

Stoneville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 3, 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, Police Chief Rebecca Dixon, Fire Chief Joel Freeman, 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. She announced the Council met at 5:30 p.m. for Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to Consult with the Town Attorney, and (6) Personnel.

Agenda: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the December 3, 2024, agenda with an amendment to add item 5 under new business – Amendment to Policy Manual Section 32.170 Holidays Observed. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda was presented to the Council with Councilman Farmer requesting to remove item 2 – Approval of 2024 Employee Christmas Bonuses for separate discussion. This item was removed from the consent agenda and added under new business as item 6. Upon confirmation that no other members wished to remove items, the remaining consent agenda items 1. a and b along with items 3-7 were approved unanimously with a motion by Councilman Farmer and a second by Councilwoman Smith.

New Business:

Audit Report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2024 – Auditor, Tony Brewer presented a clean opinion for the town's finances. He highlighted financial performance and discussed several indicators of concern, particularly in the water and sewer fund. The General fund revenues exceeded expenditures, but water and sewer operations recorded a \$143,000 loss. Staff along with the Council will need to address concerns and submit a response to the Local Government Commission (LGC) within 60 days.

Consider approval of Ordinance O-2024-09 Amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 30: Governing Body Section 30.15 Regular Meetings – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand stated this amendment changes the meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. for regular meetings beginning January, 2025 and also allows for alternate days of the week for meetings when scheduling conflicts occur due to holidays and elections. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve Ordinance O-2024-09 Amending Code of Ordinances Chapter 30: Governing Body Section 30.15 Regular Meetings. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Consider approval of 2025 Town Council Meeting Schedule – Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the 2025 Town Council Meeting Schedule. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Consider approval of side-by-side vehicle purchase for the Police Department – Councilwoman Smith made a motion to approve the side-by-side vehicle purchase for the Police Department. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Amendment to Policy Manual Section 32.170 Holidays Observed – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand advised the holiday observance policy was amended to include Juneteenth as an official town holiday which aligns with approval of the holiday schedule – item 4 on the consent agenda. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the amendment to Policy Manual Section 32.170 Holidays Observed to include Juneteenth as an official town holiday. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Approval of 2024 Employee Christmas Bonuses – Councilman Farmer expressed his appreciation for staff contributions and stated holiday bonuses are given annually as a token of appreciation. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the Christmas bonuses as presented by staff. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

Public Comments: Mitzi Evans of 107 Duncan Street, Stoneville spoke and commented on Jodi Lester and town staff for their dedication to holiday decorating and community involvement

Town Administrator Report – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand requested approval from Council to purchase 30 Badger water meters at a cost of \$9,675.00 to address inventory shortages. The meters are necessary to meet demands from new housing developments. Councilman Farmer made a motion for staff to move forward with purchasing the meters at a cost of \$9,675.00. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Ms. Hollerand also commented on the following community and project updates:

- Holiday events have been successful including the tree lighting and holiday parade with positive comments received
- Construction of the new Public Works building is progressing
- Duke Energy will be replacing six light poles on Henry Street near Dollar General, with potential traffic impacts
- Recommendations are expected from the CPN Institute Workshop early next year following recent discussions

Upcoming December events were announced along with the next Council Meeting scheduled for January 7, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Galvan thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She asked for a motion to go into recess until December 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. She stated the reason was to go back into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to Consult with the Town Attorney, and (6) Personnel.

Motion to go into recess made by Councilman Shelton. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan announced the meeting is recessed until December 10, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at 101 Smith Street.

Meeting recessed at 8:14 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on December 10th at 5:30 p.m.

Motion to go out of recess made by Councilman Thornton. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS 143-318.11(a) (3) to Consult with the Town Attorney, and (6) Personnel. Motion made by Councilman Thornton. Seconded by Councilwoman Smith. Motion carried.

Motion to go out of closed session made by Councilwoman Smith. Seconded by Councilman Bennett. Motion carried.

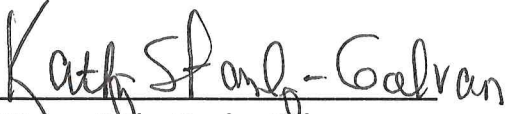
Mayor Galvan announced the return to open session.

Councilman Shelton made a motion for Mr. Eugene Russell to contact the North Carolina League of Municipalities to hire an interim Town Administrator until a new Town Administrator is hired. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried by a majority vote of 4-1. Council members Shelton, Farmer, Smith, and Thornton voted yes and in favor of the motion. Councilman Bennett voted no and opposed the motion.

Councilman Shelton made a motion for staff to post the Town Administrator position and remain posted until the position is filled. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried by a majority vote of 4-1. Council members Shelton, Farmer, Smith, and Thornton voted yes and in favor of the motion. Councilman Bennett voted no and opposed the motion.

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.


Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan


Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

