

**TOWN OF STOKESDALE  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
8325 Angel Pardue Road  
STOKESDALE, NC 27357  
June 13, 2019 at 7PM**

**I. Call to Order:** Mayor Flynt called the meeting to order at 7pm

**II. Invocation:** Given by Assistant Fire Chief Randy Southard

**III. Pledge of Allegiance:** Lead by the Mayor

**IV. Review and Adopt Agenda:** Thearon Hooks made a motion to adopt the agenda. Mayor Flynt second the motion.

**Vote:**

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

**V. Approval of Minutes:** May 9, 2019 – continued until July 11, 2019 meeting for changes to wording regarding Citizens Public Request for audio CD of meeting minutes.

**VI. Public Safety Reports:**

**Guilford County Sheriff's Report: Captain Hall:** reported that District One responded to 89 calls in the Month of May. None were violent crimes. Several were burglary calls. There has been an increase in new home construction material thefts.

**Stokesdale Fire Dept Report: Assistant Chief Randy Southard:** reported that the Fire Department had 35 fire calls and 33 medical calls during the month of May. Advice for the month check your smoke detector batteries and the smoke detector itself, it has been found that the smoke detectors may only have a ten-year life span. Also, it's a bad time of year for mosquitoes be sure not to leave water standing around to attract them.

**VII: Citizen's comments from the floor (3 Minute Limit per Speaker):** Catherine Buntoff gave another Town of Stokesdale history lesson. The Friends of Stokesdale can be reached at 336-708-0334 for historical information and to share history.

William Jones went to the podium and stated that he is still concerned about the situation the Town may be in. He said he wasn't going to say a lot; he is no longer a resident but owns property in Stokesdale. He is concerned about the new way we are going the minutes. This was never discussed in a

meeting, just because it is legal doesn't mean it's the right way to do it. William stated that minutes have not been put on the website.

Tim Jones interjected that we still don't have the Special Called or Wednesday meeting minutes on the website either. Mayor Flynt asked the Town Clerk Alisa Houk what minutes are on the website. Alisa said the Regular Town Council Meeting minutes all the way back to 2013 through January 2019 are on the website. She said she has not had time to put February, March, and April's minutes on there due to working with the new budget officer and the budget preparations. As of June 14, 2019, the February, March and April Reg. T. C. Mtg minutes have been added to the website).

Mayor Flynt motioned to take a 5-minute recess, Thearon Hooks seconded the vote, vote 4-0 to take the recess. Council meeting reconvened at 7:10pm.

#### VIII. New Business:

- 1. Public Hearing, Board of Adjustment Hearing: CASE # 19-05-STPL-03977:** Chris and Donna Southern is requesting a variance to the Stokesdale Development Ordinance, Section 4-4.1, which requires a minimum rear yard setback of 30 feet for an accessory building greater than 800 square feet. The variance, if approved, will allow the applicants to build a 50 x 50-foot accessory building within five (5) feet of the rear property line. Said property is located at 8305 Patricia Drive, Stokesdale, NC, Guilford County Tax Parcel 150858. Zoning: RS-40 MH.  
**Oliver Bass presented CASE # 19-05-STPL-03977: (paper work attached)** Mr. Bass read the staff report and the findings of fact. **Chris Southern**, came to the podium and explained the use of the out building reiterated the location and why he wanted to place it in that location. He shared a letter from closest neighbor which stated they had no problem with him placing the building in this location. Chris's Father Jimmy Southern spoke briefly that this land was his land originally and he had given it to Chris to build on. No one else spoke for or against the variance so Mayor Flynt closed the public session of the hearing at 7:40pm. Mayor Flynt Adjourned the Board of Adjustment at 7:43pm and motioned to reopened the Regular Town Council Meeting, Frank Bruno seconded the motion.

#### Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

**Mayor Flynt motioned to approve: CASE # 19-05-STPL-03977:** Chris and Donna Southern is requesting a variance to the Stokesdale Development Ordinance, Section 4-4.1, which requires a minimum rear yard setback of 30 feet for an accessory building greater than 800 square feet. The variance, if approved, will allow the applicants to build a 50 x 50-foot accessory building within five (5) feet of the rear property line. Said property is located at 8305 Patricia Drive, Stokesdale, NC, Guilford County Tax Parcel 150858. Zoning: RS-40 MH. **Tim Jones seconded the motion to approve.**

#### Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		



2. **Public Hearing Adoption of 2019 – 2020 Stokesdale Town Budget Ordinance.** Town Clerk Alisa Houk read the Budget Message, (attached). Then Alisa went over both the General Fund and Water Enterprise Budgets that were discussed and put together over the two budget workshops. Tim Jones asked where the May financials were, he didn't have them in his packet. The Town Clerk told him that they were given to him in the last Budget workshop. **Frank Bruno motioned to adopt the 2019 – 2020 Stokesdale General Fund Budget as written. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion to approve the 2019 – 2020 Stokesdale General Fund Budget. William Jones** commented that he is concerned that they are raising their stipends 250-300%. **Thearon Hooks addresses William Jones concerns:** Thearon stated that the Stipend increase amounted to \$2.38 per hour based on a 40-hour week. The Mayor will receive \$650.00 per month, Mayor Pro Tem will receive \$600.00 per month, the other three council members will receive \$550.00 per month for their service to the town.

**Tim Jones motioned to reduce the \$57,000. For parks and Shelter to \$25,000.** Mayor Flynt asked Tim if he was wanting to approve the Budget one-line item at a time. Tim Jones stated yes. Mayor Flynt repeated the motioned. No one spoke to second the motion. Mayor Flynt stated the motion dies due to lack of a second.

**Tim Jones motioned to remove Downtown projects from Town Hall/Downtown Projects,** there was no second motion made. Mayor Flynt stated the motion dies for lack of a second.

**Tim Jones motioned to reduce Community Day & Other Events from \$5,000. To \$1,000.,** Frank Bruno reminded Tim that we voted to increase this line item back in November. There was no second motion made. Mayor Flynt stated the motion dies for lack of a second.

**Tim Jones** then stated he can't support the \$34,800 for stipends for the year. **Tim Jones motioned to reduce the stipends to \$15,000. Annually.** There was no second motion made. Mayor Flynt stated the motion dies for lack of a second.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor John Flynt</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Frank Bruno</b>	<b>Yes</b>		

3. **Yates Construction – Gene Robertson** will present proposals for Town Hall's front drainage ditch repair. Discussion and Vote. **Gene Robertson** came to the podium and presented the two proposals for repair of the ditch that runs from Angel-Pardue down the front right side of Town Hall. Thearon Hooks explained the reason for this requested repair is due to poor drainage due to over growth and erosion. Water pools in the side parking lot and runs out into the lawn areas and is no longer draining into the catch basins. **Thearon motioned to approve the more comprehensive proposal for \$27,600.00. Mayor Flynt 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion.** Tim Jones stated that he believes the entire Town Hall drainage system may have been improperly constructed from the

beginning and should we look into filing a claim against the original engineers that constructed the drainage and run off. Attorney John Bain explained that the statute of limitation on any warranty would have run out by now.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor John Flynt</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Frank Bruno</b>	<b>Yes</b>		

4. **Discussion and Vote on Stokesdale Elementary Technology Project.** Frank Bruno presented the donation proposal from Stokesdale Elementary School principal Dr. Chandler had given us for an Epson Bright link Projector 685wi, an Epson ELPMB46-Wall Mount, Hubbell Premise Wiring, Interconnect Cables (C2G.com part numbers) and a Microsoft Wireless Display Adapter.

Option 1.

<b>Art Room</b>	<b>\$3000.00</b>	
<b>Media</b>	<b>3000.00</b>	
<b>Computer Lab</b>	<b>3000.00</b>	
<b>Total:</b>	<b>\$9000.00</b>	
<b>Option 2. Were 5 classrooms with a total of</b>	<b>\$15,000.00</b>	

Frank Bruno motioned to approve Option 1. Of the proposal and not to exceed \$9,000.00. Thearon hooks seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor John Flynt</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Frank Bruno</b>	<b>Yes</b>		

5. **Discussion and Vote on Downtown Mural.** Joe Thacker came to the podium and gave an update on the progress that the Friends of Stokesdale have made toward the legality side of the Mural. He said their attorney will have the legal paperwork and any other documentation council would like to review. His group is currently working with the building owner and other building owners in the vicinity of where the Mural is going to be placed to do some clean up and refurbishing of the surrounding buildings. Joe Thacker introduced the Council and citizens to the artist that is going to paint the mural. Beth Herrick, she is an Art Teacher at NWGHS. **Mayor Flynt motioned to approve the Mural proposed budget of \$4,636.00, subject to an approval letter from John Pate owner of the building where the Mural will be placed and a copy of the contract between The Friends of Stokesdale and Mr. Pate. Frank Bruno seconded the motion.**



Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	No
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

6. Discussion and Vote to reduce Water Customer's Customer Service Fee to \$25.00/month, from current \$30.50/month. Mayor Flynt explained to all present that Winston Salem has reduced the Town's water rate so in turn the Town wants to pass some of the reduction onto the citizens on the Town's water system. Frank Bruno motioned effective July 1, 2019 to lower the current customer service fee for water customers from \$30.50 down to \$25.00. John Flynt seconded the motion.

Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

7. Discuss and Vote on hiring Thomas E. Medlin, Jr. as our new Town Attorney. Mayor Flynt spoke about Mr. Medlin and his experience with working with for and with other Towns in the area. Mayor Flynt motioned to accept the contract presented by Attorney Tom Medlin, to become effective July 1, 2019, and which provides him with a fixed annual retainer fee of \$31,200.00 to be paid in monthly installments of \$2,600.00 per month, this general retainer will cover actual Attorney time expended for the Town up to 10 hours per month. Any hours over the 10 will be billed at the Attorney's standard hourly rate of \$300. /hour. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion.

8. Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

8. Discussion on process for filling vacant council person seat. Mayor Flynt explained to all present that he has asked the Town Clerk to put a message on the Town's website and Patti Stokes of the Northwest Observer offered to put it in the NWO, that anyone interested in filling Bill Jones seat for the remainder of his term until the November 5, 2019 election to send an email or contact the Town Clerk at [stokesdale@stokesdale.org](mailto:stokesdale@stokesdale.org) or 336)643-4011.

9. Discussion and Vote to adopt a policy for new Planning Board Candidates who have completed the NCSOG training course, once the training has been completed, they are automatically eligible to become active sitting members of the Board. Mayor Flynt motioned to add this to the Planning Board Policy. Frank Bruno seconded the motion.

Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

9. Discuss proposal submitted for Town's Mobile Generator to be turned over to Triad Health Care Preparedness Coalition. Thearon Hooks motioned to allow the THPC to have and operate our Town mobile generator under the stipulation of the attached letter. In this letter if we should ever have a need of a mobile generator the THPC will bring our generator or one of like and kind back to us for the time we need it. Mayor Flynt seconded the motion.

10. Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

11. Adopt a Resolution to Establish Filing Fees for the Town of Stokesdale Council Seat Elections in November 7, 2019. Mayor Flynt motioned to adopt the Town of Stokesdale resolution establishing filing fees for the 2019 Municipal Election to be held November 5, 2019. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion.

Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

IX. Old Business:

1. Discussion and Vote on Blaney Electric proposal for installation of Town Clock. Mayor Flynt motioned to approve Blaney's proposal not to exceed \$ 2300.00. Frank Bruno seconded the motion.

Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	No
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

2. Discussion and Vote on Blaney Electric proposal for installation of lightning and electrical service to new Shelter. Thearon Hooks motioned to approve Blaney Electric's proposal not to exceed \$5450.00. Mayor Flynt seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor John Flynt</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones</b>	<b>No</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Frank Bruno</b>	<b>Yes</b>		

**X. Committee and Board Reports:**

1. Mayor Flynt will address future plans for the Ordinance Review Committee. Mayor Flynt said he just wanted to reaffirm to the Planning Board and Ordinance Review Committees that council asked that all members of these boards complete the NCSOG training by the July 31<sup>st</sup>. He also is asking the Ordinance Review Committee to provide their minutes to council by the first Friday in the month so they can be included in the Town Council meeting in the event action needs to be taken. Mayor Flynt also stated that the Ordinance Review Committee is serving as an advisory committee to Town Council. The Town Council will be assigning needed task to the Ordinance Review Committee Chairperson, which currently is Mr. James Greene. These will be task that are relevant to the Town of Stokesdale.

2. Appoint Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks to replace Bill Jones as a representative of council at any Water meetings. Mayor Flynt motioned to appoint Thearon Hooks as Bill Jones replacement to attend any future Water Authority meetings. Frank Bruno seconded the motion. Tim Jones made a motion to vote himself as the replacement for Bill Jones. Frank Bruno seconded Tim Jones' motion.

**Vote: to appoint Tim Jones as Bill Jones replacement for any future Water Authority meetings.**

<b>Mayor John Flynt</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones</b>	<b>Yes</b>
<b>Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks</b>	<b>Yes</b>		
<b>Frank Bruno</b>	<b>Yes</b>		

**XI. Departmental and Administrative Report:**

Frank Bruno will give a Town of Stokesdale Past Year in Review Statement: Frank said the

911 Ceremony, September 2018 was a success and wants to thank the group of retired Marines that presented the colors and the volunteers that helped with the service.

Tree lighting was also a success and thanked everyone that helped make it happen

Christmas Parade was also a success and we made it happen just before the big snow storm. He wanted to thank the Town Staff, Councilmen, and volunteers that helped put the parade on.

New Shelter has been added to the park

Volleyball court has been repaired and cleaned up

Children's playground has new mulch, a new border, and a ramp.

We've added more benches and picnic tables to the park

Resurfaced the parking lots and walking trails



Installed two more security cameras in the park after a couple of incidents warranted it.

North Carolina gave us a Downtown Revitalization Grant that could only be used to revitalize the Downtown area. That Grant was used to purchase and install a Town Clock and to go in with the Elementary School to purchase and install a new Led message sign for the school.

We began early last year moving our CD's over into CDARs which has increased our income and savings substantially.

Frank said he is currently going through surveys that were mailed out to citizens several years ago about what kinds of things they would like to see in the town and town park. The surveys were completed and mailed back but not much had been done with them. He is going through them and making a list of the items that the most people asked for. He hopes to have the list completed by the July meeting.

#### **XII. Citizen Comments from the Floor (3 Minute Limit per Speaker)**

Mayor Flynt presented our exiting Town Attorney with a Proclamation from the Town of Stokesdale thanking Attorney Bain for his service and wisdom during his time with us.

#### **XIII. Closing Comments from Council:**

Tim Jones: Thanked everyone still sitting in the audience for the entire meeting. Tim Jones Thanked the Guilford County Schools for removing some damaged trees from Hurricane Michael back in the fall. Tim said he supports small government and no taxes.

Frank Bruno: Thanked the Citizen's in attendance. Special Thanks Alisa Houk and Kim Thacker for the long hours and days they put into getting our finances organized on the new online system and putting the budget packages together. He said unless you've done it before it isn't easy trying to tie two accounting systems together especially when one is manual and the other is automated. He also announced he is meeting with the Events Committee on Monday June 17, 2019 from 3pm to 5pm. He will be talking about the 911 Ceremony, Christmas preparations

Thearon Hooks: Thanked the citizens for staying. Thanked Friends of Stokesdale for the Mural.

Mayor Flynt: Thanked the Citizens for staying. Reminded everyone that may be interested in filling Bill Jones seat for the remainder of his term to please come by Town Hall or send an email to [stokesdale@stokesdale.org](mailto:stokesdale@stokesdale.org). He thanked John Bain again for his service to the town.

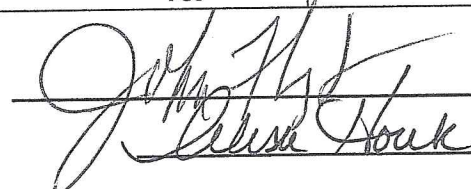
XIV: Announcements: Next Planning Board Meeting June 27, 2019. There will be a special called meeting on Friday June 28<sup>th</sup> with S & ME to open bids for the elevated tank renovations.

XIV. Adjournment: Mayor Flynt motioned to adjourn at 10:40pm. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion.

Vote:

Mayor John Flynt	Yes	Tim Jones	Yes
Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks	Yes		
Frank Bruno	Yes		

Approved July 11, 2019

 Mayor

 Town Clerk/Finance Officer