

## **August 11, 2022**

At the Regularly Scheduled Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the Town Hall at 85 Summer Street, August 11, 2022, at 6:30pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Mull, 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/Clerk, and Town Attorney were present. Mayor Smathers stated that Alderman Hamlett would not be present due to his wife's surgery.

### **C. Pledge**

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

### **D. Approval of Minutes: July 28, 2022**

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the July 28, 2022, minutes as presented. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

### **E. Mayor Comments**

Mayor Smathers inquired if the Manager knew why all the NCDOT traffic counters were installed throughout town? Manager Scheuer stated he did not know, but would be happy to find out why.

Mayor Smathers reminded everyone that the Board would be having a simple wreath laying ceremony on August 17 at 9:30am with the intent not to take away from the memorial service on Saturday. Mayor Smathers also reminding the Board that the Memorial service would be held at the Cruso Fire Department on the following Saturday.

### **F. Aldermen/women Comments**

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

Alderwoman Proctor thanked everyone for attending. Alderwoman Proctor stated that National Night Out was a great success and a wonderful event for the kids. Alderwoman

Proctor also commented that she had been approached by a lot of people regarding the Diamond Rio concert at Labor Day.

Alderman Shepard thanked Chief Wheeler for the tours that the men gave the kids at National Night Out of the new fire truck at National Night Out.

## **G. Public Comments**

N/A

## **H. Reports from the Manager**

Manager Scheuer presented the cash report and the tax report.

Manager Scheuer reminded everyone that the Town would be having a 9:00am wreath laying ceremony for all the people that were affected by the flood on the anniversary of the flood. The Town had numerous people and businesses including the Town itself that lost so much during the flood, but they also wanted to honor those that lost their lives up the river at Cruso, even though not from the corporate limits, still a part of the community that would not be forgotten. Mayor Smathers stated that Cruso would be having a memorial event at the fire department to remember those that lost their lives in the community on Saturday if the Board wished to attend.

Manager Scheuer reported that the Rotary Club would be having their meeting at Chestnut Mountain Park and wanted to discuss what projects at the park and around Town that the Rotary Club may want to participate with.

Manager Scheuer announced that the anticipated opening of several new trails at Chestnut Mountain would be September 20, 2022, weather permitting.

Mayor Smathers inquired if the injury rate had slowed down since opening the park. Chief Wheeler stated that the injuries had slowed down and thus far had been minor injuries.

## **I. New Business**

### **1. Co-Sponsorship Request: Altrusa**

Assistant Manager Stinnett presented the Board with a co-sponsorship request along with the required supporting documentation from Altrusa to hold a music concert in Sorrells Park April 2023. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve

the co-sponsorship as presented. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## 2. Storm Recover Update

Manager Scheuer reported that 80% percent of the Fema projects were obligated at this point, which was great news. Manager Scheuer stated that Finance Officer, Natalie Walker had done an astounding job working through the Fema process and submitted untold amounts of required information to get us through this process. Manager Scheuer reminded the Board that the Town Hall, Fire department, Armory, Colonial, and Camp Hope projects would be in the future as funds were available as this is a reimbursement-based system. Manager Scheuer made the Board aware that before this process was started that he wanted to meet with them to get a vision or direction on what they wanted these facilities to be utilized for so that the renovations matched their vision. Mayor Smathers thanked staff for their hard work and complimented the great strides that had been made in a short amount of time. Mayor Smathers stated that it is now important to clean our riverbeds and try and prepare for the future floods. Smoky Mountain news reporter, Cory Vaillancourt inquired if the millions from HUD impacted any of the Town's plans. Manager Scheuer stated that the Town did not have a lot of affordable housing at this point and none that was flood damaged, so this did not affect the Town.

## 3. Deputy Clerk Appointments

Manager Scheuer presented the Board with a request to appoint Natalie Walker and Wanda Lurvey as Deputy Clerk's so that the Town always has someone available to be able to sign documents in the absence of the Town Clerk. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to appoint the names as presented. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## 4. Proposed No Parking Zone

Chief Sluder presented a request from the Canton Middle School for a no parking zone request (see attached) during certain hours to help with the mobility of the busses. Alderwoman Proctor made a motion to approve as presented. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion passed.

## 5. Big Brothers Big Sisters Month

Mayor Smathers presented the Board with a request to name September Big Brothers Big Sisters Month (see attached). Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the request as

presented. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

6. Meeting Cancellation (September 8, 2022)

Mayor Smathers suggested that the Board cancel the first meeting in September due to staff being exhausted from the Labor Day event. Mayor Smathers also asked that if anything came up of great importance that staff schedule a special called meeting to discuss the situation. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to cancel the September 8<sup>th</sup> regular meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

7. Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(5)(6)

Manager Scheuer reported that he did not foresee any action being taken by the Board. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to enter closed session at 7:12pm. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried. After a lengthy discussion on section (a)(5)(6) Alderwoman Mull made a motion to enter open session at 8:02 pm. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

**J. Adjournment**

The next meeting will be on Thursday, August 25, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at Town Hall located at 85 Summer Street, Canton, NC 28716. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 8:03 p.m.

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Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk