

September 22, 2020

The Mooresville Town Council met in Special Session on Tuesday, September 22, 2020 at Mooresville Government Center at 6:30 P. M. Council members present were Shane Williams, Jessica Hester, Dustin Stanley, Tom Warthen and Jeff Cook . Town attorney Beth Copeland was present.

Councilman Warthen gave the prayer.

Unfinished Business – None**New Business –**

Scott Bell, with Endeavor, presented himself before the council to explain potential updates to the town platform that is possible with the new contract. He detailed the costs involved and the benefits of the modified service. Councilman Cook expressed his displeasure with Endeavor's current service level and the overcharged contract fee for the past three years. Mr. Bell stated the new contract was lowered due to many efficiency put in place over the years.

A bid was received from Taylored Systems. David Rash presented the bid for the IT services and Firewall, including the monthly cost under the contract.

Steve Oshman from Telamagen presented his bid for IT services and Firewall, and the difference in their pricing structure and terms of service.

Endeavor \$2790,00 monthly

Taylored Systems \$3465.00 monthly

Telamagen \$3284.00 monthly

Councilman Warthen made a statement in support of Endeavor. Councilman Cook made a motion to accept the Telamagen contract with a second by Councilwoman Hester. Motion Carried 3-2. Councilman Warthen and Councilman Stanley opposed.

Police & Fire COVID Bonuses- Council President Williams presented a proposal for a bonus structure for the Fire Department and Police Department. Councilman Williams provided an exhibit for the record. Councilman Cook stated he is in support of the bonuses. Councilman Warthen mentioned his concern about the uncertainties surrounding Covid-19 and the impact on 2021 and 2022 tax revenue.

Legal –

Fire Chief Hiring – Town attorney Beth Copeland detailed a possible timeline for the hiring of the new fire chief, including the wording and requirements wanted for the job posting, the deadline for submissions of applications, and the interview process.

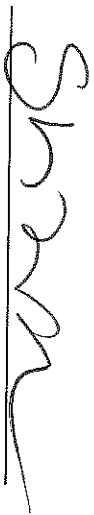
Councilman Warthen proposed that the residency requirement read that the Fire Chief must reside in Morgan County. Councilman Cook agreed with that proposal and later added the contingency that if the applicant currently resides outside of Morgan county if hired, the candidate must be willing to relocate to Morgan County within six months. The job posting will close on October 16th with an Executive session on October 20th at 5:30 PM to review the applicants. Councilman Warthen made a motion for an Executive Session on October 20th with a second by Councilman Stanley. Motion carried 5-0.

Public Comments – None**Town Council Comments –**

Councilman Cook asked Chief Julian for an update regarding the location of the speed trailer. Chief Jullian stated the trailer had been moved to Victor Drive.

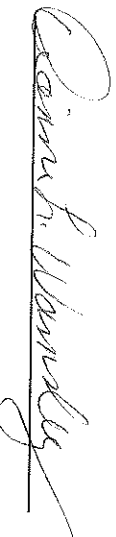
The next regular scheduled meeting of the Mooresville Town Council will be held on Tuesday, October 6, 2020, at 6:30 P. M. at the Mooresville Government Center.

There being no further business to come before the council at this time, a motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Stanley with a second from Councilwoman Hester. Motion Carried 5-0.



Shane B. Williams, Council President

ATTEST:



Dianna L. Wamsley, Clerk-Treasurer

Exhibit

September 22, 2020

Statement on Police and Fire Bonuses

Before I begin discussing the specifics of the proposed bonuses, let me state a couple of things for the record. This proposal was born out of meetings that included myself, Councilman Cook, and our financial advisor Baker Tilly. The Treasurer was also present for these meetings for informational purposes.

The purpose of bringing it up today is twofold. One, it informs the public with advance notice of a vote. Two, it gives the entire council notice and the opportunity to discuss prior to a meeting where a vote is potentially taken. That is the fair thing to do.

Now to the mechanics of potential bonuses:

This would be an amendment to the current 2020 salary ordinance and payable prior to the end of the year.

The proposal is for a \$5,000 bonus for full-time fire fighters and police officers, including department heads.

The proposal is also for a \$2,000 one-time bonus for all other full-time employees, including department heads.

Rationale for the Bonuses?

First, town employees have been frugal and have adhered to the council guidelines on spending controls that I will simply call the \$1500 rule. We are projected to have a surplus that will absorb the bonuses this year and have ample cash reserves far exceeding what our financial advisor recommends.

Second, it is a reward for operating government, without ceasing, during the pandemic. The government never ceased operating on behalf of tax payers.

Third, for police and fire especially, 2020 has been a tough year. They had to do their duties, despite the risks of Covid, endure the extras of dealing with protests and a tornado, and in the face of an ungrateful national media. They performed very well for Mooresville and deserve recognition and support from our community.

Submitted for the Record by Councilman Shane Williams