

**TROY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
COMBINED REGULAR AND MID-MONTH MEETING
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2015, 5:00 PM**

The Town of Troy Board of Commissioners met in the Board Room of the Troy Town Hall with Mayor Roy Maness presiding.

BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Protem James Hurley, Commissioners Angela Elkins, Bruce Hamilton, Wallace Jones, Damon Prince and Mayor Maness.

BOARD MEMBERS ABSENT: No one was absent

TOWN STAFF PRESENT: Manager Greg Zephir, Clerk/Finance Officer Cathy Maness and Police Chief Kenny Allen

MEDIA PRESENT: Tammy Dunn with the Montgomery Herald was present.

OTHERS PRESENT: Sheriff Chris Watkins; Mrs. Janet Blackmon with Page Street Elementary School along with the following parents and students from Page Street Elementary School, Allison Thompson, Ella Rose Thompson, Justin Thompson, Dale Thompson, Ivy Futrell, Jantzen Gooch, Steve Gooch, Janice Gooch, Dagen Hussey, Kaelyn Davis, Judy Greene, Anthony Greene, Sabrina Gooch, Grant Gooch, Savannah Gooch, Grayson Gooch, Margaret Sanders, Violet Britt, Minnie Wood, Chris Wood, Lillie Wood, and Bethany Webb

CALL TO ORDER, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Maness called the meeting to order and Comm. Hamilton gave the invocation. Mayor Maness led the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag.

WELCOME AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS: Mayor Maness welcomed everyone to the meeting, especially the 4th Grade Essay Winners from Page Street Elementary School.

PUBLIC FORUM: No one was present with comments.

MINUTES of the October meetings were approved as written on motion by Comm. Hamilton and second by Comm. Elkins. All voted approval.

PAGE STREET ELEMENTARY 4TH GRADE PRESENTATION: Mayor Maness introduced Mrs. Janet Blackmon of Page Street Elementary as the spokesperson for Citizenship Presentation. Mgr. Zephir stated this is a series that the town has been proud to be a partner with and this month we are hearing from the 4th Grade. Mrs. Blackmon introduced the 4th Grade Community Writing Project Winners. Mrs. Blackmon stated there are four 4th Grade – 1st Place winners here this evening to present their papers on citizenship. The students read their papers to the Town Board and everyone present. The students are Savannah Gooch, Lillie Wood, Dagan Hussey and Ella Rose Thompson. The Board congratulated the students for the great job.

AMENDMENT TO AUDIT CONTRACT: Mayor Maness stated we have an audit contract amendment to consider. Mgr. Zephir stated we have a request to amend the current contract for auditing services. Originally the contract had the audit being completed by November 30th, however due to the expanded GASB rules and the rescheduling of audits of other towns the work will not be completed until before December 31st. There are no additional costs associated with this audit contract amendment. Staff is recommending approval. On motion by Comm. Elkins and second by Comm. Prince, the Board unanimously voted to approve the amendment to the audit contract extending the deadline for completion.

PROPOSAL OF "THRU TRUCKS" ON ELM AND RUSH: Mayor Maness stated we have a proposal to close Elm and Rush Streets to "thru trucks". Mgr. Zephir stated that over the past few months, staff has received numerous complaints from residents concerning large trucks traveling on two specific roads and causing damage to the catch basins and in some cases resident's property. These roads are North Elm Street (off of NC 24/27) and then Elm Street South of Spring Street and Rush Avenue. In most cases the issues with North Elm Street have trucks trying to get on NC 134 yet make the left hand turn on North Elm Street and then making a right onto Chestnut Street. These large trucks, when making these turns have to make such a wide turn that in a lot of the instances they are running over individual's property and creating damage. The same is true in the Rush Avenue and South Elm Street instances where large trucks traveling both east and west on Rush Avenue are trying to make these turns that simply cannot be made without damage. Staff is requesting permission to list these streets as ones that prohibited large trucks. The existence of the major corridors (i.e. 24/27 and Pekin Road) allows for these trucks to move freely without the need to utilize these roads, which are primarily used to service residential properties. Chief Allen stated this generally means no through traffic; not against delivery. We will look at the Department of Transportation wording for this. On motion by Comm. Elkins and second by Comm. Prince, the Board approved the recommendation to designate Elm and Rush Streets as "No Thru Trucks" and to have the proper signs installed. All voted approval.

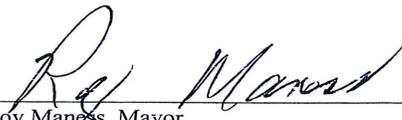
MANAGER UPDATES:

- A. During the town’s last meeting it was asked of staff to try and find alternatives to the town’s investment portfolio as the interest we are currently receiving is little to none. Staff is still communicating with the state as to what is permissible and also how to go about diversifying its investment strategies. Another question is trying to find out is who or what type of agency or company could assist the town with those types of decisions (i.e. certified financial advisors, etc). As soon as staff receives the needed information a report will be presented to the board.
- B. One project that staff is working on, in coordination with the town’s EDC, is the concept of a local historical commission. The purpose of this commission is to identify and declare by ordinance significant historical properties in and around the Town of Troy. The creation of the this commission would not only identify these historical properties, but would also be the first step in the town being a Certified Local Government, of which there are only a small percentage of those in North Carolina. This would allow the town some opportunities for funding in the future, but would also be another tool in the town’s economic tool box. A benefit for the property owners is a 50% of property tax could be deferred for three years as long as the property is owned by the same person. Possible properties include the Peabody School and the Lowe Warner Memorial.
- C. The town’s public works crews are attempting to put into operation the town’s leaf vacuum truck; however the recent rain has put a slight halt into that operation as the extreme wetness of the leaves is putting tremendous pressure on the truck’s engines. Staff has decided to try and wait till it dries a little and then resume as opposed to ruining the engines. Staff hopes to get back on the normal routes beginning on Monday.
- D. In addition to its normal operations the town’s public works crews have been steadily putting up the Christmas lights as the preparations for the annual tree lighting continue. The town’s trees have been trimmed and the lights have mostly been hung, leaving only the pole decorations to be put up. Those decorations are expected to be hung on November 23rd. Also, as a reminder, the tree lighting will be held on its normal date, the night before Thanksgiving. This year’s event will be held on November 25th and will begin at 5:00 P.M. As is the custom there will be music, gift giveaways (thanks to our local business sponsors) and cookies and hot chocolate courtesy of the mayor and the town commissioners.
- E. This past Saturday the town celebrated our Veterans with the annual Veteran’s Day breakfast followed the Veteran’s Day Parade. While the weather was not cooperative there were still many that attended to say thank you for the sacrifice our Veterans have given to insure our freedom. Appreciation and gratitude goes to the town’s Senior Center, Police, and Public Works for their efforts in assisting with these events. Comm. Hamilton stated there was a pretty good crowd at the breakfast.
- F. **DATES TO REMEMBER:** November 25th – 5:00 P.M. Annual Tree Lighting
November 26th and 27th – Town Offices closed in observance of Thanksgiving

BUSINESS MEETING: The Board reviewed the gasoline report, budget report, cash and investment report and the water use report.

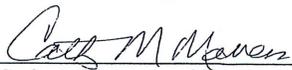
Mayor Maness welcomed Sheriff Watkins to the meeting and congratulated the incumbents – Comm. Jones and Comm. Prince on being re-elected to the Town Board.

Meeting was adjourned at 5:29 PM on motion by Comm. Jones and second by Mayor Protem Hurley. All voted approval.



 Roy Maness, Mayor

Respectively submitted,



 Cathy M. Maness, Clerk