



**TOWN OF STOKESDALE  
REGULAR TOWN COUNCIL MEETING  
8325 Angel Pardue Road  
STOKESDALE, NC 27357  
September 12, 2019**

**Attendees:** Mayor John Flynt, Mayor Pro Tem Thearon Hooks, Council Woman Deanna Ragan, Councilmen Tim Jones, Town Attorney Tom Medlin. Councilmen Frank Bruno was absent.

**I. Call to Order:** Mayor John Flynt

**II. Invocation:** Randy Braswell

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

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

**Vote:**

Mayor Flynt: Yes	Deanna Ragan: Yes
Thearon Hooks: Yes	Tim Jones: Yes
Frank Bruno: absent	

**V. Public Safety Reports:**

**Guilford County Sheriff's Report:** Captain Moore reported that the Sheriff's Dept. had 87 calls for service in the month August. One quarter of the calls were accidental set off of alarm systems. There were some larcenies and 15 suspicious people in area calls. Reminded people to not leave valuables in your cars and keep your doors locked.

**Stokesdale Fire Dept Report:** Chief Gauldin said Stokesdale Fire Dept. had 66 calls for service. 28 fire related calls and 38 medicals. His tip is to please watch the other guy, don't text and drive. There has been a up tick in automobile accidents this past month.

**VI: Citizen's comments from the floor (3 Minute Limit per Speaker):** due to the length of citizen's comments this month. The Town Clerk will put a brief synopsis of the comments in these minutes the comments can be heard in their entirety by request of an Audio CD or Thumb Drive.

**Bill Jones** from Kernersville spoke in regards to the Bid from MBD Engineering for the Elevated Water Tank. He believes there was some misunderstanding about the Bid he presented to Council on behalf of MBD Engineering.

**Randy Braswell** introduced himself and wanted to let the Council and Citizens present know that if he regains a seat on Council in November that he will serve the Town strictly by General Statutes and Rules of the Town. No monkey business.

**Eileen Thiery:** is still concerned about the NCDOT and what they are doing in town.

**Mark Jordahl** wanted to say that the water tower looks great and kudos to Mrs. Herrick for a job well done on the Mural.

**Derek Foy:** wanted to acknowledge Council for the hard work they put in to run the Town. He has two concerns the discussions about lack of financials and transparency. He said he can walk into Town Hall and financials and other reports are laying on the tables and are available for the asking. He thinks there is plenty of transparency.

**Steve Kingsberry** complained about Republic Services and read some notes he had made in reviewing the minutes of our August meeting and the Republic Service amendment request.

**Jim Rigsbee** introduced himself and announced that he is also running for a council seat in November. He has a lot of government experience through law enforcement. His agenda if he wins a seat is simply to listen to the public and work hard to serve the people.

**Mark Nadel** just asked the question: Once minutes of a prior meeting are reviewed, and voted to be approved how is it that they can be brought up again and asked to be changed. Town Attorney Tom Medlin addressed the question by saying that if a council member thinks there is an error later, he can have the minutes reopened.

#### **VII. NEW BUSINESS:**

1. **Adopt Resolution of Intent to Close Friddlewood Road, and set date of Public Hearing for Closure.** Mayor Flynt motioned to adopt the Resolution and set a Public Hearing date for October 10, 2019 at the Regular Town Council Meeting at 7pm. Tim Jones seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

2. **Make a revision to the July 11, 2019 Town Council Minutes, revision attached Vote to approve.** Mayor Flynt asked everyone to look at page 4 where Town Clerk made the requested changes to the minutes that Tim Jones requested before tonight's meeting and has the corrections in tonight's packet. The changes were to list how each council person voted during the appointment of Deanna Ragan to fill the empty council seat. And also include copies of the completed, signed, ballots turn in to the Clerk by each Council member. Mayor Flynt motioned to accept and approve the revised July 11, 2019 minutes. Tim Jones seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

3. **Discuss and vote on replacement for Toshiba Printer/Copier/Fax/Scanner:** Ryan Throckmorton from Gray and Creech gave a presentation for a Sharp MX-3071 copier to replace our old Toshiba. Coeco had given us a proposal at an earlier date. Both proposals are in this night's packet. Tim Jones motioned to continue this vote until the October meeting so he would have more time to review the comparisons. Thearon Hooks motioned to continue the vote for a new copier, and call a Special Called meeting on September 25, 2019 at 7pm to vote. Mayor Flynt seconded the motioned.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: No</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

4. **Vote on proposal for replacing existing pine needles in front beds with mulch at Town Hall.** Thearon motioned to accept Beaver Outdoor Solutions proposal to install mulch in the front part of the park, around 42 trees, drainage area, and both sides of the Main entrance and both sides of the park for a total of \$3,495.00, Deanna Ragan seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: No</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

5. **2019-2020 Budget Amendment to increase Attorney Fees by \$25,000.00.** Mayor Flynt motioned to increase the attorney's fees by a Budget Amendment from the current \$21,000. By \$25,000. More to make the total \$ 46,000. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion. Attorney Medlin said this change to the Budget Ordinance takes a majority vote of 4 out of 5 to change.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: No</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

2019-2020 Budget Amendment to increase Attorney Fees by \$25,000.00 will be revisited in the October 10, 2019 meeting.

**VIII. OLD BUSINESS**

1. **Per Attorney John Bain's instructions Review and Vote on release of Closed Session Minutes from March 8, 2018 Town Council Meeting regarding personnel files.** Mayor Flynt explained that these were closed session minutes that Attorney John Bain had reviewed



before he resigned from his post as our Attorney. He has okayed these minutes to be released if Council votes to do so. Mayor Flynt motioned to release the Closed Session Minutes from March 8, 2018 Town Council Meeting regarding personnel files. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

**2.Per Attorney John Bain's instructions Review and Vote on release of Closed Session Minutes from March 13, 2018 Town Council Meeting regarding personnel.** Mayor Flynt motioned to release the Closed Session Minutes from March 13, 2018 Town Council Meeting regarding personnel. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

**Mayor Flynt called for a 5 minutes recess at 8:45 pm. Meeting reconvened at 8:49 pm.**

**3. Review and discuss Republic Waste Franchise Agreement, set date for Public Hearing.** Mayor Flynt motioned to set October 10, 2019 Public Hearing to discuss and take a vote on the Republic Services request for an Amendment to the current Franchise Agreement. Thearon Hooks seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

**4.Amend Town Attorney Access Policy: After discussion Mayor Flynt withdrew his motion to approve his version of the Attorney Access Policy and Made a motion to ask Attorney Tom Medlin to draw up a policy based on the one Mayor Flynt has proposed, but asking him to word it so it will be fair and legal.** Deanna Ragan seconded the motion.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

**5.Report on Elevated Tank:** Thearon Hooks gave a review of the process by which S & ME and Utility Services Inc. proceeded to wash out, inspect, give weekly reports of their work to the Town. Presented their findings made the approved repairs, and painted the tank. From start to finish the job was completed by Utility Services Inc. within the \$120,900. Proposed bid.

**6. Vote on replacing existing phone system; Spectrum or Versa:** Versa had given a presentation to two sets of two councilmen and the Town Clerk at an earlier date. Spectrum representatives gave their presentation tonight as to what services they could offer us to upgrade our phone and internet services. Tim Jones asked them for references which they agreed to provide over the next two weeks. **Mayor Flynt motioned to add the vote for a new phone upgrade to the Agenda of the Special Called Meeting set for September 25, 2019 at 7pm. Deanna Ragan seconded the motion.**

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: Yes</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: Yes</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: Yes</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

**Tim Jones asked for a 3- minute recess, Mayor Flynt called the recess.**

**7. Vote to correct errors in the March 14, 2019 minutes:** Tim Jones motioned for the March 14, 2019 minutes to be corrected because he believes these minutes misinterpret the MBD Bid proposal. He believes the minutes reflect that Council thinks MBD is going to paint the tank. Thearon Hooks seconded his motion. Mayor Flynt said in the April Town Council meeting there were no questions raised no changes asked to me made and the March 14, 2019 minutes were accepted and adopted at that time. He doesn't understand why they are in question tonight. He believes it is somewhat politically driven. Mayor Flynt said that three people (council members) and the Clerk picked up that this proposal is for the total project at \$ 194,055.00. Thearon Hooks said he also read the proposal as \$194,005. For the whole project, and voted that way. Thearon added that he asked Bill Jones and Tim Jones numerous times to have a representative of MBD come in and discuss their proposal and process. That request for representation from MBD was never done. No one from MBD ever came out. Thearon Hooks then asked Tim Jones if he has been in touch with MBD since the proposal was turned down and the tank work has been completed. Tim Jones said he didn't know. Thearon asked the Clerk to please contact MBD tomorrow and make sure they are aware that they didn't get the bid. Attorney Medlin said if the majority of the Board agree that the minutes are accurate then they stand. Tim Jones wanted the Mayor to allow Bill Jones to speak on this matter. The Mayor said this a matter of Council and there is no Public Hearing to hear from the floor. Mayor Flynt called for a vote to allow citizens from the floor to speak.

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: No</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: No</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: No</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	

**Mayor Flynt then went back to Tim Jones motion to change the wording in the minutes and Thearon Hooks second. Mayor Flynt called for a vote the change the minutes.**

**Vote:**

<b>Mayor Flynt: No</b>	<b>Deanna Ragan: No</b>
<b>Thearon Hooks: No</b>	<b>Tim Jones: Yes</b>
<b>Frank Bruno: absent</b>	



**IX. Committee and Board Reports:** There were not board reports this evening.

**X. Departmental and Administrative Report:** Town Clerk gave the Financial Report and Admin report which are attached to these minutes.

**XI. Citizen Comments from the Floor (3 Minute Limit per Speaker):**

**Dwayne Dalton** said he would like to see Council work better as a team and do their homework before meetings so the citizens don't have to sit through long presentations by vendors.

**Derek Foy** reiterated what Dwayne Dalton said.

**William Jones** said regardless of where you stand on this issue, I didn't think I would ever see a time when the Mayor of Stokesdale would talk about a citizen and use the name of the citizen. I sit back here with my hand up wanting to be recognized. And Tim Jones ask for me to be recognized. And Mrs. Ragan votes no, Thearon votes no, and John votes no. I feel like I am living in the Soviet Union. Bill said he expects this out of John and Thearon but he is surprised at Deanna Ragan he is questioning her sincerity to sit in this office. Mayor Flynt told Bill Jones he was being inappropriate. Bill Jones says he has audio that backs up his and Tim Jones claim that the minutes are inaccurate.

**Closing Comments from Council:**

**Tim Jones** Thanked the five remaining citizens, the Town Attorney and Staff. He thinks the circumstances over the MBD contract, the minutes, and discussion tonight is proof enough of why he needs access to the Town Attorney to attempt to clarify and correct things in a statutory manner.

**Deanna Ragan** the only thing she has to say is we all know elections are coming up and there is a lot of passion in Stokesdale. Please get out and vote. She doesn't care how old or young you are just vote.

**Thearon Hooks** would like to clarify that Council had two proposals in front of them for the Tank Project. He has learned a valuable lesson. Don't try to represent a company or a proposal where you are dealing with large sums of money. Personally, he doesn't think that any one on council should be trying to represent another company when you are dealing in large sums of money like this. He also said he appreciates the Citizens.

**Mayor Flynt** said obviously this is a personal issue for all of this. It goes back to the thoughts during the meeting. He said all of the Council understood the contract at the time of the vote. He is content with the vote he made at the meeting. He appreciates everyone coming.

**XIII. Adjournment:** Mayor Flynt motioned for adjournment at 11: 45pm Tim Jones seconded the motion. Vote:

Mayor Flynt: Yes	Deanna Ragan: Yes
Thearon Hooks: Yes	Tim Jones: Yes
Frank Bruno: absent	

Minutes Approved October 10, 2019

 Town Clerk

 Mayor