

**Stoneville Town Council  
Special Meeting Minutes  
January 23, 2024  
5:45 PM - Council Chambers**

**Special Meeting**

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Councilmen Johnny Farmer, Curtis Bennett, Henry Thornton, and Lee Shelton. Councilman Smith was not present as he resigned on December 13, 2023. Also present were Town Administrator Perry Webster, Finance Officer Shannon Tucker, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson, 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 5:50pm.

**Agenda:** Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the January 23, 2024, Special Meeting Agenda. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the Agenda. Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan advised the Council would be going into a quick Closed Session and then return to Open Session for discussion on the Agenda items. Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to go into Closed Session.

Motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to consult with the Town Attorney, and (6) personnel discussion was made by Councilman Farmer. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan asked everyone in the audience to leave the chamber and wait in the fire department until the Council returns to open session.

Motion to go out of Closed Session was made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

The public was allowed to return to the chamber and Mayor Galvan announced we are now in Open Session.

Councilman Farmer advised there was discussion in Closed Session with regards to the Police Department and the Police Chief position being non-exempt versus exempt. He stated this was also discussed approximately one year ago and a motion was made to move the Police Chief from exempt to non-exempt. He advised he was opposed to moving the position from exempt to non-exempt at that time and is still opposed to it. Councilman Farmer made a motion that the Police Chief position be moved from non-exempt to exempt. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

**Special Meeting Items Discussed:**

1. **Consideration of Capital Project Ordinance O-2024-01 Stormwater System AIA (SRP-SW-ARP-0103)** - Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson presented the Capital Project Ordinance for adoption by the Council. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve Capital Project Ordinance O-2024-01 Stormwater System AIA (SRP-SW-ARP-0103) as presented by the Town Clerk. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.
2. **Accept resignation of Councilman Jerry Smith and discuss process of replacement** – Councilman Farmer made a motion to accept the resignation of Councilman Smith. He

mentioned that the Council did reach out to Mr. Smith to see if he would reconsider and his position has not changed. Mr. Farmer suggested the Council move forward with discussion on the process of filling the vacant seat. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

**Discuss process of replacement** – Town Attorney, Eugene Russell explained various options to the Council for filling the vacant seat. He also explained that the replacement would be appointed and serve until December, 2025, which is the next election and that person would have the option of being on the November, 2025, ballot. If elected, this person would serve until December, 2027, which is the remainder of the former Councilman's four-year term. The Council discussed their options and reached a consensus on the process for moving forward with a replacement to the vacant seat. The decision was made to post a notice of vacancy for the Town Council seat and accept applications for review from all Town of Stoneville residents interested in serving on the Council. The Council asked the Town Clerk, Mayor, and Town Attorney to create an application for the Town Council vacancy similar to the Planning Board application. They also requested the Town Clerk reach out to Mr. Steve Rumenik that was on the 2023 ballot to see if he is still interested in serving and if so, send him an application and explain the process for applying. The Council requested all applications be returned to the Town Clerk by 5:00pm on Thursday, February 29<sup>th</sup>. They also requested that the Town Clerk email applications to them as received. The Mayor announced applications would be considered by the Town Council at its regular meeting on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, at 7:00pm and an appointment to the vacant seat may be made by the Town Council at that meeting or at a later meeting.

Mayor Galvan thanked everyone for coming out and announced the Council would be going back into Closed Session.

Motion to go back into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to consult with the Town Attorney, and (6) personnel discussion was made by Councilman Farmer. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Motion to go out of Closed Session was made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

Motion to recess meeting until January 24, 2024, at 5:30pm was made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan stated we are now in recess.

Meeting reconvened on January 24, 2024, at 5:30pm.

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Councilmen Johnny Farmer, Henry Thornton, Curt Bennett, and Lee Shelton. Also present was Finance Officer Shannon Tucker.

Motion to come out of recess was made by Councilman Farmer. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

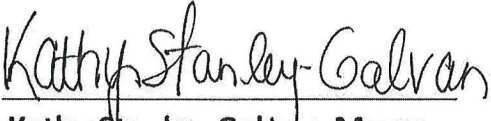
Motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (6) Personnel Discussion made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.


Motion to come out of Closed Session made by Councilman Bennett. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan stated we are now in Open Session.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Adjourned at 7:45pm.

  
Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Mayor

  
Deleia Hutcherson, Town Clerk

