

**Town of Triana Regular Council Meeting**  
**Monday, August 23, 2021**  
**6:30p.m.**

The meeting was called to order by the Mayor. 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.

Motioned by Councilmember Whitman to approve the minutes dated August 9, 2021, Council member Ayers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

**Mayor Caudle's Report.** Will report during the Council reports and Other Business.

**REPORTS OF STANDING COMMITTEES:**

**Fire & Police:** Chairperson Ragland reported Police Dept., traveled 2024 miles, made 30 traffic stops, 28 warning citations, 7 citations, 30 calls for service, 0 arrest and 4 reports.

Fire Dept., responded to 1 fire structure, 5 Alarms, 18 emergency calls, 1 motor vehicle accident. On Thursday we had two emergency calls back-to-back our Fire Chief was able to respond to both.

Mr. Ragland stated town needs to hire 4 full-time firemen, 2 police officers and purchase 2 patrol cars.

**Finance:** Chairperson Hopkins reported still working on the Alabama Power Grant. She thanks Ms. Ayers for sending her additional information on it. Looking at areas that might make sense for us to apply for.

Councilman Ragland stated after going over the Towns operating accounts on the July 31<sup>st</sup> Bank Statement town has \$3,651,000. The mayor has said we have to come up with \$1million dollars for sewer. He stated if we have to, we can borrow \$1million dollars to take care of sewerage and hire 4 full-time firemen, 2 policemen and purchase two patrol cars already fully dressed. Councilmember Hopkins stated the Bank statement is not a complete picture of our finances a lot of the money is already allocated for other things. Councilman Ragland stated the water and sewer accounts takes care of itself; one fireman is not a fire department. Mayor Caudle stated she has already gone over finances; money is already allocated. She stated she is not saying town does not need a Fire Dept., but he is making false statements about the towns finances when the money is already allocated.

Mr. Ragland stated we had two abandoned houses to burn down in one month. We did get assistance from Huntsville but town needs to hire firemen. He asked Council if they though town needed a Fire Dept. Mayor stated we all know we need a fire department. Ragland asked the council if they were in favor of hiring four firemen, no response for council. Mayor Caudle asked Councilman Ragland what resources has he brought in to help pay for fire & police.

**Utility:** Chairperson Whitman reported still working on pumps upgrades.

Councilmember Ayers asked if there was a way to do an audit to see exactly where each fire hydrant is located. Mayor stated we have that, it's on the map.

Ms. Ayers also asked how do we go about adding additional hydrants to areas already in existence not the subdivisions. Councilman Whitman stated we have to put in a work order to Madison and pay for it. Mayor Caudle stated fire hydrants are installed so many feet apart. This is based on the standard criteria and the Fire Chief has pretty much located them. If it's a fire hydrant that's out or needs to be replaced



or not withing standard feet. We can look at it. Ms. Ayers stated the reason she's asking is because there's not one on Record Street near her house. She's trying to figure out how she can get one on her street. She stated it's great to keep up with subdivision and to make sure we all the zoning and planning but to still include the infrastructure to make sure we come back in and look at what was already existing prior to all of the zoning and planning and to start dropping one or two hydrants where needed.

Ms. Ayers also stated the street light on Record St in the curve is out more than its on how do we get it replace. Councilmember Whitman stated contact Huntsville Utilities.

Councilman Whitman stated he's got the hydrants all mapped out. When he talked with the Fire Chief on last week, he was told that's something ISO looks at when they come through. He will take action and look at map with the Fire Chief and see if there are a couple of places that they may recommend adding some and come back to council with suggestion on where to put them.

Councilmember Hopkins asked if there was a standard for having fire hydrant with a certain radius of a certain number of houses. Councilman Whitman stated he does not know number but the fire chief could answer that. Councilman Ragland stated 2000ft in a residential area and 500ft in subdivision. Councilman Whitman stated the new area is built to a newer standard. Not sure of the standards the older parts of town were built to. Councilmember Hopkins asked when they come out and do the inspections, they're going by two different standards. Mayor Caudle stated when houses are not clustered it's a different standard versus when houses are clustered. Councilman Whitman added when they come out, they also look at the capacity of our tanker because our fire truck holds a lot more water than the Huntsville truck.

**Park & Recreation:** Chairperson Ayers reported they had a park and recreation meeting today, during this meeting the Park and Rec Coordinator discussed his plans for the upcoming fiscal year. See attached Town of Triana daily activity program list thru December 31, 2021.

Motioned by Councilmember Ayers to accept the Recreation activity program from the Rec Coordinator, Councilmember Ragland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilmembers Ayers reported Triana Warriors Football home games will be Oct 16 & 23 and Nov. 10 she stated they would like to have a place on the town's website or have a link to go to. Mayor Caudle stated they are a nonprofit if we allow one to use our website we will have to allow all.

Councilmember Ayers made the motion to accept the recommendation submitted by Park and Rec Coordinator for the afterschool program. There will be a fee assessed to the afterschool program but not the actual fall break, winter break, summer break or free play. The afterschool program would be \$140.00per month for 1 child, \$165.00 per month for 2 kids and \$195.00 for 3 or more. Scholarships will be available, and there will be a possibility of in-kind service for parent who is willing to volunteer or adult figures. Councilmember Ragland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Ms. Ayers reported that the Triana Warriors Football homes games will be Oct 10, 19 and 23. She stated they want to know if there is a way when we set up the website if they will be able to have a place or a link where people could click on the Towns link and go to the Triana Warriors. Mayor Caudle stated the only thing with that is they are a nonprofit if we allow them then we will have to do all.

Councilmember Ayers made the motion that once our park and recreation page is set up and running we do allow a link to Triana Warriors Football and Cheer, Councilmember Hopkins seconded the motion. Motion carried.



Councilmember Hopkins asked did the work on the football field get do with take caring of the spurs. Mayor Caudle stated yes grass is trying to come back in.

Mayor Caudle stated we do have to follow up on the event they had because we haven't gotten a report yet and part of that agreement with them using our park we were to receive a percentage of it.

**Streets and Cemetery:** Chairperson Garstka reported we were still on scheduled to have speed bumps installed on Ervin Land and Harold Murphy on Sept. 9-10.

Mr. Garstka made the recommendation that Sunbriar and Lottie Bell Ct to be a 3 way stop sign this will calm the traffic coming from Savannah in the Bridgemill Subdivision. Mayor Caudle suggested we wait until subdivision is built out and have our Police Chief to go out and look at it and bring findings back up at next meeting.

Garstka thanked Councilman Whitman for taking the time posting stop signs.

#### **RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES:**

Motioned by Councilmember Whitman for immediate consider Ordinance 2021-04, to rezone the Miller property, Councilmember Ayer seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motioned by Whitman to consider Ordinance 2021-04 to rezone the Miller property from R1 to R4, Councilman Ragland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motioned by Councilmember Whitman to adopt Ordinance 2021-06 rezoning the Foster property from R1 to R4 with up to 28 acres of R3 allowed at some point in the future, Councilmember Ayers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilman Whitman to adopt 2021-06, Councilmember Ayers seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Councilmember Whitman thanked Planning and Zoning, property owners and everyone involved for their patience in going through the process.

Mayor Caudle presented Ordinance 2021-05, Modification to the building permits, increasing building permits fees from \$2500 to \$3000. Councilmember Hopkins asked would this allocate money for the Fire Dept. Mayor Caudle stated as discussed in a previously meeting this will be at the point where council decides if the extra \$500.00 will go towards Fire & Police or the General Fund this is the time to vote on it.

Councilmember Whitman thanked Planning and Zoning, property owners and everyone involved for their patience in going through the process.

Discussion on Impact fees, a bill that would have to be passed through the state legislature, two separate bills. Councilmember Hopkins made the recommendation to allocate fees elsewhere if council approves restricting for certain services having some sort of accountability.

Motioned by Councilmember Whitman to consider Ordinance 2021-05, Modifications of the Building permits, increasing building permits from \$2500 to \$3000, Councilmember Ragland seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Motioned by Councilmember Whitman to adopt Ordinance 2021-05 increasing building permit fees from \$2500 to \$3000, Councilmember Ragland seconded the motion. Motion carried. We will need to notify the builders.

Attorney Caleb Ballew stated he will get the adopted regulations filed.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

Mayor Caudle stated she has been trying to get the word out that our website is up and running, others can log on and register and be notified of all meetings held.

Councilmember Ragland asked how many years do members on the Planning and Zoning Board serve. Mayor Caudle stated she will have to look at the protocol, it's a rotating schedule. Councilmember Whitman stated it's 6 years then it staggers, one person comes up for renewal every year. Mayoral appointments have 6yr terms. Mayor Caudle stated she has to appoint two more people. Councilmember Ayers asked would that notification be on the website as open. Councilmember Whitman stated they created a new page all postings are on the website.

Councilmember Ragland stated our Ordinance stated that if sewer is available then you have to hook up to sewer. Carr Lane does not have sewer. His suggestion to the property owner on Ervin Lane is to install septic tanks on his land he is not a developer he's a property owner.

**Public Comments:**

Theresa Nelson asked has the property owner at 320 Wall Triana Hwy been notified to cut grass and how long to take care of it. Mayor Caudle stated owner has been notified to cut grass by our standard letter giving him 15 days from the date of letter. It is a couple of stages before it gets to the final stage.

Roy Seay stated there's an urgent need for fire and police protection, town can earmark money for the need to hire protection. Council carries its own weight.

Marvelene Freeman asked what is the area at Advent Drive at Wall Triana on the right side of the pump station zoned for. Councilmember Whitman stated its zoned for commercial

Moved and properly seconded to adjourn.

Date approved Sept. 13, 2021

Sharon Humphrey  
Sharon Humphrey, Town Clerk-Tres

Mayor Caudle  
Mayor or Chair Pro Tempore