

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

DATE: November 14, 2016

Mayor William Edmundson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice, Powell Dew, Jr., Donald Bass and Robert Watson. Also present were Town Manager Gary Davis, Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey, Deloris Drummond and Colely Rhodes. Police Chief Orlando Rosario and Officer Daughtry arrived at approximately 7:06 along with Councilman Horne arriving at approximately 7:16.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Prayer:** Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilwoman Grice opened the meeting with prayer.

At this time Councilman Robert Watson asked to address the Board. He informed the Council that he would be stepping down and vacating his seat. Councilman Watson is now an employee of the Town of Stantonburg and will not be able to fill both positions according to the Town's Personnel Policy. The Town Council thanked him for his service.

**A. Approve minutes for October 17, 2016:** Councilman Dew stated that a couple of words were misspelled in the minutes. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to approve the October meeting minutes with the necessary corrections. With a second from Councilman Dew, all Council members voted in favor of the motion.

**B. Financial Report:**

*Receipts \$424,214.01 Disbursements \$351,495.38 Difference \$72,718.63*

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

**C. Invoices for Payment: Total: \$31,153.64**

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

**D. Public Present: N/A**

**E. Police Report:** The Council reviewed the monthly police report. Chief Rosario informed the Council that he would like to have the upcoming Stantonburg Christmas parade December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM if that was pleasing to the Council. All Council members agreed upon this date. Chief Rosario then stated that they replaced the radiator in the Crown Victoria and they are doing everything they can to stretch out the use of this vehicle. He brought to the attention of the Council that the Police Department is now fully

Staffed and the vehicles are being driven 24/7. Chief Rosario presented the Council with (7) bids for new and/or pre-owned vehicles for the Board to review and consider. He also made the Town Council aware that Officer Joseph Heck resigned as of November 9, 2016. Officer Kendrick Revis was sworn in the same day as a full time Police Officer. Officer Revis is a 9-year veteran and a Board-certified K-9 handler. Chief Rosario is still in the process of looking for part-time officers.

At this time, Town Manager Gary Davis presented (3) requests for extensions on payment of utility bills. Councilman Horne suggested that they consider each request individually. Councilwoman Grice made the motion that they approve extension request #1. With a second from Councilman Dew, all members voted in favor of the motion. Councilman Horne made a motion to grant request #2, with the contingency that the other responsible party in the house pay a minimum of \$75.00 each month towards a past due bill. With a second by Councilman Dew, all members voted favorably. Councilman Horne made the motion to deny request #3 due to their payment history. Councilman Bass seconded the motion and all members voted in favor of the motion.

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

**G. Appearance Committee:** Mrs. Colely Rhodes stated that they are bringing in mulch and rocks to finish up the area across the street from the Town Hall. They are also looking into a couple of new projects. Town Manager Gary Davis stated that the Town will start putting up the lighted angels November 18<sup>th</sup> and will begin lighting them the day after Thanksgiving.

**H. Stantonsburg/Moyton Fire Dept.: N/A**

**J. EMS:** Mayor Edmundson was instructed by the EMS to extend an invitation to the Board for the officer installation. It will be held on December 4<sup>th</sup>, 2016 at 6:00 PM and will be at the squad's headquarters located 107 S. Main St.

**I. Town Managers Report:** Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Council that the Town has a CD up for renewal. Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey has recieved quotes from several different banks with varying interest rates. Once each quote was reviewed, Councilman Horne made the motion to renew the CD with KS Bank for 10 months at .75%. Councilman Bass seconded the motion, with all members voting favorably.

Mr. Davis presented the overtime report, which was up from the previous year. Mr. Davis noted that 68 ½ of the overtime hours were a direct result of Hurricane Matthew.

Mr. Davis then brought before the Town Council a report from Kevin O'Donnell of Nova Energy Consultants. The report was in reference to Duke's coal ash costs. Based on publicly available information, the estimated cost for Stantonsburg is about \$200k through 2017. The cost would be over \$1 million if the Town stayed with Duke. Nova recommends that the Town set aside \$10k to retain an attorney to investigate the legal aspect of the case,

intervene in the upcoming Duke accounting filing and cost recovery case. Also, he suggested the Town defer a decision on whether to accept or litigate coal ash recovery. Councilman Dew made the motion to move forward and retain an attorney to investigate the legal aspect of this case related to potential coal ash litigation. With a second by Councilwoman Grice, all members voted favorably.

Town Manager Gary Davis then presented an estimate from Appian Consulting Engineers for preserving the seal building façade. Costs would be close to \$50,000 just to stabilize the front and side of the building. Mayor Edmundson suggested that the Appearance Committee look into a fundraising project with a goal of \$50,000. Colely Rhodes, of the Appearance Committee, agreed to help in any way necessary. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to schedule a called meeting November 28<sup>th</sup>, 2016 so that the Appearance Committee can present general ideas for fundraisers and the Council can get a more detailed estimate from Appian engineer, Bobby Joyner. Councilman Dew seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor of the motion.

At this time, Mr. Davis updated the Council on the sewer issues at the interceptor line off NC 222. The City of Wilson came and did some cleaning on the line and attempted to do some videoing. It was full of sand and grit that obviously came from Saratoga, but there is also a problem with tuberculation and corrosion in the walls of the pipe. These things combined are hindering flow. It is possible that the sand and grit contributed to the tuberculation in the pipes. The Town has started intense cleaning and has been through the first section of the line. The City of Wilson will be coming back Thursday to do the second section and possibly some cleaning into the third section. This is so that we can get a better look at it to see if this issue is more isolated to the first part of the line or if it is the entire length of the pipe. The City of Wilson did not charge to come out the first time, but the next time will be at the Town's expense.

Town Manager Gary Davis asked the Board for direction on Christmas bonuses this year. Previously the Town Board has given full time employees a \$300 bonus and a \$150 bonus to part time employees. This year, the Town has several employees that are still probationary. Councilman Horne made a motion to grant part time and probationary employees a \$150 Christmas bonus, with full time employees receiving a \$300 Christmas bonus. Councilwoman Grice seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

**K. Councilman Horne:** Councilman Horne asked if anything was lined up for the annual Christmas dinner. Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey stated that the dinner will be held on December 15<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Community Building. At this time, Councilman Horne took the opportunity to thank Councilman Watson for his service and dedication to the Town of Stantonburg. All members agreed.

**L. Councilman Bass: N/A**

**M. Councilman Dew:** Councilman Dew asked Town Manager Gary Davis if he had looked into the ordinances for trees and shrubs. Mr. Davis stated that he had, but didn't have them

with him at that time. He will get them to the Council between now and the next meeting. Councilman Dew also asked if there were any updates on condemnations. Mr. Davis stated that there was nothing new at this time.

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

**O. Mayor: N/A**

Councilman Horne made a motion to adjourn. With a second by Councilman Dew, all members voted favorably.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha E. Bailey, Town Clerk/Finance Officer

William H. Edmundson, Mayor

