

June 25, 2026

At the regular Called Meeting of the Mayor and Board of Aldermen/women of the Town of Canton held at 85 Summer Street, Canton NC, June 25, 2026, at 6:00 pm with Mayor Smathers and Aldermen/women Hamlett, Mull and Proctor present the following proceedings were held. Alderman Shepherd arrived late.

A. Call to Order

Mayor Smathers called the meeting to order at 6:05 pm.

B. Roll Call

Mayor Smathers stated that Manager Stinnett, Assistant Manager Walker, Deputy Clerk Young and Town Attorney Morgan were present.

C. Pledge

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

D. Approval of Minutes: June 11, 2026

Alderwoman Mull made a motion to approve the June 11, 2026, minutes as presented. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

E. Mayor Comments

Mayor Smathers stated that walking through the Town of Canton right now is a great thing. The pool is full, the pickleball courts are busy, and the farmer's market is in full swing. Our Town has come a long way. Mayor Smathers reminded everyone about the upcoming July 4th Plus One celebration.

F. Aldermen/women Comments

Alderwoman Mull thanked everyone for coming to the meeting. Alderman Hamlett asked about the car accident from earlier today, per social media it was terrible. Chief Sluder stated it was a two-car accident, both cars going in the same direction and there were no injuries. Alderwoman Proctor stated she has heard a lot of compliments about the pool, pickleball courts and Chestnut Mountain.

G. Public Comments

None

H. Reports from the Manager

Manager Stinnett presented the monthly tax report (see attached). Manager Stinnett stated there are Bradford pear trees around the original Champion Credit Union on Academy Street that are in need of repair and would like permission to remove them and replace them with Dogwood trees. The Board gave consensus to remove and replace the trees. Manager Stinnett stated starting next week there will be two major water lines that need inserta valves replaced as there is no way to turn the water off from those lines. One goes to old Town Hall, and the other one is on Champion Drive. Mayor Smathers asked if there would be an irruption to water service. Manager Stinnett stated there are no anticipated interruptions. Manager Stinnett stated the old fire department will likely be the first building to be demolished. Manager Stinnett stated this is scheduled to begin July 6, 2026. Manager Stinnett asked the board to close Adams Street starting at Champion Credit Union for security and safety. Manager Stinnett states closing the road

would be the safest option for the public, there will also be fencing going up to help keep the site contained. Manager Stinnett stated that fencing would also start going up around the Armory in the next few weeks. The contractors are still waiting for a permit before starting work. Manager Stinnett reminded the Board of the employee picnic and award ceremony. It will take place on Friday July 3rd, 2026, starting at 11:30 am, and the awards will begin around 12:00 pm. Mayor Smathers asked if everything was lined up for the fireworks display for the July 4th Plus One event. Manager Stinnett stated everything has been approved by the county. Alderwoman Mull asked if the carnival would be in town this year. Manager Stinnett stated Debra Reed with the Lion's Club called and they had staffing and scheduling issues and would not be in town this year, but they are hoping to continue next year. Manager Stinnett stated the Street Department has been busy making sure to get our patriotic décor out for the 250th and July 4th Plus One celebration.

I. Old Business

None

J. New Business

1. Speed Limit Recommendation and Ordinance: Patton Cove Development, Robinson Ridge Development, and Champion Drive

Manager Stinnett stated there have been several ongoing complaints about the speed on Champion Drive, especially with the construction going on. While looking into this it was also found there were no posted speed limits in several of the developments. Manager Stinnett consulted with Chief Sluder about suggested speed limits. Ordinances with speed limits changes were presented to the Board (see attached). Alderman Hamlett made a motion. Alderwoman Mull seconded the motion. The motion carried.

2. Budget Amendments

Assistant Manager Walker presented budget amendments (see attached). Assistant Manager Walker asked for approval to transfer funds from general fund to recreation fund. This transfer was pre-approved at the budget hearing. Alderwoman Mull made a motion. Alderman Shepherd seconded the motion. The motion carried.

3. Audit Contact: Sheila Gahagan CPA

Manager Stinnett presented the contract with Sheila Gahagan CPA (see attached). The cost for Ms. Gahagan's services will not exceed contract of \$34,000. Alderwoman Mull made a motion. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. The motion carried.

4. Dogwood Health Trust Grant: David Francis

Manager Stinnett presented a contract from David Francis to work on behalf of the Town of Canton (see attached). Manager Stinnett stated the cost of this would be covered by Dogwood Trust and Innovation Grant. Alderwoman Mull asked what Mr. Francis would be doing. Manager Stinnett stated that Mr. Francis would be coordinating all moving parts for Convening Recovery and Resilience in the Pigeon River Corridor and other items listed in the scope. Alderman Hamlett asked if Mr. Francis would report to the Board. Manager Stinnett stated that Mr. Francis would report to the Board monthly. Alderman Hamlett stated he would

like more time to read over the contract and would like to table until the next meeting after a brief discussion with the Board members the motion was deferred to others. Manager Stinnett assured Alderman Hamlett that Attorney Morgan has reviewed the contract. Attorney Morgan stated he had, in fact, looked over the contract and it all looks correct and thorough. Alderwoman Proctor made a motion. Alderwoman Mull seconded. The motion carried.

5. Labor Day 2026

Alderman Hamlett asked to speak about Labor Day. Alderman Hamlett would like to get a grand marshal for the parade lined up, his suggestion is the Carolina Hurricanes hockey team or as least a representative from that organization. Alderman Hamlett stated that the Carolina Hurricanes have done a lot for our Town after Hurricane Helene and he would like to honor them. Mayor Smathers agreed that this is a great idea and has already been in touch with Amy, his contact with the organization, about this and other opportunities. Alderwoman Mull asked to confirm that Clay Walker is coming to Labor Day. Manager Stinnett confirmed he is still scheduled for the event.

K. Adjournment

The next meeting will be on Thursday, July 9, 2026, at 6:00 pm at 85 Summer Street, Canton NC 28716. There being no additional business. Alderwoman Mull made the motion to adjourn at 6:27 pm. Alderwoman Proctor seconded the motion. The motion carried.