

The regular meeting of the Murphy Town Council was held on July 6, 2020 at 5:00 pm at the Murphy Fire Dept.

Town Manager: Chad Simons
Attorney: Mack Cowan

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

**WKRR:
Cherokee Scout**

Mayor Ramsey led the Council with the pledge of allegiance.

Public Comment

None

Approval of Minutes

Mr. Frank Dickey requested for the minutes on the sidewalk dining ordinance discussion change to state that he suggested a two drink maximum, not minimum.

Motion was made by Hughes, seconded by Watson to approve the June 1, 2020 regular meeting minutes, the June 4, 2020 budget retreat minutes, and the June 24, 2020 special meeting minutes as presented, with the revision of the two (2) drink maximum change for the sidewalk dining ordinance discussion in the June 1 regular meeting minutes. Motion carried unanimously.

Water and Sewer Releases

Motion was made by Smith, seconded by McClure to approve the water and sewer adjustments of \$1702.12. Motion carried unanimously.

Valori Cassel – Pacesetters inquiry into leasing Wiggles Building

Valori Cassel of Pacesetters asked the Town Council if they would consider leasing the Wiggles building by the Depot to their organization. Ms. Cassel told the Town Council that they would clean it up and use it to open a shop that would sell handmade items themed around Murphy, which would help pacesetters raise money. Ms. Cassel also said they would like to run a Family Resource Center on the second floor.

Mayor Ramsey said the Council is still working to get clean title to the building, since TVA owns half of it. Mayor Ramsey said they have tried to get clean title to the building since he assumed office, but has not had success going through TVA. Mayor Ramsey asked for a motion to table the discussion.

Mrs. Barbara Hughes stated how impressed she is with Pacesetters as an organization, and asked the Council to really consider Pacesetters for this building in the future if that opportunity presented itself. Mr. Frank Dickey said the Council should not table it, otherwise it would have to come to a vote next month. Mr. Dickey asked the Council to just move on. The Council opted to move on without a formal motion.

A Resolution in support of a room occupancy and tourism development tax

Town Manager Chad Simons stated that the Resolution is the first step in establishing a town Tourism Development Authority. Mr. Simons said the resolution does not have the force of law, but is a formal move to ask the state legislature to create a Town of Murphy TDA in the future. Mr. Simons said he consulted the Town Attorney on the resolution after the budget retreat, when the council unanimously agreed to pursue establishing its own TDA.

Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by Watson to approve the Resolution in support of a Town of Murphy Tourism Development Authority. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the Resolution is attached in the minute book.

Amendment to the Parades and Demonstration Ordinance

Town Attorney Mack Cowan informed the Council that the amendment would allow the Mayor to issue a permit for any activity, to include parades, demonstrations, and pickets. Mr. Cowan said the existing ordinance only mentions parades.

Motion was made by Smith, seconded by Hughes to approve the amendment to the Parades and Demonstration Ordinance as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the amendments are attached in the minute book and posted online at www.townofmurphync.com

Amendment to the Water Supply and Distribution Ordinance, sections 50.14 and 50.15

Town Manager Chad Simons told the Council that the proposed amendments clean up outdated language that requires anyone using hydrants connected to the town's distribution system to get a permit from the Mayor. Mr. Simons said anyone using hydrants needs to contact the Town Manager or Public Works Director, in addition to other minor changes.

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell to approve the proposed amendments as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the amendments are attached in the minute book and posted online at www.townofmurphync.com.

Resolution to support the Town of Murphy Police Department

Ms. Gail Walker Stansell read aloud the proposed resolution.

Motion was made by Stansell, seconded by McClure to approve the Resolution as presented. Motion carried unanimously. A copy of the resolution is attached in the minute book.

CDBG – Approval of Fair Housing Complaint Procedure, Grievance Procedure, Section 504 Self Evaluation, Procurement Standards Policy and Plan, Section 3 Plan, Excessive Force Policy, Equal Opportunity Plan, Hatch Act Policy Program, Citizen Participation Plan, Language Access Plan, Residential Anti Displacement and Relocation Assistance Plan, Optional Coverage Relocation Plan Resolution, and Optional Coverage Relocation Plan

Town Manager Chad Simons said the policies were approved by the Council in 2017, and since the installation of the jail bar screen extended the project life past June 30, 2020 the Council needs to approve the policies once again.

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Stansell to approve the CDBG presented documents as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Monthly Reports

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

Discussion

Mayor Ramsey informed the Council about the new law that clears the right of way issues for the Andrews to Murphy railroad, in addition to striking out language that required Murphy, Andrews, and Cherokee County to pay ten (10) percent of the costs associated with refurbishing the railroad before reactivation.

Mr. Frank Dickey urged the public to take COVID-19 seriously, stating that town could completely shut down if enough people do not take the proper precautions.

Adjourn

Motion was made by McClure, seconded by Smith to adjourn the meeting at approximately 6:30 pm. Motion carried unanimously.

Clerk: Signed Chad Simons

Mayor: Signed David Rick Ramsey

