

**Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, March 13, 2023**  
**6:30PM**

The mayor called the meeting to order. The Clerk called the roll: Councilmember George Ragland- Present  
**Councilmember Erica Hopkins – Present**  
**Councilmember Jason Garstka – Present**  
**Councilmember Levoneia Ayers – Present**  
**Councilmember Casey Whitman - Present**  
**Mayor Mary Caudle – Present**

**Members present constituted a quorum.**

Attorney Caleb Ballew and the clerk Sharron Humphrey were also present.

**Approval of Minutes:** Motion by Councilmember Whitman to approve the minutes dated Feb. 27<sup>th</sup>. Councilmember Ayers second the motion. Motion carried.

**Mayor Caudle's Report:** See Other Business

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Fire & Police:** Chairperson Ragland reported Fire Dept. responded to 2 Structure fires, 1 Fire alarm and 14 Emergency calls.

Police Dept Traveled 2,275 miles, made 32 Traffic Stops, 29 Warning citations, 7 Traffic citations, 27 Calls for Service, 1 Arrest and 4 Reports.

Mayor Caudle presented the expenses for the take home vehicles; she stated the estimated cost was \$2,000. Motion by Ragland to accept the Policy and Procedures manual for the Police Dept and approve the expenditures effective April 1<sup>st</sup>. Councilmember Hopkins second the motion. Motion carried.

**Finance:** Chairperson Hopkins presented the Bank Statement ending Feb. 28, 2023. Councilmember Whitman had a question about PlayWorld Preferred, Inc. The clerk stated this was the company that removed the damaged playground equipment from the park. Mayor stated we will be reimbursed this amount through our insurance. Motion by Councilmember Hopkins to approve the Bank Statement ending Feb. 28<sup>th</sup>. Councilmember Garstka second the motion. Motion carried.

Councilmember Hopkins reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6PM and they reviewed all the departmental requests. She sent out emails with the master budget plan which consolidated all the departments. She had a question about what the intended use for the two computers there requested by the Police Dept. Mayor stated the computers will be for the officers to keep up with reports and do training on.

Ms. Hopkins stated there was a correction to the report on the radios pricing. She updated the amount to \$7,000.00. She asked the council to review the report and get back with her.

**Utility:** Chairperson Whitman stated at the last meeting he reported they were looking into utility meter readers. He has contacted another company and they have not returned his call. We may not have a big enough service area for them he will keep trying.

**Park and Recreation:** Chairperson Ayers passed out flyers about Learning Quest for free adult classes of all ages. Also, tax aid is still available for those still needing it.

Ms. Ayers reported the easter Egg Hunt is well under way. The 1<sup>st</sup> page of the handout consists of churches the P&R Coordinator has already contacted and solicited for donations. The second page consists of an itinerary. He will have to have a meeting with people that are participating, this includes volunteers. The coordinator and the mayor are working together to finalize the food.

Ms. Ayers also reported we have a community partner that wants to partner with us and offer Covid Vaccinations and the Busters 1,2 and 3 along with Covid testing initial vaccinations for those who have not been vaccinated. She is not sure if the town has enough information to sponsor the event. She suggests we pass it to the senior services at St. Paul and allow them to because they have the personal information of the individuals and more people able to attend. Mayor stated the town sponsored the Covid testing at the Storm Shelter. She stated if they want to do the testing and provide staffing then we're open to it.

Ms. Ayers stated we are still considered a rural area and they have funding, and the vaccinations begin in May. There is a possibility it may come at a cost. What they are trying to do is get Triana involved in the last round of what is free and in the future partner with Triana later and once the people start coming in and have the information it could then be turned over to them for future scheduling. She will not be able to do any scheduling to turn it over to the church.

Mayor stated Triana Warriors are getting ready to start up they have been told to fill out the necessary forms.

Mayor stated we have been having different requests for renting the gym. She stated she would like the Rec Dept to have a meeting to fine tune what price we want to rent the gym out for. When we do start opening the gym, we will need to have a pool of volunteers which we do not have right now and that's going to be a big driving force. She stated she did approve the rental for one because there will be two people volunteering and it's going to be for 1 day rental. We have been renting the community room.

Rec Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, March 23 @ 6PM.

Councilmember Hopkins inquired about the contractors contacted to work on the park bathrooms she asked if we did a follow up, call them. Mayor stated it's not a large enough job for them. One did not return her call, the other one sent an email stating they're backed up and that the estimated cost was not feasible for them. She stated they do large projects.

Councilmember Ayers asked if we knew when the park equipment would be replaced. Mayor stated its on order, its going through the insurance should be here in the Springtime.

Councilman Ragland asked why the grant for the park restroom fell thru. Mayor stated it wasn't approved they don't give an explanation.

Councilmember Ayers stated with the restrooms, will we ever consider the possibility of not trying to salvage the current restroom and to build a new restroom. She suggested building one in Veterans Park. Mayor stated that's not going to be enough space to build.

**Streets & Cemetery:** Chairperson Garstka reported with the most recent bad weather and high winds that we've experienced signs being blown down we're asking residents to bring them in or call the town to pick them up.

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

Mayor stated we submitted paperwork to the state for us to charge impact fees. They are ready to present the Bill we just need to advertise. She stated we have submitted to Huntsville Times to get a cost to advertise. She wants to make sure the council is ready for her to move forward on it. Council in agreement. She stated we must advertise for 1 week for 4 consecutive weeks then submit that advertisement to our Representative who is submitting the Bill for us. Then it will be ready to vote on.

Mayor reported that the storm shelter needs some repairs, such as painting walls and doors. The flashers need to be replaced, insurance cover cost. She will get some estimates on that.

Mayor stated while doing training at the storm shelter, they went down to the barn, she stated someone has been destroying the barn, all the insulation has been pulled out, windows knocked out and the doors pulled off. She stated for safety reasons it needs to be torn down. She asked the council what they wanted to do. She asked Councilmen Garstka and Whitman to get estimates on having the barn torn down.

Councilman Garstka recognized Mayor Caudle and Councilmember Whitman for their major efforts with the shelter. He stated Casey mounted the T.V. Mayor stated they were just working to make sure everyone was safe, and they could get information out.

Councilmember Ayers asked Mayor if she was able to get Huntsville Utilities back out to do another evaluation of the right of ways from trees. Mayor stated she has not, but she can reach out to them. Ms. Ayers thanked Mayor for her efforts during the storm.

Councilman Whitman stated last Saturday they had a tornado shelter training for those that have keys. He stated they had some people were not able to make it. He stated they will schedule another for next weekend.

Mayor stated they must send in an annual report to the state because we built that building with Grant funds we have to show where we've had training. Everyone that's on that board holding a key must be trained. She stated please make sure that if you are one of those people that Casey is contacting to come to one of the trainings.

Councilman Whitman stated the other issue is, question from the developer on Landess Cir. Subdivision, Malvern Hills is stating they have the 1<sup>st</sup> third completed, the Wall Triana Hwy side. One of the unforeseen side effects them starting on Wall Triana side rather than Landess Cir side. When they go through and get their inspection done on the sewer. They don't want to TVI the sewer and have to move the heavy equipment over the paved streets. They won't get it done when it's all completed. They have not completed the 2/3<sup>rd</sup> that's toward the Landess Cir side because they haven't paved the road. He stated normally we don't sign off and let them start building houses until all that has been completed. He stated they are asking if we would let them file a plat for phase 1 which has been inspected and passed but not start to be putting in water meters and hook up to sewer yet until the rest phase 2 is completed. It's scheduled to be repaired on March 1<sup>st</sup> and by the end of April they would have everything completed and inspected. The reason he's asking to have to have that signed off on early has to do with him moving lots and property from one side of the company to the other.

Councilmember Ayers stated once you sign off regardless of is they say they're not going to set meters or not and you've signed off. They could come and possibly start setting meters because you will have already signed off. Councilman Whitman stated we are the control point for them. The consensus is that they wait.

Councilman Ragland stated he spoke with Kathleen Cable who is asking to have a street name after her deceased husband. She stated her husband working with Joe Fletcher was one of the 1<sup>st</sup> policemen for the town. She stated Joe Fletcher has a street named after him. Ms. Cable stated she wants one with her husband's whole name on it. He told her they would put his name on the list.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Roy Seay asked if there was a regular schedule for the tornado shelter training. Councilman Whitman stated they had one on last Saturday that he included him on the email. Mr. Seay stated he did not read his email. Mr. Whitman stated he would schedule a 2<sup>nd</sup> training.

Roy Seay asked if there was an original contract for the subdivision development to be completed. Councilman Whitman stated they started in 2019 he's not sure, he's thinking in a couple of months.

Mr. Seay asked about the road situation, he stated a while back the contractor working for the Landess Cir subdivision stated they would do something to fix the curve but not the whole road. Mayor stated they did give two options; one was the curve or ingress / regress turn into the subdivision. She stated we had to decide which one was needed the most.

Mr. Seay stated he has spoken with a gentleman who can help do something with that road as far as the curve and the widening of it. He stated about six years County put down gravel on both sides of the curve and it has been packed down. He stated what we need to do now is estimate the price on asphalt on each side of the highway. Mayor stated when it was discussed before and talking with the County, they just can't run asphalt like that because when driving on it's going to separate and break apart from the regular asphalt that's there.

Leah Brown a member of Daystar Church, they are community focus and would like to do a monthly event in Triana behind the library called Daystar Ministry. They would like to do this every third Saturday of the month for about 2 1/2 hours long. They will have hotdogs, snacks, water, games, crafts, and a bounce house. She stated the whole family would be invited. She stated they are asking for permission to do this. They talked with Coach P who asked them to come to the meeting.

Mayor stated we don't just have churches doing events, we do events with them. She stated we sublease to the library, so we do not do events on those grounds unless it's a community event. The only other events that happen there are events the library has. We don't overrule them on the events they have. She informed her that she needs to fill out paperwork requesting the facility.

Mayor stated we try not to mix municipality and religion. But we do partner with the different churches. She stated when they have their church functions like picnic, they rent the pavilion in the park. She stated if they would like to do something in the park, they can rent the pavilion and know that there is no bathroom in the park.

Marvelene Freeman stated she's a key holder for the storm shelter but that she was not contacted about any training, and she was wondering how and why. She also reported the street sign on Ervin Lane and Wall Triana Hwy is out.

Mayor stated she is on the email that went out two weeks prior to the training. She stated we are looking for volunteers to help.

Ms. Freeman stated if she is going to participate in any event, she would like to be notified of any training in the future. Mayor stated she can also provide a phone number.

Ms. Freeman stated she keeps hearing the council say they don't have the grant to redo the bathrooms in the park. She asked why the city can't build a bathroom. Mayor stated that's already been discussed. Ms. Freeman stated it's very important for the park to have a bathroom. Mayor stated she's in total agreement we need to find someone to build it for us. She stated has contacted 3 contractors and has not heard back.

Patsy Parvin thanked everyone on the Council for passing the Take-home Car Policy for the Police officers.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date Approved 03-27-2023  
Sharon Humphrey  
Sharon Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer  
Mayor (or Chair) Pro Tempore