 1, 2020. Mayor Smathers inquired about patch work and street repair in these areas. Manager Burrell stated that Hyatt Pipeline would make repairs to be as good or better than the original state. Manager Burrell stated that if monies were available, he would suggest milling and resurfacing some of these streets if possible.

Manager Burrell stated that the water and sewer infrastructure study (audit of the system) should be completed in the future and that would give them valuable information.

Manager Burrell inquired if the Board wanted to continue committing \$50,000 in grant opportunities in the new budget. The Board by consensus agreed that this had been successful and agreed to continue in the new budget year.

Manager Burrell reported that the he would soon be bringing draft amendments to the Sign Ordinance soon. Alderwoman Smith inquired about the recodification. Manager Burrell reported that it was in the works. Manager Burrell stated that

Intern Rebecca Brown was currently working on the recodification project as well as several others proving to be a very valuable asset to the Town. Manager Burrell stated that maybe some marketing in the Small Business Center, which help to foster new business with some type of grant monies and when this plan is formalized, they would know more what they needed to plan for in the future. Mayor Smathers asked how the building code requirements were doing? Manager Burrell stated that Code Enforcement Officer, Tim Carver, was doing a great job with the building code requirements and that it seems to make a difference with the ability to rent or sale a building. Mayor Smathers inquired if grant packages for dilapidated buildings was still on the Managers' radar. Manager Burrell stated that he was still investigating how this would work but felt that this would be a very viable idea to help clear some of the dilapidated housing and allow for new development.

Manager Burrell reported that in the Recreation segment that staff was working on grants for an outdoor movie screen to be utilized in the Recreation Park as well as downtown for events in Sorrells Park. Manager Burrell reported that plans and design for Sorrell Street Park was ongoing and when received this would allow the Board to decide what improvements the Board wanted to implement first. Manager Burrell stated that the Dog Park was in the works as well as beautifying the Recreation Park with new playground equipment, possible resurfacing of the basketball courts, as well as an in depth look at a skateboard facility. Manager Burrell stated that the swimming pool facility was well received in the community and that it generated revenue in this fiscal year. Manager Burrell stated that work on getting certified lifeguards were already being put in place to help alleviate the shortage as seen last year. Alderwoman Smith asked if possible, scholarships could be provided to help offset the cost for the certification. Manager Burrell stated that it was something that could be investigated. Manager Burrell stated that he hoped to have the outside of the concession area painted to match the rest of the facilities. Alderman Shepard stated that maybe the day of caring with local churches could help with painting and sprucing up some of these projects. Manager Burrell stated that a new sign for the International Sports Complex would be purchased to mark the facility. Manager Burrell reported that the Boat Launch project was awaiting the Army Corp of Engineer approval and then that project would begin.

Manager Burrell reported that he planned to continue the

streetscape from Adams and Academy with trees, sidewalk, etc. to tie into the already completed portion of the project. Manager Burrell stated that he would like to see the completion of sidewalks in the Champion Drive corridor for the bike and pedestrian traffic. Manager Burrell reported that he was looking to add marketing information on the website for the Colonial, Armory, and Annex. Alderwoman Smith stated that she felt that the space dimensions, capacity, and equipment availability would help those that were looking to rent space.

Alderwoman Mull inquired about the Horticulturist position? Manager Burrell stated that the current position was being filled by a current employee that had expressed interest in job. Manager Burrell stated that his plan was to evaluate the position/ progress after the Spring and Summer planting season to allow every opportunity to promote from within when available.

Manager Burrell stated that the Recycling Project was complete and that this would be a great grant that would allow residents of the community to help preserve the environment.

L. Adjournment:

The next Regularly Scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, January 23, 2020 at 6:30 p.m. in Walter Clark Board Chambers. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 12.31 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk