

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

DATE: September 12, 2016

Mayor William Edmundson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice, Powell Dew, Jr., Ken Horne, Donnie Bass and Robert Watson. Also present were Town Manager Gary Davis, Town Clerk Debra Beamon, Tabitha Bailey and Charlotte Wooten. Chief Orlando Rosario arrived at approximately 7:30.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Prayer:** Mrs. Charlotte Wooten led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Watson opened the meeting with prayer.

**A. Approve minutes for August 8, 2016:** Councilman Horne made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Councilwoman Grice seconded the motion. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

**B. Financial Report:**

*Receipts \$394,858.42 Disbursements \$312,825.55 Difference \$82,032.87*

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

**C. Invoices for Payment:** Total: \$26,638.66

Councilwoman Grice made a motion to approve the invoices for payment. With a second by Councilman Horne, 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 they are participating in the Government Highway Safety Program. Next, Chief Rosario updated the Council on the festival. He currently has 9 vendors that have submitted applications to participate. There will be 15 volunteers from Beddingfield ROTC coming to assist with parking for the festival. Also, Chief asked the council's permission to allow Russell Varnell and band to perform for a fee of \$700.00 after the Embers performance. The council agreed to his request as long as it does not go over the budget.

The Mayor asked that the officers check for unkempt lawns while on patrol and report it to office staff.

At this time, Mr. Davis presented 5 requests for extensions on utility bills. Councilman Horne made a motion to grant extension for request #5. With a second by Councilwoman

Grice, all members voted in favor of the motion. After a brief discussion, Councilman Watson made a motion to allow the other 4 extensions. With a second by Councilman Horne, all members voted favorably.

**F. Parks & Rec:** The Mayor reported that he received an email from UCPCOG in reference to pursuing another grant for the park. There was limited interest on the part of the Recreation Committee in pursuing another grant because of the town's budget restraints. Mayor Edmundson also expressed concern about the grounds maintenance at the park. Councilman Horne asked where the energy and money come from for the park. Mr. Davis stated that the park fund essentially has \$2,100.00 for maintenance in the budget.

**G. Appearance Committee:** The Mayor and Town Manager reported on what had been done by the Appearance Committee. The Appearance Committee contacted the railroad about getting up metal by the tracks and spraying the weeds. The railroad has taken care of this request. They have also pruned the square and Eddie is working on weeds in ditches and grass in the streets. The Appearance Committee also requested better pruning, mowing and weed-eating in the cemetery. Also, the committee is contemplating on how to utilize the vacant lot on the corner of Main St. and Commercial Ave.

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

**I. Town Managers Report:** Mr. Davis presented the overtime report, which was essentially the same as August 2015.

**At this time the Mayor declared the public hearing open.**

Mr. Davis presented the explanation and description of the 2016 North Carolina Department of Environmental Quality (DEQI) Community Development Block-Infrastructure Grant (CDBG-). With no comment from the public or council members, the Mayor declared the public hearing closed. (See attached minutes)

Once back in regular session, Councilman Watson made a motion to adopt the resolution to submit a CDBG-I grant application for sewer rehab. With a second from Councilwoman Grice, all members voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Davis informed the Town Council that the Town of Saratoga made a sewer extension request that will increase their sewer flow by 8,600 gallons per day. The Town Manager and Mayor Edmundson, and Mike McAllister met with Saratoga Mayor Tommy Hawkins, a representative from UCPCOG and the Town of Saratoga engineer to discuss their request. Stantonsburg officials informed the Town of Saratoga that the conditions of the extension request would be that the Town of Saratoga to assume responsibility for the manhole off Hwy. 222 that has overflowed and caused problems in the past, plus participate in annual cleaning of the interceptor line. The Town of Saratoga will not commit to maintain the manhole until they investigate these inflow and infiltration problems further.

Mr. Davis reported that the gas station on N. Main St. has been demolished and Mr. Speight has begun demolition on the seal buildings in the 100 Block of South Main. The Mayor suggested that multiple pictures be taken of the seal buildings for historic records and to possibly use these pictures to rebuild in the future.

**J. EMS:** N/A

**K. Councilman Horne:** Councilman Horne inquired about the demolition at 106 N. Yelverton St. Mr. Davis stated that it is ready to be demolished. We are just waiting to get a bid. Councilman Horne asked the Mayor about pressuring Mr. Turnage to clean up the vacant lot at N. Main and Greenwood Ave.

**L. Councilman Watson:** Councilman Watson asked to continue the annual Town employee appreciation luncheon that is funded by the Council members. He also asked that the Council think about incentives to bring new businesses and people to the Town in the future.

**M. Councilman Bass:** Councilman Bass enquired about patching the potholes on Hwy. 222. Mr. Davis responded that the contractor he used in the past no longer does that kind of work. He is in process of finding someone else to do patching work.

**N. Councilman Dew:** Councilman Dew brought to the attention of the Council that there are several areas in Town where bushes and trees are blocking the signs and view. Mr. Davis is supposed to provide Council with a previously proposed ordinance about planting trees and bushes between the street and sidewalk.

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

**P. Mayor:** Mayor Edmundson suggested that the sign by the mail drop box at the Post Office needs to include "No Parking." Mr. Davis informed the Council that it is located on a state road, but they may let us change it or adopt an ordinance.

Mayor Edmundson also suggested having someone organize a basketball league for the summer of 2017. Councilman Watson agreed to look into this matter.

The Mayor suggested that the town have a designated crew and time set for weekly street maintenance.

At this time, Councilman Bass made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel issues. With a second by Councilman Horne, all members voted in favor of the motion. (8:55 P.M.)

At 9:13 P.M. Mayor Edmundson declared the meeting back in open session.

Councilman Dew made a motion to increase part time employee Cora Belle Bynum's hourly rate from \$7.50 to \$9.00 an hour. Councilman Watson seconded the motion with all members voting favorably.

At this time, Mayor Edmundson recessed the meeting until Tuesday September 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Beamon, Town Clerk/Finance Officer

William H. Edmundson, Mayor

