

**Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, September 26, 2022**  
**6:30pm**

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

Legal counsel Caleb Ballew and the clerk Sharron Humphrey were also present.

**Mayor Caudle Report:** We did not get the Park Grant to repair the restroom. It is going to cost \$250,000 to get things back the way they were. Plan to look at budget to see how we can get the park restrooms repaired and back up to par.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Fire & Police:** Chairperson Ragland reported Fire Dept responded to 2 fire alarms and 26 emergency calls. Police Dept. traveled 1,816 miles, made 51 traffic stops, 40 warning citations, 13 traffic stops, 29 calls for service, 0 arrests and 4 reports.

Mayor reported we had our yearly report for the Police Dept. there were no issues reported by our insurance. We also had our ISO inspection; we should receive our results in a month.

**Finance:** Mayor reported she has been working on the budget salary for the staff and would like to present it tonight for it to be effective Oct. 1. She recommended giving a 6.5% increase across the board except for the police officers theirs will be a little higher, trying to get them up to par with other area sized like ours. The Finance Committee met on last Tuesday and this was the recommendation from the Dept.

Council Member Ragland stated he thought the meeting was at 6:30pm but it was at 6:00pm when he arrived the meeting was over. He stated the mayor filled him in.

Council Member Ragland made the motion to table recommendation coming from the Finance Committee until it can be discussed further. Motion died for lack of second.

Discussion on proposed budget, Council Member Ragland stated once he was home and reviewed the budget for the employee salary, he became displeased he agreed with some of the increase but not all. Mayor stated all members of the council were told to submit their input; they were given a whole month to do so.

Motion by Council Member Whitman to adopt the presented budget for salary increase effect Oct 1. Council Member Garstka seconds the motion. Roll call, Ragland-no, Garstka-yes, Whitman-yes, Ayers-yes, and Caudle-yes. Motion carried.

**Utilities:** No Report

**Park and Recreation:** Chairperson Ayers reported that the mats were ordered for the gymnasium and that it will take from 8-10 weeks for delivery. They will schedule the installation once they come in. The Triana Warriors are in full effect. They have played 3 to 5 games and they are doing well.

**Streets and Cemetery:** Chairperson Garstka reported they are reprocessing the street sign orders. Trav-Ad is currently out of street signpost. He asked to use Steve Haraway as POC to get street signpost ordered. Mayor stated he could call and find out where he orders his signs.

Council Member Ragland stated a month ago during a meeting (executive session) everyone was shook up about a wreck that happened on 6<sup>th</sup> & Zierdt Rd everyone was worried about a lawsuit. They discussed putting up signage,

it has been a month why hasn't something been done and why hasn't the tree branch been cut away from the stop sign. Council Member Garstka stated the vendors processed the order incorrectly they are fixing it now. Mayor stated the maintenance workers have on their list to cut the tree branch.

Attorney Caleb advised Council Member Ragland as the town attorney that it is not best to share what is discussed in executive session.

**Resolutions, ordinances, Orders and Other Business:**

Council Member Whitman reported from Planning and Zoning: He stated last meeting they discussed the issue with residents who live on Alonzo Toney Dr in Brookfield manor not getting curb side delivery from the post office. The Post Office is requiring new developments to do cluster box units. Each party he spoke with he received a different story between the Post Office, the developer New Castle and the home builder which is ADAMS Homes.

He stated ADAMS Homes informed him that they had a tentative agreement in place with the Madison Post Office to do curb side delivery for Alonzo Toney, but they had to do cluster boxes for Gwinnett Dr. He spoke with someone from Adams who also informed him that all they need to do is complete a motive delivery agreement between them and the post office. The agreement went up the chain at ADAMS Homes and they decided that the developer is the one that needs to sign the agreement. He was informed that the developer is not willing to sign agreement.

The other Developments are in various stages of approval. He has talked with all the other developers and home builders they are aware of the requirements and are working towards getting to that point.

Council Member Whitman stated he tried to reach out to the contact person at the Hughes Road Post Office using the phone numbers given, no response. All the emails that have been sent have gotten no response nor has he gotten back any emails from the MPO the district manager at Huntsville. He is suggesting withholding issuing any permits for Gwinnett until ADAMS and New castle can to an agreement on doing cluster mailboxes and share with the post office that they have done that.

Mayor stated from reading all the emails going back and forth most of the developers and builders knew of the requirement.

Mr. Whitman stated the Board of Adjustment met on last Monday to take up the appeal from Michael Caudle on his rezoning request. The Planning and Zoning Commission had recommended denial of his rezone request for his ½ acre property on Carr Lane to go from R-1 to R-2 which would have allowed him to put a tri-plex unit for rental purposes last month he appealed to the Board of Adjustment, and they upheld the recommended denial from Planning and Zoning.

Council Member Ragland asked what is the next step?

Council member Whitman stated Mr. Caudle has the option to take it to court.

Motion by Council Member Ragland to rezone property #143117 on Carr Lane from R-1 to R-2. Motion died for lack of second.

**Public Comments:**

Theresa Nelson asked for the status on the streetlight to be installed at Landess Cir and the other areas. Mayor stated she has gone online and made the request, and she has also called Huntsville Utilities. She does not have a date.

Marvelene Freeman made a request to use the gym for the November Election . She stated the Federal Government has some concern with the handicap area coming inside the community room. The County came down and did some work out in the front. The gym would work out better.

Mayor stated Council agrees.

Ms. Freeman asked does the City Inspector work for the town or just for the new homes going up. Mayor stated he works for the whole town.

Ms. Juanita Lee, president of the Huntsville Optimus Club stated several entities are working together to celebrate the legacy of Clyde Foster, Alabama A&M University, the Alabama Historical Commission, and the Triana Historical Society.

They are planning 4 to 5 different events, a STEM event for Madison City, Madison County and Huntsville Middle School Students to stress the importance of science and science education and accessibility.

The Alabama Historical Commission is working with the Triana Historical Society to have a preservation forum here in Triana.

They are also planning a jazz concert, this will be in celebration of Mr. Foster's life, what he did for a lot of people. There will be a nomination of Mr. Foster's induction into the Alabama Men's Hall of Fame and there's also going to be a documentary that's being filmed on Mr. Foster's life. She is here to get the city's approval on a location agreement for them to film the exterior of the Town Hall. They want to show the before and after footage on the types of improvements that have been made.

Ola Ayers expressed her concern with the development going up on Landess, the force of the water that's going to drain over into the pasture and create erosion. She asked who inspects that pond to know the capacity of the amount of water it will hold.

Mayor stated the developer's engineer designs it and gives the engineer specs to be reviewed by Huntsville Utilities, Madison Utilities and Triana's Building Inspector.

Mrs. Ayers asked, have they done that already? Council Member Whitman stated they will have inspected the drawings, once it is completed our building inspector will check over the drainage system.

Mrs. Ayers stated then they should feel confident that's it's the proper size.

Mayor stated once the pond and the streets are in it is hard to say. She is having to depend on the engineers that have reviewed the plans. She stated if it is not installed to meet the capacity then they will have to come back and correct it.

Francis Goggins stated he lives on Alonzo Toney Dr. he has not had his mail delivered to his home for 6 months and 4 days now. He states do not believe anything the builder tells them, make sure what is stated is on paper. They were informed 5 months and 17 days that it was the post office fault. They put their complaint in written to the post office, and they received a reply that it was the developer's fault.

Motion by Council member Ayers to sign off on the Clyde Foster documentary to take photographs on the outside premise, 640 6<sup>th</sup> Street Nov 4-5. Council Member Garstka seconds the motion. Motion carried.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date approved Oct. 10, 2022

Sharron Humphrey

Sharron Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer

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Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore