

Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting
Monday, January 9, 2023
6:30p.m.

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

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

Approval of minutes: Motion by Councilmember Whitman to approve the minutes dated Dec. 27th 2022.
Councilmember Ayers second the motion. Motion carried.

Mayor Caudle's Report: She has emailed a copy of the next phase of the sewer project to the council from Engineers of the South (EOS), not expecting a vote tonight asking them to review it. Engineers of the South will be at the next council meeting to do a presentation and give if there are any questions, they can be asked them at that time. Mayor stated she has asked them to give an estimated proposal for evaluation of the sewer system.

REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:

Fire & Police: Chairperson Ragland reported the Police Dept. traveled 3,199 miles, made 43 traffic stops, 35 warning citations, 13 traffic citations, 57 calls for service, 4 arrests and 7 reports.
F&P Committee meeting was scheduled for Jan. 17th @ 5:30p.m.

Finance: No Report

Utility: No Report

Park & Recreation: P&R Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, Jan 17th at 6:00PM to discuss Recreational Programming Calendar for 2023 to include the Community Easter Egg Hunt, Earth Day/Cleanup Day, Arbor Day/Beautification Board, Breast Cancer Awareness Event, STEM Event etc.

Streets & Cemetery: Chairperson Garstka stated he would like to have a committee meeting to discuss the issue with Malvern Hills & Landess Cir. intersection. S&C Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, Jan. 23rd @ 6:00pm before council meeting.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS:

Planning & Zoning Chairperson Casey Whitman reported the following: The final plat for phase I of Malvern Hills was approved at the planning and zoning meeting on Monday night and Evergreen Mill phase I had a modification that was approved. They discovered a potential cemetery there and the developer has quarantine off that for development. It has been reported to the Alabama Historical Commission. They have gone through steps to get GEO ground technical radar surveys done. They found 1 headstone and several unmarked burials during that time. It has been sectioned off as a protected area.

He has talked with ADAMS Homes manager, they plan to get the cluster mailboxes installed this week, he was also able to get from the post office concurrence on where he was going to put them.

Mr. Whitman stated back in December council met in a work session and discussed zoning rules and guidance. He thinks they should follow up with the outcome of that meeting to schedule a community meeting to bring citizens in to get some feedback from them and brief the town on what they have achieved and give update on the growth. Mayor Caudle suggested meeting on a Saturday, to go over what it looks like now and to get their input. She wants to get the okay from council to send every citizen a written notice via mail we should be looking at a cost of \$500.00.

Community/Town Hall meeting scheduled for Feb. 25th from 10:00am to 12:00noon.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Roy Seay asked for an update on the Fire Station structure.

Mayor stated there is no additional information. The Architect is working on the actual design package to prepare for bids. Until that's done, we won't have anything.

Mr. Seay asked if there's any way, he can contact them to put some fire under them, he stated it's been at least a month.

Mayor stated she stays in contact with them and they are working on it. She stated it takes time when you're working with a design, it could take months. She stated when it's complete she will announce it.

Larry Harris asked if there was any progress made on the internet, natural gas and anything else that's in our back yard that we don't have.

Mayor stated the best answer she can give is, she can't make a company put in anything. We were told with the natural gas once it's brought by us, we will have access to it. She stated she has been pushing it. She stated we have requested these things in writing. We have had 3 Dept heads from Huntsville Utilities to come down and talk with them about natural gas and utilities. They have promised us verbally and in writing.

Mr. Harris stated the minute they get started building on the Foster's property it will be here.

Mayor stated Homeowners will have the option to tie into the natural gas line and/or internet once the lines are brought to their respective area/streets.

Mr. Harris asked if the town was getting ready to annex anymore property into the city.

Mayor stated no one has approached us.

Mr. Harris asked if they were going to straighten out Landess Cir before they do anything else. Mayor asked him what did he mean.

He stated those streets are too narrow. Mayor stated we understand that, they have discussed it among themselves, they have been talking about it. She stated if you expand the street on both sides, you will be in residents front yard. She stated he's welcome to come to the community meeting they're planning to discuss and start planning on the how and when it's going to happen or could happen.

Theresa Nelson asked where was the city at with repairing the bathrooms on the park.

Mayor stated she can't get anyone out to bid on it. The one person she did get out is saying it's not the cost of the repairs, it's the amount of work it's going to take to make the repairs.

Councilmember Ayers requested to publish/advertise a new RFP for Flamingo Park Renovation Project to solicit interested parties.

Francis Goggins stated council has answered his question, he thanked the them for keeping up on the mailbox issue.

Marvelene Freeman stated she heard it mentioned that the Historical Society from out of Montgomery has been notified about the cemetery. She asked has anyone else in Montgomery been notified about the cemetery? Mr.

Whitman stated the Alabama Historical Commission stated they were alerted to it but that it was not on file when the development was going on. Ms. Freeman stated during that time blacks did not have names put on graves they just buried them. She stated she's surprised that there were headstones found out there at all because that was very rare.

Ms. Freeman stated we're not going to let the contractor continue until we do something about containing it. Mr. Whitman stated right now they have excluded the area for development.

Councilmember Hopkins asked what happens to that area once its preserved.

Mr. Whitman stated it will get recorded with the state, saved and protected from that perspective. Right now, it's still within their subdivision in terms of ownership. There is some discussion about them deeding that area back to the city, that's still to be determined. He stated the developer stated they would get fences put up; they were going to have protected access to the area.

Theresa Nelson asked had the Triana Historical Society been notified. Mayor Caudle stated they gave the developer Betty's information to reach out to her.

Ms. Freeman stated she would like for this town to not let the developers destroy it. Mr. Whitman stated agreed.

Roy Seay stated his concern is about the road on Landess Cir. He stated rocks have already been put down on both sides of the road at least 2ft. Now they need dirt brought in and packed down then later be ready for some asphalt to be put down.

Madge Griffin stated that's worst thing that could have happened because when the grass is cut rocks are thrown onto the street.

Marvelene Freeman asked who owns that road. Mayor Caudle stated City of Huntsville and the County owns the road. She stated the town annexed the residents into Triana but not the road. We do not own the road. She further stated we do not own parts of Wall Triana Hwy.

Mayor Caudle stated the town annexed the residents into Triana but the County kept ownership of the road because the town could not afford the upkeep.

Mr. Seay asked does the County own that road. Mayor stated ownership is between the County and the City of Huntsville.

Made Griffin stated if you talk with Commissioner Haraway he will say he doesn't own it.

Marvelene Freeman stated if we have Senator Tom Butler pull his records it will show who owns the road. Mayor Caudle stated we can go to the County registry to see how it's actually registered.

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date Approved

Jan. 23. 2023

Sharron Humphrey

Sharron Humphrey, Town Clerk-Treasurer

Mayor Caudle
Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore