

**TOWN OF STANTONSBURG**

DATE: November 9, 2020

Mayor Coley Rhodes called the regular monthly meeting to order at 7:00pm. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice, Donnie Bass, Ben Harper, Walt Bynum and Ken D. Horne. Also present were Town Manager Gary Davis, Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey, Chief of Police Orlando Rosario and Sergeant Crystal Jackson. There were several present from the public.

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

At this time, Councilman Bynum made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel. All Council members voted in favor of the motion. All were dismissed, including Town Manager Gary Davis and Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey. Mayor Rhodes took minutes for the closed session.

Mayor Rhodes declared the meeting back in open session at approximately 9:36 pm.

**A. Approve minutes of last month's meetings, October 2020:** All Council members voted to approve all meeting minutes for October 2020.

**B. Financial Report:**

*Receipts \$370,823.42 Disbursements \$253,220.44 Difference \$117,602.98*

**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: N/A**

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

Chief Rosario informed the Council that the Stantonburg Police Department has been approved for a \$24,500 equipment grant and they are hoping to purchase new body cameras with this grant.

At this time, Chief Rosario provided the Council with quotes for installing cameras around Town for their review.

**G. Parks & Rec: N/A**

**H. Town Manager's Report:** Town Manager Gary Davis presented (1) utility extension request. After careful review, Councilwoman Grice made a motion to grant extension request #1, with the stipulation that it be paid by November 25, 2020. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

Town Manager Gary Davis presented the Council with Budget Amendment #1. Mr. Davis stated that the purpose of this amendment was to add a \$10,000 line item for a Cares Act Grant and an appropriated fund balance of \$220,000 for the purchase of a new line truck. Councilman Bynum made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #1. All Council members voted favorably.

Mr. Davis informed the Council that the Town's audit for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2020 has been completed and a draft copy has been submitted to the Town. Town Manager Gary Davis also informed the Council that the state, because of Covid-19, has extended the deadline to January 31, 2021. The Town's audit is now being reviewed internally by the auditor and should be submitted well before the deadline.

Mr. Davis stated that an inspection has been done on the EMS building showing only minor issues. Town attorney, Slade Rand, has proceeded with the process of having the deed recorded for the Town.

Town Manager Gary Davis asked the Board for direction on employee Christmas bonuses for this year. Previously, the Town Board has given full-time employees a \$300.00 bonus and a \$150.00 bonus to part-time employees. Councilwoman Grice made a motion to grant full-time employees a \$300.00 Christmas bonus, with part-time employees receiving a \$150.00 Christmas bonus. All Council members voted favorably.

Mr. Davis presented the Council with several quotes to replace or repair the roof on the Stantonsburg Police Department. Mr. Davis informed the Council that he not spoken with Wade Farmer yet regarding any warranty that the Town may have on the Police Department roof, but plans to speak with him soon. After careful review, Councilman Harper made a motion to allow Statewide Sheet Metal and Roofing to repair the Stantonsburg Police Department roof in the amount of \$3,800, if Mr. Davis finds that there is no warranty on the existing roof and Mr. Davis is satisfied with Statewide Sheet Metal and Roofing's limited warranty. All Council members present voted favorably.

**I. Appearance Committee:** Linda Mooring informed the Council that the Appearance Committee has received an estimate from Robbie Taylor Electrical for running power at the Seal Building in the amount of \$2,800. Councilman Bynum made a motion to allow Robbie Taylor Electrical to run power out at the Seal Building in the amount of \$2,800. Councilman Horne, Councilwoman Grice, Councilman Harper and Councilman Bynum voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Bass voting against the motion.

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

**K. Councilman Bass:** Councilman Bass stated that he would like to get some paving done in the Town. Town Manager Gary Davis informed the Council that he would set up a time to meet with Councilman Bass and discuss paving some Town streets.

**L. Councilman Harper:** N/A

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

**N. Councilwoman Grice:** Councilwoman Grice asked when the Town Christmas party would be held this year. After some discussion, the consensus of the Board was to cancel the Town Christmas party this year due to Covid-19.

**O. Mayor:** Mayor Rhodes informed the Council that she has been contacted by Mrs. Christian Holland regarding a blessing box. Mrs. Holland is requesting permission to place a blessing box in Stantonsburg. This box would be filled with nonperishable items and the public would be able to give and take from the blessing box for those in need. Mayor Rhodes stated that Mrs. Holland would absorb any cost to have the box built and placed in Town. After some discussion, Councilman Bynum made a motion to allow Mrs. Holland to place a blessing box beside the Town Hall in Stantonsburg. All Council members voted favorably.

At this time, Councilman Bynum made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel.

Once back in open session, Councilman Bynum made a motion to adjourn. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 11:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha Bailey, Town Clerk

Coley H. Rhodes, Mayor

