

Stoneville Town Council
Meeting Minutes
February 1, 2022
Closed Session 6:00 PM
7:00 PM-Vera Holland Center

Closed Session:

All members present. Motion to enter into closed session by Councilman Thornton. Second by Councilman Hundley. Motion carried.

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

Regular Meeting:

Present: Present were Mayor Kathy Stanley-Galvan, Councilmen Chuck Hundley, Jerry Smith, Johnny Farmer, Curtis Bennett and Henry Thornton. Also present were Interim Town Manager Perry Webster, Town Clerk Sherri Darnell, Finance/HR Officer Samuel Stewart, Police Chief Franklin Moore, Fire Chief Tim Brown, Parks and Recreation Director Jackie Blackard 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 closed session a personnel issue and an economic development issue were discussed with no action taken.

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

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

New Business:

McMichael High School STEM Project: Hannah Cardwell and Sophia Jimenez presented their STEM project for possible upgrades for the Town Park. The presentation included ideas for upgrading the bathrooms, playground, tennis court, basketball court and the addition of a dog park.

FY 2020/2021 Audit: Mr. Rex Rouse presented the audit findings for the fiscal year 2020-2021. Mr. Rouse explained the audit by stating overall our Fund Balance had increased to \$1,085,671.00. Also, budgeted expenses were less than actual expenses of \$108,761.00 due to purchase of equipment and vehicles. Mr. Rouse also stated that there were a few material weaknesses that were identified and since have been corrected.

Public Hearing: Motion to open made by Councilman Smith. Second by Councilman Thornton. Motion carried.

Consolidation of Stoneville, Shiloh and Northwest Volunteer Fire Departments: Fire Chiefs Tim Brown, Robert Stanley and Mason James presented the need to consolidate these fire departments due to the decline of volunteers not only here, but nationwide. This consolidation would have full time staff 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, and 365 days a year. This will also increase personnel and increase protection; therefore, preventing an increase in home owners insurance.

Public Hearing Comments: Steve Evans spoke in favor
Steve Ruminek was unsure

Close Public Hearing: Councilman Smith made the motion to close the public hearing. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried. Consensus of Council to return with other options if possible.

Old Business:

Text Amendment Chapter 93-Animals: Town Attorney Russell presented the ordinance that mirrors the County ordinance. Attorney Russell stated that this ordinance provides stronger regulations with the ability to remove an offending animal. Attorney Russell also stated that if criminal penalties are to be applied, this ordinance would have to be adopted twice.

Public Comments: Melanie Harrington spoke in favor of this amendment
Sue Fulcher spoke in favor
Merri Washburn spoke regarding the incident
Steve Ruminek spoke in favor

Councilman Farmer made the motion to adopt the text amendment to put our ordinance in line with the County's. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Return to New Business:

Body Camera Grant: Town Manager Webster asked to approve an application for a grant of \$23000.00 to replace body cameras for the Police Department. Councilman Farmer made the motion to allow the Town Manager to apply for the grant. Councilman Hundley seconded. Motion carried.

Purchase Snow Plow and Emergency Lighting for Pickup Truck: Town Manager Webster explained that the pickup truck needs emergency lighting and a snow plow. The quoted amount is \$10,549.12 including installation. Councilman Hundley made the motion to purchase and install snow plow and emergency lighting in the amount of \$10,549.12. Councilman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Conflict of Interest Policy: Town Manager Webster stated that this policy is required to attach to all of our grants. Councilman Farmer made the motion to approve. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Consideration of Sales Price for Surplus Safes: Town Manager Webster stated that we have 6 large safes and 2 small safes that we need to sell. After some discussion, Councilman Hundley made a motion to have sealed bids sent in to Town Hall. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Daily Outreach Service for Seniors and Handicapped Citizens: Town Manager Webster explained that this is a totally voluntary service that citizens can sign up for in order to reduce the chances of someone falling or some other incident and can't get to the phone. Once signed up, they would receive a daily telephone call from someone at the Town to check on them. Councilman Farmer made a motion to approve this service. Councilman Smith seconded. Motion carried.

Purchase of Diesel Tank for Public Works: Town Manager Webster stated the diesel tank needs replacing due to water accumulating inside. A quote from Dan River Oil in the amount of \$1,575.00 not including wiring was obtained. After some discussion, this item was tabled.

Consideration to Reduce Christmas Holiday: Councilman Smith asked about reducing the 3 days received at Christmas to 2. After some discussion, Councilman Hundley made the suggestion to table this discussion.

Budget Amendments 1a and 1b: Finance Officer Stewart explained budget amendment 1a in the Fire Department of \$3,375.00 for vehicle maintenance and amendment 1b in the Police Department of \$6,565.00 for stop stick grant. Councilman Hundley made the motion to approve amendments 1a and 1b. Councilman Farmer seconded. Motion carried. Copies incorporated into the minutes.

Councilman Farmer made a motion to allow the Town Manager to do a sewer repair to prevent backups not to exceed \$5,000.00. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Return to Old Business:

Update on Fidelity Bank Property Lease: Town Attorney Russell stated that he is in contact with the property owners and is working on the contract. Council Farmer made the motion for the Mayor and Clerk to approve. Councilman Thornton seconded. Motion carried.

Recreation Department Update: Parks and Recreation Director Blackard stated that we presently have little league and men’s basketball underway. Sign-ups for T-ball, baseball and softball are also underway. Plans for fall softball, baseball and basketball will start in August.

Town Report:

Town Manager Webster reported that the corners have been marked for the Public Works building and working with contractors to proceed. 107 S Henry Street should be completed soon with sign, internet and phones to be installed. Lemons Street water line will continue as originally planned with replacing the 2 inch line rather than a 6 inch at a cost of \$28,000.00. American Tower matched the amount the other company was willing to pay; therefore we will move forward with American Tower for the lump sum payment. The emergency cutoff for Deaton Loop is scheduled to proceed on Monday the 7th at 11 pm.

Adjourn: Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Bennett. Second by Councilman Smith. Motion carried.

Kathy Stanley Galvan
Mayor, Kathy Stanley Galvan



Sherri Darnell
Town Clerk, Sherri Darnell, CMC, NCCMC