

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

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

Mr. David Reif led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Watson began the meeting with prayer.

The Public Hearing to consider adoption of an ordinance directing the building inspector to demolish the property located at 204 N. Main St. as unfit for human habitation and directing that a notice be placed thereon that the same may not be occupied. Mr. David Reif representing Brian Pridgen presented an update on the status of this property. An opportunity was given to the owner to either repair or demolish the property and nothing has been done at this time. Mr. Pridgen's recommendation is to adopt an ordinance to proceed with demolition of the property at 204 N. Main St. as it is unfit for habitation. There were no objections or comments from anyone present at this time.

**Public Hearing Meeting Minutes**

Next, the Town Council for the Town of Stantonburg held a public hearing on September 14, 2015, for providing explanation and description of the 2015 North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) Community Development Block – Infrastructure Grant (CDBG-I). Members present were Ken D. Horne, Robert Watson, Donnie Bass, Powell Dew, Jr. and Jackie Grice.

Mayor Edmundson called the public hearing to order.

Gary W. Davis, Stantonburg Town Manager, was present to discuss the purpose of the public hearing for the Town of Stantonburg's CDBG-I funding application. Mr. Davis stated that the purpose of the public hearing was to obtain citizen's views and to respond to funding proposals and answer any questions posed by citizens. Mr. Davis also stated that the public hearing must cover the Town's community development needs, development of the proposed activities, and a review of program compliance before the submission of the Town's CDBG-I funding application to the state of the North Carolina.

The Town proposes requesting funding from NCDENR'S CDBG-I program for a Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project. The purpose of the CDBG-I grant program are:

To improve the quality of life for low to moderate income people by providing a safe, clean environment and clean drinking water through water and sewer infrastructure improvements and extensions of service.

To benefit a residential area where at least 51% of the beneficiaries are low to moderate income as defined by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

To perform eligible activities.

To minimize displacement, and

Provide displacement assistance as necessary.

For the fiscal year of the CDBG-I funding available is expected to be \$26 million, split in two grand rounds of \$13 million each. The maximum available grant is \$2.0 million over a 3 year period. Applications for funding will be received September 30, 2015.

The CDBG program is able to fund a wide variety of community development activities. The State of North Carolina has chosen to fund two activities: water and sewer infrastructure, and economic development projects that lead to job creation or retention. The infrastructure program, or CDBG-I program can fund a range of water and sewer infrastructure and economic development activities, including, but not limited to the, following:

Water:

- Projects that resolve water loss in distribution systems.
- Projects that extend public water to areas with contaminated wells.
- Projects that extend water lines to areas with dry wells.
- Projects that assist with low water pressure in public water systems.
- Projects that regionalize two or more water systems.
- Project that rehabilitate or replace a water treatment plant.

Wastewater:

- Projects that resolve inflow and infiltration to collection systems and surcharges from pumps stations and manholes.
- Projects that extent public sewer to areas with failed septic tanks.
- Projects that rehabilitate a wastewater treatment plant to allow for greater efficiency/compliance with regulations.

The Town is seeking an amount in CDBG-I funds not to exceed \$675,000.00 for a Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project. The purpose of the Town's request is to replace/rehab old terra cotta sanitary sewer lines with new PVC and DIP sewer lines, rehab/replace old brick manholes, replace sewer service connections and sewer laterals.

The project proposed by the Town of Stantonsburg was identified in the 10-Year Capital Improvement Plan dated January 2009. Informal community meetings were held in the project area to inform citizens of the potential project, and get feedback from the residents. A total of 100% of the CDBG- I funding will be used to benefit Low to Moderate Income (LMI) people. The project area in the Town of Stantonsburg has been determined to have an Income survey area of 79.59%. The project area includes 32 Homes along N. Yelverton, W. Broad, W. Greenwood and N. Travis.

The range of activities covered by the CDBG-I funds for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project includes:

Construction  
Environmental Review  
Engineering Design  
Construction Administration and observation.  
Legal activities.  
Surveying.  
Grant Administration.

If the Town of Stantonsburg is awarded a CDBG-I grant, the town is required to adhere to federal procurement requirements and other federal regulations which include:

American with Disabilities Act/Section 504 Survey  
Davis-Bacon & Related Labor Acts

Adoption/Submittal of a Citizen's Participation Plan  
Adoption/Submittal of an Equal Opportunity Plan  
Adoption/Submittal of a Fair Housing Plan  
Adoption/Submittal of a Language Access Plan  
Adoption/Submittal of a Relocation Assistance Plan  
Adoption/Submittal of a Section 3 Plan  
Excess Force Provision

The State of North Carolina requires that the if the Town of Stantonsburg receives CDBG Grant funding that the town will certify that they will comply with the requirements of the general displacement and relocation policy for CDBG grant funding. This policy assists low to moderate income people with costs associated with relocation or displacement, should such relocation become necessary due to the project activities. CDBG funds can be used for those costs, if necessary. No displacement and relocation will occur as a result of the proposed CDBG grant activity.

In the past, the Town has applied for and received for the following completed CDBG project:

List Name of Projects:

The Town of Stantonsburg has not received any CDBG funds over the past several years.

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The Town will submit its CDBG-I application for the Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project on September 30, 2015. The CDBG-I application will be available for review during normal

business hours at Town Manager's Office at 108 E. Commercial Avenue, Stantonsburg, NC 27883 Additional information is available from Town Manager's Office, at (252) 238-3608 or [gdavis@townofstantonsburg.com](mailto:gdavis@townofstantonsburg.com). Should you have any complaints or grievances regarding the subject public hearing, they should be addressed to the addressee mentioned above within 10 business days and a written response to the written complaints and/or grievances will be sent by the Town within 10 business days, where practicable.

At this point, Mayor Edmundson opened the floor for public comments and/or questions. Hearing no comments or questions from the audience, Mayor Edmundson closed the public hearing.

Mayor Edmundson went into the business meeting with the Council reviewing the minutes of last month's meeting.

**B. Approval of Regular Minutes for August 10, 2015 Meeting**

Councilwoman Grice 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: \$395,889.90 Disbursements: \$323,412.10 Difference \$72,477.80

**MMB:** Councilman Bass 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: \$39,412.13

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

**E. Public Present:** Dr. Billy Manning, representing Stantonsburg Baptist Church, (see attachment) presented a request for a variance of the sign ordinance for a digital sign to be placed at the corner of Tyson Drive and S. Main St on the church property. Mr. Davis said they probably will not need a variance, but just an amendment to the ordinance. After a public hearing the request would be presented to the Planning Board for their recommendation. The Council would then vote on the amendment. (see attachment)

**F.** At this time, Mayor Edmundson asked the Council's decision on the ordinance for demolition of the house at 204 N. Main which was discussed at the Public Hearing. (see attachment) Councilman Watson made a motion to adopt an ordinance to demolish the house at 204 N. Main St. With a second from Councilman Horne, all other members voted favorably.

**G. Police Report:** At this time, the Council members reviewed the police report. (see attachment) The Council members expressed concern with the number of false alarms at Stantonsburg School for the past month. After some discussion, it was the consensus of the Council for Mayor Edmundson to write a letter to the Wilson County Board of Education expressing the Town's concern with the excessive alarm calls to Stantonsburg School.

Next, Chief Hunt presented the Festival expense report. (see attachment) According to Chief Hunt's report the festival cost the Town approximately \$5,000.00 including the expense of \$600.00 to repair the broken border around the walking trail. Chief Hunt reported that he had positive feedback about the festival this year with the karaoke on Friday night. The only negative comments were that it should have lasted longer on Saturday.

Chief Hunt informed the Council that the grant he applied for the body cameras is on hold until the State budget is passed.

**H.** At this time, Mr. Davis presented three extension requests. After reviewing the requests, Councilman Horne made a motion to grant the requests presented. Councilman Dew seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Next, Mr. Davis presented a request from "D Boys" for a deposit refund. The policy is that a business can request a refund after 24 months with a good credit history. After some discussion, Councilwoman Grice made a motion to refund the deposit to "D Boys". Councilman Watson seconded the motion with a stipulation that the deposit be applied toward a delinquent residential account that one of the owners of the business has with the Town. Mr. Davis said he would need to consult the Town attorney about this before the Town could pursue this. Councilwoman Grice withdrew her motion and Councilman Watson withdrew his second until the attorney is consulted. The Council decided to table this topic until the October meeting.

**I. Parks & Recreation:** Mayor Edmundson informed the Council that the P&R Committee is not going to pursue another grant application at this time. The P&R Committee is in need new members. If anyone knows of a candidate to serve, please let the Mayor know.

**J. Appearance Committee:** Mayor Edmundson informed the Council that the Chairperson of the Appearance Committee is searching for an artist to finish the mural on Main St.

**K. Town Manager's Report:** Next, Mr. Davis presented the August overtime report which was down 14.75 hours from last year.

Mr. Davis asked the Council to consider a resolution to submit a CDBG Infrastructure Grant Application for sewer rehab. The resolution authorizes the Mayor to execute and sign documents on the Town's behalf, to abide by all Federal, State and local rules and regulations and ordinances applicable to the project. Also, the resolution requires the Town to abide by all Federal and State loan regulations pertaining thereto. Councilman Watson made a motion to adopt the resolution as mentioned above. With a second from Councilman Horne, all other members voted in favor of the motion.

At this time, Mr. Davis passed out copies of an email he received from Brian Pridgen in regards to the old gas station on the corner of N. Main St. and E. Greenwood Ave. (see attachment) After some research, Mr. Pridgen says the Town can pursue the demolition of the building **without disturbing** any soil or underground tanks. Mr. Pridgen will contact the Wilson County building inspector about inspecting the property as well as the old shell of a building on the corner of Yelverton and Greenwood to pursue demolition.

Mr. Davis informed the Council that the Crocker Library has several leaks since the new roof was put on in April. He has contacted the contractor, Buddy Holland to come and look at the problem, but he has not been yet. Mr. Davis has located the warranty and it is supposed to be good for a year. Mr. Davis hopes this can be resolved without any legal action.

Mr. Davis requested that the October meeting be changed to Tuesday, October 13<sup>th</sup> due to a conflict that he has with a family vacation. It was the consensus of the Council to change the date to the 13<sup>th</sup>.

Next, Mr. Davis asked that tonight's meeting be continued to Thursday, September 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm in order approve the minutes for tonight's meeting. He needs a copy to send to Mike Acquesta for the CDBG Grant Application approved tonight. The deadline is September 30, 2015 and he will need time to compile all the information and documents. The Council members agreed to this request.

**L. Councilman Horne:** Councilman Horne asked if the sign vandalism was done by a Stantonsburg resident or an outside job. Chief Hunt thinks it is someone inside Town. Mr. Horne asked Mr. Davis about the sale of surplus equipment and Mr. Davis said he is investigating the possibility of repairing the old police Explorer if Eddie can repair it in house at a reasonable cost. The problem with the explorer is either the rear end or transmission. Eddie is going to look into possible repairs when work slows down for him. Mr. Horne inquired about the status of the backhoe and Mr. Davis informed the Council that he is looking into purchasing a used backhoe on rubber tracks.

**M. Councilman Watson:** Councilman Watson reminded the Council that it was time for the annual Employee Luncheon that is funded by the Council members and typically held in October. The Town Clerk is going to set the date and take care of the planning.

**N. Councilman Bass:** Councilman Bass asked Mr. Davis if the railway has any plans of repairing the asphalt near the Town shop on Saratoga St at the crossing. Mr. Davis said that is a state road, so that would be DOT responsibility. Next, Mr. Bass inquired about the curb beside Billy Manning's house on the Saratoga St. side where the pine trees have pushed it up. Mr. Davis said that is top priority on Eddie's list to repair the curb as soon as he can get to it. Mr. Bass also wanted to know if there will be any street paving in the near future. Mr. Davis said if the Town receives the CDBG grant that there will some paving in the designated areas and he is planning to have some of the other paving done at the same time. Lastly, Mr. Bass thanked Chief Hunt for all of his time and effort he put into the Town Festival.

**O. Councilman Dew:** Councilman Dew asked if it has been determined if excessive trash would be picked up. Mr. Davis stated that the sanitation department is short of help with Mr. Reddick being out and he has not yet discussed this with Mr. Horne. Mr. Dew had an insert in the Agenda packet this month with information about selected legislation that has been enacted by the General Assembly. He went over some of the topics that would be of interest to the Town.

**P. Councilwoman Grice:** Councilwoman Grice asked if the planning could be begin on the Town Christmas party by next month's meeting.

**Q. Mayor Edmundson:** Mr. Edmundson informed everyone that the Stantonsburg Medical Center Open House was very successful. He inquired about the status of the rules to ordinance for the park. Mrs. Beamon has not heard from Mr. Rand on this matter.

At this time, Councilman Horne made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. Councilman Watson seconded the motion. All other members voted favorably. The Council went into closed session at 8:40 pm.

The Mayor called the meeting open at 10:10 pm. Mr. Edmundson declared that the meeting would be continued on Thursday, September 17, 2015 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra L. Beamon, Finance Officer/Town Clerk

William H. Edmundson, Mayor

