

**Stoneville Town Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2026
6:00 PM – Council Chambers**

Regular Meeting

Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Council members Jessica Smith, Curt Bennett, Lee Shelton, Henry Thornton and Daisy Smith. Also present were Town Administrator Michael Sands, Town Clerk Deleia Hutcherson, Fire Chief Joel Freeman, Public Works Director Byron Curry 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 6:00 p.m.

Agenda: Councilwoman Daisy Smith made a motion to approve the January 6, 2026 agenda. Seconded by Councilman Thornton. Motion carried unanimously.

Minutes: Councilman Shelton made a motion to approve the December 2, 2025 regular and organizational meeting minutes. Seconded by Councilwoman Jessica Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

Legislative Update: Senator Phil Berger addressed the Council and provided a legislative update. He reaffirmed his office's willingness to assist the Town of Stoneville and its residents with state-level matters. Senator Berger discussed North Carolina's sustained economic growth and emphasized recent progress in Rockingham County and the Piedmont Triad, particularly as it relates to infrastructure improvements.

Senator Berger also discussed transportation issues, focusing on long-planned upgrades to US-220. He explained that the project had stalled due to the high cost of completing it as a single large project. To address this, the Department of Transportation is conducting an engineering study funded by a \$2 million allocation. The project will be divided into smaller segments that may be more feasible to fund and construct. He cited similar progress made on US-29. Council members were encouraged to contact his office regarding legislative needs, particularly local bills, ahead of short-session deadlines expected in late spring.

During the question-and-answer portion, Council members raised concerns regarding significant delays and long wait times at the Department of Motor Vehicles. Senator Berger acknowledged these challenges, attributing them to staffing shortages, leadership issues, and increased workload related to Real ID requirements. He noted that additional staffing, audits, and new leadership are in place but cautioned that improvements will take time.

Public Comments: Ms. Melody Holley of 112 White Pine Drive, Stoneville, NC spoke on Sunshine and Rainbows, a local community initiative designed to connect residents with resources and support services. Ms. Hawley reported on the recent "Coats and Kindness" drive, which resulted in the collection of approximately 40 coats, additional winter clothing items, and

several food baskets. She stated that distribution is ongoing in coordination with Stoneville Elementary School and Social Services. Ms. Holley also announced plans for a "Bridge to Better Expo" scheduled for May 30, 2026, aimed at bringing together nonprofits, schools, health providers, and community organizations to provide centralized access to resources. Council members asked clarifying questions regarding nonprofit status, donation handling, and outreach methods. Ms. Holley explained that she is in the process of establishing nonprofit status and developing a website and intake forms.

Old Business: None

New Business:

Consideration of Ordinance O-2026-01 to Remove or Demolish Structure at 104 W. Matthews St. - State Code Enforcement Officer Eric Clem presented Ordinance O-2026-01 authorizing the removal and demolition of a structure located at 104 West Matthew Street. He explained that the property owners had been notified of violations, attended a prior hearing, and were given 90 days to repair or demolish the structure but failed to comply. Attempts to use the structure for fire training were unsuccessful due to safety concerns and the likelihood of asbestos. The owners were properly notified of the meeting but did not appear. Following discussion, Councilman Shelton made a motion to approve Ordinance O-2026-01 for the demolition and removal of the structure at 104 West Matthews Street. Seconded by Councilwoman Daisy Smith. Motion carried unanimously. Copy incorporated into minutes.

Update on Nuisance Violation at 300 Lee Street - Mr. Clem reported on the condition of this property and the steps taken in accordance with the town nuisance ordinance. He has obtained a quote of \$850.00 from a local contractor to clean up the property. Councilman Thornton made a motion to authorize the cleanup of the property located at 300 Lee Street at the cost of \$850.00. Councilwoman Daisy Smith seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Copy incorporated into minutes.

Active Housing and Non-Residential Cases - Mr. Clem reviewed ongoing code enforcement cases and explained the prioritization process based on hazard level, visibility, and complaints. Council discussed budget constraints and agreed that cases should be addressed on a case-by-case basis, beginning with the highest priority properties. Clarification was provided regarding an address correction on Gerry Street. Mr. Clem also recommended consideration of daily civil penalties for a high-value property on South Glenn Street that does not meet demolition thresholds. Staff will continue to prioritize cases and bring recommendations and cost estimates to the Council before proceeding.

Consideration of quotes for front winch and mount on fire truck - The Council considered three quotes for the purchase and installation of a front bumper mount on the fire truck. Fire

Chief Joel Freeman recommended a vendor that had prior experience and was familiar with the truck despite a higher cost. Following discussion, Councilman Bennett made a motion to approve the quote from Anchor-Richey EVS in the amount of \$4,750.00 as presented by staff. Seconded by Councilman Thornton. Motion carried unanimously. Copy incorporated into minutes.

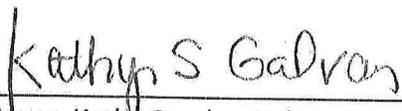
Consideration to appoint Mr. Joe Rose as an alternate member of the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment – Councilwoman Jessica Smith inquired about public awareness of board vacancies. Staff explained that vacancies are posted on the Town website and announced at Planning Board/Board of Adjustment meetings but acknowledged opportunities for improved visibility. Councilwoman Jessica Smith made a motion to approve the appointment of Joe Rose as an alternate member of the Planning Board/Board of Adjustment. Seconded by Councilwoman Daisy Smith. Motion carried unanimously. Copy incorporated into minutes.

Town Administrator Report: Town Administrator Michael Sands provided updates including a review of the budget-to-actual report, noting ongoing adjustments related to new financial software. Council was informed that the annual audit was completed and submitted for state review. Additional updates included concerns from citizens regarding traffic signal timing at Main Street and Stone Street, and a request for evaluation of a downtown crosswalk near Debbie’s Restaurant. It was also noted that senior bingo activities will be suspended in January and February and resume in March. Updates were provided on the post office building renovation and the near completion of the credit union project. The Council asked staff to coordinate with NCDOT regarding traffic signal timing and crosswalk evaluation. A towing contract was discussed to address nuisance related junk vehicles and a proposed contract will be presented at a future meeting.

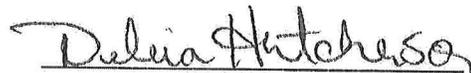
Mayor Galvan announced the next regular meeting scheduled for February 3, 2026.

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Thornton. Seconded by Councilwoman Daisy Smith. Motion carried unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.



Mayor, Kathy Stanley-Galvan



Town Clerk, Deleia Hutcherson

