

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

DATE: August 19, 2019

Mayor Bill Edmundson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following Council members were present: Donnie Bass, Coley Rhodes and Powell Dew. Councilman Ken D. Horne arrived at approximately 8:09 pm. Also present were Town Manager Gary Davis and Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey. Chief of Police Orlando Rosario and Sergeant Crystal Jackson arrived at approximately 7:08 pm. Librarian Anna Joiner, Tommy Stanton and Doctor Philip Perkins were also present from the public.

**Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and Prayer:** Councilman Bass led the Pledge of Allegiance and Councilman Dew opened the meeting with prayer.

**A. Approve regular and closed meeting minutes for July 15, 2019:** Councilman Dew made a motion to approve the minutes for the open and closed meetings as written. With a second from Councilman Bass, all members voted in favor of the motion.

**B. Financial Report:**

*Receipts \$346,312.98 Disbursements \$238,661.49 Difference \$107,651.49*

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

**C. Invoices for Payment:** Total: \$52,466.08

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

**D. Public Present:** At this time, Doctor Philip Perkins introduced himself to the Board as the new doctor of the Stantonburg Clinic. Doctor Perkins informed the Council that he is excited to be in Stantonburg and that he has no plans of going anywhere else. Doctor Perkins also stated that he will be at the Crepe Myrtle Festival and that they plan on having an open house at the Stantonburg Clinic on September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2019.

Librarian Anna Joiner informed the Council that beginning in September the library will be open on Fridays from 1:30-5:00 pm on a trial basis.

Mr. Tommy Stanton once again implored the Board to take a serious look at the Seal Building and examine the possibility of getting it fixed. Mr. Stanton pointed out to the Council that the Seal Building is the first thing you see when driving through town and is the last thing you remember.

**E. Fire Department: N/A**

**F. Police Report:** Chief of Police Orlando Rosario informed the Board that the Stantonsburg Police Department had a good month.

Councilwoman Rhodes asked Chief Rosario how things were going with the Crepe Myrtle Festival. Chief of Police Orlando Rosario stated that everything is going good. Chief Rosario informed the Council that the Embers and Spare Change have been locked in for the festival and that there are approximately 28 vendors planning to attend.

**G. Parks & Rec:** At this time, Mayor Edmundson passed out a list of things that the Parks and Recreation Committee would like to see done at the park in preparation for the upcoming Crepe Myrtle Festival. Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Council that the Town would do its best to take care of all the items listed.

Mayor Edmundson also informed the Council that the Parks and Recreation Committee have spoken with the Whitley family regarding the current land lease and possible addition of the land adjacent to the park and Highway 58. Mayor Edmundson stated that the Whitley family is interested in leasing the additional 28 acres between the current park and Highway 58 for \$200 per acre annually. The Parks and Recreation Committee would like to propose adding this additional acreage to the lease agreement that is currently in place between the Town of Stantonsburg and the Whitley family.

At this time, Mr. Davis presented (1) utility extension request. After careful review, Councilman Dew made a motion to grant extension request #1 with the stipulation that it be paid by noon on the date requested. Councilman Bass seconded the motion with all other Council members voting in favor of the motion.

**H. Town Manager's Report:** Mr. Davis presented the overtime report for July 2019. July 2019 overtime was down with 70  $\frac{3}{4}$  hrs compared to 90  $\frac{1}{4}$  hrs in July 2018.

At this time, Mr. Davis presented a resolution that signifies approval of the tax reconciliation of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Tax Settlement for the Town of Stantonsburg through June 30, 2019. Councilman Dew made a motion to approve the resolution for the tax reconciliation of the 2018-2019 Fiscal Year Tax Settlement. Councilwoman Rhodes seconded the motion, with all members voting in favor of the motion.

Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Board that employee Jacob Whitley has completed his 6-month probationary period of employment with the Town of Stantonsburg. Mr. Davis recommended that Jacob Whitley be made a permanent full-time employee with the customary 5% pay increase. Councilwoman Rhodes made a motion to promote Jacob Whitley to permanent full-time employment with the customary 5% pay increase. With a second by Councilman Dew, all Council members present voted favorably.

Town Manager Gary Davis requested permission from the Council to move forward with possible condemnations at 306 W. Commercial, 300 W. Broad St. and 210 N. Main St. in Stantonsburg. Councilman Dew made a motion to move forward with condemnations at 306 W. Commercial, 300 W. Broad St. and 210 N. Main St. in Stantonsburg. Councilman Bass seconded the motion. All other members voted in favor of the motion.

**I. Appearance Committee:** Councilwoman Rhodes informed the Council that the Appearance Committee has installed the first sign on Woodbridge Rd. and has placed an 811 call for the next sign, which will be down by Contentnea Creek on Main St.

Councilwoman Rhodes also stated that the trees and bushes across from the Town Hall have been pruned and the Appearance Committee hopes to put down some pine straw before the festival.

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

**K. Councilman Bass:** Councilman Bass asked if the curbing and catch basin on N. Saratoga St. had been repaired. Town Manager Gary Davis stated that it had been repaired.

Councilman Bass also took this time to thank Town Manager Gary Davis for spraying for mosquitoes.

**L. Councilwoman Rhodes:** Councilwoman Rhodes asked if there was a way that the Town could begin cleaning up the debris and wood at the Seal Building. Town Manager Gary Davis stated that he feels between the Town employees and getting some outside hourly labor, with the Board's approval, they can get this done. Councilwoman Rhodes made a motion to go ahead with the cleanup of the wood and debris at the Seal Building. With a second by Councilman Dew, all Council members present voted favorably.

At this time, Councilwoman Rhodes informed the Council that Tommy Shingleton and Steve Mooring did all the labor and design for the new Stantonsburg signs going up around Town. Councilwoman Rhodes pointed out that Mr. Shingleton and Mr. Mooring had worked hard and had done a great job on these signs.

**M. Councilman Dew:** Councilman Dew asked how things were going on acquiring land for a new Town well. Town Manager Gary Davis stated that they are still talking with land owner.

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

**O. Mayor:** At this time, Mayor Edmundson informed the Council that approximately 375 broadband surveys were mailed out to residents on August 1, 2019 and so far about 5% have been returned. Mayor Edmundson stated that of the ones returned, the majority are interested in discussing the possibilities and seem to think that approximately \$45.00 for a suitable package is reasonable.

Mayor Edmundson suggested that the Council consider trying to acquire the old drug store and turn it into an arcade for the youth of Stantonsburg. Town Manager Gary Davis informed Mayor Edmundson that an arcade would require a conditional use permit, which the Board of Adjustment would have to issue.

At this time, Councilman Dew made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel matters. With a second by Councilwoman Rhodes, all Council members present voted favorably.

Mayor Edmundson declared the meeting back into open session at approximately 8:45 pm.

Councilman Horne made a motion to move the October Board meeting from October 14, 2019 to October 15, 2019. With a second by Councilman Bass, all Council members present voted favorably.

Councilman Horne made a motion to adjourn. Councilman Bass seconded the motion. All other members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 8:47 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha Bailey  
Town Clerk, Finance Officer

William H. Edmundson, Mayor