

**Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, February 12, 2024**  
**6:30PM**

The meeting was called to order by the mayor. The clerk called the roll.

Councilmember Ragland – Present  
Councilmember Hopkins-Present  
Councilmember Garstka-Present  
Councilmember Whitman-Present  
Councilmember Ayers-Present  
Mayor Mary Caudle – Present

Members present constituted a quorum.

Legal counsel Caleb Ballew and the clerk Sharron Humphrey was present.

Motion by Councilmember Whitman to approve the minutes dated Jan. 22, 2024. Councilmember Ayers second the motion. Motion carried.

**Mayor Caudle's Report:** No report

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Fire & Police:** Fire Dept responded to 4 alarms, 9 emergency calls and 1 other.  
Police Dept. traveled 2,730 miles, made 50 traffic stops, 49 warning citations, 7 traffic citations, 46 calls for service, 1 arrest and 10 reports.

Mayor reported she has approved a request submitted by Chief Powell for Officer Zivat to attend a Glock training to be held on Hobbs Island Rd, costing \$250.00. Also, for Sharron to attend magistrate training at Marriott Space & Rocket Center, cost is \$220.00 March 7-8.

**Finance:** Chairperson Hopkins presented Bank Reconciliation Statement ending Jan. 31, 2024. Motion by Hopkins to approve the Town of Triana Bank Reconciliation Statement dated Jan 31, 2024. Councilmember Garstka second the motion. Motion carried.

**Utility:** Chairperson Whitman reported receiving communication from AT&T about replacing the antenna that sits on the water tower for the purpose of improving cell phone system. Mayor stated they are just notifying us as to what will happen, she stated they will be here for about 3 days.

Councilmember Hopkins asked does AT&T pay the town for that. Mayor stated town gets a franchise and rental fee.

**Park & Recreation:** Chairperson Ayers reported the following: The Smithsonian ribbon cutting will take place on Feb. 15<sup>th</sup> at 2pm. They will also be having a teacher's workshop on Feb. 23 at St. Paul UMC.

Madison County Record did an article on Triana being chosen for the Smithsonian Crossroads a change in Rural American exhibit. She has printed copies available.

The library is featuring Black History month events during this month, featuring a different artist each week. The dates are Feb. 13, 20 and 27<sup>th</sup>. The children's activities will begin at 12noon. The library is also continuing the Ready Set kindergarten programs on Saturdays at 1pm. They have two more Saturdays on the 17<sup>th</sup> they will be doing measuring and 24<sup>th</sup> shapes.

**Streets and Cemetery:** Chairperson Garstka reported Chief brought to this attention that there were potholes around town that need to be filled. He thanked the mayor for coordinating with the County in getting that done.

Mr. Garstka also reported receiving calls from subdivisions stating that sidewalks were buckling. He stated he was coordinating with different citing on what process they take to get that resolved.

Mayor stated she wanted to add that it's the staff that's filling in the potholes, we received the mix from the county.

**RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, OREDRS AND OTHER BUSINESS:**

Attorney Caleb Ballew stated he wants to make sure everyone has received a copy of the revised Bingo Ordinance. He asked the council to read it in detail and call with questions.

Mayor stated they met in a work session and went through the Bingo Ordinance, what Councilman Whitman sent out is what was recommended from the meeting. She asked council to go thru make changes as necessary.

Work session scheduled for Monday, Feb. 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm to discuss the Bingo Ordinance.

Matthew Balch, town Municipal Judge addressed the council on the needs and growth of Triana. He stated in the 5 years he's been the judge he has noticed tremendous growth in Triana. He stated as the town grows so does the need for the court. The growth of the community means potential more events that will need more law enforcement response. With the growth of the city means more vehicles on the roadway the number of citations issued interaction with the public that law enforcement has on behalf of the court he strongly recommends that the Mayor and Council sit down and discuss some source for the needs that can be met.

Judge Balch stated one of the things he would like for the Mayor and Council to consider is some of the educational opportunities available for the officer of the court. As the town grows the needs will grow and the volume of caseloads will increase. He wants to make sure she has everything available to her to allow her to perform her duties to the highest level.

Mayor stated the town is desperately trying to find more police officers. She stated almost everything they have asked for they have found funds for. She's writing grants not only to meet their needs but also the Fire Dept.'s needs. Also, the town did get Ms. Sharron certified as magistrate and they make sure she gets her CEU's, and the town has not turned down any requests for training submitted by her.

Judge Balch stated he thought it would be more appropriate to come before the council than to go to the Judicial Advocates or those parties and ask for funds. He thanked the council for allowing him to come down once a month to be Municipal Judge for Triana.

**Public Comments:**

Theresa Nelson stated there's a pothole near the shooting range on Wall Triana Hwy near Landess Cir that needs repairing. Mayor stated we have the mix to make the repair.

Branden Daniel asked for the process to use the gym. He stated he was asking on behalf of the parents in his neighborhood.

Mayor stated we have a director and part-time staff but no funds to pay someone to open the gym. She stated we have programs going on during the day and afterschool program in the evening.

Mr. Daniels asked what they can do to allot for a two-hr. window. He stated he would volunteer. Mayor stated we can leave the gym open after 6p.m with volunteers. She asked him to come down and fill out the paperwork.

Councilmember Hopkins suggested town advertise and push for volunteers to open gym. Councilman Whitman stated he will get the information on the internet.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date Approved Feb. 26, 2024

Sharon Humphrey

Sharon Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer

May [Signature]

Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore