

March 10, 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, March 10, 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

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

D. Approval of Minutes: February 24, 2022

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the February 24, 2022, minutes as presented. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mayor Smathers stated that he received the official letter of the North Carolina Parks and Recreation Grant approval for Chestnut Mountain Park.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Proctor stated that it was great to see water in the pool. Alderwoman Proctor asked for an update on the Splash Pad and budget schedule. Alderwoman Proctor encouraged everyone to be part of and possible donate to Haywood Pathways via haywoodpathways.org.

Alderwoman Mull thanked staff for continuing to make the Town festive with so much more going on and asked the Manager if BH Graning was slated to start on the plantings and landscaping soon.

Alderman Hamlett that it was very upsetting to watch the war on Ukraine and that it reminded everyone of what WWII times

were like. Alderman Hamlett requested that staff bring a fuel shortage contingency plan back to the Board so that we will be ready with the uncertainty of gas prices. Alderman Hamlett thanked staff members that were responsible for the clean-up in the corridor of Asheville Highway, great job. Manager Scheuer stated that the Public Works crew led by Richard Hodge had really done a great job with the flood debris clean-up. Manager Scheuer stated that Assistant Manager Stinnett was the one that had worked diligently to track down owners and get contract signed to be able to help clean up this ravaged area

Alderman Shepard thanked all the staff for getting Town ready for business and that it was great to see the work going on at the recreation park. Alderman Shepard also encouraged everyone to take the Land Use Survey that will help shape the future of Canton.

Mayor Smathers commented that the Fema process is long and tedious, and we are a long way from completion, but we still are making forward progress. Mayor Smathers encouraged everyone especially with the gas prices to shop local.

G. Public Comments

Mr. Carl Cortright asked everyone to share the survey link and to take the survey to be utilized by the Planning Board decisions for the new Land Use Policy. Mr. Cortright stated that the Masterplan looked great.

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Scheuer presented the tax report.

Manager Scheuer updated the Board on the progress of the Splash Pad. Manager Scheuer stated that ground had been broken and that soon shade sails, picnic tables, electrical, sculptures, and landscaping.

Manager Scheuer reported to the Board that preliminary measures to prepare for fuel shortages and price increases were in place. Manager Scheuer also stated that the Town was also exploring adding electric charging station in the future if grant funding prevailed.

Manager Scheuer reported that the pool fencing would begin on Monday, February 28th and hopefully the pool, barring no major issues, would be able to open in the summer.

Manager Scheuer presented the Board with t-shirts for Chestnut

Mountain Park and thanked Brandy Proctor for her work on the t-shirts.

Manager Scheuer presented the Board with the budget schedule (see attached)

Alderman Hamlett also reiterated that the Board was very grateful for the hospitality that the Local 507 had afforded everyone to be able to use their boardroom until a more permanent situation could be secured for the public meetings. Alderwoman Mull should be thanked for her willingness to take responsibility to allow everyone to utilize the space and willingness to make sure it was set-up properly every meeting.

I. New Business

1. Resolution: Making Town Manager representative to sign for Alcohol permit applications.

Manager Scheuer presented the Board a resolution allowing him to sign alcohol permit applications for business owners wanting to apply for a license to sell alcohol. Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the resolution as presented. Alderman Shepard seconded the motion. Motion carried.

2. Schedule of Fees: Development Services

Manager Scheuer stated that the schedule of fees would need to be in place for future development as staff spent a lot of time and effort without any cost and that all municipalities had these fees in place. Alderwoman Proctor made a motion to approve as presented. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. Motion carried.

3. Closed Session Pursuant to N.C.G.S. 143-318.11 (a)(4)(5)

Manager Scheuer reported that he did not have any updates to present to the Board tonight but should during the next meeting, a closed session would not be necessary.

J. Adjournment

The next Regularly Scheduled meeting will be on Thursday, March 24, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. at the USW Local 507 office located at 111 Park Street, Canton, NC 28716. There being no additional business, Mayor Smathers adjourned the Meeting at 6:59 p.m.

Melisa Stinnett, Town Clerk