

**Stoneville Town Council**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**July 1, 2025**  
**6:00 PM – Council Chambers**

**Regular Meeting**

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Council members Johnny Farmer, Curt Bennett, Lee Shelton, Henry Thornton and Daisy Smith. Also present were Town Administrator Michael Sands, Finance Officer Shannon Tucker, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson, Police Chief Rebecca Dixon, Public Works Director Byron Curry, Fire Chief Joel Freeman, and Town Attorney Eugene Russell.

**Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Invocation:** Mayor Galvan welcomed the assembly and called the meeting to order after the Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation at 6:00pm.

**Agenda:** Mayor Galvan asked for a motion to approve the July 1, 2025, agenda with an amendment to add item #6 under new business – to consider approval of a budget amendment for fire inspections and consider approval of an interlocal agreement allowing Rockingham County to perform fire inspections for the Town of Stoneville. Councilman Thornton made a motion to approve the agenda. Councilman Shelton seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

**Minutes:** Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the regular meeting minutes from June 3, 2025. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

**Recognition of Firefighter, Joe Harrelson** – Fire Chief, Joel Freeman formally recognized volunteer firefighter Joe Harrison for his dedication and achievement in becoming a North Carolina Certified Firefighter. Mr. Harrison contributed over 400 volunteer hours to training and education. Council and attendees expressed gratitude and appreciation for his service to the community.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Consideration to adopt Ordinance O-2025-02 Amending the Town of Stoneville Code of Ordinance Chapter 91: Fire Prevention and Protection – Section 91.04 Fire Prevention Code Consideration to adopt Fire Prevention and Inspection Policy** – Mr. Sands stated that the first two items under New Business involved consideration of Ordinance O-2025-02, which would amend Chapter 91 of the Town Ordinances related to Fire Prevention and Code Enforcement. These items were deferred without action upon the recommendation of the Town Administrator, who explained that, after consulting with the fire marshal, additional revisions and preparatory work were needed. He stated the matter would be addressed further in Item #6 under New Business.

**Animal Ordinance – Complaints and Enforcement** – Mr. Sands informed the Council that staff has received several complaints regarding off-leash animals and improper pet waste disposal in public spaces such as parks. The council was informed that documentation from residents is essential for enforcement. Suggestions were made to improve public communication through

the Town's social media and to consider installing pet waste stations in designated park areas. While there was consensus on implementing such amenities in parks, the council agreed to be cautious about placement in downtown areas to preserve aesthetic value.

**Consideration to approve contractor quote for Fidelity Bank Building revitalization project -**

The Council discussed the proposed contract for the Fidelity Bank Building revitalization project. Due to inconsistencies in submitted bids and the lack of a third complete bid, the Council agreed to table the item until the August meeting. Council members emphasized the importance of receiving detailed, itemized bids and recommended developing a comprehensive bid package. The need for architectural renderings for both interior and exterior improvements was also discussed.

**Budget Amendment** – Staff presented budget amendment 070125a, related to the carryover of funds from previous fiscal year grants and projects. The Town Administrator and Finance Officer explained that unspent funds are required to be reallocated into the new fiscal year budget, consistent with governmental accounting practices. Councilman Farmer raised questions regarding the timing and transparency of the carryovers. Despite some disagreement, a motion to approve the budget amendment was made by Councilman Bennett and seconded by Councilwoman Smith. Motion carried with a 4-1 vote. Council members Bennett, Thornton, Smith and Shelton voted yes and Councilman Farmer vote no. Copy incorporated into minutes.

**Consideration to approve a budget amendment for fire inspections and an interlocal agreement allowing Rockingham County to perform fire inspections for the Town of Stoneville**

– Mr. Sands presented this item and updated the Council on his discussions with the Fire Chief and Fire Marshal. He recommended the continuation of fire inspection services through the County while the Town works toward internal capability. The Fire Marshal is in agreement with this recommendation which will ensure compliance and continuity. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve the budget amendment and Interlocal Agreement allowing Rockingham County to perform fire inspections for the Town of Stoneville as recommended by staff. Councilwoman Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Copies incorporated into minutes.

**Old Business: None**

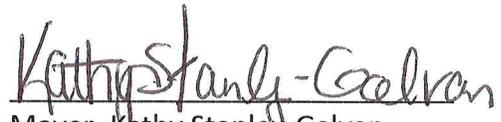
**Public Comments:** No formal comments were submitted. However, Councilwoman Smith raised a concern regarding the maintenance and appearance of the town sign at the eastern entrance to town on Highway 770. The Public Works Director agreed to inspect and address the matter.

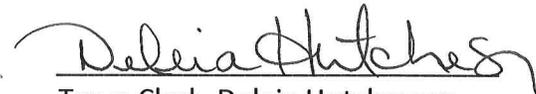
**Town Administrator Report:** Mr. Sands commented on the following: new water and sewer rates went into effect on July 1, 2025, and that updated fee schedules have been posted online and in Town Hall. A quarterly town update initiative, possibly through livestream or podcast, is being developed to keep residents informed. The Town received a \$200,000 revitalization grant for the Fidelity Bank building

Upcoming meetings and events were announced by Mayor Galvan and she thanked everyone for coming to the meeting.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Thornton. Seconded by Councilman Shelton. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 6:34 p.m.

  
Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan

  
Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

