

The regular meeting of the Murphy Town Council was held on January 6, 2020 at 5:00 pm in the City Hall building with the following present:

Town Manager: Chad Simons

Attorney: Mack Cowan

Cherokee Scout and WKRK was present

Mayor: Rick Ramsey

Council: Barry McClure Frank Dickey

Karen Watson Gail Stansell

Barbara Hughes Noland Smith

Mayor Ramsey led the Town Council with the Pledge of Allegiance

Public Comment

No public comment.

Approval of Minutes

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Smith to approve the December 2, 2019 meeting minutes with the amendment to recognize that Mr. Noland Smith was absent from the meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

Agenda Addition

Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Watson to add Water & Sewer & Tax Releases to the Agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

Water & Sewer & Tax Releases & Refunds

Motion was made McClure, seconded by Dickey to approve the water and sewer adjustments of \$2,484.82 for December. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by Smith to approve the Tax Releases as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the tax releases are attached in the minute book.

Nantahala Regional Library Director Introduction & LED Lights Request

Mr. Franklin Shook came before the Council to introduce himself, and to give an update on the latest events and projects sponsored by the Nantahala Regional Library. Mr. Shook said the AARP Tax Aid program is coming back to provide services for those who qualify. Mr. Shook said they were receiving \$2,000 to help bolster the US Census count, and that they were going to use the book mobile to help provide internet access to those people without it; especially since the census is going to an online format. Mr. Shook also said the library would be transitioning to the Cardinal system, which will enable the library to be uniform with all of state libraries, and even allow patrons to order books from other libraries.

Mr. Shook said the Town budgeted \$11,000 to replace two heating and air units. Mr. Shook said one unit did not have to be replaced. Mr. Shook requested to proceed with installing LED lights in the library.

Mr. Shook said the LED lights would reduce the library's overhead expenses substantially, and it would pay for itself in a little over a year.

Mr. Frank Dickey said the proposal would decrease the lighting costs by about fifty percent.

Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by Smith to approve the LED lights request at the library using leftover funds from the HVAC installation. Motion carried unanimously.

Sewer at EMS Station

Town Manager Chad Simons said staff planned to have more information for the Council about the proposal, but stated that the new County EMS station could provide the County and Town with a great opportunity to get sanitary sewer access to the undeveloped corridor. Mr. Simons said they would get more information in the near future and bring back a proposal for the Council to consider.

Monthly Reports

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

Discussion

Mayor Ramsey updated the Council on the Town's acceptance into the Downtown Associate Community Program, a prerequisite program for the Main Street Program. A copy of the letter from the NC Department of Commerce is attached in the minute book.

Adjourn

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Dickey to adjourn the meeting at 5:20 p.m. Motion carried unanimously.

