

Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting
Monday, June 28, 2021
6:30p.m.

Mayor called the meeting. Roll call was done by the clerk, Council members George Ragland, Erica Hopkins, Jason Garstka, Levoneia Ayers, Casey Whitman and Mayor Mary Caudle. Members present constituted a quorum.

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

Motion by Councilmember Ayers to approve the minutes dated June 14th with the necessary corrections. Councilmember Hopkins seconds the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Caudle's Report: We hired the Park & Recreation Coordinator. We hope to have a mini camp starting July 6th and ending July 30th. Pierre Fletcher comes to us with a degree in recreation. Also, he comes from the City of Huntsville Recreation Dept. He will be working with children and seniors. He will be paid \$17hrly.

She reached out to work with the landowners regarding the land on Murphy Cir. The land that was sold cut out Murphy Cir. which was a private drive. They have worked out a deal with the landowners. Councilmember Whitman reported they got with County House numbering, the County Commission and County Engineer and worked out a solution that will allow them to keep the addresses the same. The Town will acquire a 40x30ft right-a-way where the private drive attaches at Advent Dr. from the property owners.

Councilmember Ayers made the motion to allow the Mayor to begin negotiations with the landowners for a 40x30ft of right-of-way to sustain Murphy Cir and addresses for the citizens. Councilmember Whitman seconds the motion. Roll call, Ragland-yes, Hopkins-yes, Garstka-yes, Whitman-yes, Ayers-yes and Caudle-yes. Unanimous consent, motion carried.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Fire & Police: Chairperson Ragland reported Fire Dept. Responded to 2 outside fires, 2 Fire alarms, 12 Emergency Calls and drove 51.3 miles.

Police Dept. patrolled 2,308 miles, made 27 Traffic Stops, 19 Warning citations, 10 Citations, 43 Call For Service, 1 Arrests and 12 Reports.

The Police Grant to hire two Police officers has been submitted.

Discussion on employee salaries.

Finance: Chairperson Hopkins reported at the last council meeting she was asked to do some additional research on the American Rescue Act. She has asked the question about the town being a Non Entitlement unit of local government. Found out non community or city that has less than 50,000 in population. The funding available through this American Rescue Act \$19.53billion Dollars and they have already allocated funding to the Non entitlement units of local government. The entitlement cities include cities like Huntsville and Madison City. Huntsville got \$34 million and Madison City got \$5million. She does not believe Triana was included in this funding. In looking at the funding that's available there are a couple of ways she believes Triana would be able to utilize the funding. One would be providing premium payment for essential workers the other would be investing in water and sewer infrastructure.

Mayor stated she has already started paperwork for the water and sewer infrastructure that's under the American Rescue Act to get some help to with finishing up sewer project. They will not do more than 75% of your annual budget.

Councilmember Hopkins asked if that would be the only area we're going to apply for funding. Mayor stated we can only to one per term.

The Challenge grant we applied through the AARP, we were turned down for that. We will continue to try. They had over 40 thousand to apply. They don't offer feedback on to find out where we may have fallen short.

Survey Monkey, funding credited back to our account, individual account has been set up, having trouble assessing the account.

Utility: Chairperson reported we are starting to get parts in for the sewer upgrade which should be starting up soon. Last year Madison Utilities was working on getting GPS locations for our lines we now have that data.

Councilmember Ragland asked how they were coming with the repairs to the lift station at Bingo. Mayor Caudle stated supplies were coming in to get it done.

Park & Recreation: Chairperson Ayers reported Rec Committee met and discussed fees for renting the gym. We currently charge \$50.00per hour to rent the gym. They have a Vendor possible interested in doing a year contract with us. They plan to meet again to discuss fees before they enter into an agreement. Next Park & Recreation Committee meeting will be July 12th at 5p.m.

Streets & Cemetery: Chairperson Garstka reported speed cushions have arrived. The projected date to install is July 15th. Need Mayor to sign the quote for the Vendor who will be installing them. The speed cushion signs arrived on June 23th working on making sure we have to correct size poles we need.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Attorney Ballew reported on the two right-of way issues. The one dealing with Landess does not have anything to do with the town that's going to be an issue with the private landowner. Oregon Dr. looks to be the more complicated one, no official answer yet.

Councilmember Ragland asked what's going on with Oregon Dr.

Attorney Ballew stated the Tax Assessors Office does not have the proper document for the origination of Oregon Dr.

Councilmember Ragland stated Mr. Foster gave that land to the Town of Triana.

Mayor Caudle stated the document reads two different things in two different places that they are trying to verify. One says right-of-way and other one says easement. The Attorney is working with the Tax Assessors Office to make sure Oregon Dr. is properly documented to the Town of Triana.

Mayor Caudle stated she is applying for funds through the American Cares Act for the Sewer System with the hope of getting funds for that.

Councilmember Ragland asked could we use the Covid-19 money to hire a policeman.

Mayor Caudle stated no,

Mayor Caudle stated she did request some funds from Commissioner Strong to do some upgrades to purchase furniture for Town Hall.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Marvelene Freeman stated it disturbs her to hear that the town relies heavily on the County she asked if the council was working through the County now. The fact that the town is going to purchase a right-of-way and down on Landess Cir. the road is very dangerous to drive on.

Mayor stated not just working thru the County, House number goes through the County.

Ms. Freeman stated it disturbs her because she doesn't see the Mayor in support of our law enforcement at all.

Mayor stated that's her opinion.

Joe Bell stated the police officers are doing an excellent job they have really slowed the traffic on Landess Cir. the street he lives on.

Patsy Parvin stated she is here to show her support for the Triana Police Dept. She stated it was very disturbing to her at the last council meeting when not enough of our councilmembers would agree to have a meeting. At least agree to have a meeting to discuss giving them a raise and drive the cars home. Our community deserves better than this. Police Officers need to be compensated for the work they do. Everybody that works for the city needs to be compensated for the work that they do. She commented Chief Powell for all his hard work.

Mayor Caudle stated she is speaking for herself and not for the council, two days before that meeting they had just had a meeting and discussed the Police Dept. When they plan a meeting they don't all show up. She stated if anyone wants to come in and see the employee salaries they can, the salaries are comparison around.

Patsy Parvin stated Chief Hardin did come up Advent in the fire truck.

Madge Griffin expressed concern over the corn that has been planted on Landess cir it needs to be cut back, planted too close to the road. Town needs to have a talk with the farmer asking him to cut the corn back. Motorist cannot see in the curve driving in that area.

Roy Seay stated Landess Cir. road needs to be widened; it is dangerous to travel on at times. He also stated they need to know before hand when the water is going to be turned off if possible.

Mr. Seay asked about the building for the Fire Dept., what needs to be done, would like some feedback.

Mayor presented estimates on the repairs to the football field.

Councilmember Ayers made the motion to accept the lowest bid for the athletics field maintenance and receding. Councilmember Garstka seconds the motion. 1-opposed, motion carried.

Patsy Parvin asked about the Ebony Club.

Mayor stated they are not in operation won't be until repairs have been made.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date approved

July 12, 2021

Sharon Humphrey

Sharon Humphrey, Town of Clerk/Treasurer

Mayor or Chair Pro Tem

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