

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, January 21, 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. A letter regarding the Metropolitan Planning Organization was added as #5 under New Business. Ms. Steele made a motion to accept the agenda with the change of the additional item. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the agenda was adopted.

Ms. Steele made a motion to adopt the minutes without reading and to pass them as presented. Mr. Attaway seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the minutes for the regular meeting of December 17, 2009 were approved.

NEW BUSINESS:

Report from Guilford County Sheriff's Department: Deputy Christman reported one theft of property which was domestic related, two assaults which were domestic related, two breaking and entering of motor vehicles just off of Haw River Road with two arrests being made on one of them; and the theft of a dirt bike which was unsecured on someone's property; and the attempted break in of a garage on Ellison Road in which suspect fled when the victim saw them attempting to break in.

Veterans Monument Committee: Barbara Marshall, 8513 Vaughn Street, read the following statement from the Committee:

It has come to our attention that Tom McCoy is putting together a committee to build a memorial to the 9-11 victims and the military of the Afghanistan and Iraqi Wars. We would like to say to Mr. McCoy that his intentions are admirable with regard to the 9-11 victims and point out that the Afghanistan and Iraqi Troops already have a Monument located in the oval of the Community Walking Track provided by Vulcan Materials Company. There are numerous bricks on the sidewalk there that honor or are in memory of servicemen in Iraq and Afghanistan. We spent many hours carefully choosing what our Monument would say and stand for and it states: "In Honor and Memory of All Veterans". We were very deliberate in not SINGLING out certain Military for special recognition and five years later we continue that stance with regard to the special memorial benches recently put at the Monument by a local Boy Scout as his Eagle Scout project. He asked if he could put one there in honor of his Father and one in memory of his Grandfather. Our answer was "we cannot single out Veterans. Our Monument is for ALL. Therefore one bench says "Dedicated to Those Who Served" and the other says "In Remembrance of the Sacrifices They Made". All Veterans and those currently serving military duty should be honored and memorialized as we have tried to do. One group is no more special, cherished or dedicated than the others that have gone before them and we would hope Mr. McCoy's and his Committee would agree. Let the Monument that we have continue to honor ALL our Military past and present."

Respectfully,

The Veterans Monument Committee
Barbara Marshall, Juanita Southern, Peggy Joyce and Betty Shelton

Mayor Jones noted that a Monument Committee is being planned and it is not just for the military. Mr. McCoy had mentioned 9/11 as a possible project for the committee. Ms. Marshall said that their concerns came up when it was in the Northwest Observer that it was for 9/11 victims and for the soldiers that are now in Iraq and Afghanistan and there is a monument for them. Mayor Jones said that her committee could contact the paper but that there could be historical or other monuments that the Town's committee may consider and that they could submit applications for that committee.

Town Seal Registration Renewal: Mayor Jones said that the Town regularly renews the trademark of the Town Seal so that it is not used inappropriately and without the Town's authorization and permission. He said there have been instances where public entities did not register their seals and it was adopted by others. Once that happens there is nothing that can be done especially if it is done for public purposes. It is well worth the effort and the application fees. Mayor Jones made a motion to renew the application for the Town Seal. Ms. Halbrook seconded the motion. All Council members present voted aye and the renewal was approved.

Training Opportunities for Council: Mayor Jones noted that Council has information regarding some training that is now mandated for elected officials. Training is available for Ethics training and for quasi-judicial and planning law. Mayor Jones noted that there are registration deadlines as well as other options for the training. The Clerk noted that Council members must receive a minimum of two hours of ethics education within 12 months of their election. Mayor Jones said that there may be opportunities with other municipalities or Mr. Trevorrow may be able to provide the training. A Code of Ethics must also be adopted by Council within the year. The School of Government is putting together a model for a Code. Mr. Attaway said that he felt it would be better to have training with the other northwest area towns. Mayor Jones suggested that Mr. Trevorrow should see what he could put together and select some possible dates for training.

Greensboro Urban Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO): Mayor Jones noted that Council had a proposed letter for consideration. In the past years, the small towns have not had a representative for the MPO but have been represented by the City of Greensboro and the County Commissioners. In talking with the other mayors of the northwest, there is an opportunity for the Towns to request individual representation. Summerfield Mayor Mark Brown has put together a letter requesting the municipalities of Summerfield, Oak Ridge, Stokesdale, Sedalia, Pleasant Garden have representation on the MPO Board. Mayor Jones said that the Town will have more issues dealing with roads and as some of the road projects come to fruition and there may be issues relative to the small municipalities that the larger city and county representatives may not be aware of. The best decisions are usually made by those closest to the problem. Mayor Jones made a motion to support the request and to sign the letter on behalf of the Town if the Council would support it. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: There was no Unfinished Business coming before Council.

COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS:

Mayor Jones noted a number of applications have been received from applicants for various committees and for the Planning Board since one member stepped down. He said that it was Council's policy to conduct interviews and make selections and this was a good practice to continue. He suggested that prior to the next meeting, interviews should be set up on one or two dates for those who had sent in applications and Council would be ready to make appointments at the next Council meeting. Council agreed to hold interviews on Wednesday February 10 beginning at 6:30 pm with anyone who had a conflict for the 10th to be interviewed on February 17. Ms. Steele suggested that if either of those dates did not work, then Council could come in early before the Council meeting on February 18. Ms. Halbrook confirmed that there were two openings on the Planning Board since Ms. King had sent in her resignation.

The Clerk noted that Mr. Hooks, Public Safety Committee Chairman, was not able to attend the meeting

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but had submitted the minutes for the last Public Safety Committee meeting.

Ms. Steele said the Ordinance Review Committee had discussed the Central Business District and Mr. Nuttall had informed them of some of the options that are available. The Committee will meet again on the first Monday of March (March 8) at 7:00pm.

The Clerk noted that the Public Safety Committee will meet on Tuesday, February 16 at 7:00 pm at the Fire Department.

Departmental and Administrative Reports: Finance Report: December, 2009: The Finance Officer pointed out that a new Accounts Receivable has been set up for the Sales Tax Refund that is accumulating for Park expenditures. To date the account contains \$9,181.20 which should be returned to the Town later this year. General Fund Checking Account transactions included several expenditures relating to the Parade. Cannon & Company was paid \$4,200 for progress billing for the audit and Council was paid stipends for the fourth quarter. Guilford County was paid \$17,575.99 for 3rd quarter law enforcement. Accounts Payable reflect billing for the updated General Statues in the amount of \$589.74 and two invoices from Angel Electric for the removal of the banners and the maintenance of the mounting brackets to prevent them from rusting. The Utility Franchise Tax Distribution of \$49,688.98 was deposited into the General Fund savings Account. The Money Market Savings Account reflects the deposit of \$3,581.81 from the interest earned on certificates of deposit and a deposit of \$856.86 in interest earned on the account. The Park Capital Project reflects the payment of two invoices from Stewart Cooper Newell Architects and a payment to R. P. Murray, Inc. of \$103,640. Accounts Payable includes an invoice from R. P. Murray, Inc. for \$30,768.00. Page 4 shows that one water sewer certificate matured and was renewed for one year at .85% interest. Water Enterprise Accounts Payable included two invoices, one from Yates Construction for the installation of one water meter and an invoice from Water Technology for the monthly services that they perform. The Water Enterprise checking account showed routine transactions.

Authorization for ACH Payments: The Finance Officer indicated that Time Warner Cable had requested to make deposits of the franchise fees directly into the Town's accounts rather than mailing checks to the Town for the payments. It is a safer method of transferring funds. Mayor Jones made a motion to authorize the direct ACH payment of the fees to the Town. Mr. Attaway seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and the motion carried.

Administrative Report: The Clerk mentioned that Census 2010 is coming soon with April 1 being the actual Census Day. The Census is made up of ten questions and the information is used for statistical purposes only. Government payments are allocated based on population counts for payments for such things as senior citizens programs. Ms. Joyner encouraged everyone to fill out the forms that will be mailed to them and return them to the Census Bureau.

LEGISLATIVE ACTION:

Budget Amendment and Capital Project Ordinance: Council considered Town Hall Capital Project Ordinance #73 and General Fund Budget Amendment #2. Ms. Joyner indicated that the Capital Project Ordinance was for the contract amount for the Town Hall along with additional funds for some expenses that are not covered by the contract such as design fees for the oversight of the project by Stewart Cooper Newell Architects and fees for material testing for a total budget of \$1,270,000. The funds would come from Designated Reserves for Town Hall, \$935,000 and Undesignated Fund Balance of \$335,000. Budget Amendment #2 transfers the funds from General Fund to the Capital Project Ordinance. Building Construction, Contingency, Interior Signage Allowance, and Landscaping Irrigation Allowance will total the contract amount of \$1,242,000. Mayor Jones made a motion to adopt the Stokesdale Town Hall Capital Project Budget Ordinance #73 and Budget Amendment #2 dated January 21, 2010. Mr. Attaway seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye and Ordinance #73 and Budget Amendment #2 was approved. Copies of the documents are hereby incorporated into and made a part of the minutes of the meeting.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE FLOOR: No comments were made.

COMMENTS FROM COUNCIL: There were no comments from Council.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Jones made a motion to adjourn. Ms. Steele seconded the motion. All Council members voted aye. The meeting was adjourned at 8:04 pm.

Carolyn L. Joyner, Town Clerk

APPROVED:

Randle L. Jones, Mayor