

The regular meeting of the Murphy Town Council was held on June 3, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. in the City Hall building with the following present:

Town Manager: Chad Simons
Attorney: Mack Cowan

Mayor: Rick Ramsey
Council: Barry McClure Frank Dickey
Karen Watson Gail Stansell
Barbara Hughes Noland Smith

Cherokee Scout - Penny Ray
WKRK was present

Mayor Ramsey led the Town with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing on the 2019-2020 Proposed Fiscal Year Budget

Mayor Ramsey opened the public hearing at 5:01 p.m.

No person spoke during the public hearing.

**Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by Hughes to close the public hearing at 5:01 p.m.
Motion carried unanimously.**

Public Comment

No person spoke during the public comment period.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Stansell to approve the May 6 , 2019 regular meeting minutes and the May 31, 2019 special meeting minutes as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Water and Sewer & Tax Releases & Refunds

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Hughes to approve the water and sewer adjustments of \$1,893.50. Motion carried unanimously.

Cherokee County Arts Council Update and Funding Request - David Vowell

Mr. David Vowell submitted a request for the third consecutive year for \$4,500 worth of funding. Mr. Vowell said he was not asking for an increase, but wants to continue to use the Arts Council to help make the arts free for all users.

Gail Stansell asked if Mr. Vowell did the studio tour last year. Mr. Vowell said health problems prevented that from taking place.

Karen Watson asked if they would organize the June Arts by the River festival again. Mr. Vowell said the festival reached its peak in reaching sales for the artist vendors, and it was a lot

of work to put on. Mr. Vowell said renting the pavilion is still hard to do.

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by McClure to approve the \$4,500 funding request for the Arts Council. Motion carried. Vote: 5 to 1. Voting No: Mr. Frank Dickey.

2019-2020 Fiscal Year Budget Approval

Mayor Ramsey said the off-site special meeting was very productive, and he was happy it was one hundred percent attended. Mayor Ramsey said the budget proposal was extremely professional, and that the Council knew going in that their wants would overrun the Town's funding ability. Mayor Ramsey said the Town's water and sewer issues are no secret, but the Town is financially solvent despite being one disaster away from insolvency.

Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by McClure to approve the 2019-2020 fiscal year budget proposal as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Adoption of Pay Plan and Position Classification System

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by McClure to adopt the pay plan and position classification system as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the plan and position classification system is attached.

Budget Amendments - Finance Director Chad Simons

Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Hughes to adopt the budget amendments as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the budget amendments are attached.

Murphy Housing Authority - Director Lea Scroggs

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Stansell to approve the collections write off as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the write-off collections loss is attached.

Motion was made by Dickey, seconded by Watson to approve the CAP 5 year plan as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the CAP 5 year plan is attached.

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell to approve the annual plan update as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the annual plan update is attached.

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by McClure, to approve the 2020 budget as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the budget is attached.

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Stansell to approve the 2019 budget adjustment as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the adjustment is attached.

Gail Stansell asked how the no smoking ban was going. Mrs. Scroggs stated that since they have to rely on residents reporting against residents, they are struggling to enforce it at times.

Monthly Reports

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Stansell to approve the monthly reports as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Barbara Hughes updated the Council on the July 4th parade, and said Heritage Partners is helping to put it on. The parade would be on Thursday, July 4th and would start at 2 p.m. at the Depot. Mrs. Hughes said applicants needed to fill out a form on the Town website, or at city hall but no fee was required. Mrs. Hughes said people needed to start lining up at the Depot at noon.

Mayor Ramsey thanked Appalachian Driving for how well the Porsche car show went on Saturday, June 1.

Karen Watson commented on how beautiful downtown was Memorial Day weekend.

Barry McClure said the Town puts on a great fireworks show for town and Cherokee County residents.

Frank Dickey asked if the street lights extension project would occur in the next budget. Town Manager Chad Simons said the project was in the design phase now, and the plan is to take the street lights to McDonald's and the Valley River Bridge at Konehete Park. Mayor Ramsey said the project is going to be a great thing for Murphy, and coincides well with the 64 road widening project and what will be the new "Welcome to Murphy" sign. Mayor Ramsey said people will want to turn left.

Mayor Ramsey updated the Council and public regarding a very productive train meeting on May 22, a meeting that he hosted with NCDOT, GSMR, Cherokee County officials and the Town of Andrews. Mayor Ramsey said the Town still had a long way to go, but progress is being made. Mayor Ramsey said the purpose of the meeting was to come up and develop freight needs and logistics with GSMR and local industries. Mayor Ramsey said he hoped to share some more positive news regarding the train in several weeks, and encouraged everyone to lobby state legislators Rep. Kevin Corbin and Sen. Jim Davis.

Adjourn

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:15 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk: Signed Chad Simons

Mayor: Signed David Rick Ramsey