

October 28, 2021

At the Special Called Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held in the USW Local 507 Building October 28, 2021, at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers, Alderman/Alderwomen Mull, Hamlett, Smith, and Shepard present the following proceedings were held.

A. Call to Order

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

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers reported that the Manager, Finance Officer, and Town Attorney were present.

D. Invocation/Pledge

Alderman Shepard led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

E. Approval of the Minutes: October 14, 2021

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the October 14, 2021, minutes as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

E. Mayor Comments

N/A

H. Aldermen and Alderwomen Comments

Alderwoman Smith thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Alderman Shepard thanked those in attendance.

I. Public Comments

Lisa and Rick Conard, Owners of Pigeon River Mercantile, thanked the Board for all they do and stated they were in attendance to become more involved.

Mick Trostel had questions regarding addressing and who designated the names. Mayor Smathers responded that this was State mandated and Haywood County addressing assigned the new street names and numbers.

Mr. and Mrs. Robbie Reavis residents of Keith Drive in West Canton were concerned about the new low-income housing project that was being implemented in their neighborhood. Mr. Reavis wanted to know where the infrastructure was being placed, whose decision to allow this project. Mayor Smathers stated that it was a county project and not a Town of Canton project as this property was outside the corporate limits. All the Town of Canton was providing was utility services. Mr. Reavis inquired about the article in the Mountaineer and inquired about the contribution of the \$750,000 dollars. Manager Scheuer explained that we were just listed on the grant that the Town was not expending the monies. Mayor Smathers stated that with providing water that this housing project would have to adhere to our zoning requirements with setbacks and such. Manager Scheuer stated that the water was proposed to be tapped on Keith Drive for this project. Mayor Smathers stated that they would need to voice their concerns to the Haywood County Commissioners since the Town had no control.

Mr. Wesley Smathers also of Keith Drive wanted to voice his concerns of the development as well. He explained that he bought the property because it was on a dead-end road, and he had children that played on this street, and he was concerned about traffic. Mayor Smathers reiterated that they he would need to voice his concerns to the Haywood County Commissioners since the Town had no control.

Mr. Joe Trostel said the addressing was done totally different where he resided pertaining to the numbering.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Scheuer presented the Board a current cash report.

Manager Scheuer inquired if the Board had a Christmas theme for the parade. Mayor Smathers stated that he was partial to grit and grace. Alderman Hamlett stated he would like to use Holiday Heroes. After a brief discussion, Mayor Smathers suggested the combination to be Grit and Grace: Holiday Heroes.

Manager Scheuer asked where the Board would like to hold the Oath of Office? The consensus of newly elected officials agreed that it should be on the bridge at Chestnut Mountain Park.

I. Old Business

N/A

J. New Business

1. Ordinance: Lane Closure for the Christmas Parade

Manager Scheuer presented the ordinance that is required by NCDOT to have lane closures. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Code Violation

Manager Scheuer stated that he wanted to look more deeply into implementing stricter code enforcement being that we were having numerous repeat offenders. The Board by consensus agreed to allow the Manager to explore this option.

3. Budget Amendments

Finance Officer Natalie Walker presented the Board with budget amendments for the adjustment of 2021-22 budget. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the budget amendments as presented. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Meeting time changed for the Veterans Day Concert

Manager Scheuer brought to the attention of the Board that the regular scheduled meeting time conflicted with the Veterans Day concert in Sorrells Park. After a brief discussion, Alderwoman Mull made a motion to change the time to 5:30pm on November 11th. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. Motion carried.

5. Meeting Cancellation

Manager Scheuer made the Board aware that the next meeting fell on the Thanksgiving holiday. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to cancel the November 25th meeting. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

L. Closed Session N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4)(5)(6)

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to enter closed session at 7:25pm. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to enter open session at 7:40pm. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to appoint Nick Scheuer as the Town Manager for the Town of Canton. Alderwoman Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

M. Adjournment

The next Special Called meeting will be on Thursday, November 11, 2021, at 5:30 p.m. at the Local 507 Union Hall. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk