

The regular meeting of the Murphy Town Council was held on November 4, 2019 at 5:00 pm in the City Hall building with the following present:

Town Manager: Chad Simons

Attorney: Mack Cowan

Council: Barry McClure Frank Dickey

Karen Watson Gail Stansell

Barbara Hughes Noland Smith

Cherokee Scout and WKRK was present

Mayor Ramsey was absent from the meeting.

Mayor Pro Tem Noland Smith led the Council with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Hearing for Amendment to Subdivision Ordinance

Mayor Pro Tem Noland Smith opened the public hearing.

No person signed up to speak during the public hearing.

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

Public Comment

No public comment.

Vote on Amendment to Subdivision Ordinance

Motion was made by Watson, seconded by Dickey to adopt the proposed Amendment to the Subdivision Ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the amendment is attached in the minute book.

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Frank Dickey stated that the special meeting minutes for October 28, 2019 needed to reflect the fact that one council member was absent during the first two votes. The Council agreed.

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell to approve the October 7, 2019 meeting minutes as presented and the October 28, 2019 special meeting minutes with the revision that Council Member Barbara Hughes arrived late to the special meeting, and was not present for the first two votes. Motion carried unanimously.

Water & Sewer & Tax Releases & Refunds

Motion was made Watson, seconded by Stansell to approve the water and sewer adjustments of \$ 2,891.62. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Dickey, seconded by Hughes to approve the tax releases for August and September as presented. Motion carried. A copy of the tax releases are attached in the minute book.

Alcohol Beverage Control Board (ABC) Appointment

Town Manager Chad Simons presented the letter from the Town ABC Board Chairperson Brian Smith, recommending John Snow III to fill the remainder of Sandy Sumpter's term, which expires 2021. Mr. Simons said Mr. Snow was also recommended by the manager of the ABC store as well.

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell, to appoint Mr. John Snow III to the Alcohol Beverage Control Board to fulfill the unexpired term of Ms. Sandy Sumpter; the term will end in July 2021. Motion carried unanimously.

Budget Amendment – Air Release Valve work for Casino Force Main

Mr. Joe Stillwell explained to the Council that the force main needed a larger air release valve, stating the line continued to air lock because the existing air release valve on the line's highest point is too small. Mr. Stillwell said it was causing the line to turn septic, hurting the sewer plant and causing the pumps to run around the clock. Mr. Stillwell said they took the variable frequency drives off of the panel, and went with soft starts, which helped the pumps run as they should. Mr. Stillwell said the latter work will ensure that the Town does not have to bleed the small air release valve daily.

Karen Watson asked if the Town could perform the work. Mr. Stillwell said they didn't have the necessary equipment to do it, but he would explore the possibility.

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Hughes to appropriate \$12,000 from Utility Fund Balance into 30-810-71 (Utility Maintenance Capital Outlay) to install a four (4") inch air release valve on the casino force main. Motion carried unanimously.

Pipe Specifications Approval

Town Public Works Director Joe Stillwell explained that the Town specifications calls for a certain pipe, which McClam and Associates did not want to use in order to fulfill the minority subcontracting requirements. McClam and Associates were planning to use McWane Ductile Pipe.

Mr. Dickey asked if the Town needed to take a vote on the matter. Town Manager Chad Simons said probably not, but he wanted the Council to do so anyway just to be cautious. Mr. Stillwell said he recommended to go with class 56 McWane Ductile Pipe.

Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by Smith, to approve the contractor's use of McWane Ductile Pipe, class 56, for the Hiwassee River Sewer Repair Project. Motion carried unanimously.

Hiwassee River Repair Project Update:

Town Manager Chad Simons advised the Council that staff opted to go with a manual bar screen instead of a mechanical screen at the Hospital Lift Station. Mr. Simons stated that after reviewing the high costs of the mechanical screen, and discussing it more in depth with the Public Works Director and McGill & Associates, he believed the change was best for the Town. Mr. Simons said he feared a mechanical screen would create more costly, long-term problems. Mr. Simons said the costs of the project would decrease substantially as a result, going from \$918,307.25 to \$635,477.25.

Contract with Town of Andrews – Water Plant Operator Services

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by McClure, to approve the Water Plant Operator Services Contract as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell to approve the Monthly Reports for October as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Discussion

Ms. Watson thanked Town staff for sweeping town streets.

Mr. McClure stated it was not fair for certain businesses to not adhere to alcohol use regulations on sidewalks, when other businesses were doing so. Mr. McClure wanted the Town to speak with the Daily Grind Business to ensure they are reminding customers to not possess alcoholic beverages outside of the store.

Ms. Watson asked what the Town was responsible for in terms of maintaining sidewalks. Town Manager Chad Simons replied that if it is a sidewalk within the city limits then it was the Town's responsibility to maintain it; even if the sidewalk was adjacent to a state road. Mr. Simons said DOT right of way most likely came very close to each store front in downtown, which would make the Town responsible for maintaining the sidewalks.

Adjourn

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Watson, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 5:30 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

Rick Ramsey, Mayor

