

TOWN OF STANTONSBURG

DATE: September 16, 2019

Mayor Bill Edmundson called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00 pm. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice and Powell Dew. Councilwoman Rhodes arrived at approximately 7:11 pm. Councilman Bass arrived at approximately 7:20 pm and Councilman Ken D. Horne arrived at approximately 7:35 pm. Also present were Town Manager Gary Davis and Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey. Sergeant Crystal Jackson arrived at approximately 7:05 pm. Librarian Anna Joiner was also present from the public.

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

A. Approve regular and closed meeting minutes for August 19, 2019: Councilman Dew made a motion to approve the minutes for the open and closed meetings as written. With a second from Councilwoman Grice, all members voted in favor of the motion.

B. Financial Report:

Receipts \$370,162.31 Disbursements \$325,609.69 Difference \$44,552.62

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: \$86,891.29

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

D. Public Present: N/A

E. Fire Department: N/A

F. Police Report: Sergeant Crystal Jackson presented the police report for September 2019. Officer Jackson also informed the Council that the Crepe Myrtle Festival was a great success.

G. Parks & Rec: Mayor Edmundson 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 waiting for a new tax evaluation to determine their lease rate on the additional acreage.

At this time, Mr. Davis presented (8) utility extension requests. Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey informed the Council to disregard extension request #7 because it had already been paid. After careful review, Councilwoman Grice made a motion to grant extension requests #1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8 with the stipulation that those requested for a Friday be paid by noon. Councilman Dew seconded the motion with all other Council members voting in favor of the motion. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to grant extension request #6 with the stipulation that it be paid by September 25, 2019. 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 August 2019. August 2019 overtime was down with 78 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs compared to 90 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs in August 2018.

At this time, Mr. Davis informed the Council that Norfolk Southern Railway wanted to redo their lease with the Town of Stantonburg. This lease covers the land that the beauty shop is currently sitting on and the land that has been planted. Mr. Davis stated that this is approximately .6 acres. Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Council that Norfolk Southern Railway has been charging \$100 a year and have now gone up to \$300 a year. Mr. Davis stated that the Town attorney, Slade Rand, has reviewed the lease and found no issues. Mr. Davis recommended that the Town of Stantonburg enter into this lease agreement with Norfolk Southern Railway. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to enter into the lease agreement as presented with Norfolk Southern Railway Company. Councilman Dew seconded the motion. All other members voted in favor of the motion.

Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Council that the original audit contract with Carr, Riggs & Ingram was for a "Yellow Book" audit. At the time, this was considered the appropriate level of audit. However, the Town's state expenditures exceeded \$500,000 for the fiscal year and a State Single Audit is required. Mr. Davis stated that Carr, Riggs & Ingram has prepared a new contract that will satisfy the requirements of a State Single Audit. Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Board that the new proposed fee for the audit is \$26,630. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to approve the amended audit contract with Carr, Riggs and Ingram to include a State Single Audit. Councilman Bass seconded the motion. All other members voted in favor of the motion.

Mr. Davis stated that a property owner in Stantonburg approached Deputy Clerk Patsy Godwin about a leak that he has had at one of his properties. This property owner informed Mrs. Godwin that it appears the leak went down the drain. Mrs. Godwin informed the resident that, according to Town policy, she would not be able to give him credit on his sewer because the leak did not run on the ground. The gentleman then asked that the Town Manager bring his case before the Council. Mr. Davis stated that the resident feels that since he owns several properties and has to pay for extra services that he does not use that, he should receive some credit on his sewer. After much discussion, the Council agreed to stand behind the Town policy.

Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Board that the auditor has requested that the Town go ahead and adopt a Capital Project Ordinance for the new well. This ordinance includes professional services, construction, contingency and closing fees for a total of \$630,850. Mr. Davis stated that the closing fee of \$10,850 would be paid with local funds. The remainder would be paid with a State Water Reserve Program loan of \$310,000 and a

State Water Reserve Program grant of \$310,000. Mr. Davis recommended that the Council pass this Capital Project Ordinance with the understanding that once bids are received, the ordinance may need to be amended. Councilman Dew made a motion to approve the Capital Project Ordinance as presented. With a second by Councilwoman Grice, all Council members voted favorably.

I. Appearance Committee: N/A

J. Councilman Horne: N/A

K. Councilman Bass: At this time, Councilman Bass reiterated that what is discussed in closed session meetings needs to remain in closed session.

L. Councilwoman Rhodes: N/A

M. Councilman Dew: N/A

N. Councilwoman Grice: N/A

O. Mayor: N/A

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

Mayor Edmundson declared the meeting back into open session at approximately 9:11 pm.

Councilwoman Grice made a motion to pay health insurance for Alonzo Horne and Debra Beamon until they reach the age of 65. With a second by Councilwoman Rhodes, all Council members present voted favorably.

Councilman Horne made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Grice seconded the motion. All other members voted in favor of the motion. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha Bailey
Town Clerk, Finance Officer

William H. Edmundson, Mayor

