

Stoneville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
August 6, 2024
7:00 PM – Vera Holland Center

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, 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 7:00pm

Minutes: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the Special Meeting Minutes from July 9, 2024, and Regular Meeting Minutes from July 16, 2024. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the August 6, 2024, agenda. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

Consideration of \$300.00 annual donation for the Stoneville Community Cemetery – Mr. James Smith spoke and shared some background information on the cemetery. He asked the Council to consider a \$300.00 donation to assist with upkeep of the Stoneville Community Cemetery. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve a \$300.00 donation to the Stoneville Community Cemetery. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration of \$500.00 annual donation to the Stoneville Rotary – Mr. Bobby Stanley spoke and shared some background information on the Stoneville Rotary Club and the numerous ways they serve the community. He asked the Council to consider a \$500.00 donation for the Stoneville Rotary Fall Festival. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve a \$500.00 donation to the Stoneville Rotary for the Fall Festival. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration to approve agreements for professional services by LKC Engineering, PLLC, (NCDEQ Project No. AIA-W-0278 – Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant & NCDEQ Project No. SRP-SW-ARP-0103 – Stormwater System Study) – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand spoke and informed the Council that the services by LKC Engineering will include a wastewater collection system mapping update, field inspections, evaluation of wastewater flow, and operation and maintenance report, capital improvement plan, asset management plan and utility rate study for the NCDEQ Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant. She stated the NCDEQ Stormwater System Study will include a stormwater system mapping update, field survey of stormwater assets, an asset inventory and assessment, hydrologic analysis and preliminary designs, a capital improvement plan and stormwater assessment report. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the agreements for professional services by LKC Engineering for NCDEQ Project No. AIA-W-0278 Asset Inventory and Assessment Grant and NCDEQ Project No. SRP-SW-ARP-0103 Stormwater System Study. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried. Copies incorporated into minutes.

Consideration of quotes for concrete pads to be placed in front of the bay doors at the Fire Department – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand informed the Council that the asphalt in front of the bay doors at the Fire Department is in poor condition and concrete pads are recommended due to the weight of the Fire Department's vehicles. She presented three quotes and recommended moving forward with Martinez & Son Concrete LLC's quote of \$15,875.00. Councilman Bennett made a motion to move forward with Martinez & Son Concrete as recommended by staff. Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried. Copies incorporated into minutes.

Consideration of air compressor purchase for the Fire Department –Town Administrator Barbara Hollerand informed the Council that the Fire Department has a need to replace its breathing air compressor. She provided four quotes and recommended moving forward with Safe Air Systems' quote of \$32,431.09. This quote came in lower as the Fire Department's existing fill station is compatible with this brand and they would not have to purchase a new fill station. Councilman Farmer made a motion to move forward with Safe Air Systems as recommended by staff. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried. Copies incorporated into minutes.

Authorization to contract for audit services with Bernard Robinson & Company, LLP for Fiscal Year 2023-2024 – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand spoke and informed the Council that our current audit firm will no longer be offering audit services. She explained that there is a statewide auditor shortage for Municipal audits and we need to file a timely audit to meet the FY23-24 audit deadline of October 31, 2024, with the state's Local Government Commission. She asked the Council to consider a contract with Tony Brewer, CPA & PC with Bernard Robinson & Company, LLP not to exceed \$25,000 as budgeted. She also mentioned that Mr. Brewer is currently performing audits for a number of municipalities in North Carolina. Councilwoman Farmer made a motion to execute a contract with Bernard Robinson & Company, LLP to perform audit services for Fiscal Year 2023-2024. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.

Consideration of General Fund Budget Amendment (080624) – Finance Officer, Shannon Tucker requested approval of Budget Amendment 080624 to recognize the fire protection tax revenue and to create a line item for \$77,000 to recognize the revenue and expenditures. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 080624. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.

Police Department Discussion – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand spoke and stated the discussion is intended to share information on the options for police coverage, hear public input, consider alternatives, and decide on a course of action. She proceeded with a PowerPoint presentation of the current status of our Police Department and provided information on recent changes in the department, current work schedules, turnover in last four years, overtime hours, number of shifts currently being covered by the Sheriff's Department, challenge of competitive salaries, and lack of qualified applicants for positions that have been posted for months. Once Ms. Hollerand was finished with her presentation, Mayor Galvan opened the floor to Public Comments.

(a) Public Comments – 29 people signed up for Public Comments and all were in favor of retaining and rebuilding the Police Department versus contracting with the Sheriff's office. The following spoke in favor of retaining and rebuilding the Police Department: Rex Tuggle, Dennis Sparks, Gail Eisbacher, Titus Sparks, Rabron Wiggins, Jim Clark Jr., Tammy Evans, Steve Evans, Debbie Claybrook, Greg Beasley, Sarah Chandler, Gary Ellington, Johnny Carter, Tammy Carter, Jodi Lester, Susan Messick, Samantha Land, Michael Hutchinson, Lena Wilder, Laura Williams, Morgan Nieves, Sandra Tedder, Dollie Trant, Daniel Dickens, Caleb Shelton, Katie Shelton, Stephen Swift, Marla Kay Nelson, and Corey Engebretson.

(b) Council Discussion – Councilman Bennett thanked everyone for coming out and participating in the meeting. He stated he would like to rescind or discontinue discussion on this item and close the discussion. Councilwoman Smith agreed and stated the Council is there to do what the citizens of Stoneville want and her purpose is to serve the citizens. She said the citizens have spoken and she concurs with Councilman Bennett. The Mayor, Councilman Shelton, and Councilman Farmer also provided input and said tonight’s meeting was about open discussion and they will move forward with hiring a Police Chief and rebuilding the department. Copy of presentation and Councilman Bennett’s statement incorporated into minutes.

Old Business: None

Public Comments: Mayor Galvan called out all names on the sign-up sheet but no one on the list was still present at the meeting to speak.

Town Administrator Report – Ms. Hollerand informed the Council that an agreement was signed after consulting with our attorney for the Off Duty Officer coverage for tonight’s meeting. She explained this was done to allow our officers a chance to participate in the meeting. She asked for a motion to ratify the agreement. Councilman Farmer made a motion to ratify the agreement as requested by the Town Administrator. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.

Ms Hollerand informed the Council that she was accepted into the Leadership Rockingham class, which will begin in September and she will be joined by two other new managers on the western side of the county.

Upcoming August events were announced along with the next Council Meeting scheduled for September 10, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Mayor Galvan thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting.

Motion to adjourn the meeting made by Councilman Thornton. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.



Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan



Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

