

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

DATE: February 8, 2021

Mayor Coley Rhodes called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:05pm. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice, Donnie Bass, Ben Harper and Walt Bynum. Councilman Ken D. Horne arrived at approximately 7:08 pm. Also present were Town Manager David Beaman, Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey, Chief of Police Orlando Rosario and Fire Chief William McMurray. Police Officer Nicholas White arrived at approximately 7:10 pm.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Prayer:** Mayor Rhodes led the Pledge of Allegiance and opened the meeting with prayer.

**A. Approve minutes of last month's meeting, January 2021 and December 14, 2020 closed session minutes:** All Council members voted to approve the open and closed meeting minutes.

**B. Financial Report:**

*Receipts \$341,291.00 Disbursements \$245,983.83 Difference \$95,307.17*

**C. Invoices for Payment:**

Councilman Bynum made a motion to approve the invoices for payment. All Council members voted favorably.

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

**E. Fire Department:** Fire Chief William McMurray informed the Board that the checks that the Town sends to the Stantonburg/Moyton Fire Department each quarter are used to help pay the mortgage on the fire department building. Fire Chief McMurray also stated that the fire department currently has 31 members on their roster.

Mr. McMurray stated that the Stantonburg/Moyton Fire Department now has a first responders program and has also purchased a Kubota from Elm City EMS.

Finally, Fire Chief William McMurray informed the Council that the Stantonburg/Moyton Fire Department is in the process of applying for a grant to replace their radios.

**F. Police Report:** Chief of Police Orlando Rosario presented the police report to the Town Council.

Chief Rosario informed the Council that all paperwork has been submitted for reimbursement for the \$24,500 police equipment grant and the Town has now been fully reimbursed.

Police Chief Rosario also stated that Police Officer Nicholas White has made the decision to go from full-time to part-time employment with the Town. Chief Rosario

informed the Council that Officer White has been a great asset to the Town and has done an outstanding job. At this time, the Mayor and Council thanked Officer White for his service to the Town of Stantonburg.

**G. Parks & Rec:** Mayor Rhodes informed the Council that the Parks and Recreation Committee is in the process redoing some of the signage at the park. They have also spoken to Town Manager David Beaman about an ant problem at the park and Mr. Beaman is looking into getting some estimates.

Mayor Rhodes also stated that Town Manager David Beaman is in the process of trying to submit a grant to replace the walking trail at the park.

**H. Town Manager's Report:** Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that H & S Land, LLC is requesting a rezoning for the Lane Farm subdivision Phase 1. They are requesting that the property go from residential agricultural to residential subdivision. Town Manager David Beaman requested the Mayor set a public hearing at 6:30 pm on March 8, 2021 to allow public comments on the proposed rezoning for the Lane Farm subdivision. Councilman Horne asked that once the public has been heard at the public hearing, the Town Council be able to continue on into the regular meeting. Councilman Harper made a motion to hold a public hearing on the proposed rezoning of the Lane Farm subdivision for March 8, 2021 at 6:30 pm and stated that once the public has been heard, the Board will continue on into the regular meeting. All Council members present voted favorably.

Town manager David Beaman informed the Council that Mr. Marlow Hines is requesting a conditional use permit for the old Dollar Tree building. Mr. Beaman stated that Mr. Hines would like to start an events center at this location. The space would be rented out for birthdays, family gatherings, business meetings, etc. Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that this request will have to be approved by the Planning Board first and then a public hearing be held. Mr. Beaman stated that the Planning Board must respond within sixty days, but he will request that they respond within thirty days, if possible. If the Planning Board can meet within thirty days it will allow the Town Council to hold a public hearing for this conditional use permit at the March 8<sup>th</sup> Board meeting. After much discussion, Councilwoman Grice made a motion that if the Planning Board can meet within thirty days regarding the conditional use permit for an events center at the old Dollar Tree building, the Town Council will hold a public hearing for the conditional use permit immediately after the other public hearing on March 8, 2021. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

At this time, Mr. Beaman informed the Board that he has gotten a quote from PDSS regarding random drug testing for all Town employees. Mr. Beaman stated that he would like to get a quote from Labcorp before the Council makes a decision. All Council members agreed.

Town Manager David Beaman stated that he has been looking into getting quotes for the mold at the Stantonburg Police Department. Mr. Beaman informed the Council that there aren't many places that will treat mold. Servpro will treat and repair any damage from

mold, but charges \$150 for the estimate. Although, Mr. Beaman stated that if the Town decides to have Servpro do the work they will give the Town credit for that \$150 on the bill. After much discussion, Councilwoman Grice made a motion to have Servpro come out and give the Town an estimate on the Stantonsburg Police Department building. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Beaman informed the Council that the EMS building is full of belongings owned by the EMS. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to notify the EMS that they have thirty days to clean out any belongings they wish to keep before the Town cleans the building out. All Council members voted favorably.

At this time, Town Manager David Beaman suggested that the Town recombine lots that the Town owns. Mr. Beaman stated that this is not something that has to be done, but would make things easier in the future if the Town decided to sell one of the lots. Councilman Bynum suggested Town Manger David Beaman get a quote on the cost to recombine some of the Town owned lots. Mr. Beaman agreed to get a quote.

Mr. Beaman stated that a wheel fell off of the Town dump truck. Town Manager David Beaman had the dump truck towed to Mangums and they are currently looking parts, but are having trouble finding the parts because of the age of the truck.

Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that he would like to get a Truist credit card to allow the Town to make purchases for parts, supplies, etc. Mr. Beaman stated that many times employees will have to purchase things themselves and the Town will reimburse them. This card would alleviate that problem. Councilman Bynum made a motion to allow Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey to obtain a Truist credit card for Town purchases. Councilwoman Grice abstained from voting. All other Council members voted in favor of the motion.

**I. Appearance Committee: N/A**

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

**K. Councilman Bass:** Councilman Bass stated that he has looked at the drainage between the buildings by the Town Hall and Police Department. Councilman Bass informed the Council that because of the small space between the buildings there will always be a problem with moisture. Town Manager David Beaman suggested sealing the bricks on the outside.

**L. Councilman Harper:** Councilman Harper informed the Council that they need to decide what to do with the empty buildings that the Town owns. After much discussion, Councilman Bynum made a motion to have Servpro give an estimate for repairs at the old hardware building beside the Town Hall. All Council members voted favorably.

**M. Councilman Bynum: N/A**

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

**O. Mayor:** Mayor Rhodes asked that the Council take a look at the Town website and see the new things that have been added and wished everyone a happy Valentine's Day.

Councilwoman Grice made a motion to adjourn. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:52 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha Bailey, Town Clerk

Coley H. Rhodes, Mayor