

Stoneville Town Council
Meeting Minutes
February 7, 2023
7:00 PM-Council Chambers

Closed Session §143-318.11 (4) & (6): Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Councilmen Henry Thornton, Chuck Hundley, Jerry Smith, Johnny Farmer and Curtis Bennett. Also present were Interim Town Manager Perry Webster, and Town Attorney Eugene Russell.

Councilman Thornton made the motion to enter into closed session. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of closed session made by Councilman Smith. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting:

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Councilmen Jerry Smith, Henry Thornton, Chuck Hundley, Johnny Farmer and Curtis Bennett. Also present were Interim Town Manager Perry Webster, Town Clerk Sherri Darnell, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson, Finance/HR Officer Shannon Tucker, Fire Chief Joel Freeman, Police Chief Frank Moore and Town Attorney Eugene Russell.

Welcome: Mayor Galvan welcomed the assembly. After the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation, called the meeting to order.

Mayor Galvan stated that during the closed session personnel and economic development items were discussed with a return to closed session after the regular meeting.

Minutes: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the Minutes from the last meeting. Councilman Farmer made the motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Agenda: Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the Agenda. Councilman Smith made the motion. Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

1. **Special Presentation** – Mayor Galvan presented Sherri Darnell, Retiring Town Clerk with a plaque recognizing years of service.
2. **Consideration of Employee Bonuses** – Councilman Smith presented a proposal to provide additional bonuses of \$150 - \$1,000 to Fire Department personnel based on performance and number of calls during Covid years 2020/2021. He also proposed additional bonuses of \$500.00 to each full time officer that worked during same time frame. Motion made by Councilman Smith to award additional bonuses. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion did not carry. Councilman Smith and Councilman Bennett voted Yes. Councilmen Hundley, Farmer, and Thornton voted No.
3. **Presentation by Rich in Grace Ministries** – Mary Martin gave presentation on upcoming giveaway for cleaning supplies. Event to be held March 25th from 10:00AM – 4:00PM at the Roses parking lot in Madison, NC. She asked for volunteers to assist with the event.
4. **Property at 407 S Glenn St Appeal** – Joey Spencer asked for reconsideration of Planning/Zoning Board of Adjustments decision to deny his request to put a single wide mobile home at this property. After much discussion, Councilman Thornton and Councilman Farmer explained it is a non-conforming use per our Town Ordinance. Copy incorporated into the minutes.

5. **Park Ballfield Usage by Travel Teams** – Town Manager Webster stated that the two travel ball teams that used our park ballfield the last two years for practices, would like to use the field again this year at no cost. Josh Shaffer and Danny Rodriguez both spoke and expressed their gratitude for use of the field and promoted Stoneville by stating their teams were associated with the Stoneville Recreation Department. They also help maintain the ballfield. Councilman Farmer made the motion to continue use of field at no charge and Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried with four yes votes from Councilmen Farmer, Thornton, Hundley, and Bennett. Councilman Smith voted no.
6. **Consideration for use of 103 S Henry** – Councilman Bennett presented numerous ideas for the use of our vacant building at 103 S Henry. Some suggestions including but not limited to were Historical Society, Welcome Center, and Park and Recreation Offices. Councilman Bennett made motion to look into different uses for this property and Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried. Copy of all suggestions incorporated into minutes.
7. **Budget Amendments** – Finance Officer Tucker presented two budget amendments. Councilman Farmer made motion to approve and Councilman Hundley seconded. Motion carried. Copies incorporated into the minutes.
8. **Appoint New Town Clerk** – Town Manager Webster stated new Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson would need to be appointed. Councilman Hundley made the motion and Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Public Comments: Mitzi Evans spoke regarding possible parking lot at 104 E Main Street once Asignco building is demolished.

Departmental Reports:

1. **Fire** – Chief Freeman expressed his disappointment with the Council regarding the decision to deny additional bonuses and asked for a reconsideration. Department had 18 medical calls and 17 fire calls. They received a grant of \$1,000 for public education. Siren is still off and Police Department will manually set off siren when needed. Department inspection is March 7th. Easter Egg hunt will be sponsored by the Fire Department and Youth Council on April 9th at 2:00PM at the Stoneville Memorial Park.
2. **Police** – Chief Moore reported they are down to three full-time officers and need to hire. Background check is being finalized on School Resource Officer and position should be filled within two weeks. They have received green light from county for generator and renovation and will be moving forward. Department had 1013 calls for service.
3. **Public Works** – Town Manager Webster provided update. Chad Manuel is still working by himself but someone has accepted the position and will start February 15th. Various sewer and water lines have been replaced and/or repaired. Pot holes have been filled, new locks placed on pump stations, meters read.

Old Business:

1. **Request to Make Alleyway a Two Way** – Town Manager Webster met with two state DOT representatives and they do not recommend making the alleyway a two way due to safety concerns.
2. **Strategic Planning Retreat** – Town Manager Webster advised retreat would be at the Vera Holland center on March 18th at 9:00AM. Jessie Day of PTRC will also be in attendance and lunch will be served. Police Chief Moore and Fire Chief Freeman will present their needs/wants for the upcoming 2023/2024 FY.

Town Manager Report:

1. **Public Works Building** – Engineer plans were sent to County Building Inspector for approval. Three constructions companies have picked up the plans. Bill Lester should have grading plan completed within two weeks. Champion Buildings will be responsible for the concrete flooring. Due Energy has set utility pole. Manager Webster also recommended a \$20.00 hour increase for Chad Manuel to serve as Interim Public Works Director. Motion was made by Councilman Farmer and seconded by Councilman Thornton. Motion carried.
2. **Recreation** – Bowling League was announced for May – August and open to town employees, businesses, and Youth Council. Each player plays three games for \$15.00 and Recreation Department receives \$5.00 back per participant.
3. **Demolition of 104 E Main St** – Duke Power removed power and building will be demolished in a few weeks.
4. **Upgrade to Social Media Presence** – Job postings are now being posted to Indeed and Facebook and number of applications have increased. Town events are also being promoted through Facebook in addition to our website.
5. **Water Pressure Update Glenn/Highland/Dalton** – Continuing to look for best solution for this issue. A quick option would be installing high pressure tanks for each household at a cost of \$1,000 - \$1,100 per tank. Town would purchase tank and install and liability would then pass to property owner for any future maintenance and/or repairs.

Return to closed session. Motion by Councilman Thornton. Second by Councilman Hundley. Motion carried.

Motion to come out of closed session made by Councilman Thornton. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried.

Councilman Farmer made the motion to spend \$8,000 from ARP funds for Christmas lights for downtown light poles. Councilman Hundley seconded. Motion carried.

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


 Mayor, Kathy Stanley Galvan


 Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

