

TOWN OF STOKESDALE
8416 US Hwy 158
STOKESDALE, NORTH CAROLINA

The regular meeting of the Stokesdale Town Council was held in the Town Hall at 8416 US Highway 158 on Thursday, February 18, 2010.

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

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

After the Pledge of Allegiance, Council considered the proposed agenda. Frank Bruno asked to be added to the agenda in order to speak about the Stokesdale Business Association. The Clerk noted that a proposed reception for State Legislators and the Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO) needed to be added to the agenda. Mayor Jones made a motion to adopt the agenda with the addition of Mr. Bruno as Item #3 under New Business, the reception would be #4, and the MPO would be added as #5 under New Business. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the agenda was adopted.

The Clerk asked that a change be made to the minutes on Page 3 under Legislative Action, the Budget Amendment Capital Project Ordinance would have the following would be inserted: "Copies of the documents are hereby incorporated into and made a part of the minutes of the meeting." Mayor Jones made a motion that the change should be made as an amendment to the minutes and to waive the formal reading of the minutes. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the minutes of the January 21, 2010 meeting were approved as amended.

NEW BUSINESS:

Report from Guilford County Sheriff's Department: Deputy Christman reported one assault, two Property thefts, and six drug incidents since the last Council meeting.

Materials Testing Contracts: Mayor Jones said that Council has information and proposals from various companies for testing for the Town Hall that was similar to what was done during the construction of the Park. Ms. Joyner noted that the Town architects have indicated that the soil testing will be similar to what was done at the Park by Kleinfelder and she referred Council to the numbers for each item rather than the total estimate for the project. While the proposals are similar, Stewart Cooper Newell recommends that Kleinfelder be selected since they are familiar with the site. Ms. Steele suggested that the wealth should be shared and S&ME is a local company that she and others have used before. Mayor Jones said that he was concerned with consistency. He made a motion to select Kleinfelder based on the recommendation from Stewart Cooper Newell since they are already on site and the Town has a working relationship with them. Mr. Attaway seconded the motion. Council voted 4 to 1 to select Kleinfelder with Ms. Steele voting no.

Stokesdale Business Association: Frank Bruno said that he was representing Stokesdale Business Association whose mission is to provide a proactive member driven support system to promote and grow our local businesses while keeping in mind Stokesdale's traditions and small town charm. The membership criteria are basic – the business must be established in the greater Stokesdale mailing area or a personal representative of the business must work for a business located in the greater Stokesdale mailing area. Their goal is to do referrals and events to help promote the local businesses and do business-to-business transactions. They have found that there are many businesses located in Stokesdale that most people do not know about. They are putting together a directory of the Stokesdale businesses that they hope to have available by mid-April. They plan to mail them out to all Stokesdale addresses. The basic membership fee to join the Association is \$25 per year and the cost to be included in the directory is \$40 which is a one-time fee. David Wrenn at the Stokesdale Bi-Rite or Melissa Ochice at Bently Sales in the

Stokesdale Business Center can be contacted for further information. He said that Deanna Biggs, Fidelity Bank, is working with them on a Stokesdale Business Expo which is scheduled for Saturday, May 1. She may be contracted for more information.

Reception for New Legislative Members and County Commissioners: Council had a copy of the letter from Summerfield Mayor Mark Brown and Oak Ridge Mayor Ray Combs to Stokesdale saying that the League of Municipalities is urging towns and cities in North Carolina to stay in touch with legislators. The advantage of doing this is to make sure they have names with faces and maintain good working relationships with both the State and County representatives. It would be good to gain insight into what is upcoming. The League encourages towns and cities to voice their opinions on issues and let them know our position in regards to taxes and changes they may be looking so that they know what our constituents want in this area. They are suggesting a reception at Oak Ridge Town Hall on a date prior to the legislature going back to the short session in May, 2010. Mayor Jones felt that it would be good for the Town to be involved in such a reception. Funding for the event is needed and the letter suggested that the funding may be divided between the three Towns and the Oak Ridge Merchants Association and the Northwest Triad Merchants Association if they are agreeable. Mayor Jones made a motion to authorize a response of approval contingent on the amount of the funding. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Greensboro Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): Ms. Joyner reminded Council that at the previous Council meeting, the issue of requesting representation for each of the Towns on the MPO Board had been brought up and it was on the agenda for the next MPO meeting. Ms. Halbrook, Ms. Steele and Ms. Joyner had attended the meeting and there was discussion of the issue. The Board instructed staff to do further investigation into the matter and the issue has been placed on the agenda for the next MPO meeting which is scheduled for February 24. Ms. Joyner said that there are more documents on the website now that give information about the different methods that could be used to determine representation on the Board. Ms. Steele said they are considering requiring a minimum population of 5,000 or more. Ms. Joyner said that that each Town could have a representative or one person could represent all of the small towns. The additional seat if based on population may need to wait until there Census 2010 numbers are available which could be one year or more. Staff was going to review the requirements of the federal organization. Mayor Jones said that most towns in NC were less than 5,000 in population. Mayor Jones said that it would be good for the Town to continue attending the meetings so that the Town would have some voice and be represented because they will be making transportation decisions about issues that affect the citizens here. What may be beneficial to one group but it may be a burden to others. The meeting is scheduled for Feb 24 at 2:00 pm. Mayor Jones said that he could not attend but he said that the clerk should attend. Ms. Halbrook said that she thought she also had a conflict.

PROCLAMATIONS FOR CONSIDERATION: Women in Construction Week - March 7-13, 2010 and Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week – March 8-14, 2010: Mayor Jones said that there were proclamations for each one in Council's packet. Ms. Steele made a motion to adopt both of the proclamations - Women in Construction Week and Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week. Mr. Attaway seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS:

Consider Committee Appointments: Mayor Jones said that interviews have been conducted and he was very pleased that people had braved the cold and come out to participate in the interview process. He suggested that Council review the list.

Athletics and Recreation Committee: Mayor Jones said that Wayne Southern, Jamie Southern, Logan Bowlby, Nancy McCoy, and Richard Isley had applied for the committee. He said that he saw no reason not to put everyone who had applied on the committee. Mayor Jones made a motion to appoint those applicants to the committee. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Memorial Committee: Tom McCoy and Logan Bowlby applied for the committee. Mayor Jones said that

this committee would look at many different types of recognition in addition to a 9/11 memorial. With the Park coming up, there were a number of good ideas. Ms. Steele asked if Mr. Bowley was under 18 and if he would be a voting member of the committee. Mayor Jones said that the committee will be bringing information back to Council for approval. Mayor Jones suggested that since only two people had applied to let them proceed. Mayor Jones made a motion to appoint Mr. McCoy and Mr. Bowlby to the committee. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Trails/Pathways: Helen Isley and Scott Lawrence. Mayor Jones said that Mary Hardin had mentioned that she may informally participate when needed. Mayor Jones made a motion to appoint Ms. Isley and Mr. Lawrence to the committee. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council members present voted aye and the motion carried.

Historic Preservation: Vicki Lawrence. Mayor Jones moved to appoint her to the committee. He said that he would like to serve on the committee as well. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Planning Board: Ms. Steele made a motion to appoint Mr. Hommel and Mr. Southern as voting members and Mr. Sullivan and Mr. Bruno as alternates. Mayor Jones made a friendly amendment to have Mr. Hommel to fill seat #6 and Mr. Southern to fill Seat #7. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Mayor Jones said that he was pleased with the wealth of ideas that applicants brought to the interview process especially with the committees. The next item would be notifying committee members. He asked which committees, except for Planning Board, would Council members like to participate on. He said that he would like to participate on the Historic Preservation Committee. Ms. Steele said that she would like to participate on the Athletics and Recreation Committee. Anyone can come and attend but Council members should be limited to two members on any one committee. He suggested that the committee members be notified and have all of the committee members to come to a group meeting so they can be given the rules and what is expected of the committee, the selection process for chairs of the groups, and some guidance to start off with and let them know which Council members would be working with them or would be a resource to them when they have questions. Mayor Jones said that he would be his motion to have a joint meeting of all new committee members with an instructional type of meeting. He suggested that the meeting would start at 6:30 pm before the March Council meeting. The Clerk stated that Alex Ashton with Guilford County Parks wanted to meet with the new committee members about the Mountains to the Sea Trail on March 10 or 11. Mayor Jones said that the committee members could attend the meeting before the March meeting. Mr. Richardson seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Departmental and Administrative Reports: Finance Report: January, 2010: Assets dropped by about \$20,000 due to expenditures for the Park. The Town received a NC Sales Tax Refund of \$118.60. Cannon & Company was paid \$3,300 for the final billing for the audit. Covington Power Services was paid \$460.36 for the semi annual maintenance on the Town generator. Accounts Payable includes billing for the rental of the post office box for \$100 which was an increase over the previous year. General Fund Savings account reflected routine transactions. One subdivision fee was paid during the month. Expenditures for the Park Capital Project included a payment of \$740 to Kleinfelder and payment of \$30,788.00 to R. P. Murray, Inc. Water Enterprise Accounts Payable and Checking Account transactions were routine.

Ms. Joyner said that a new checking account for the Town Hall Capital project should be opened. The auditors recommended that the Capital Project should be separated from other General Funds expenditures. Mayor Jones made a motion to authorize the Finance Officer to open an account for the purpose of the Town Hall Project and to allow the Finance Officer the discretion to select the banking institution that would be most appropriate for the needs of the Town. Ms Halbrook seconded the motion. All council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Administrative Report – Town Clerk: Ms. Joyner had attended a Solid Waste meeting earlier in the week. There was discussion on the ban of certain items from landfills. Plastic bottles cannot be placed in landfills now. In January 2011 televisions and computers will be banned from landfills. Ecoflo on Patterson Avenue will accept these items along with other hazardous waste items such as paint. There will be another recycling for E-waste at Pleasant Garden. Details will be available soon. The issue of universal solid waste collection for the County was briefly discussed. County Commissioner Kirk Perkins was at the meeting and he is interested in universal collection for unincorporated Guilford County. Since the Town has an agreement with Republic Waste, it would be optional whether the Town wanted to be a part of the universal collection. There is the possibility that such a program may reduce the price of garbage collection for Stokesdale citizens. The Clerk said that abandoned mobile homes were mentioned since there may be funding available to take care of them. Ms. Halbrook said that there is a mobile home at the intersection of US Hwy 158 and US 220. Ms. Halbrook asked about a hole that is in the pavement at the Post Office. She asked who would be contacted about it. Mayor Jones said that he thought that it is located on private property and not on road right of way.

The Clerk noted that another fire hydrant was damaged when a wreck occurred on Athens Road. She will be filing an insurance claim to recover the repair costs.

The Get Healthy Guilford Obesity Coalition has planned a “Get Guilford Moving! Active Transportation Summit” on Monday, March from Noon – 6 pm at Greensboro College. The mission of the Coalition is to reduce and prevent obesity and obesity-related illnesses by encouraging healthy lifestyle choices. It promotes a culture and environment that supports both individual and community efforts to eat smart, move more, and safely achieve a healthy weight. More information can be found on their website.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: Mayor Jones read the announcements listed on the agenda.

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: Frank Burno, Anthony Road, asked about the status of an ABC store in Stokesdale since it was voted on in the November elections. Mayor Jones said that there has not been any action or requests. It will have to be set up through the ABC Board and then there is the question of which ABC Board to use. Some Boards lost money last year. Mr. Trevorrow said that the usual process would be for a request to go out to Forsyth and Guilford County ABC Boards and if they want to make a proposal to the Town that would be the next move. Mr. Attaway said that he had one call from a person who was looking for a job when the store opens.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL: Ms. Halbrook commented that Ms. Joyner had done a fine job when she spoke with the Senior Citizens about the Census. She thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor Jones made a motion to adjourn. All Council members voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20pm.

Carolyn L. Joyner, Town Clerk

APPROVED:

Randle L. Jones, Mayor