

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

DATE: January 11, 2016

Mayor Bill Edmundson called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice, Powell Dew, Jr., Robert Watson, Ken Horne and Donnie Bass. Also present were Town Manager Gary Davis, Town Clerk Debra Beamon and Police Chief John Hunt. The public present were Martin Amerson, Steve Harrell, Assnt. Fire Chief William McMurray, Cleveland Lovick, Joe Fontain and Ellen Webb.

**A. Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Prayer:**

William McMurray led the Pledge of Allegiance and Martin Amerson began the meeting with prayer.

**B. Approve minutes for December 14, 2015 :** Councilman Horne made a motion to approve the minutes as written. With a second from Councilman Dew, all members voted in favor of the motion.

**C. Financial Report:**

Receipts: \$337,928.11 Disbursements: \$260,193.65 Difference \$77,734.46

**MMB:** Councilwoman Grice made a motion, with a second by Councilman Horne, to approve the Financial Report. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

**D. Invoices for Payment: Total: \$43,062.62**

Councilman Dew made a motion to approve the invoices for payment. With a second by Councilman Horne, all Council members voted favorably.

**E. Public Present:** At this time, Martin Amerson with Carr, Riggs and Ingram presented the FY 2014-2015 audit report. Mr. Amerson informed the Council that the General Fund looked much better this year and the overall opinion is that the Town had a very good audit for FY 2014-2015. Councilman Dew made a motion to accept the FY 2014-2015 Audit Report. Councilman Horne seconded the motion with all other members voting in favor of the motion.

**F. Stantonburg Moyton Fire Department Report:** Assistant Fire Chief William McMurray presented a report for the fire department. He informed the Council that the fire department has been approved for a loan to improve and remodel the fire station. The fire department has been approved for a 50/50 grant to purchase new turnout gear. Each fireman will now have new turnout gear and the fire department has 25 active members.

Mayor Edmundson informed the Council that the EMS Captain was scheduled to give a report for the Stantonburg EMS, but was called out to make a run to Duke Medical Center is unable to attend.

**G. Public Present:** Ellen Webb came on behalf of the Stantonsburg Friendly Mart owner. He is asking if the Town would reimburse him \$2,400.00 for the privilege license that were purchased for the gambling machines that were removed from his business last year by the Bureau of ATF

**Police Report:** Chief John Hunt presented his monthly police report. He also showed the Council members the body cams that have been purchased. He informed the Council that the grant for the body cams is almost complete and the Town will be reimbursed shortly.

**H. Parks & Rec:** N/A

**Appearance Committee:** N/A

At this time, Mr. Davis presented (6) utility extension requests. After reviewing each request Councilwoman Grice made a motion to grant extension request #1. With a second from Councilman Horne, all other Council members voted favorably. Next, Councilman Horne made a motion to grant extension request #2. Councilman Bass seconded the motion with all other members voting in favor of the motion. At this time, Councilwoman Grice made a motion to grant extension requests #s 3, 4, 5 and 6. Councilman Horne seconded the motion. All other members voted favorably.

At this time, EMS Captain John Schroeder returned from his run to Duke and presented his report for the Stantonsburg EMS. Mr. Schroeder reported that the EMS had renewed their state license in November 2015 and that they have 11 members on their roster.

**I. Town Manager's Report:**

A. Overtime report: Overtime was down from December 2014

B. The water tank project is almost complete and it will just need to be disinfected.

C. Mr. Davis asked to go into closed session later to discuss personnel and contract matters

D. Mr. Davis informed the Council that he has not been able to get Buddy Holland Roofing to return calls in reference to the Police Station roof nor did Surface Roofing or Ellis Roofing. Mr. Davis is going to have Wade Farmer look at the roof and he will get a quote from him.

**H. Councilman Horne:** N/A.

**J. Councilman Watson:** Mr. Watson regretfully informed the Town Council that the Stantonsburg Piggly Wiggly officially closed on January 6, 2016.

**K. Councilman Bass:** Councilman Bass asked Mr. Davis about the status of the demolitions for the properties on Main Street. Mr. Davis informed him that he had information for closed session.

**L. Councilman Dew:** Mr. Dew asked the Mayor if there have been any plans made or committees formed to celebrate the Town's 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2017. Mayor Edmundson said there have been some plans discussed at this time. Mr. Dew commented to Chief Hunt that it was a good article about him in the Wilson Daily Times and that he wishes him the very best on his new position with the Town of Sharpsburg. Mr. Dew thanked Chief Hunt for his service to the Town of Stantonsburg.

**M. Councilwoman Grice: N/A**

**N. Mayor Edmundson:** Mayor Edmundson asked Mr. Davis about the coal ash situation with Duke Energy Progress. Mr. Davis indicated that the coal ash issue is still very much up in the air and litigation may eventually come into play. The Mayor asked permission to gather quotes on emergency communication and GPS system for town vehicles. The Town Manager wants to gather more information before making a decision. Council Horne commented that he feels that for the size of the town it would not be a savings factor. The Council agree to allow the Mayor to check into the cost to purchase and maintain an electric or natural gas powered vehicle for the town.

Next, Councilman Horne made a motion to go into closed session to discuss contracts and personnel. Councilwoman Grice seconded the motion with all other members voting in favor of the motion.

At this time, the Mayor declared the meeting back in open session.

Councilman Watson made a motion to appoint Sergeant Carlo Talarico interim Police Chief effective 1-22-2016 until the Town hires a permanent Chief of Police. Councilman Dew seconded the motion. Councilmen Watson, Dew and Horne voted in favor of the motion. Councilwoman Grice and Councilman Bass voted against the motion. The motion passed 3 to 2.

Councilman Horne made a motion to adjourn. With a second from Councilwoman Grice, all members voted favorably. Adjourned at 10:43 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Beamon, Finance Officer/Town Clerk

William H. Edmundson, Mayor

