

## **December 30, 2022**

At the Emergency Called Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at the Town Hall at 85 Summer Street, December 30, 2022, at 10:00 am with Mayor Smathers, 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, and Department Heads were present. The Attorney was on vacation.

### **C. Public Comments**

N/A

### **D. Water Outage Information**

Mayor Smathers stated that staff would talk about where we have been, are and are going. Mayor Smathers started off the meeting with the Spruce Street Improvements Project stating that money was well spent as the improvements limited the amount of people that were affected by the Spruce Street Reservoir being depleted. Mayor Smathers stated that as everyone was aware at the last meeting everyone was encouraged to allow their facets to slightly drip or run the amount of pencil lead if they were prone to freezing water lines or had frozen lines in the past. The extreme temperatures caused numerous large water line breaks as well as smaller lines. These breaks that were town wide depleted the reservoir and resulted in some of the residents being without water the Mayor being one of those affected. Mayor Smathers asked Town Manager Scheuer to update everyone on what was taking place to date. Manager Scheuer reported that Town Filter Plant staff was working around the clock to make water as quickly as possible and water department and street department crews were working around the clock to repair the broken lines as well as look for water issues that had not been reported. The Police Department delivered water to the residents that called in for assistance. Manager Scheuer stated that these crews were second to none and he could not imagine working in temperatures that froze his boots to the ground and he was extremely proud of the work that these gentlemen did as well as other department for their support. Manager Scheuer stated that he had worked very closely with Pactiv Evergreen to find

and isolate any issues that the mill had due to internal broken lines and running water. Manager Scheuer stated that the Town had turned off water to the mill in an effort to allow the reservoir to fill and restore the residents with water. Manager Scheuer stated that the Board, Administration, as well as Mill Management were all involved in this entire process and worked well together. Alderman Shepard inquired if in the future a line could be installed to bypass the mill to allow the reservoir to fill quicker? Manager Scheuer stated that that was an option to investigate. Alderman Hamlett thanked all the employees and especially the water department for their dedication and a job well done. Alderman Hamlett stated that he appreciated the constant updates from staff regarding the issues and the plan to resolve. Mayor Smathers stated that the relationship with the mill was stronger and better than it had ever been and that their cooperation was very much appreciated. Alderwoman Mull stated that the Town had the best employees and that they never let the residents or the Board down in times like these. Alderwoman Mull stated that she appreciated the partnership with Pactiv Evergreen. Alderwoman Proctor stated that two words come to mind grit and community. Alderwoman Proctor stated that we see these traits day to day but especially during times like these. Alderwoman Proctor commented to the staff that thank you was not enough to show how much the employees were appreciated. Alderwoman Proctor thanked staff for their transparency during this emergency and she looked forward to many more conversations regarding infrastructure. Water Superintendent, Michael Gantt thanked everyone for their support and all the employees that helped during this event as well as the support he had from the administration.

Manager Scheuer stated that the press conference was over, but he needed to add one item for a consensus. Manager Scheuer asked the Boards pleasure on a sponsorship for the Martin Luther King Breakfast Program. In the past the amount was the \$150.00 cover amount. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the \$150.00 sponsorship. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Motion carried.

## **K. Adjournment**

The next Regularly Scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, January 12, 2023, 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 10:58 a.m.

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Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk