

MINUTES
TOWN OF STOKESDALE
SPECIAL CALLED
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING
8325 ANGEL-PARDUE ROAD
STOKESDALE, NC 27357
APRIL 20, 2023 AT 7:00 PM

Present: Mayor Michael E. Crawford, Mayor Pro Tem Derek Foy, Councilman Jimmy Landreth, Councilman Tim Jones, Deputy Town Clerk Robbie Lee Wagoner II, and Town Attorney Charles H. Winfree. Councilman Jim Rigsbee was absent.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Invocation.

Mayor Mike Crawford called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilman Tim Jones delivered the convocation.

2. Review and Adopt the Agenda.

Mayor Crawford made a **Motion** to adopt the agenda. Councilman Jimmy Landreth seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

3. Citizen's Comments from the Floor (3-Minute Limit per Speaker).

Priscilla Olinick, 3100 Pleasant Ridge Rod, Summerfield, NC – spoke on the de-annexation issue by the Town of Summerfield. She thanked Council for their support of Summerfield in their fight against the de-annexation. She noted that the Town of Oak Ridge has also passed a resolution in support of Summerfield.

4. Consideration of Resolution of Support / Resolution Opposing De-Annexation.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy read Resolution R-2023-05 as written.

Mayor Crawford made a **Motion** to adopt Resolution-2023-05 as follows:



RESOLUTION NO. R-2023-05
A RESOLUTION OPPOSING THE DE-ANNEXATION OF
CERTAIN PROPERTIES FROM THE TOWN OF SUMMERFIELD

WHEREAS, The Town of Stokesdale (“Town”), by and through its Town Council, does hereby adopt the following resolution to be submitted to the Guilford County Legislative Delegation, to the North Carolina General Assembly, and desires to also communicate its position to both the Town of Summerfield and Guilford County upon approval.

WHEREAS, the NC General assembly granting the proposed de-annexation in The Town of Summerfield would usurp the role of local government and its elected officials. By extension, absent a referendum of The Town of Summerfield’s citizens, would also go against the desire of the majority of the Town of Summerfield’s citizens.

WHEREAS, this proposed de-annexation would remove over 5 (five) percent of land from the Town of Summerfield’s boundaries.

WHEREAS, no data driven studies have been presented to reflect the fiscal impact in the short- and long-term, offering insight into the net impact that such a de-annexation would have on the Town of Summerfield and its citizens’ tax obligations.

WHEREAS, any de-annexation of such magnitude coupled with the strong objection of local elected officials and citizens alike would set a harmful precedent in diminishing the role of local government granted to municipalities by the State of North Carolina.

WHEREAS, the Stokesdale Town Council submits the following: The “Villages of Summerfield Farms” (“Villages”) are potential tracts of proposed de-annexation. These properties total approximately 973 acres in the heart of Summerfield within close proximity to its Town Core. While two Unified Development Ordinance (“UDO”) text amendment requests by the developer were denied since the Town of Summerfield’s 2021 UDO changes, the Villages project has not been denied outright nor has there been a denied rezoning associated with this project. These properties are not contiguous and a de-annexation of this magnitude would result in isolated tracts and create complex town boundaries that would complicate functions of Summerfield’s limited-services government.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Stokesdale Town Council opposes de-annexation of the aforementioned properties that would result in said properties within the Town of Summerfield’s limits being within Guilford County’s sole jurisdiction. In addition, the Town of Stokesdale opposes all significant de-annexation efforts that oppose the desire of any

municipalities' elected officials and the majority of that municipalities' citizens. Lastly, North Carolina municipalities - cities, towns and villages - operate under charters granted by the North Carolina General Assembly and have powers and authorities granted to them by state statutes and the state constitution. The Town of Summerfield operates under these state statutes and as such, the State government shouldn't be meddling in local government affairs as long as state laws are being followed. Just as our federal government should avoid meddling in our State's affairs as long as federal laws are being followed.

Adopted this the 20th day of April 2023 by the Town of Stokesdale Town Council.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy seconded the motion.

Councilman Tim Jones and Mayor Pro Tem Foy requested the Town Clerk email this resolution to:

- Summerfield Town Clerk
- Guilford County Clerk
- Guilford County Legislators: Hardister and Faircloth

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

5. Consideration of Proposal for On-Call Engineering Services for Plan Review and Intermittent Inspection Services.

Mayor Crawford recognized Mr. Aaron Babson, Associate Vice President with Hazen and Sawyer.

Mr. Aaron Babson introduced the proposal to council and identified Taylor Engineering, located in Jamestown, as a subconsultant to provide intermittent inspection services to the Town of Stokesdale. He spoke of their qualifications and gave his full confidence in their ability to perform inspections.

Councilman Jones made a **Motion** to approve the proposal by Hazen and Sawyer dated April 11, 2023 for On-Call Engineering Services for Plan Review and Intermittent Inspection Service, amount not to exceed \$20,000. Councilman Landreth seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 3-1.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy made a **Motion** to allow Town Clerk to authorize engineer expenses such as plan review with the general understanding of the cost involved without a vote of council but with

the written approval of the finance/budget officer that the funds are in the budget. Councilman Landreth seconded the motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy did not want to delay a project. Discussion was held on the current process. Mr. Babson concurred that there were no hiccups in the way we are currently handling this process. It was noted that having the renewal of the contract for these services come before Council would give Council the opportunity to review this process and hear about any issues.

Mayor Crawford	NAY	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	NAY	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	NAY		

Motion failed, vote 1-3.

6. Discussion of Combination Deed for Athens Road Property (7901 Athens Road) Adjacent to Town Park Property (8329 Angel-Pardue Road) and Town Hall Property (8325 Angel-Pardue Road).

Mayor Pro Tem Foy explained that this is the property the Town purchased a few years ago on Athens Road. He explained the need to have this property within the same deed as the current park. He noted that having a separate deed for this property; Guilford County requires the Town to have a 35-foot setback for the basketball and pickleball courts.

Town Attorney Chuck Winfree explained the process by which a new boundary description would need to be prepared and the need for a survey of the existing property which the Town does not have (1959 document).

Mayor Crawford made a **Motion** to have property surveyed as soon as possible. Mayor Crawford then withdrew his motion.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy made a **Motion** to accept proposal dated 4-20-23 from Fleming Engineering Inc. Civil Engineers and Land Surveyors to survey property at 7901 Athens Road, with the scope of work to perform all necessary deed and plat research, verify field location of all existing property corners, replace any missing boundary corners, prepare a Boundary Survey Map, in the amount of \$7,100 to come from the park improvement ARPA Special Revenue Fund. Councilman Landreth seconded the motion.

Councilman Jones asked for an **Amendment** that permanent witness markers be installed at the property corners/lines so that we don't continually have to locate them.

Councilman Jones made a second **Amendment** to have Town Attorney Winfree learn who owns the land in between Hwy. 158 and Athens Road, and report back.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy and Councilman Landreth accepted the amendments.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

Mayor Pro Tem Foy made a **Motion** to authorize the Town Attorney to draw up the combination deed. Councilman Landreth seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

8. Citizen's Comments from the Floor (3-Minute Limit per Speaker).

Mayor Crawford asked for Citizen's Comments prior to the Closed Session.

None presented.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Mayor Crawford then read the following announcements.

- a) The Town of Stokesdale Town Planning Board will hold a meeting on April 27, 2023, at 7:00 PM inside the Town Hall Council Chambers, located at 8325 Angel-Pardue Road, Stokesdale, NC 27357.
- b) The Town of Stokesdale Town Council will hold a Budget Workshop meeting on May 04, 2023, at 7:00 PM inside the Town Hall Council Chambers, located at 8325 Angel-Pardue Road, Stokesdale, NC 27357.
- c) The Town of Stokesdale Town Council will hold a regular meeting on May 11, 2023, at 7:00 PM inside the Town Hall Council Chambers, located at 8325 Angel-Pardue Road, Stokesdale, NC 27357.

7. Closed Session in accordance with North Carolina General Statutes 143-318.11.

- (a) Permitted Purposes - It is the policy of this State that closed sessions shall be held only when required to permit a public body to act in the public interest as permitted in this section. A public body may hold a closed session and exclude the public only when a closed session is required.
- (3) To consult with an attorney employed or retained by the public body in order to preserve the attorney-client privilege between the attorney and the public body, which privilege is hereby acknowledged.

Mayor Crawford made a **Motion** to go into closed session at 7:49pm in accordance with NCGS 143-318.11 for the purposes as stated above. Councilman Landreth seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

Council returned to Open Session at 8:34 PM

Mayor Crawford made a **Motion** to re-enter into Open Session at 8:34 pm. Councilman Landreth seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

9. Council Comments.

Each Councilmember thanked everyone for coming and wished all a great weekend.

10. Adjournment.


Councilman Landreth made a **Motion** to adjourn at 8:35 PM. Mayor Pro Tem Foy seconded the motion.

Mayor Crawford	YES	Mayor Pro Tem Foy	YES
Councilman Landreth	YES	Councilman Rigsbee	ABSENT
Councilman Jones	YES		

Motion carried, vote 4-0.

Being no further business to come before Council, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 PM

Approved: December 14, 2023.


Michael E. Crawford, Mayor

ATTEST:


Robbie L. Wagoner, II Deputy Clerk