

Town of Triana Regular Council meeting
Monday, September 12, 2022
6:30PM

The mayor called the meeting to order. Roll call, Council Members George Ragland, Levoneia Ayers, Casey Whitman and Mayor May Caudle. Council members Jason Garstka and Erica Hopkins were absent. Members present constituted a quorum.

Legal council Caleb Ballew was present via internet and the clerk Sharron Humphrey was also present.

Approval of minutes: Motion by Council Member Whitman to approve the minutes dated August 22, 2022. Council Member Ayers seconds the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Caudle's Report: We met with USDA on the Fire Station received a preliminary on the loan nothing on the grant part yet.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Fire & Police: Chairperson Ragland reported Police Dept traveled 2,862 miles, responded to 53 traffic stops, 42 warning citations, 14 traffic citations, 45 calls for service, 2 arrests and 14 reports.

Mayor reported the ISO people were here two days with the Fire Dept. they finished their reporting on today hopefully we will have our new ratings in a month or so.

Finance: Mayor presented the Bank Statement ending August 31, 2022. Motion by Council Member Whitman to approve the Bank Statement. Council Member Ayers seconds the motion. Motion carried.

Council Member Ayers asked did we hear back from ADECA on the Utilities program with Community Action. Mayor stated the application was submitted she does not know if we were approved or not.

Council Member Ayers reported she represented Triana at the Community Action meeting in the absence of Erica Hopkins who is the representative. She states Community Action has funding for the following: Weatherization Assistance, Rental Assistance, Utility Assistance, Homeless Prevention, Rapid Rehousing, and they are also offering Dialysis rides by TRAM for those that are in the County. The Oakwood Mobile Market and the Garden seed program will begin soon, when the date is given, they will let everyone know.

Utility: Chairperson Whitman reported on last Friday they met with EOS Utility to start the process for phase 2 sewer upgrade. It was an introduction meeting they will come back with the next step.

Park & Recreation: No Report

Streets & Cemetery: No Report

Council Member Ragland stated a month ago there was a discussion about the stop sign on Zierdt Road and 6th Street he stated nothing has been done. The grass blocking the stop sign is still up. We only have two people working we need some help.

Mayor stated we are trying. We have tried going through temporary agencies to hire for the various positions we will keep working as hard as we can.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Council Member Whitman stated he has three topics to discuss:

1st Topic is the rezoning application that was for the property on Carr Lane. That has a hearing with the Board of Adjustment on next Monday.

2nd Submitted a draft set of rezoning policies, for review. We are passed the moratorium. Recommend having a work session to discuss new policies. Work session will be scheduled after the budget meeting.

3rd: He received a phone call from Commissioner Haraway because some residents had contacted him from Brookfield Manor on Alonzo Toney Dr. He stated the Post Office has not been delivering them their mail curbside and they have been having to pick up their mail from the post office on Hughes Road.

Mr. Whitman stated he did some research at the Madison Post Office, sometime in 2018 the post office from the Washington D.C. level put out a directive that any new development needs to put in cluster mailboxes. He stated going forward the Post Office wants all large residential developments due to their staffing levels and increased Amazon shipping to have cluster mailboxes. The town was never notified of the requirement. Had we been notified back then we could have helped the Post Office, making sure that when developers submit their plats, they set aside a spot for cluster mailbox units.

Mr. Whitman stated he has talked with the current developers that are getting close to final plat or starting to build in other places, they are already aware of the requirements from the Post Office and have started working it. Whitman spoke with Doug Weaver the Unit Coordinator at the Hughes Road location who has been in contact with the developers on the new lots. They are trying to work out how to rework their different developments to accommodate the cluster mailbox units in the new locations.

ADAMS Homes has stated they will do the cluster box units for Savannah phase 5. When Valor Homes and Dr. Whisda did their development for Bridgemill they struck an agreement with the Post Office in 2019. That leaves Brookfield Manor phase 2, Alonzo Toney Dr and a portion of Gwinnett Dr. south of Abercorn that are not being delivered mail. The person at the Hughes Rd Post Office does not have the authority to make changes they have the rule set to follow from D.C. The information has been forwarded to the MPO at the Huntsville location to request an exception.

Residents can help speed up the process to get MPO to decide in their favor by doing the following: They can go online fill out a postal service form 4027 a petition that each person on the street fills out or they can fill out a complaint form through the post office website. If there is someone on the street with a disability this may trigger the post office to do a curb side delivery. At our level there is nothing that we can do about it. Mayor stated this may cut down on theft of mail and wrongful deliver also.

Mayor set a work session for Sept 20th at 6PM to work on the physical budget she is asking each Chairperson to bring suggestions and ideas to the table.

Council Member Ragland asked that the minutes reflect discussing at the work session employee raises for the physical year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Theresa Nelson asked what the status on the street repair is to Wall Triana & Landess Cir. Mayor Caudle stated Commissioner Haraway has it on the list along with 4 other areas.

Council Member Ragland asked about selling the surplus vehicles.
Mayor Caudle stated we still have not heard from the state. We will be able to hopefully sell them all at the same time once we hear from the state and have the decals removed.

Francis Goggins stated to the council good job on what they found out about the postal delivery. He stated he lives on Alonzo Toney Dr, moved here in March and that he has not gotten his mail. He stated the developer/builder did not do their job and get a plan approved prior to construction for a postal plan for the subdivision. He stated theirs is not the only subdivision this is happening to; it is happening all over the United States. It is a post office regulation.

Mr. Goggins stated as a city/town there is something that can be done. The town license theses builders, provide permits and they get their license from the town. The town can hold off on issuing any permits, ignorance of the law is not justified.

Councilman Whitman stated we have had to do that in the past hopefully we can work something out where it will not have to come to that.

Rick Chandler running for public office State Senate District 3.

Latoya Hope sent an email requesting to use a vacant street to host a Fall Festival on Abercorn Dr.
Mayor Caudle stated the streets still belongs to the developer/ Whisda who would be liable if anything were to happen.

Mayor suggested Ms. Hope get her plan and work it with Fire & Police and in addition to that something from the developer.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date approved Sept. 26, 2023

Sharron Humphrey
Sharron Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore