

**Stoneville Town Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
December 5, 2023  
7:00 PM - Council Chambers**

**Regular Meeting**

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Councilmen Johnny Farmer, Curtis Bennett, Henry Thornton, Jerry Smith, and Chuck Hundley. Also, present were Town Administrator Perry Webster, Finance Officer Shannon Tucker, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson, Fire Chief Joel Freeman, Police Chief Frank Moore, Parks and Recreation Director Dillon Brown 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 7:05pm.

**Minutes:** Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes from November 14, 2023. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilman Hundley seconded. Motion carried.

**Agenda:** Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the December 5, 2023, Agenda. Councilman Smith made a motion to approve the Agenda. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

**Recognition of Outgoing Councilman, Chuck Hundley** - Mayor Galvan expressed her appreciation to Councilman Hundley for his service to the Town and community and commented on how much he will be missed. She presented Councilman Hundley with a plaque recognizing his many years of service on the Stoneville Town Council and his dedication to the community. Councilman Farmer also shared comments and thanked Councilman Hundley for his level headed leadership over the years.

**Organizational Meeting:**

1. **Oaths of Office** - The Oaths of Office were administered to newly elected officials by the Rockingham County Clerk of Superior Court, Abner Bullins. The Mayor-Elect, Kathy Stanley-Galvan was sworn in followed by Councilmen-Elect Lee Shelton, Jerry Smith, and Henry Thornton. Copies incorporated into minutes.

Mayor Galvan announced a brief five-minute recess to allow everyone to offer their congratulations, take pictures, sign Oaths of Office, and take their positions.

Mayor Galvan called the meeting back to order.

2. **Election of Mayor Pro Tempore** – Councilman Smith made the motion to nominate Mr. Henry Camp Thornton as Mayor Pro Tempore. Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried. Mayor Galvan administered the Oath of Office to Henry Thornton. Copy incorporated into minutes
3. **Adopt 2024 Town Council Meeting Schedule as presented** – Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson presented the 2024 meeting schedule and commented on the dates added for two Special Meetings for the Budget Retreat and the Budget Presentation along with an added date scheduled for a Budget Work Session. She explained by setting these dates on the meeting schedule, we would not have to send any additional notices to the Media and Sunshine List for any of these meetings. She advised Notices would be sent out accordingly for any Public Hearings and any other called meetings not appearing on this schedule. Councilman Smith

commented on the regular meeting scheduled for July 2, 2024. He advised this is a busy vacation week and asked the Council to consider not having a July meeting. Councilman Smith made a formal motion to take the meeting scheduled for July off the 2024 schedule. Councilman Thornton seconded. Councilman Farmer requested further discussion. He advised he was okay not having the meeting the week of the fourth but would like to see the meeting moved to the following week to avoid going over four weeks without a meeting. Councilman Smith advised there was a motion on the floor with a second. A vote was taken with Councilmen Farmer, Shelton, and Bennett voting no. Councilman Smith and Thornton voted yes. Three no votes and two yes votes. Motion did not carry with majority voting no. Councilman Farmer made a motion that the July meeting be moved to July 9<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Bennett asked if this date would also interfere with vacations due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday. Councilman Farmer revised his motion that the July meeting be moved to July 16, 2024. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the Council Meetings as presented by the Town Clerk with the revision changing the July 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting to July 16<sup>th</sup>. Councilman Bennett seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.

#### **New Business:**

1. **Adopt 2024 Town of Stoneville Holiday Schedule as presented** – Motion made by Councilman Farmer to Adopt the 2024 Town of Stoneville Holiday Schedule as presented by the Town Clerk. Councilman Smith seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.
2. **Adopt 2024 Water Billing Calendar as presented** - Motion made by Councilman Smith to Adopt the 2024 Water Billing Calendar as presented by the Town Clerk. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried. Copy incorporated into minutes.
3. **Consideration of proposed exchange of easements between the Town and Gregory Pallet** – Town Attorney Eugene Russell advised that Gregory Pallet purchased property on Highway 770 that surrounds the water tower owned by the Town. The Town currently has a paper easement that allows them access to go through the property at the existing Gregory Pallet location. The town uses Highway 770 to access the water tower because it provides the easiest access. Gregory Pallet is offering to deed an easement to the Town that legally allows access to the tower from Highway 770 in exchange for releasing its easement over the Gregory Pallet property. After discussion by the Council, a Motion was made by Councilman Farmer to approve the exchange of easements between the Town and Gregory Pallet as presented by the Town Attorney. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

**Old Business** - None

**Public Comments** - None

#### **Departmental Reports:**

1. **Fire** – Chief Freeman provided update on number of medical and fire calls for November. He advised call volume is down approximately 15% this year compared to last year. He advised the county burn ban was lifted. He reminded everyone to be cautious with space heaters as they are the leading cause of house fires. He advised of the Stoneville Fire Department Facebook page – Stoneville NC, Fire Department
2. **Police** – Chief Moore advised they are still trying to get the required number of quotes to meet the requirements for infrastructure and laptops. Councilman Farmer advised if they

are unable to get three quotes to go ahead and present the two he has at the next meeting so they can move forward with upgrades.

Prior to Director Dillon Brown's report, Mayor Galvan commented on all the Christmas Events that took place over the weekend. She thanked Jodi Lester and the Town Staff for all they did to make the weekend so special. Councilman Farmer also gave a thank you to Jodi Lester for planning events and to the Town Staff for their support. Both Mayor Galvan and Councilman Farmer made mention of positive comments they had received about the events.

3. **Parks and Recreation** – Director Dillon Brown advised we have 6U and 10U teams registered for basketball and will be playing in the Boys and Girls Club and Eden Parks & Recreation to participate in their League. He is currently working on practice schedules and obtaining referees for the games. He also commented on the Parade and his involvement. Mayor Galvan thanked him for his hard work on Parade night and the great job he did commentating on the event.
4. **Public Works** – Town Administrator Webster provided the Public Works update and commented on various water leaks and sewer back up that were handled last month. He advised of a possible water shut-off that would impact the western part of town for the upcoming weekend. This is due to a valve installment at Gregory Pallet. He advised it could last for three hours and will be scheduled during the night to keep disruption for our citizens at a minimum. Code Red Alerts will be sent out in advance of the shut-off. Note: Issue was resolved without an extended water shut-off.

#### **Town Administrator Report:**

1. **Public Works building** – Administrator Webster advised he has received emails from engineers and architects and all information should be submitted by the January meeting so the Council can consider hiring an engineering firm to handle the HVAC, electrical, and plumbing for the building.
2. **Pressure tanks on N. Glenn St., Kellam St., and Highland Ave.** – Administrator Webster advised they have twelve of the thirteen residents in these areas that want to move forward with the pressure tanks. He is in the process of obtaining quotes for the tanks and installation so the Council can make a decision on awarding the contract. He has two quotes and waiting for a third one. He has a quote of \$1,000 per resident from Mike's Etc. and a quote from City Plumbing of \$4,500 per resident. He is still waiting for a quote from Dalton Plumbing. There was discussion by the Council on the various quotes and price differences. Councilman Farmer asked if quotes included material and labor and Mr. Webster advised they did include both. Mayor Galvan asked the Town Attorney if the Council could make a motion to proceed if a set amount is not exceeded. The Town Attorney advised a motion could be made to approve the expenditure and approve the award to Mabe's Etc. if a lower bid is not received. There was further discussion and Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the expenditure and approve the award to Mabe's Etc. if a lower bid is not received. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Mayor Galvan thanked everyone for coming out and announced the next scheduled Council Meeting set for January 16, 2024, at 7:00pm.

Councilman Smith asked to speak commented on the voter turnout and advised we have 829 registered voters in our community and 351 of those voters are under the age of 50. He estimated

that on election day approximately 60% or more of the people that turned out to vote were under the age of 50. He commented on Councilman Shelton working hard to get votes and people showed up. He stated people want to live here and move here. He challenged the Council going into the new year to provide what our citizens need and want and all departments need to be ready. He stated he made a vow on Election Day for three things: Police Department, Fire Department, and Public Works and stated we have to have these three things to get it done.

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

**Adjourned at 7:43pm**

Kathy Stanley-Galvan  
Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan

Deleia Hutcherson  
Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

