

Stoneville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 7, 2024
7:00 PM – Council Chambers

Regular Meeting

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Council members Johnny Farmer, Curt Bennett, Henry Thornton, Lee Shelton, and Daisy Smith. Also present were Town Administrator Barbara Hollerand, Finance Officer Shannon Tucker, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson, Fire Chief Joel Freeman, Interim Police Chief Brandon Rivera, Parks and Recreation Director Dillon Brown, Public Works Director Byron Curry, and Town Attorney Eugene Russell.

Welcome: Mayor Galvan welcomed the assembly and called the meeting to order after the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation at 7:05pm.

Minutes: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from April 2, 2024, and Special Meeting Minutes from April 16, 2024. Councilman Shelton made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the May 7, 2024, Agenda. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Introduction of New Town Administrator and Oath of Office – Mayor Galvan introduced Barbara Hollerand as the new Town Administrator and administered her Oath of Office.

New Business:

Presentation of Rockingham County Outdoor Recreation Master Plan – Lindsay Pegg, Tourism Manager for Rockingham County introduced herself along with Anna Wheeler, NC Program Coordinator for Dan River Basin Association. Ms. Pegg shared a Power Point presentation on the Rockingham County Outdoor Recreation Master Plan. She discussed the various projects being worked on in Rockingham County and commented on four that relate to the Stoneville area. She also shared some program ideas and resources we can consider to get people outdoors in our local communities. Ms. Pegg said they are currently working with the Department of Commerce on the CORE (Creating Outdoor Recreation Economies) Program and mentioned that Dillon Brown, our Parks and Recreation Director is a member of the group working on this project. The CORE program offers strategic planning and technical assistance to help rural communities leverage outdoor recreation assets to drive economic development. They will partner with us and look at ways to increase foot traffic in the Downtown area as well as attract businesses to the area through outdoor recreation. Ms. Pegg said they will come back to the Council by the end of the year with this strategic plan and present opportunities for the Stoneville community. She mentioned they are also participating in the Trail Town Program which helps communities leverage their proximity to popular trails like Mayo River State Park and the Stoneville Memorial Park to attract visitors, stimulate local businesses, and create jobs. Councilman Farmer asked them to consider Stoneville for a Downtown Trail opportunity if they move forward with a Parks and Trails Master Plan in the future. He also asked for data on the number of visitors coming in to use the Mayo River access near the pump station in Stoneville. The Council thanked Ms. Pegg and Ms. Wheeler for presenting the information and thanked them for all their hard work on these projects.

Consideration to adopt Resolution R-2024-05 in Support of Pathways Trails Master Plan for Rockingham County Communities - Councilman Farmer made a motion that we adopt Resolution R-2024-05 in Support of Pathways Trails Master Plan for Rockingham County Communities as presented. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration to apply for T-Mobile Hometown Grant – Finance Officer Tucker stated the North Carolina League of Municipalities is using their leftover ARPA funds to contract with a firm that writes grants on behalf of local governments in the state. The firm located this grant that can fund up to \$50,000 for park improvements. She requested approval from the Council to apply for this grant that will be used for improvements at Stoneville Memorial Park. The project will include renovations to the dugouts, a new slide, and an announcer's box. A new concession stand building may also be included in the project. Councilman Farmer made a motion to allow staff to apply for the T-Mobile Hometown Grant. Councilwoman Daisy Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration of quotes for Access Control System at the Public Safety Building – Interim Police Chief, Brandon Rivera stated quotes were received for the installation of a keyless entry system at the public safety building. He stated the quotes were reviewed with the Town Administrator as well as the Finance Officer. The cost of the system will be paid with funds remaining from the OSBM Grant. He also mentioned that Waldo's installed similar systems for the Town of Madison and Town of Mayodan. Mr. Rivera requested approval to proceed with Waldo's Lock & Security at a cost of \$7,607.00. Councilman Farmer made a motion to award the bid to Waldo's Lock & Security for the keyless entry system at the Police Department. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

Priorities – Mr. Ray Wiggins, Town of Stoneville Citizen, expressed his opinion and concerns to the Mayor and Council on various Town related items. A few of the items are listed below:

Pocket Park – Mr. Wiggins stated plans were drawn up and purchased in 2017, with six phases and phase one still hasn't been completed. He said phase two included public restrooms which are needed in the downtown area for events. Mr. Wiggins said the CORE Group is responsible for this project but hasn't met in approximately two years.

Downtown Buildings – Mr. Wiggins commented on the condition of unoccupied buildings and is concerned they don't meet the Fire Code.

Trailer Park with abandoned trailers and junk yard with cars just outside the town limits on US 220 Business South – Mr. Wiggins stated both of the properties are located in the town's ETJ (extraterritorial jurisdiction) and both are in violation of our zoning codes. He stated doors are kicked in and windows broken on the trailers and nothing has been done in months. He also stated the junk yard was supposed to start clearing cars out over a year ago and nothing has been done.

Mr. Wiggins shared his opinion on a number of other items and a copy of all items with his comments is on file at Town Hall. Councilman Farmer thanked Mr. Wiggins for his comments.

Old Business: None

Public Comments: None

Department Reports:

Fire - Chief Freeman provided updates on last month's medical and fire calls. He stated the new weather siren has been installed and is currently operating by battery. The siren will sound for one minute when there is a tornado warning only. Chief Freeman has confirmed this with Rockingham Communications 911. The weather siren will be tested the first Sunday of each month at 2:00pm and will sound for approximately one minute. The testing will begin the first Sunday in June. Councilwoman Smith questioned how citizens will be notified about the weather siren. The Town Administrator

advised we will send out a Code Red message along with posting information on the website and June water bills. Councilman Farmer suggested the Town Administrator and Chief Freeman reach out to News 2 or other local stations to see if they will run a two-to-three-minute story to get this information out to the community. Chief Freeman advised he is waiting on a quote from Triangle Electric to get the weather siren wired and the battery will be for back-up purposes only. Chief Freeman stated he contacted E-One about a fire truck estimate as instructed by the Council at a previous meeting. A custom cab will cost about \$800,00 and a commercial cab \$600,000. It could take 3 years to complete the build and you are looking at a 3% increase per year. Councilman Farmer thanked Chief Freeman for getting the estimates and said they should consider ordering a truck in approximately one year. Chief Freeman asked for an update on the Management Solutions contract with Keith Bost. Our Town Attorney stated he is concerned with some of the provisions in the consulting company contract and is working on a standard agreement to present to Keith Bost. He will clarify some information on exactly what services they are providing and costs involved. Once completed, the Town Administrator will update him on how to proceed.

Police – Interim Chief Rivera provided an update on the generator and said the install should be completed in approximately two weeks.

Parks & Recreation - Director Dillon Brown said the majority of his time last month was spent on the baseball program. He worked on the baseball field and also resolved various scheduling conflicts with games. Team pictures were also taken and distributed accordingly. He has worked with the Town Administrator on getting numbers together for future park improvements such as new trash cans, new dugouts, the trail, drainage issues in the park, and buildings in need of repair or replacement.

Public Works – Director Byron Curry was unable to attend so Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand reported. She stated clean up week was a success with 42 pick-up loads and 24 dump truck loads taken to the landfill. They completed roadway patching on eleven streets. Poles were set for the scoreboard at the park. They also dug the trench for the scoreboard and added conduit to help decrease the cost for the remainder of the project.

Town Administrator Report:

Public Works Building – Ms. Hollerand is new to this project and wants to discuss some items with our Town Attorney to make sure we are where we need to be on the bidding and bonding process and everything is in order before moving forward. She has spoken with the Department of Environmental Quality and if necessary, they are able to do sampling later on in the process. This is no longer an issue and will not hold-up the project. Ms. Hollerand suggests we wait until Mr. Webster comes back at the end of the month since he worked on the quotes and can assist with answering questions the Council might have. She said the quotes would be presented at the June meeting. Councilman farmer thinks this is a good idea and wants to make sure the Public Works Director is involved in the process with getting the site prepped appropriately before pouring the concrete.

Funding Updates (State and Federal Program) – Ms. Hollerand stated she was contacted by Congresswoman Kathy Manning's office about a federal program we applied for last year but didn't receive any funding. It is available again this year and is targeted toward small communities and infrastructure projects. It is a competitive program and a 25% match is required. The state money we have for similar projects may qualify for the match. It is in the early stages and they have only asked for a letter of support at this time which was submitted by the Mayor and the Town Administrator. Bill Lester assisted with providing the documentation requested. There is approximately five million in funding available from this program and the Town Administrator will keep everyone updated as we move through the process. Councilman Farmer did suggest that the Town Administrator and Mayor

discuss this opportunity with Senator Phil Berger and NC State Representative Reece Pyrtle to see if they can appropriate any funds for the match if we get approved for the program funding.

Downtown Revitalization – Ms. Hollerand said she plans to start looking at some of the buildings and possible utilization of these spaces. She is looking at the Core Group and will start having conversations with folks that have been involved with downtown projects. She also plans to review prior downtown projects. Ms. Hollerand is having conversations with the Main Street Center for possible opportunities for Stoneville. She also met with Lindsay Pegg at the County and found out about an opportunity where a group of architects and planners from Appalachian State will come in for three days to look at what our opportunities are in various areas of the Town.

Ms. Hollerand provided an update on the water booster tank project in and around North Glenn, Highland, Kellam, and Dalton streets. She spoke with the contractor and will move forward with this project in June once Mr. Webster is back and confirms that all citizens wanting the tanks have signed the contracts.

Mayor Galvan thanked Mitzi and David Evans for planting all the flowers in the downtown planters.

Upcoming May events were announced including the next Council Meeting scheduled for June 4, 2024, at 7:00pm and the Special Meeting for the Proposed Budget Presentation scheduled for May 14, 2024, at 6:00pm.

Mayor Galvan thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Bennett. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 8:20pm.


Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan


Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

