

April 28, 2022

At the Special Called Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the USW Local 507 Union Hall, April 28, 2022, at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, Hamlett, Proctor 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 stated that the Manager, Assistant Manager/ Town Clerk, and Town Attorney were present.

C. Pledge

Alderwoman Proctor led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: March 24, 2022

Minutes will be presented at the next meeting.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers thanked Manager Scheuer for a fantastic job on Chestnut Mountain Park. Mayor Smathers also thanked the employees for tirelessly working to get the park ready to open, especially with all the flood clean-up. Mayor Smathers also thanked the Board for their willingness to work together and the vision to see this project for what it could be for the Town.

Mayor Smathers stated that he had been approached with some complaints regarding the recent road closure at the intersection of Main and Pisgah Drive. Manager Scheuer stated that this was a large emergency project that could not be delayed and was completed as quick as possible.

Mayor Smathers reminded everyone the National Police Officer event at the County courthouse was on May 12th at 5:30 and he and other Board members might be just a minute late.

Mayor Smathers stated that he hoped that the overwhelming response to Chestnut Mountain Park might help to move the sidewalk/ bike path project to an earlier date.

Mayor Smathers asked everyone to have a moment of silence in honor of David Conard. Mayor Smathers stated that everyone

loved David and that he was nothing but kind to everyone he met.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Proctor said WOW is all that came to mind when she thought of Chestnut Mountain Park. Alderwoman Proctor thanked Nick and staff for all the work that went in to making the park phenomenal. Alderwoman Proctor stated that she had noticed the progress on the splash pad and that the Recreation Park looked great.

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for attending. Alderwoman Mull stated that even though she is not an outdoors person, she was very impressed with the new park. Alderwoman Mull congratulated the Manager on a job well done!

Mayor Smathers commented that someone had contacted WLOS to find out where the Town purchased the little people figures on the edge of the river. Mayor Smathers stated that even the small things matter, and the Town looked good.

Mayor Smathers stated that it is very important for citizens to see progress and he was happy to say that Canton is making progress with flood projects as well as projects that were already in the queue.

Alderman Shepard thanked the Manager for a great job on the new bike park as well as the entire staff for all their hard work. Alderman Shepard thanked the emergency staff for being on site and being courteous and prepared.

G. Public Comments

Mrs. Kelly Ward, owner of Ward Piano Company stated that they were flooded during Tropical Storm Fred and as they rebuild, they wanted to lease the building out and one of the obstacles was needing water and sewer to their facility. Mrs. Ward stated that with the new bike park that they had been approached by several bike shops wanting to lease the space because they are near the park. Manager Scheuer stated that he understood the request, however the cost to extend these services would range from \$250,000 to \$400,00 dollars that the Town did not have now, but he would keep that in mind and help in any way that he could. Manager Scheuer also explained to Mrs. Ward that she could ask the County for help being this property was located outside the corporate limits.

Mr. Roland Osborne commented that he felt that Caroline Ponton did a great job with the displays she put together for

Earth Day.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Scheuer presented the cash report.

Manager Scheuer thanked everyone for the kind comments, stating that it was worth all the efforts seeing all the families enjoying the park together. Manager Scheuer thanked all the employees especially Chief Sluder, Ben Williams, Natalie Walker, Chief Wheeler, and Assistant Manager Stinnett.

Manager Scheuer made the Board aware that in two to three weeks he would be bringing the contract for the RDP closing, that would allow 7 more trails that would be accessible in the next 3 to 4 months.

Manager Scheuer updated the Board that the second portion of the Splash pad would be poured the following Wednesday weather permitting and the opening would approximately be in the next 5 to 6 weeks.

Manager Scheuer stated that the mural on the water intake was in progress and would add a little art for those who tube the river and to help disguise the unsightly building. This project was awarded the Cruso endowment funds.

Manager Scheuer informed the Board that he and the Finance Officer were still making final edits to the budget to bring to them for review.

Manager Scheuer asked the Board to set the Public Hearing for May 12th at 6:30pm. Alderman Shepard made a motion to set the public hearing for May 12th at 6:30pm. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

I. New Business

1. Michael Parrott: Consideration for Water and Sewer Extension and Annexation Potential

Manager Scheuer asked Michael Parrott to address the Board with his request to see if water and sewer would be available for a project that he was working on. Mr. Parrott explained that it would be a housing development with other businesses located within the complex (see attached). Mr. Parrott inquired if the Town would allow the new housing project to access city water and sewer. Mr. Parrott also made the Board aware that potentially a request for annexation would follow if the project was approved and completed. Mayor Smathers reiterated that

the property was in the County and that the Board would be stating the potential for water and sewer extension as well as possible annexation. Alderman Shepard inquired if Town crews could handle the protection and services that would be required for this facility. Chief Sluder stated that they had no issues with the possible extension. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve a potential water and sewer extension as well as annexation in this area. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, all voted in favor of the motion. Mayor Smathers thanked Mr. Parrott for not forgetting where he came from and his willingness to invest in his hometown. Manager Scheuer commented that Mr. Parrott's next steps would be development review.

2. Canton Middle School Sponsorship Request

Manager Scheuer presented a sponsorship request from Canton Middle School for their golf tournament. Alderman Shepard made a motion to sponsor \$200.00 for the Canton Middle School Golf Tournament. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

3. Personnel Policy Change Request

Manager Scheuer asked Chief Sluder to provide the information for the request to change the personnel policy regarding paying employees for Field Training (see attached). Alderwoman Mull made a motion to amend the personnel policy to add the compensation for field training officers as presented. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

J. Adjournment

The next Special Called meeting will be on Thursday, May 12, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the new temporary Town Hall. located at 85 Summer Street, Canton, NC 28716. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 7:23 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk