

TOWN OF STOKESDALE
PO BOX 465
STOKESDALE, NORTH CAROLINA

A Special Meeting of the Stokesdale Town Council was held in the Town Hall at 8416 US Highway 158 on Wednesday, February 10, 2010.

Mayor Randle L. Jones called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. The following members of Council were present: Mayor Randle L. Jones Mayor Pro Tem Mickie Halbrook, and Bobby Richardson. Cheryl Steele arrived while the meeting was in progress. James Attaway was absent.

Others present included: Carolyn Joyner, Town Clerk/Finance Officer.

Mayor Jones noted that the purpose of the meeting was to interview applicants for committees. The applicant's name is followed by the committee(s) that was applied for.

Wayne Southern: Athletics and Recreation Committee: Mr. Southern was the first applicant to be interviewed. Mayor Jones noted that the Athletics and Recreation Committee which would be dealing with the utilization of the Park and how other aspects such as trails and other recreation may work into park. He asked Mr. Southern to tell Council about himself and why he would like to serve on that committee. Mr. Southern replied that he had lived in Stokesdale all of his life except for four years while he was serving in the military. When he returned from the military, he got married and built a house in Springdale. He started playing sports and baseball in Stokesdale when he was a child. He and his wife put themselves through college and have two children. He graduated from Guilford College with a bachelor's degree in accounting and business. He has his CPA license and works for a CPA firm in Greensboro. He is working on his master's degree at UNC-G. Mayor Jones asked if he had served on any committees for a governmental entity before. He said not necessarily for a government but that he is on the Board for the Stokesdale Parks and Recreation and is their treasurer. He started the Homeowners Association for Springdale and was treasurer for it for two years and the president for the last three years. He has dealt with committees before which involved dealing with different personalities. He said that he audits governmental units. Mayor Jones said that the Town Council is the policy maker and the committee tends to do research and report back to Council and Council make policy. Mr. Southern said that it would be no different than dealing with departments in his firm. He said that he thought Council would want people already involved or experienced in this area to be on the committee. There would be new activities and things that have not been done before and Council would want people with a knowledge base of sports like soccer so they can give Council the information that they need to decisions. Mayor Jones said that one of the biggest issues will be a lot of people wanting to use the park and trying to do it fairly so that everyone has fair access to it. Soccer and football teams will want to use it and it may be needed for baseball practice and there may be Frisbee golf tournaments. It may not work perfectly the first day. Mayor Jones asked what he felt that his strongest contribution would be to the committee and to the Town if selected to serve on the committee. Mr. Southern replied that his involvement with Parks and Recreation and working with the people from the Youth Football and his experience in organizing sports and working with kids and coaches was his strong points. He has done it at the Park with 300 kids that you have to work them in and it is a structure thing with only two fields. He said that he had ability to put things together and structure into the schedules and the decision-making ability but in the end the Council will have the final call. Mayor Jones said that committee members serve at Council's discretion and they do not have authority to set policy or be a spokesman for the Town nor can they incur debt. You cannot obligate the Town for anything. There may be training for the committees. To go outside the policy could make the committee member libel. He asked Mr. Southern if he had any problems serving under those circumstances. He indicated that he did not.

Mayor Jones asked Mr. Southern if he had questions. Mr. Southern asked about the structure of the committee and how soon would they meet. Mayor Jones replied that the committee would meet on a

separate night from Council. A Council member may serve on the committee. Council hopes to appoint committee members at the next meeting. The committee will decide who serves as a chair and a secretary to record minutes of the meeting. Weather has delayed construction of the Park but Council hopes to get it up and running as soon as possible. Mr. Southern asked about lighting for the field. Mayor Jones said that nothing is in place right now but they can look into lights and it may be something on a temporary basis. Funding without levying a tax may be the biggest problem. A lot of people will be excited about the park. Some people will say that they will not use the park. Ms. Halbrook asked Mr. Southern if he was involved in fund raising. Mr. Southern said that the Park does fund raising with sponsorships for the kids teams. Sponsorship fees go to toward the operation of the Park for items such as upkeep of the field, lights, and trash removal for example. He asked if there was a target date for when the new park would be ready. Mayor Jones said that there was not and he preferred that it be done right rather than rushing and it be done wrong. It may be delayed from using it in the spring. The weather has been exceptionally bad for months.

Mr. Southern said that a spring soccer season is tentative because they would have to hold registration. Now they only have fall soccer because the baseball fields are used in the spring and the outfields of the baseball fields is where they practice soccer so they would prefer to start in mid-March or early April and it would end in May for an eight to ten week season. They would have a soccer camp at the end of July and the season would go thru the first of November. Mr. Southern said that lighting is a major issue at the park. Mr. Southern asked who would line the field, operate the concession and who does the mowing. There are many decisions to be made before it can be used. Mayor Jones said that he has been looking at various options for the operation of the concession stand. Mr. Southern said that it may not be cost effective to hire an outside vendor to run the concession stand. He mentioned that Ms. Joyner had said that there would be soccer goals at the Park. Mr. Richardson said that the insurance would require that the goals be anchored and that might be an issue with playing football on the fields. Mr. Southern said that there are temporary anchors that can be used. He also said that Clay Walker had said that the Football would not need the fields during soccer season and they would need them after the fall soccer season. He said that the Parks & Recreation have considered having other adult leagues that they have not had before because of the existing fields would not accommodate them. Mayor Jones said that Council will try to make their decisions at the next Council meeting.

Jamie Southern: Athletics and Recreation Committee: Ms. Southern said that she has been a pediatric nurse for the past eight years and is currently a home health care and travel throughout Guilford County. She has been the soccer director for the last two years and about 300 families are involved in the soccer program. She has 2year old, 4 year old and 8 year old twin boys. She said that her main interest was being involved in sports because of her children and with their ages she will be involved for some time.

Mayor Jones said that the Park is designed to be used by everyone and the committee is for Athletics and Recreation should consider everything from Frisbee Golf, to horseshoes and other things and it will include things other than soccer. He asked how she would contribute to that part of it. She replied that her kids play soccer but they do other things as well. She said they participate in local churches and the programs that they offer. She would like to bring things to Stokesdale that you currently have to go to Greensboro or Kernersville to meet our needs. This could be things like Easter egg hunts, and simple plays, games that are not necessarily sports oriented but are more community oriented like games and chalk drawing contests. She said that Oak Ridge has a very good playground which includes a swing that meets the needs of a child that uses a wheelchair. Mayor Jones said that the committee can make suggestions for items such as that that could be added in the future to the Town Park. Mayor Jones said that the community serves at the pleasure and discretion of the Council and they must report back to Council. The committee does research and makes recommendations back to Council who makes decisions. Committees cannot incur debt and you may have to pay for it if Council has not approved the item. Council sets policy and they must answer to everyone. The Committee members do not act as a spokesperson for the Town. He asked if she would have any problems working under these circumstances. She said that she did not and that it makes you feel like someone is backing you up. Mayor Jones said that Council would make decisions and appointments at the next Council meeting and hoped to have the committee set up as soon as possible. This is the first time

for the Park and there may be rough spots. Mr. Richardson said that Council is looking for good recommendations from the committee. Ms. Southern replied that she had ideas about different types of camps such as art and craft camps and Scout groups meeting there.

Logan Bowlby: Athletics and Recreation and Memorial Committee: Mr. Bowlby said that he was in the 9th grade at Northwest High School. Mayor Jones asked him why he would like to serve on the committee. Mr. Bowlby replied that there were not many things for children including his age to do around here and Athletic and Recreation Committee would help get everyone involved so that they felt they were a part of the group. Mayor Jones asked what did he think, as a student, that he could contribute to the Town and to the Committee. Logan said that he could contribute ideas. He said that he is on the Northwest Lacrosse team and he plays baseball. He played tennis and golf when he was younger but has not continued with it. Mayor Jones asked what his interest was in the Memorial Committee. He recalled that 9-11 and the reactions of students at school. Mayor Jones said that the Memorial Committee might work on things other than 9-11 such as memorializing the history of the Town at locations in Town or at the future Town Hall. The committee would give input to Council but would not set policy, would not make rules and would not be a spokesperson for the Town. The committee would research and then report back to Council. Mr. Bowlby said that he could work under these circumstances. He shared his report card with Council. He said that he had not been tardy or absent from any classes and he tries to participate as much as he can. Ms. Halbrook asked if he had always lived in Stokesdale. He replied that he has moved here about two and one half years ago from Tennessee and he was there for two years. He has lived in Delaware for most of his life. Mayor Jones said that they would interview everyone and would make decisions at the next Council meeting. The Athletics and Recreation Committee will probably start up soon. The Memorial Committee may want to look at some things as the Park and Town Hall near completion such as park benches in honor of someone.

Nancy McCoy: Athletics & Recreation Committee: Ms. McCoy said that she is a retired school librarian and she and her husband have two children, a son 26 and a daughter 22. They grew up in Long Island New York and there was a fabulous athletic program that her children backed out of by the time they were 8 or 9. They are not athletes and that is her concern that something should be offered in addition to athletics. Her children are into the arts. Although she liked soccer, football, and baseball – team sports – she would like to see something offered for those who are not athletic but need recreation. Mayor Jones said that this is why recreation was included since the Park is for everyone. The committee will have input but everything may not happen at once but there can be planning for the future. Ms. McCoy said that Logan, the previous applicant, is the oldest of 19 children that live on her street. She suggested things like a place for a teacher to give dancing lessons or archery. Mayor Jones said that a Town Hall is being built and it may be utilized for arts and recreation. Mayor Jones said that Council is the final decision maker and committees work at Council's discretion. Council makes decisions and incurs debt and makes policy. If some goes outside of policy, then you are on your own. Committee members can be held liable if they do not follow policy and rules. She said that her son is the master carpenter at Triad Stage and her daughter is a scenic artist. She said that she is familiar with theatre and she said that she believes in creativity. She said that she would like to see a place for book exchanges and a story time for young children. Mayor Jones said that Town Hall uses can be coordinated with the Park so it can be used together. When the committee first meets, scheduling and getting things up and running may be the first items discussed. He asked how it can be utilized it for other uses can be discussed and feedback given to Council. Mayor Jones said that the Town has not had an ad valorm tax and the Town's income is limited. Decisions will be made at the next Council meeting and committee will start to work.

Tom McCoy: Memorial Committee: Mayor Jones asked him why he wanted to be on the committee. Mr. McCoy said that he was interested when he read about the 9/11 in the Times in September and he is from New York and he knew many people who were there. Most of his wife's family is New York City firemen. His best friend from high school was on the 106th floor and did not make it out. He thinks that Stokesdale would benefit. Mayor Jones said that the Committee is a Memorial Committee and will be looking at other things in addition to 9/11. There will be opportunities with the new Town Hall and there may be ways to honor firemen, police and others there. It may be recognizing historic places and it would

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be an on-going committee. Historic items may be placed at Town Hall. Mr. McCoy said that he was a history major in college. Mayor Jones asked him what would be his strongest points for working on the committee. Mr. McCoy replied he has some organizing skills and he likes to think that he is creative. He had not thought of it as being ongoing but that would be good. Mayor Jones said that benches may be placed around the walking track in honor of someone and suggestions such as this could be made to Council. Mayor Jones said that the Veterans Monument is not the Town's although the Town does pay the electric bill. He said that many things went on in this area before the war that may be of interest. These would be addition to 9/11 and he can be creative and look for ideas that would be of interest to the Town. Mr. McCoy said that he did not have questions. He said that he assumed there would be guidance from Town Council. He did know Logan but did not know whether anyone else had applied. He said that he was a relative new comer to the Town and would like to get to know others. Mayor Jones said that Council hopes to make decisions by the next Council meeting so that the committees can be up and going. Meeting can be held at Town Hall if no one else is using it. Committees cannot incur debt, cannot be a spokesperson for the Town and Council sets policy.

Richard Isley: Athletics & Recreation Committee: Mayor Jones asked Mr. Isley why he was interested in serving on the committee. Mr. Isley said that he did not know the future of the existing Park's programs and the future of the athletics involved in it. He has two sons that are involved in sports now. He said that he felt there should be some clarification on some issues. When he attended one of the Park's & Rec meetings, no one knew who was in charge. One soccer game was played at 10:30 pm on a school night. Only one person was called about it when all of the Board should have been informed about it before any decisions were made. Mayor Jones said that some of the Parks and Rec members have applied and may be serving on this committee. The committee may be things other than sports which could include arts, crafts, and recreation. They will be looking at scheduling and getting the Park up and running. They will be looking at the Park being for everyone's use. There is frisbee golf, volleyball, children's playground and a walking track. They will be looking at getting input so that everyone can use it and not just a few. There should be a balance of competing schedules. Mr. Isley asked if there will be a gym on the grounds someday. Mayor Jones said that he had some prices and the committee may look at issues about what is needed at the Park. Mr. Isley expressed the need for maintenance and upkeep on the Park. There could be a community park day and singing in the park and perhaps an amphitheater. Mayor Jones said that Council makes policy and that committee cannot incur debt. The committee cannot make statements to the press and cannot be a spokesman for the Town. Mr. Isley said that he did not have any problems working under those rules. He said that he works with one of the largest youth activities in the State but he does not do their press releases. Mayor Jones said that questions may be directed to the committee for research and then they would report back to Council. One issue may be lights for the Park. Mr. Isley asked if the two parks would ever become one. (Ms. Steele arrived at this time.) Mayor Jones said that the Parks & Rec is incorporated and would remain that way. He said that it would be a cooperative effort and the new park will be for soccer, football and to coordinate other uses as well. Baseball may need it for practice. They will need to figure out the best way to keep it up and to keep it going.

Helen Isley: Trails, Paths & Right of Ways Committee: Mayor Jones asked why she wanted to serve on the Trail, and Right of Ways Committee and what could she bring to the committee. Ms. Isley said that the trail would be for horse riders, joggers, and walkers and moms pushing strollers. The area is becoming very developed. She said that she had ridden on trails in Virginia that would be similar to the Mountains to Sea Trail. The ones that she had been on were used mostly by joggers/hikers but it was open to all and everyone was respectful of others using the trail. It provides a way for people to enjoy the outdoors. Mayor Jones said that the committee may try to look at potential routes for a trail and trying to find landowners that would voluntarily allow their land to be used. People may be willing to give an easement for their land and not charge for it. There could be some coordination with the County. She did not have any questions. Mayor Jones said that committees could not set policy, incur debt, or be a spokesperson for the Town. Mayor Jones asked what did she see as the role of the committee if she is selected. She said that she felt that they should talk to the neighborhood and the landowners to see if areas where the old railroad went could be used as a starting point. Mayor Jones said that Council hopes to make their decisions at the next Council meeting and then get the committees up and running as soon as possible. He

said that this committee may work with the County and the Town attorney who has looked at some routes and easements. It may not be just the Mountains to Sea Trail and there could be land for some other trails. Ms. Isley said that it would be great if it could be tied into the Park. It would provide a staging area for citizens to connect to the trail.

Mary Hardin: Trail, Rights of Ways: Ms. Hardin was not present. Mayor Jones asked Ms. Isley, her daughter, if she was going to participate. Ms. Isley replied that her mother would serve or fill in on the committee if needed.

Scott Lawrence: Trails, Paths & Right of Ways Committee: Mayor Jones asked why he wanted to serve on the committee and what did he feel that he could contribute. Mr. Lawrence replied he is a part of Statewide Mountains to Sea Trail Support Group and he has been interested in this kind of thing. He said that he served on the Town Planning Board and was interested in some kind of organized trail system. Mayor Jones said that the old railroad bed could be a route and it may have to be diverged from it at some locations. The group may talk to landowners to see if they would be willing to contribute or give right of ways without money. The County may provide some assistance to the Committee. He asked what he thought the Committee should do first. Mr. Lawrence said that they should begin by defining what the task is and the different components of the job. He felt that ideas should come from the committee, the planning board and obtained from that the Town Council, citizens and maybe a notification in the paper to get citizen input. Mayor Jones said that committees do not set policy, act as spokesperson for the Town because Council does that and they cannot incur debt. Mr. Lawrence said he was interested in coordinating with similar committees in the surrounding townships since there would be common guidelines and agreements. If we had a horse trail and it turned into a bike trail in the next town that would be unfortunate. Mayor Jones said that part of it would be trying to establish the relationships and some of the people in the county think that having a horse trail would bring business into the area but you have to have a balance. Scott said that having a trail near the historic downtown with a 1920's type of architecture may help the Town commercially as well as provide resting spots for hikers. Businesses may cater to hikers. We are trying to preserve the rural character and open space and having a trail at the edge of where development interfaces with open space would help. He said that some areas have been approved when developments were approved and the areas already approved should be considered. It would be nice to have our part of the trail to represent our Vision Statement. Mayor Jones said that Council planned to make their decisions by the next meeting and get the committees up and running.

Vicki Lawrence: Historic Preservation: Mayor Jones said that she was the sole person that was interested in the committee. Some Council members may be interested. Mayor Jones asked why she would like to be on the committee. Ms. Lawrence replied that she was interested in the history of the area. The Town has already lost some of the historic buildings and it would be nice to make sure that this does not happen again. Mayor Jones said that they had talked to the Memorial Committee applicants about historic markers or someone may want to contribute a bench in memory of someone. Plaques for someone may be put up or the committee could research who the Town was named for. There may be items that could be collected for display at the new Town Hall along with photographs like the ones at Town Hall now. Preserving historical records for the Town could be considered as well. Ms. Lawrence said Oak Ridge Elementary did that and that people may have items that if they knew they would be preserved in a place like Town Hall, they may be willing to share them. Ms. Halbbrook said that people may donate items and said that her sister had given a quilt which had everyone's name engraved on it to the Town of Oak Ridge. Mayor Jones asked what her ideas were. Ms. Lawrence said that she had talked with people in Town when she did stories for the Northwest Observer and there were some that would be interested in things like this. Perhaps some of them could get together and give suggestions on areas that need to be looked into. Mayor Jones said that she could recruit others since she was the only one that had applied for the committee. Ms. Steele said that they should submit an application for the committee. Mayor Jones asked what would she look at for the first project. Ms. Lawrence said that she had thought about talking to people in Oak Ridge to see how they started their historic district and perhaps see how other groups work. She said that she felt that a lot of the history was in the downtown area but that she did not know about other areas. Ms. Halbbrook suggested that she might want to check with Summerfield since they had

collected historical items. Mayor Jones said that Summerfield residents have written books on the history of their Town. Ms. Lawrence asked if the committee members would serve for one year or for a specific term. Mayor Jones said that they had not set a term limit as the Planning Board does. Committees will make recommendations to Council. Mayor Jones said that he was a history major and he would like to see items preserved and items put on exhibit at the new Town Hall. There may be benches along the walking tract that people would like to contribute as a memorial or historical marker or recognizing someone. There are a lot of options. Lot of things happened in this area in the Civil and Revolutionary War. Mayor Jones said that he took a course about historic preservation at Wake Forest. Ms. Lawrence said that she had talked with the person that was involved with historic preservation for Guilford County. Mayor Jones said that it could be something relating to the railroad, or military or liquor making and stills. Mayor Jones thanked Ms. Lawrence and her husband for all they have done for the Town over the years.

Patrick Sullivan: Planning Board: Mayor Jones asked why he would like to serve on the Planning Board. Mr. Sullivan said that he has deep routes in Guilford County, was born in Randolph and has lived in Stokesdale for the last 14 years. He felt that the town has begun to grow and the growth will continue to be very aggressive. He believes in the long term vision to maintain the rural character of the Town and he would like to help the Town to continue to grow at the right pace with the right requirements in place and with the infrastructure to support the growth, and to make sure that we do it in a safe and attractive manner and one that looks to the future in 10 to 15 years. He would like to make Stokesdale a place where families would like to come and raise their children for generations to come. He has worked for American Express Service Center for 20 years and part of his responsibility for three years was to help manage the 125 acre campus so he has experience working with officials at all levels Federal, state, and local Guilford County officials on road restrictions, widening, and maintaining roads. When FedEx first started their project, he was involved with site visits, making sure they complied with noise ordinances and traffic restrictions and conditions to make the project work more efficiently for them. He said that he has the desire and the background for dealing with corporate growth and he would like to be a part of the team to drive it forward. Mayor Jones asked if he had ever been on a committee or subcommittee for a governmental entity before. Mr. Sullivan responded that he had not. Mayor Jones said that the Planning Board follows policies set by Council, and the Board does not make policy. Mayor Jones gave an example about a room full of people, your neighbors, and they want you to vote for "A." The attorney says that "B" is the answer. What do you do? Mr. Sullivan responded that he is not afraid of taking risk. He wants to be liked by his family and friends but he would have to go with "B" and not put the Town coffers at risk. Sometimes you have to have the courage to make the decisions that are not the popular decisions. He said that Council had recently had this and he applauded them on their decision to build the Town Hall. Some people (20%) are going to be unhappy that they did not get their way. Mayor Jones asked what if someone has brought their attorney and they say that you should do "A"? Mr. Sullivan responded that the Town Attorney and the other attorney may have to do some research together. There will always be different opinions but there will be only one right answer. Sometimes people bring an attorney as a bluff. The attorneys may need to do more research to make sure that the right decision is made for the town. Mayor Jones said that the Town does have laws and policies to go by and the Town Attorney is very experienced and is the former county attorney and if the Board deviates from policy to do something that is popular but it violated town policy or law, they might subject themselves to personal litigation that is not at the Town's expense. Mayor Jones asked if he had thought about the meetings getting volatile? He said that he had been involved in such meetings when thousands of dollars were at stake and some people will stop at nothing to get their way. He said that he does not have any issues with being in this type of situation. Mayor Jones asked what would his biggest contribution to the Planning Board if you are selected to serve? Mr. Sullivan responded that he was very strong in strategic and long term planning. At American Express had responsibilities that involved understanding costs relative to employees' insurance plans and taxation issues. He said that he was also very good at communication and building teamwork among a group of people working for a common cause. Mayor Jones asked if the Planning Board voted on an issue and it was appealed to Town Council what would he see as his roll after that? He said that without training by the attorney, he would think that he would attend the appeal session and make sure that Council is aware of the facts that the Board used to make their decision and then it would be up to Council to make their decision. Mayor Jones said that sometimes when letting Council know of their decision (Council does have minutes

of the meeting), there may be the appearance that the Board is taking sides. This can be a problem regardless of which way Council rules. Mr. Sullivan said that in a public forum this would hurt the credibility of both boards. Mayor Jones asked if he had questions. Mr. Sullivan said that for the next 2 to 5 years, with I-73 and the proposed 158 by-pass what other big challenges are facing Stokesdale that the Planning Board needs to be keenly focused on? Mayor Jones said that the Planning Board is more reactive rather than proactive. Some issues that may come up as joint issues between Stokesdale, Summerfield, Oak Ridge, and Guilford County about what will happen to the areas NC 68, 220, 158 as new roads come through and the new growth comes down the 220 corridor. The ordinance review committee looks at some issues. Mr. Sullivan asked what could Town Council and Planning Board could/should be doing to get more people to participate in the decision making process. There are opportunities for people to participate. Mayor Jones said that Planning Board does not seek cases but people bring cases to the Board. Other committees like the Long Range Planning Committee would be more likely to look at the future and look at where problems may arise and how our ordinances should be adapted to cover issues. Mr. Sullivan asked what is working well and what is not working well with the Planning Board. Mayor Jones said that nothing stands out. More often than not they have made the right decision. In some appeals the facts have changed from when the case was first heard. You may not like a site plan but if it meets the legal regulations, then there is nothing that you can do about it except invite a lawsuit. The Planning Board is not a rubber stamp. They make sure everything is done legally but they cannot prevent it. Some situations are quasi-judicial and testimony must be taken and finding of fact. The County staff and our attorney are very good. People on the Board are interested in serving. The Planning Board has been given more authority. Mr. Sullivan said that he was proud to live in Stokesdale and would be an honor to serve on the Board. Mayor Jones said that it is important to hear everyone and to keep order in the process. Mayor Jones said that there are alternate and voting members. He asked if he would be willing to serve as either. Mr. Sullivan said that he would.

Frank Bruno: Planning Board: Mayor Jones asked why he wanted to serve on the Planning Board. Mr. Bruno replied that he has more time now and he wants to get more involved with the Town. He said that he has attended some of the Board meetings and he is familiar with building codes having built his home and some businesses in Greensboro. Mayor Jones said that the Planning Board is more reactive since they do not go out and look for cases but cases come to them. They must follow policy and law or could possibly face personal lawsuits. He asked if he understood this and Mr. Bruno replied yes. Mayor Jones gave an example of the Board hearing a case with friends and neighbors present who said that the Board should vote for "A" but the Town Attorney says that the legal and proper answer is "B." Mr. Bruno said that he would have to follow policy and law regardless of what the neighbors say. Mayor Jones said that there are site plan approvals and if it is an appropriate use and they have met all of the criteria the Planning Board has to approve it unless they want a lawsuit. Mayor Jones asked that if the popular way to vote is voted knowing that Council will correct it? Mr. Bruno said that being in the financial business you run into that kind of thing where people ask if you have to write it down on paper or if they can sign for someone else. You must follow policy and law. He said that he does a lot of ethics classes. Mayor Jones asked what did he see as his role if the Planning Board's decision was appealed to Council. Mr. Bruno replied the Board would want to show why they came to the decision that they made and that correct policies and procedures were followed. Mayor Jones said that the Council and attorney have concerns if a Board member comes to the meeting and speaks on behalf of an issue that they voted on. It can be a conflict of interest and may not be a good thing. Council usually has a report of the Planning Board meeting. Mr. Bruno said that he would not feel that Board members should speak publically about the matter. Mayor Jones said that you want to maintain the integrity of both Boards. Mayor Jones asked if he would take it personally if you voted to deny something and, at a later time, Council voted to approve it. Mr. Bruno said that hypothetically, he would have voted according to policy and law but if Council felt that they could overturn the decision, then he was OK with it. Mayor Jones said that there are voting and alternate positions available on the Board and asked if he had any feelings on the positions. Mr. Bruno said that he would do whatever was needed to help out and that he just wanted to be more involved with the Town. Mr. Richardson said that the alternates might serve as many times as the full members. Mayor Jones asked if he had any questions. Mr. Bruno asked if there is copy of the cases that the Board will hear before the meeting. Mr. Richardson said that packets are mailed out the week before the meeting. Mr. Bruno asked if the appropriate time to ask questions would be at the meeting with the other Board members or can you ask

someone else before the meeting. Mayor Jones said depending on the question, he could ask the Town Clerk and she would refer him to the County staff if she could not answer his questions. Mayor Jones said that usually the Town Attorney would schedule some training sessions for the Board. Council wants people to trust the Board to hear the cases without being biased, hearing the case on its merits, and not being pre-disposed to one side or the other. He asked what he felt was the best way to keep order at the meetings. Mr. Bruno said that he had not seen that at the Planning meetings he had attended. He said that the Council seemed to handle it well. The Planning Board seems to let everyone gets a chance to have his or her say. Mayor Jones said that Council plans to makes it decision at the next Council meeting.

Mayor Jones asked if Mr. Hommel was coming. The Clerk said that he had some surgery and could not attend. Mayor Jones noted that Council has interviewed him before and he did not feel that it was a necessity to interview him again. There are two voting positions open on the Board now and there are two alternates, Mr. Hommel and Mr. Southard. Mayor Jones said that in the past alternates have been moved up and that is a good way to do it. Ms. Halbrook asked how many members would come off of the Board this year. The Clerk indicated that it would be 2011 before terms expire. Council discussed the committees. Mayor Jones said that Council would vote on the appointments at the next Council meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 9:10 pm.

Carolyn L. Joyner, Town Clerk

APPROVED:

Randle L. Jones, Mayor