

Date: March 21, 2017

Mayor Pro-Tem Powell Dew called the recessed meeting back to order at 7:09 pm. Council members present included Ken Horne and Coley Rhodes. Councilwoman Jackie Grice arrived at approximately 7:27. Also, present were Town Manager Gary Davis, Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey and the Town's electrical consultant, Kevin O'Donnell.

Electrical consultant Kevin O'Donnell presented the Town Council his recommendation concerning the settlement with Duke Energy for the clean-up of coal ash. Mr. O'Donnell stated that, after reviewing the comments filed at the NC Utilities Commission, he recommends that the Town take the settlement provided by Duke Energy and sign the contract amendment. The contract amendment states that the Town will start paying for the coal ash costs effective July 1, 2017. Mr. O'Donnell informed the Council that for the first 6 months Duke Energy will bill the Town for the Town's coal ash cost from January 2015 to June 30, 2017. Duke will then bill the Town for a regular amount of coal ash cost for July-December 2017. Mr. O'Donnell stated that in 2018, there will be a true up and the Town will not pay any interest if it is paid in full in the first 12 months. Mr. O'Donnell has estimated the Town's cost to be \$200,000. Mr. O'Donnell made it clear that this is just an estimate and the amount may be more. Town Manager Gary Davis stated that he agrees with Mr. O'Donnell's recommendation. After much discussion, Councilman Horne made a motion to accept Duke Energy's coal ash settlement agreement as presented by the Town's energy consultant, Kevin O'Donnell, in the amount of around \$200,000. With a second by Councilwoman Grice, all members present voted in favor of the motion.

At this time, the Town Council reviewed an email that was sent from Harper Landscaping giving a list of jobs that they perform in the Town of Stantonsburg. Town Manager Gary Davis stated that the contract with Harper Landscaping has been in place since 1995 and they have yet to raise the price for the Town of Stantonsburg despite the addition of duties in the downtown area. Councilwoman Rhodes made it known that she feels they do not do enough. Councilwoman Rhodes also stated that she has asked Harper Landscaping to send someone to meet with the Appearance Committee several times and cannot get a representative to attend a meeting. Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Council that the job of Harper Landscaping is to maintain the beds, etc. Anything extra such as mulch or planting would cost more. Mr. Davis recommended that the Town keep the contract they have with Harper Landscaping. The Council informed Councilwoman Rhodes that the Appearance Committee is able to do landscaping within the Town as long as it is within the Appearance Committee's budget. After much discussion, Mr. Davis stated that he would talk with Harper Landscaping and discuss what more could be done to approve the appearance of these areas.

Councilwoman Rhodes presented the Town Council a print out of information for purchasing a Phone Tree. This software would make it possible to send out messages to the citizens of Stantonsburg through phone, text or email. This was given for information only.

Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Town Council that the Town of Stantonburg closed on the purchase of the Seal Building.

With no further business, Councilman Horne made a motion to adjourn the meeting. With a second by Councilwoman Grice, all members present voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:23 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha Bailey  
Town Clerk/Finance Officer

William H. Edmundson, Mayor