

TOWN OF STANTONSBURG

DATE: March 8, 2021

Public Hearing

Mayor Coley Rhodes called the Public Hearing to order at 6:30 with the following Council members present: Councilman Bynum, Councilwoman Grice, Councilman Bass and Councilman Harper. Councilman Horne arrived at approximately 6:47 pm. Town Manager David Beaman and Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey were also present. Marlowe Hines and several others were present from the public. Steve Oliverio was present from Bartlett Engineering and Surveying.

Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that the first item up for discussion was a request to rezone the Lane Farm subdivision Phase 1 from residential agricultural to residential subdivision. Mr. Beaman stated that the Planning Board met and recommends approval with the NCDOT's recommendations. Shane Williford asked the Board if he would be required to make any changes to his ditch or remove any trees in his yard. Steve Oliverio from Bartlett Engineering and Surveying informed Mr. Williford that he would not have to change anything on his property. At this time, Johnnie Holmes and Jimmie Dingle asked if rezoning would affect their properties. Town Manager David Beaman informed them that this would not affect their properties in any way. Steve Oliverio informed the Council that the plan is to eventually have 200 lots, but they are only requesting rezoning for 40 lots at this time. After some discussion, Councilman Bynum made a motion to rezone the Lane Farm subdivision Phase 1 from residential agricultural to residential subdivision. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that there was a request for a conditional use permit for an assembly hall located in the building of the old Dollar Tree. Mr. Beaman stated that the Planning Board has met regarding the conditional use permit and recommends approval with certain conditions. All activity shall end at 10:00 pm, the building must be vacated by 11:00 pm and have overflow parking at the rear of the building with parking bumpers. Town Manager David Beaman also stated that ABC permits, which will be issued by the County ABC Board, must be submitted to the Town Hall prior to the event and noise levels must not have an adverse affect to adjoining properties. At this time, Marlowe Hines informed the Council that his objective is to provide a safe and intimate multi-functional events center. After much discussion, Councilman Bynum made a motion to approve a conditional use permit for an assembly hall at the old Dollar Tree building. All Council members present voted in favor of the motion.

Mayor Coley Rhodes called the regular monthly meeting to order at approximately 7:05pm. The following Council members were present: Jackie Grice, Donnie Bass, Ben Harper, Walt Bynum and Ken D. Horne. Also present were Town Manager David Beaman, Town Clerk Tabitha Bailey and Chief of Police Orlando Rosario. Linda Mooring was also present from the Appearance Committee. Gary Davis arrived at approximately 8:35 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, February 2021 and November 9, 2020 closed session minutes: All Council members voted to approve the meeting minutes for February 2021. After some discussion, the Council agreed to discuss the November 9, 2020 closed session minutes in closed session at the end of the meeting.

B. Financial Report:

Receipts \$396,899.38 Disbursements \$217,234.28 Difference \$179,665.10

C. Invoices for Payment:

Councilwoman Grice 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 Stantonsburg Police Department had received a letter of recognition from the North Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Program. This letter was recognition for satisfactory compliance with the Presidential Executive Order requirements and demonstrating the ability to enforce those tasks required by an agency.

Councilwoman Grice also wanted to commend Police Chief Rosario and Electrical Superintendent Tom Goff for a water rescue that they participated in on Highway 222. Chief Rosario stated that the rescue was a joint effort by many and thanked Councilwoman Grice for her kind words. Councilwoman Grice presented Chief Rosario with a copy of the article that was published in the Wilson Times regarding the rescue.

G. Parks & Rec: N/A

H. Town Manager's Report: Town Manager David Beaman presented the Council with a proposal from PDSS for random drug testing. Mr. Beaman stated that it would cost approximately \$1,100 per year in fees plus the cost of the tests. The consensus of the Board was to go forward with PDSS for random drug testing on Town employees.

Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that the Upper Coastal Plains Council of Government can do background checks on employees.

Mr. Beaman stated that he has spoken with an attorney regarding the recombination of Town lots and it will be \$350 per map. Town manager David Beaman suggested that the Town recombine the EMS building lots in case the Town decides to sell the building.

Town Manager David Beaman informed the Council that Alfredo Aldapa III has obtained his C-Well certification and will receive a raise with his promotion. Mr. Beaman also stated that Mr. Aldapa will now begin a 6-month probationary period with his new position.

At this time, Town Manager David Beaman presented the Council with a proposal in the amount of \$38,181.59 from Servepro regarding the mold at the Stantonsburg Police Department building. Mr. Beaman stated that this quote includes repair and prevention of any further mold. Councilwoman Grice stated that in order for Servepro to perform all necessary work, the Stantonsburg Police would have to move out of the building. Councilwoman Grice suggested that the Town permanently move the Stantonsburg Police Department to the EMS building. After much discussion, Councilman Horne made a motion to permanently move the Stantonsburg Police Department to the EMS building. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

I. Appearance Committee: Linda Mooring stated that the Appearance Committee has chosen to put (6) 18-inch lights under the shelter of the Seal Building. The lights that they have chosen will hang and the color will be a galvanized. Mrs. Mooring informed the Council that according to Mr. Beaman there is enough money in the Appearance Committee's budget to cover the cost of the lights.

J. Councilman Horne: N/A

K. Councilman Bass: Councilman Bass asked Town Manager David Beaman if he was aware that the wifi is not working at the Stantonsburg Park. Mr. Beaman stated that he was unaware that the wifi at the park was not working, but that he would look into having it fixed. Councilman Bass also suggested opening up the bathrooms at the park.

Councilman Bass also stated that he would like to get some of the Town's streets paved.

L. Councilman Harper: N/A

M. Councilman Bynum: Councilman Bynum made a motion to open the Town Hall lobby to the public and have the office staff work Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm beginning March 15, 2021. After some discussion, Councilman Bynum, Councilman Horne, Councilman Harper and Councilwoman Grice voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Bass voting against the motion.

N. Councilwoman Grice: Councilwoman Grice asked if there is a Town policy regarding individuals who are not employed by the Town riding along on Town vehicles. Town Manager David Beaman stated that he was not sure if there was a policy, but he is sure that the Town's insurance would not cover other individuals. Councilwoman Grice suggested getting something in writing regarding a ride along policy.

O. Mayor: N/A

At this time, Councilwoman Grice made a motion to go into closed session to discuss personnel, land acquisition and November 9, 2020 closed session minutes.

Mayor Rhodes declared the meeting back into open session at approximately 9:47 pm.

Councilwoman Grice made a motion to provide merit raises of 2 ½% for Tabitha Bailey, Patsy Godwin, Dylan Reason, Roger Sullivan, Thomas Goff, Spencer Floars, Robert Watson, Crystal Jackson, Jose Rivera and Orlando Rosario. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

Councilwoman Grice made a motion to accept the November 9, 2020 closed session minutes that she provided. Councilwoman Grice, Councilman Horne, Councilman Bass, and Councilman Harper voted in favor of the motion. The motion passed with a 4-1 vote, with Councilman Bynum voting against the motion.

Councilman Horne made a motion to adjourn. All Council members voted in favor of the motion.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Tabitha Bailey, Town Clerk

Coley H. Rhodes, Mayor

