

Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting
Monday, April 22, 2024
6:30PM

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

Councilmember George Ragland – Present
Councilmember Casey Whitman-Present
Councilmember Levoneia Ayers-Present
Councilmember Erica Hopkins-Present
Councilmember Jason Garstka-Present
Mayor Mary Caudle – Present
Members present constitutes a quorum.

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

Motion by Councilmember Whitman to approve the minutes dated April 8, 2024. Councilmember Ayers second the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Caudle's Report: Motion by Councilman Whitman to go into executive session, councilmember Ayers. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember Whitman to return to the regular order of business. Councilmember Ayers second the motion. Motion carried.

REPORTS OF STADING COMMITTEES:

Fire & Police: Chairperson Ragland reported Police Dept traveled 2,224 miles, made 18 traffic stops, 18 warning citations, 1 traffic stop, 31 calls for service, 3 arrests and 6 reports. The Fire Dept. responded to 25 medical calls, 5 alarms, and 1 motor vehicle accident.

Councilman Ragland reported that the Fire & Police Committee met and discussed ways to recruit Firemen and Police officers.

The Fire & Police Committee will hold its 2nd meeting on May 20th at 6:00pm and work session to follow at 6:30pm.

Councilmember Ragland stated he spoke with Fire Chief Shamod Hardin who stated he was leaving the Fire Dept next week. He thanked Shamond for his 14 years of service as Triana's Fire Chief, his hard work with getting the ISO rating down and helping with preparing the paperwork for the new Fire Station.

- Councilmember Hopkins thanked Shamond for his 14yrs of service and stated she appreciates all that he has done for Triana in terms of helping get grants and helping with the fire station and getting the 501-3 going.
- Councilmember Ayers thanked Shamond and wished him well on his future endeavors.
- Councilmember Whitman stated he knows things have not been easy and wished him well.
- Councilmember Garstka stated Shamond will be missed by many citizens and wished him the best of luck.
- The mayor wished Shamond the best of luck.

Finance: Chairperson Hopkins stated the Finance Committee met; she stated their goal is to get the budget finalized. She has asked the council to submit items to be included in the budget, she stated there's more work to be done.

Councilmember Hopkins presented the Bank Statement ending March 30, 2024. Motion by Hopkins to approve the Bank Statement, (adding the word Reconciliation) ending March 30, 2024. Councilmember Ayers second the motion. Motion carried.

The Finance Committee will meet on Monday, May 20th at 5:30p.m to discuss the town's budget.

Utilities: Chairperson Whitman reported that the town is still waiting on valves to complete sewer project.

Park and Recreation: Chairperson Ayers reported the following: Clean-up Day was held on Sat., April 27th. They are looking at doing something in Sept. for national clean-up month.

- She received one quote for the porta potty for the park waiting on the 2nd one.
- Triana Warriors played 7 on 7 this past Saturday and won. They sent congratulations to Coach G, Coach P and Coach Hyte. They are asking for an update on repairs done to the field, she told them it was under review.
- Next month May, is Older Americans Month, she presented a Proclamation from the Mayor Caudle and Town Council.

Motion by Councilmember Ayers that mayor sign the Proclamation declaring the month of May Older American Month 2024. Councilmember Whitman second the motion. Motion carried.

Councilmember Ayers stated they are still working on the lunch and learning programs or some type of activities for the Month of May for our seniors.

Ms. Ayers stated registration for the summer day-camp is still open.

Mayor stated the town is required to do another public hearing for the CDGB project for the park bathrooms. The public hearing is scheduled for May 13th at 5:30p.m. Council in agreement.

Councilmember Ragland asked about the Clyde Foster plaque to go on the gym wall.

Mayor stated we have paid for the plaque. We are trying to get the company to send it to us. She stated it's been over a year since we ordered it, we may have to get the attorney to send a letter.

Councilmember Hopkins stated the month of May is also Military Appreciation month. She asked if we were going to do anything to recognize it.

Motion by Councilmember Ayers to go outside the regular order of business to allow Mrs. Bettye Williams to address the council regarding Veteran's Park. Councilmember Hopkins second the motion. Motion carried.

Mrs. Williams stated she does not know if the Veterans Park will be ready by then, she stated they still have to get the benches and flagpole installed. She stated the Grant staff has to know when the celebration will be held.

Motion by Councilmember Ayers to return to the regular order of business. Councilmember Hopkins second the motion. Motion carried.

Councilmember Hopkins stated regarding the benches, what is the process of putting memory benches on the town side in the park.

Mayor stated they can be placed in the park on the town's side they just need to be added to the budget.

Councilmember Ayers stated she will work on prices for the benches and get back to the council on her findings.

Streets & Cemetery: Chairperson Garstka reported he has the quote for the speed cushions for Bridgemeill Ave., he stated material for speed cushions is \$8,820.00, the labor is \$4,200 the total cost \$13,020.

Motion by Councilmember Garstka to proceed with the purchase of speed cushions. Material \$8,820.00, labor \$4,200 total cost \$13,020. Councilmember Hopkins second the motion. Motion carried.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Attorney Calab Ballew thanked Shamond for all his hard work over the last 14 yrs. and wished him good luck on his next step.

Councilmember Ayers asked if it was possible to have an on-line application process on the town's website.

Mayor stated all applications can be filled out on-line but for Fire & Police applications, they must be turned in in person.

Councilmember Hopkins asked if the town participated in any job fairs to advertise our openings., that maybe something we can look at doing.

Mayor stated not that she knows of but that we can have one ourselves.

Public Comments:

Theresa Nelson stated she has been a part of the Volunteer Fire Dept. for over 45yrs, and she hates to see Shamond leave. But that she understands. She stated he has done a great job here.

Ms. Holmes, the librarian stated they are gearing up for their summer programs. They have seen a 68% growth in circulation as compared to 2022-23. She stated this is the largest growth as compared to the other libraries in the system. They are hoping to make it bigger this summer.

Ms. Holmes stated Friends of the Library is doing a membership drive this month. She asked if an event was held to let her know so she can set up and promote their summer activities.

Councilmember Hopkins asked if the library participated in read across America. Ms. Holmes stated not officially they do have some groups that will come to the library and do stuff on their own but not the library.

Councilmember Hopkins stated her niece just published a book and she wanted to buy a set of books and donate them to the library. She would also be willing to do reading for the kids.

Ms. Holmes stated she can send the books to her, and she can get them catalogued. She stated story time opportunities are asked to be done by library employees because they're interacting with the kids.

Roy Seay stated Chief Shamond Hardin is leaving a legacy behind and in that they will stay in touch.

Mr. Seay stated he would like for the council to include in their budget widening Landess Cir. all the way round on south end.

Mr. Seay stated they have a lot of people moving into that area and they would like to see a tornado shelter. If so, where would it be built.

Councilmember Whitman asked if he had any ideas on where to put one down there. He agrees with Mr. Seay that a tornado shelter is needed down there. Mr. Seay stated he can bring some site locations back to the council.

Marvelene Freeman thanked Chief Shamond for his service. Ms. Freeman expressed her concern that the town does has one certified fireman. She stated she feels the town is going to suffer in more ways than one. She asked the council what they did to entice this gentleman (Shamond) not to leave Triana, especially knowing that the town needs him.

Mrs. Freeman asked how many residents there were in the Town of Triana. The mayor stated about 4800.

Mrs. Freeman asked how this is going to affect our ISO rating. Mayor stated she does not know.

Mrs. Freeman asked what type of programs we were having for the summer. Councilmember Ayers stated registration has already begun. The program begins June 3 – July 26th. She stated the flyer states outdoor games, story time, drawing and painting and swimming. Coach has started working with TRAM to get transportation for other events outside this time. The fee is \$50.00 per week. He's working on trips to bowling, swimming, skating and movies events. As well as to the library.

Mrs. Williams thanked Shamond for his service. She stated the Smithsonian was a success, thanks to all those who visited. She thanked the Historical Board for all they did, the Town of Triana for the services provided, Ms. Ayers for volunteering and Erica for visiting and giving a donation.

Mrs. Williams especially thanked the Triana Library, especially Kim and her family. She thanked the area churches for the participation and especially St. Paul for providing space for the teacher's workshop. She stated they had participants coming from as far as Birmingham.

Mrs. Williams stated that with the clinic and library combined they had approximately 500 visitors to come through the Smithsonian. They had a donation given in the amount of \$252.00. The Smithsonian left on April 16th going to Ozark, AL.

Mrs. Willimas stated their next project is the Veterans Park. She stated the benches are due tomorrow. She asked the mayor could the town store them and she stated someone would be here in two weeks to install them. The third pole and flag has been ordered.

Fire Chief Shamond Hardin thanked the Mayor and Council for their well wishes. He stated he has taken a job as a State Deputy in Phoenix, AR.

Larry Harris brought to the Mayor and Council attention that the Foster development could cause drainage problems on Mrs. Harris property to the left entrance side of Foster Dr.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date approved May 13, 2024

Sharon Humphrey
Sharon Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer

May Cadd
Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore