

January 26, 2023

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, January 26, 2023, at 6:30pm with Mayor Pro-Tem Mull, and Aldermen/women 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/Clerk, and Town Attorney were present.

C. Pledge

Mr. Hill led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

D. Approval of Minutes: January 12, 2023

Alderman Shepard made a motion to approve the January 12, 2023, minutes as presented. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers commented on how great it was to have a full attendance for the meeting and he looked forward to the Fireman presentation.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for being in attendance.

Alderman Hamlett stated that he appreciated everyone coming and the families that have come in support of the employees.

Alderwoman Proctor stated that it was great to see everyone.

Alderman Shepard thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Mayor Smathers suggested that the Fireman Presentation take place before the rest of the agenda.

G. Public Comments

N/A

Fire Department Employee Introduction

Chief Wheeler commented on how he appreciated every fireman/woman on staff and that it was also great to see the families and support team that each of them had at home. Chief Wheeler gave percentage of calls and the nature of the calls that the staff normally responded to on a daily basis. Chief Wheeler recognized each employee gave a summary about the employee and time that they had been with the department and then a family member then pinned their badges on each fireman/woman. Chief Wheeler stated that he was proud to say that Canton was the first department in the County to hire a female fire fighter. Chief Wheeler commented that he would put his staff up against anyone and that he was proud of each one of them for their accomplishments.

Mayor Smathers stated that he was honored to meet each one of the firefighters and reiterated what an important job that they provided the community not only fighting fire but also with small children teaching fire safety as he remembered Chief Wheeler coming to his elementary school as a small child teaching fire safety and the impact that it had on not just him but many others.

Alderwoman Mull thanked the employees for the job that they did to keep others safe not only during a fire but accidents and in the community as a whole.

Alderman Hamlett thanked the employees and congratulated them on their years of service. Alderman Hamlett expressed to the employees on what an important job they had keeping others safe in the community, and he thanked the families for supporting the firefighters once they come home.

Alderwoman Proctor thanked Chief Wheeler for a great presentation and stated that it was good to see everyone to thank them in person. Alderwoman Proctor commented on how important mental health was and thanked the families for supporting the employees.

Alderman Shepard thanked everyone for coming and thanked the firefighter for all they do everyday to keep others and the community safe.

H. Managers Reports

Manager Scheuer presented the cash and tax reports.

I. New Business

1. Certificate of Sufficiency: 208 Painter Street

Assistant Manager Stinnett presented the Board with the Certificate of Sufficiency for the voluntary non-contiguous annexation of 208 Painter Street. Assistant Manager Stinnett explained that the property met all the requirements for a voluntary non-contiguous annexation.

2. Setting Work session Date

Manager Scheuer asked the Board to set a date for the yearly visionary work session with the Board in place of the regularly scheduled meeting. Alderman Shepard made a motion to set the work-session for February 9, 2023, at 12:00am. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Sign on Letter for Wildlife Passage

Manager Scheuer presented a letter in support of Wildlife Passage (see attached). After a brief discussion, Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the Letter for Wildlife Passage. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

4. Budget Amendment

Manager Scheuer presented a budget amendment to the Board for their approval. Alderman Mull made a motion to approve the budget amendment as presented. Alderman Hamlett seconded the motion. Alderman Shepard inquired what this amendment was for? Assistant Manager Stinnett explained the amendment was for Filter Plant Equipment. Motion carried.

5. Discussion for Architectural Statements of Qualifications

Manager Scheuer reported to the Board that a panel of staff members scored the submitted Statement of Qualifications for the architectural planning and design groups for the Colonial and the Armory facilities. Manager Scheuer presented the Board with the top 3 groups for their perusing. After some discussion the Board agreed to award to the top scored group for each project which is Creech and Associates for the Armory and Craig Gaulden Davis for the Colonial. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the two firms that reached the

highest score by the panel. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

J. Closed Session: Pursuant to N.C.G.S 143-318.11 (a)(4)(6)

Alderman Hamlett made a motion to enter closed session at 8:15pm pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(6) personnel. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. Motion carried.

After a lengthy discussion with no action taken, Alderman Hamlett made a motion to enter open session at 8:55pm. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

K. Adjournment

The next meeting will be a Special Called on Thursday, February 9, 2023, at 12:00 (noon) p.m. at Town Hall located at 85 Summer Street, Canton, NC 28716. There being no additional business, Mayor Pro-Tem Mull adjourned the Meeting at 8:57 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk