Stoneville Town Council Regular Meeting Minutes January 7, 2025 6:00 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, 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 6:00pm. She announced the Council would be going into Closed Session immediately following the regular meeting, 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 January 7, 2025, agenda with the following two amendments: Add item 3 under new business – Consideration of authorization to purchase three bay doors for the new Public Works building from Affordable Garage Doors, not to exceed \$11,000.00 and remove item 1 – Informational presentation on a proposed community park. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the amended agenda. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda: The consent agenda, including the following items: 1. Minutes from October 29, 2024, November 12, 2024, and December 3, 2024. 2. Approval of Resolution R-2025-01 Authorizing the disposition of Town Property – 2002 F250 Public Works Vehicle. 3. Consideration of quote from C.W. Williams & Co. in the amount of \$13,953.84 for brush truck repairs, as recommended by the Fire Chief, was presented to the Council and approved unanimously without discussion. A motion to approve the Consent Agenda was made by Councilman Shelton and seconded by Councilwoman Smith.

New Business:

Consideration to adopt a Fund Balance Policy — Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand presented a fund balance policy recommendation and also provided the fund balance percentages set by other municipalities in Rockingham County. There was discussion of maintaining 60% of unrestricted general fund balance to ensure financial stability. Some Council members expressed concerns about maintaining flexibility for emergency expenses and future projects. Councilman Farmer suggested this item be tabled for further discussion at the next scheduled work session and the Council agreed by consensus.

Consideration of authorization to purchase three bay doors for the new Public Works building from Affordable Garage Doors, not to exceed \$11,000.00 – A motion was made by Councilman Farmer to approve the purchase from Affordable Garage Doors in the amount of \$11,000.00 as presented by the Town Administrator. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

Old Business: None

Public Comments:

Ray Wiggins of 114 S. Glenn Street, Stoneville, raised concerns regarding code enforcement and the status of noncompliant properties. He requested that the Council be more transparent, with less closed sessions and expressed his opinion on some other decisions made by the Council.

Joe Rose of 201 W Matthews Street, Stoneville, commented on his appreciation for town staff and recent improvements. He expressed concern about the vision for the town moving forward with regard to enhancing the downtown area, street improvements, and infrastructure.

James Brown of 200 W Matthews Steet, Stoneville, spoke highly of the staff in place at this time and how the town needs to work to keep good people in place. He also expressed concern about the vision for the town and commented on the number of years he has lived in Stoneville and not a lot has changed.

Hugh Belton of 103 Randolph Street, Stoneville, inquired about why a new Town Administrator was being considered and it was confirmed that the current administrator had submitted a resignation.

Town Administrator Report – Town Administrator, Barbara Hollerand commented on the following items:

- Request for qualifications (RFQs) for a pavement condition study and code enforcement assistance were posted and recommendations will be presented at the next meeting
- A rate study for water and sewer is being done by Rural Water and will be presented at the February Work Session
- A Parks and Recreation survey will be released to the public in the next couple of weeks
- Positive comments were received on snow removal efforts by Public Works

The next Council Meeting was announced for February, 4, 2025, at 6:00 p.m.

Mayor Galvan thanked everyone for coming out to the meeting. She 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 to enter closed session. Seconded by Councilwoman Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to exit closed session made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Galvan announced the return to open session.

Councilman Thornton made a motion for the Mayor to sign the Interim Town Administrator contract for Scott Buffkin. 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 Thornton made a motion to recess the meeting until Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Galvan announced the meeting is recessed until January 14, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at 101 Smith Street.

Meeting recessed at 8:30 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on January 14th at 5:30 p.m.

Motion to exit recess made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

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

Motion to exit closed session made by Councilman Thornton. Seconded by Councilwoman Smith. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan announced the return to open session with no action taken.

Motion to recess the meeting until Tuesday, January 21, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. made by Councilman Thornton. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan announced the meeting is recessed until January 21, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at 101 Smith Street.

Meeting recessed at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on January 21st at 5:30 p.m. Councilman Farmer was absent from the meeting.

Motion to exit recess made by Councilman Thornton. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

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

Motion to exit closed session made by Councilman Thornton. Seconded by Councilwoman Smith. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan announced the return to open session with no action taken.

Motion to recess the meeting until Thursday, January 23, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. made by Councilwoman Smith. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan announced the meeting is recessed until January 23, 2025, at 5:30 p.m. and the meeting will be held in the Council Chambers at 101 Smith Street.

Meeting recessed at 7:35 p.m.

The meeting reconvened on January 23rd at 5:30 p.m.

Motion to exit recess made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried.

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

Motion to exit closed session made by Councilman Thornton. Seconded by Councilman Shelton. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan announced the return to open session with no action taken.

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

Meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan

Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

