

TOWN OF STANTONSBURG

DATE: June 27, 2022

Public Hearing

Mayor Rhodes called the Public Hearing to order at approximately 6:00 pm located at the Town Hall with the following Council members present: Ben Harper, Walt Bynum, and Steve Mooring. Councilman Donnie Bass arrived at 6:25 pm. Councilman Ken Horne was not present for the Public Hearing. Also present were Town Manager David Beaman, and Town Clerk Cindy Rhodes, and various members of the public were present.

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

Public Hearing to Adopt the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023: Town Manager David Beaman shared the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 with a couple of changes. One was a typographical error and the second was adding \$45,000 in the electric fund for the purchase of a new truck. A discussion ensued regarding the truck and the condition of the truck to be replaced. Councilman Mooring had multiple questions regarding a few line items and appropriations. Mr. Beaman gave explanations and his recommendations for the questioned appropriations. Councilman Bass was concerned about the individual line items and appropriations not being on the Budget Ordinance. Mr. Beaman will get that corrected. Also discussed was the 5% employee cost of living increase. This new fiscal year Mr. Beaman proposed a 5% increase now and no merit raise in January. Mr. Beaman explained again there will not be a merit increase in January. This will be the only increase employees will receive this fiscal year.

A motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 will be made in open session at the regular meeting immediately following.

Mayor Coley Rhodes asked for a motion to move in the regular meeting at 6:40 pm. Councilman Bynum made the motion; all were in favor.

TOWN OF STANTONSBURG

DATE: June 27, 2022

Regular Meeting

Mayor Coley Rhodes called the regular monthly meeting to order at approximately 6:40 pm. The following Council members were present: Donnie Bass, Ben Harper, Walt Bynum, and Steve Mooring. Councilman Ken Horne arrived at 7:05 pm. Also present were Town Manager David Beaman, Town Clerk Cindy Rhodes, and various members of the public.

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

A. Approval of May 2022 Minutes: Mayor Rhodes asked for the Council Members to look at the minutes closely for grammar and spelling errors, as well as anything that needs to be added. Councilman Mooring had a correction to the regular session minutes clarifying under the Town Manager's Report, bullet point #6 that he was in favor to discontinue mowing all properties. Mayor Rhodes pointed out that the Park and Recreation Committee and Appearance Committee should be Commission not Committee. There was further discussion regarding a few additions, typographical errors and follow up questions. All Council members voted to approve the regular session minutes with corrections and the budget workshop minutes as written.

B. Financial Report:

May: Receipts \$720,376.37 Disbursements \$509,966.32 Difference \$210,410.05

C. Invoices for Payment: After some discussion Councilman Harper made a motion to approve the invoices for payment. All were in favor, passed unanimously.

D. Departmental/Committee Reports:

- Police Department Report: Police Chief Rosario was not present for this meeting. Town Manager David Beaman presented the report. There was a discussion regarding the number of calls and the number going to the 911 communications center. Also discussed were the overtime hours. Mr. Beaman explained the police department is short staffed and he would get with Chief Rosario. Councilman Mooring also asked if Mr. Beaman would address their gas consumption with Chief Rosario. Councilman Mooring also questioned the status of the sale of the military vehicle. Mr. Beaman gave an update on sale and purchase of the vehicle from the Fire Department. Mayor Rhodes asked about the RC3 event in the park. Mr. Beaman explained they are a non-profit substance abuse center in Wilson, and they normally hold events like this on the back deck of the building. They approached Chief Rosario about using the park. Mr. Beaman explained no one had reserved the park so it was decided to let them hold the event. There was concern that the Council did not know anything about the event and how it was advertised in partnership with the Town. It was decided that in the future to bring these situations to the Council before deciding.
- Parks & Recreation Commission: No one from this commission was present to report.
- Appearance Commission: Linda Mooring thanked the Council for the additional money in the new fiscal year budget.

E. Public Present: There were no public comments.

F. Old Business: There was no old business.

G. Town Manager's Report: Town Manager, David Beaman, presented the following items:

- Requested a motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023. Councilman Harper made the motion to adopt the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2022-2023 with corrections to include the expenditure line items in the

Administration Fund, to increase the transfer from the Electric Fund to the General Fund, and to increase the Appearance Commission budget and approving a new truck purchase. All were in favor; passed unanimously and the budget was adopted.

- Requested to surplus the 1995 Ford Bucket Truck that failed electrical inspections. He would like to sell it as is with the safety inspection report as part of the sale documents. After some discussion Councilman Bynum motioned to surplus the 1995 Ford Bucket Truck. All were in favor; passed unanimously.
- Discussed the handling of 911 costs. Mr. Beaman gave the Council a copy of the calls logged for the past two months and explained the costs. He added we are making changes to reduce this cost and he is pleased with the direction in which we are going. More discussion ensued regarding how the Town is charged. It was decided that Mr. Beaman will forward the Council the excel spreadsheet he gets from the County Finance Director which shows the calls and costs for their review.
- Discussed Town mowing of non-town owned properties. He stated that the consensus of the Council has been to stop mowing non-town owned properties, but the properties still in question are the property by the cemetery, Creekside property, and community building. He stated that he priced over the phone for the lot by the cemetery alongside of Saratoga St. for about \$100.00, but there still needs to be a discussion about the other two properties. He shared his concerns about not continuing with these properties and asked the Council what they would like to do. Councilman Mooring reiterated his position that if the Town does not own the property we should not continue to maintain. Councilman Harper shared his concerns and stated he still maintains his position to continue mowing the community building and Creekside property. After more discussion Councilman Mooring made the motion to discontinue to maintain any and all properties not owned by the Town. The vote was two for yes (Councilman Bynum and Councilman Mooring), and three for no (Councilman Bass, Councilman Horne, and Councilman Harper). Councilman Harper then motioned to maintain only the community building and the Creekside property, no other private properties. The vote was four for yes (Councilman Harper, Councilman Bynum, Councilman Horne, and Councilman Bass) and one no (Councilman Mooring) – the motion was passed.
- Discussed the ways to notify the community regarding rate increases and garbage pick up changes. Mr. Beaman suggested doing a mailing and a One-Call. Councilman Horne asked when the anticipated start date would be for the rate increase. Mr. Beaman stated it would be in the August billing cycle. He suggested to start the garbage pickup August 1. He shared in the packet an example of the mailing and there was discussion about the verbiage and when the mailing would go out. After this discussion the Council approved to move ahead with mailing and notification process.
- Discussed the possibility of applying for a CDBG Grant for neighborhood revitalization. This grant is administered through the Council of Government and is geared toward low-income based homeowners. It was designed to help with repairs to the home and in extreme cases replacement of the home. Mr. Beaman discussed the application and review process and stated that the homeowner would be the one applying for the grant. There will be no cost to the Town. He shared that the Town

would be responsible for getting a list of possible applicants. He asked the Council for their blessing before he moves forward. The consensus was to move forward.

- Gave an update on paving. He stated he has two quotes for Saratoga St. and is waiting for another quote. After some discussion it was decided to table until the next meeting when he has all three quotes to decide.
- Shared Budget Ordinance Amendment #6. Councilman Harper motioned to approve Budget Ordinance Amendment #6. All were in favor; passed unanimously.

H. Councilman Mooring: Asked about the status of the Seal Building. Mr. Beaman stated we are waiting on documentation and final paperwork signed by the Department of Commerce.

I. Mayor Pro-Tem Bass: Shared that there is a limb on the lines behind the church. Mr. Beaman stated he would check into to it. Also, he asked about Drake Robart. Mr. Beaman stated that when Roger was on vacation he came in everyday and that he is on our state permit as our back up ORC. He will come in if Roger needs to be out. Next, Councilman Bass questioned the gambling machines and/or fish tables and if the owner of the property named C&H Grill has been issued a notice. Mr. Beaman stated he asked Chief Rosario to issue the notice and let the property owner know that he has 30 days to get the games out. After more discussion Mr. Beaman stated that he would bring a more comprehensive report to the next meeting. Councilman Bass suggested looking at the costs of crack sealant and seal coating for streets, curbs, and sidewalks that have weeds in growing the cracks. Mr. Beaman will investigate this.

J. Councilman Bynum: Talking about paving he suggested looking at the street by the post office. There are areas that need repairing.

K. Councilman Horne: Asked if the Park and Recs Commission and Town Hall were on the same page regarding shelter rental. Mr. Beaman stated that he had talked with Ms. Butler and all confusion has been cleared up. Also, Mayor Rhodes stated there is a no reservation sign. Mr. Beaman stated he would get that removed. She also added there is no parking on the grass sign and the grassy area is our parking lot. Mr. Beaman to take a look into this more.

L. Councilman Harper: Had nothing to discuss.

M. Mayor Rhodes: Reminded everyone that performance reviews are coming. The Council need to do an annual review on Mr. Beaman and Mr. Beaman needs to do a review on the employees. She asked if we have review forms available. Mr. Beaman stated he would have to make one and make it available. She then requested to go into closed to prevent disclosure of privileged and confidential information which is General Statute 143-318.

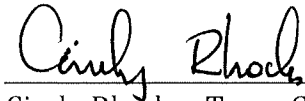
N. Closed Session: Council Member Horne moved to go into closed session at 8:30 pm to prevent disclosure of privileged and confidential information. All were in favor; passed unanimously.

O. Open Session:

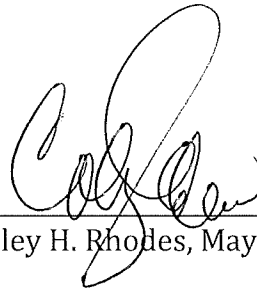
Open session resumed at 9:50 pm.

With no further business Mayor Rhodes asked for a motion to adjourn. Councilman Harper made the motion. The meeting adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,



Cindy Rhodes, Town Clerk



Coley H. Rhodes, Mayor