

TOWN OF STOKESDALE
PO BOX 465
STOKESDALE, NORTH CAROLINA

The regular meeting of the Stokesdale Town Council was held in the Town Hall at 8416 US Highway 158 on Thursday, September 18, 2008.

Mayor Randle L. Jones called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. The following members of Council were present: Mayor Randle L. Jones, Mayor Pro Tem Mickie Halbrook, Cheryl Steele, James Attaway, and Norman Cook.

Others present included: Guilford County Sheriff's Deputy Steve Christman, Town Attorney William B. Trevorrow; and Town Clerk/Finance Officer Carolyn Joyner.

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Council considered the proposed agenda. Mr. Attaway made a motion to accept the agenda as written. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Ms. Halbrook made a motion to approve the minutes without reading. Mr. Attaway seconded the motion. The minutes of the regular meeting of Town Council held on August 21, 2008 were unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Report from Guilford County Sheriff's Department: Deputy Chrisman reported three residential burglaries, one attempted burglary, three assaults, one vehicle theft, four drug and alcohol violations, and two communicating threats since the previous meeting. He encouraged everyone to report any suspicious persons or vehicles around businesses or homes. He said that Greensboro was having more robberies of convenience stores and restaurants since Christmas is coming soon. He said there was a close call at Subway when a customer saw two suspicious persons in the parking lot near closing time. When he drove around to get a license tag number, one person ran. It probably foiled a robbery attempt.

Federal Trade Commission Requirements for Identity Theft Prevention Programs: The Clerk indicated that the Federal Trade Commission will require that the Town have written procedures in place to protect consumer identity and to fight theft. The Town is required to have the program in place by November 1, 2008 because the Town does have billing for a utility system. According to information received from the League of Municipalities, the Tennessee Valley Public Power Association has some printed materials that can be ordered that will provide guidelines for a program. Mr. Trevorrow said that each municipality needs to develop their own program. He suggested checking with the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments to see if they have any information on a program. The Clerk said that the cost of the materials from the Tennessee Valley was \$350.00. It includes a notebook with policy and procedure development, a compact disk and a user manual. Mr. Trevorrow noted that it does not include training. One of the four things that a program must have is enforcement and training for the staff to help them identify what is called "red flags" which is described as when your systems experiences a hit of some kind that is suspicious. Mayor Jones said that he felt the Town should make a good faith effort. He suggested that the Clerk contact the Piedmont Triad Council of Governments and other governments to see if anyone has a program. Ms. Halbrook suggested that there might be information on the website that was mentioned. Mayor Jones made a motion to have the Clerk check with Piedmont Triad Council of Governments and other governments and if that fails, to authorize the Clerk to order the materials from the Tennessee Valley Authority. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council Members voted aye and the motion was approved.

Time Warner Entertainment Petition for Special Relief: Mr. Trevorrow said that Time Warner wants to remove rate regulatory authority from the Town as a local unit of government which is expressed in the franchise agreement. Their method of doing that is filing a petition to seek special relief from the Federal Trade Commission which indicated that since there are other providers of this type of service such as Direct TV, that satisfies the requirements of the trade regulations to allow Time Warner to get special relief and not have to follow the Town's process for changing the rates. Dave Harris, Piedmont Triad Council of Governments, who spoke with Council during the franchising process has filed an opposition to the petition saying that Time Warner did not use good data in their work up saying that other services such as Direct TV are adequately available to the households but it was not adequate data because they used was a zip code component in compiling the number of households in Stokesdale that were customers of Time Warner and/or Direct TV. The petition says that it was not adequate because of people who were in zip code zones that were outside of Stokesdale and secondly that are people within

the Stokesdale zip code that receive free services. Under the Federal Regulatory System, those who receive free services are not counted in the customer base of those counted to meet the test of the Federal Trade regulations requirements that Time Warner is acting upon them and therefore they are sampling to see if there are people in the Stokesdale franchise area was either inaccurate or faulty to some degree and they ought to be made to do it again however the petition further says that they cannot rely on the redundancy of doing it again and this petition should be dismissed. If they want to start over and use adequate information then that is their right.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS:

Public Safety Committee: Mr. Hooks said that the Public Safety Committee met on Wednesday, September 10 at the District One office. He asked for Council to approve the acceptance applications for the purpose of allowing the Committee to add four or five new members in order for them to accomplish their goals, i.e. the resource list and the emergency action plan(EAP). He said that he had talked with County Emergency Management and they are expanding their resource list for the entire County. Mr. Hooks noted that the Town has resources from businesses, contractors, and churches that could be deployed from this area faster than resources from other areas of the County which could take three to four hours for a response. He felt that the committee needs extra members to help move forward with the Town's EAP. Mr. Attaway and Mr. Hooks had attended a meeting at Guilford County Emergency Services with the Triangle Chapter of Contingency Planning Association of the Carolinas. A presentation was made about Citizen Corps with emphasis on CERT (Citizens Emergency Response Teams.) Ron Campbell, Guilford County Emergency Management presented information on business continuity plans. Mr. Hooks noted that the Committee may begin meeting every two weeks in an effort to speed up the work of the committee. The Committee requested information from the Town Clerk on existing contracts and agreements for services that may be included in the EAP. The next meeting is tentatively set for September 25 at the Fire Department. Mr. Hooks also noted that there has been further information regarding the parking situation in Weatherstone after discussion with Lt. Foxx of the Guilford County. Guilford Co Sheriff's Department and the Highway Patrol. It had been suggested that a unified ordinance should be made with Oak Ridge, Summerfield and Stokesdale working together. NC General Statute 20-161 was referred to and the Highway Patrol says that it is out of their jurisdiction.

Mr. Attaway made a motion to open up and take applications for up to five members of the Public Safety Committee. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. Mr. Cook asked how many members were on the Committee now. Mr. Attaway responded by saying that there were two Council members, the Fire Chief, Mr. Hooks, and a member from the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Trevorrow noted that Mr. Hooks had mentioned that GS 20-161 pertained only to State roads and the local jurisdiction. The local jurisdiction would have to pass their own ordinance to have the parking rules enforced by the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Trevorrow suggested that the language could parallel GS 20-161. Mayor Jones called the question and all Council members voted aye.

Ordinance Review Committee: Activation & Organization of Committee: Mayor Jones noted that a list of members who had previously served on the Committee was in Council's packet and that there is no longer a member of Council on the Committee since Mr. Berry is no longer on Council and he is no longer a resident. He made a motion that current members who are residents should be contacted to see if they are still interested in serving and to simultaneously accept applications for additional members to fill any vacancies. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. Mayor Jones noted that two applications have already been submitted. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried. Mayor Jones said that applications should be submitted by November 15.

Departmental and Administrative Reports

Finance Report: August 2008: The Finance Officer reported that assets were down by \$5,753.97 since the previous month. General Fund Checking account transactions included payment of \$18,354.67 to Guilford County Finance Department for law enforcement and \$1,000 to Cannon & Company as partial payment for the audit. She noted that the auditor had been at Town Hall on four days since the previous meeting. Accounts Payable includes an invoice from Guilford County Finance Department for planning services in the amount of \$12,500.00. A deposit of \$990.91 for the Hold Harmless payment was made to the General Fund Savings Account.

Water Enterprise checking account transactions include a payment of \$6,502.40 to the City of Winston for water and \$175.00 to Superior Locate for the marking of water lines. Accounts Payable includes Invoice for \$420 for a permit from NCDENR for operation of the Town Water system.

The Money Market Savings Account reflects the deposit of interest from some of the certificates of deposit as well as interest in the amount of \$56.92 that was earned on the deposited funds.

Certificate of Deposit #30 matured during the month of August and was renewed for six months at 3.22%.

Ms. Joyner noted that another item regarding finances that pertains to the fees that will be charged to new businesses that may soon be requesting a meter since the infrastructure has been put in place by the developer of the property and their contractors. Mayor Jones said that the difference was that in some situations, the Town had to pay for the pipes and the water meter and now the pipes have been paid for and installed by some businesses according to the Town's specifications as part of their construction agreements and now they only need the meter. The Finance Officer had prepared a proposal that showed the Town's cost which would be passed to the property owner. Mayor Jones made a motion to adopt the fee structure as set out in the proposal. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council Members voted aye and the fee structure was adopted.

Administrative Report:

Population Estimate for 2007: 3,756: The Clerk noted that a updated population had been received from the State Demographer which estimates a total population of 3,756 persons in the Town which was an increase of 118 persons or a 3.24% increase.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Consider a Resolution for an International Day of Peace: Mr. Attaway asked where the letter came from about the resolution and the Clerk responded that it was from Triad Faith Interfaith Peace Witness. The Clerk noted that the material did not arrive in time for Council to review it. The letter provided some information on events that were to be held in Winston this weekend. The United Nations General Assembly established the International Day of Peace in 1981. Council reviewed the resolution but did not take any action on the matter.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Jones read the announcements listed on the agenda. The Clerk added that the Stokesdale Cropwalk would be held on Sunday, October 12 at Bethel UMC at 3:00 pm. The walk is a part of a worldwide event that many communities take part in. She noted that 25% of the funds that are raised at the Stokesdale Cropwalk will come back to the local food pantry of the Good Samaritan Ministries to help those in need in Stokesdale.

The Annual Christmas Parade will be held on December 13 at 2:00 pm. The Committee will meet on October 22 at 7:00 pm Town Hall.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: Mr. Hooks asked about the status of the Park. Mayor Jones said that the architects are completing the drawings which will show more of the specifics of the project such as drawings of the buildings. They are looking at the topography and at other issues such as if it may be cheaper to do the grading for the entire facility at once rather than doing each project separately. They should be reporting back soon.

Mr. Hooks announced that Stokesdale Community Health Awareness Day would be held on October 11. Health checks and dental checks will be done and referrals to other agencies will be provided for those that need them.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL: Ms. Halbrook said that she wanted the architects here by the next meeting since it has been a long time. She also noted that she and Ms. Joyner had attended a luncheon at the US Postal Service Center on Pleasant Ridge Road and she had spoke to postal authorities about a new facility and maybe the Town will get something started in spring of 2009. She said that the Town is second in line for a new facility behind Clemmons. She said that she had been asked if a stoplight would help but she did not think that it would because of the businesses located there.

Ms. Halbrook commented that Council had agreed to put Liquor by the Drink to a vote and Council needs to set a date for that. Mayor Jones said that he had talked with the individual they are getting information ready. He said that Council must do a resolution and some are being reviewed. He had talked with some of the people involved in the Asheboro situation. He said that there may be some confusion if it is voted on now and then it is not on the November ballot for citizens to vote on. He suggested that it should be on the November meeting agenda and have all of the paperwork ready by then. There should also be some discussion as to whether to place an ABC store on the ballot as well.

ADJOURNMENT: Ms. Steele made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Jones seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:16 pm.

Carolyn L. Joyner, Town Clerk

Approved:

Randle L. Jones, Mayor