

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS  
AUGUST 3, 2017-----7PM  
REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Billy Horne, Mayor pro-tem Martin L. Jones, Commissioner Jeremy George, Commissioner Peggy Raymes, Commissioner Jordan Stewart.

STAFF PRESENT

Administrative Assistant Rebecca Johnson, Chief of Police Bob Stocks, County Planning Aaron Barnes.

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor pro-tem Martin Jones offered the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Commissioner Stewart asked the Board to add to New Business, a discussion in reference to the Regulating Playing on Streets, Sidewalks and alleyways ordinance. Commissioner George also added getting cost for storm drainage in the town. Mayor pro-tem Jones made the motion to accept the addition to the agenda and Commissioner Raymes seconded and was carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

Commissioner Jeremy George made the motion and Commissioner Peggy Raymes seconded and was carried unanimously to adopt the regular meeting minutes from July 6, 2017.

PRESENTATIONS-----None

PUBLIC HEARING

Commissioner Jeremy George made the motion and Commissioner Martin L. Jones seconded and was carried unanimously to go into Public Hearing.

County planner Aaron Barnes spoke on behalf of the Juan Sanchez case #17-011. The property owner is requesting variances from the requirement for public utility extension and connection, in addition to a variance for the sidewalk. Mandatory public water and sewer connection, and whether or not a sidewalk is required are the only matters to be considered regarding this case at this hearing. Commissioner George stated that it would cost at least \$30,000 for water if it had to cross Hwy 24. The cost is too extension to make him do this. The Health Department gave a permit for well and septic. The land did perk. The Board decided to waive the requirements and grant the variances. Commissioner George made a motion to move out of closed session; Commissioner Raymes seconded and was carried unanimously.

PUBLIC FORUM-----No one signed up to speak

OLD BUSINESS

Consider Juan Sanchez case #17-011

- Commissioner Jordan Stewart made a motion to approve the site plan for the Sanchez case #17-011. Commissioner Raymes seconded and was carried unanimously. The Board also waived the sidewalk ordinance and approved the water and sewer issue as well.

## NEW BUSINESS

- a. Consider Stedman Elementary School (Building Community Relationships)

Ms. Sandra Wrench gave an update of the enrollment and staff numbers. At the end of 2016 school year there were 312 students in grades 2-5. At the end of this school year (2017), there were 332 students. So far this summer, the numbers are down. Only 308 have registered so far. The school is sure more will register before the start of school. Currently there are 40 employees on payroll. There are 60 on a weekly basis, with some that also help at other schools. Assistant Principal Susan Hunt spoke to the board about relationships and partnerships with the community (Volunteers and mentors at schools). Reaching out to the community and asking people to partner with the school anyway they like. Stedman Elementary has become a green school with the county. The school is getting new landscaping. And there are always projects going on at the school. We would like to be able to bring our "big achievers" to a meeting and present them to the Town Board so they can be recognized for their achievements. The school has students that win in speech, spelling bee and science competitions and will go on to the district level. We would like to thank the Board for your time.
  
- b. Consider Stedman Youth Athletic club

Wayne Mosley, president of the Stedman youth association, spoke to the Board about the poor conditions at the Rec. Center. Some of the issues at the center are; handicap accessibility, drainage problems and just the overall maintenance needs work. There is a 10 year plan that Cumberland County and Cumberland County Parks and Rec. have put together. The last 10 years are up and there is nothing in the book that pertains to Stedman Parks and Rec. They are in the process of doing another 10 year plan. And if we don't do something we are not going to be in the new book either. I feel that now is a great time to act. I am asking you as Commissioners to reach out to your County Commissioners and put a bug in their ear on behalf of all of us. There are children that come to the Stedman Rec. center from Beaver Dam, Bethany, Vander and Stedman. The tax dollars that come into these town's total \$712,313.00. None of this money goes to the Stedman Rec. Center. Commissioner Raymes stated that making phone calls and writing letters does not work. A committee needs to be formed and attend County Meetings and let the County know that Stedman needs help. Skip Carr told the Board that the new 10 year plan book is just getting started. But in order to be in the book, the County needs to be contacted. Mr. Carr stated that the Commissioners need to be called regularly. Daily even. Commissioner Stewart stated that when the committee goes to a meeting, there needs to be a plan of action. Show them this is what we need. Mr. Mosley stated that the youth association has some funds that can be used for the Rec. center, but the association would rather not use it when there are tax dollars that can be used. We would rather not use the money if there will be a new facility built in the next few years. The Stedman Rec. Center is in terrible shape. Mr. Mosley stated it is really a shame. Mr. Mosley stated that the Youth Association has been talking with the Bunce family about Farmer's Day. If they decide not to have it this year, the association would like to take it over. If we take it over, we would be getting with Chief Stocks and Chief Nobles in regards to safety. If it is ok with the Bunce family, we would like to take over Farmer's Day. The Bunce family has done a wonderful job with this over the years and we would like for this tradition to continue on.

- c. Consider ¾" Water Lateral Repair at 218 Hillsboro Street  
PWC sent a request for repair at 218 Hillsboro Street. The service has been repaired 3 times already. The Town pays them each time they go out to make a repair. Commissioner George stated that it would be beneficial to the Town if they would allow PWC renew service to a 1" copper line. The time a copper service would last is around 20-30 years. This service is on Town property and the line feeds to the personal properties. A typical service repair using copper would be around \$2000. The actual price will depend on how long the pipe will have to be to make the repair. The Board asked that Mr. Parker at PWC be contacted about how much has already been spent and how much we are looking at spending.
  
- d. Consider repealing ordinance Regarding playing on streets  
Commissioner Stewart would like to rescind ordinance related to ball playing on streets, sidewalks and alleyways. He stated that he played in the streets growing up and that he doesn't want to take that away from children today playing in the streets. Commissioner Stewart would like to repeal the ordinance, if not repeal, then, replace. Chief Stocks gave an updated version which states "In order to protect the safety of our citizens and, in particular, our children, it shall be unlawful for any person to place any goal, backboard, or net apparatus incidental to ball playing on the streets, sidewalks, or alleys of the Town in a manner that affects or interferes with pedestrian or motor vehicle. The board agreed that the issue is not basketball playing in the streets, its' more of a safety issue. Commissioner Raymes made a motion to resend and consider replacement of the previous ordinance. Commissioner Stewart seconded and was carried unanimously.
  
- e. Consider cost for new storm drainage design  
Commissioner George reminded the Board that there are drainage issues all around town. He knows of 4 or 5 main storm drains that are causing issues. His suggestion would be to contact other engineers, other than the one that Town already uses, and get pricing from them. Let the engineer come and look at the problems and analyze what we need and give a price for repairs. Once we go into contract with an engineer, we can then sit down and make a 5-10 year plan to get the work done. The work needs to be done. It has not been done is quite some time. When the town goes out for bid, a list of what you want them to do is given to the bidder. They then will tell you that we can do this for this amount of money. Then the board will see if they meet qualifications and if they will be good enough. By doing things this way, the engineers will be fighting to get the job. The town will contact the league to get the proper procedure for doing this.

#### STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- a. Town Clerks Report----None
- b. Chief of Police Report

As you will notice, the main road through town has gone from a 4 lane to 2 lane road, one being a center turn. With this being done, the school zone has been moved to encompass the entrance to the primary school. Hillsboro Street should be open on Tuesday, August 8, 2017. Depending on weather. In three to four weeks, Carol Street will be closed at the bridge. DOT is actually doing this project. Not a contractor for DOT. Frank West of Cumberland Co. DOT contacted us to advise us that an error had been made with speed limit on the bypass. It was posted as 45mph, should be 55mph. As part of the repair project to Town Hall, we have looked into upgrading the lighting. We have received an estimate from Duke Energy. The estimate that

was given was around \$2800. Based on our energy bills, we would save around \$170 each month. Based on that, we would have our money back in 14 months. Commissioner Raymes made a motion to accept the Duke Energy LED lighting proposal. Commissioner George seconded and was carried unanimously.

c. Mayor & Board of Commissioners

Mayor pro-tem Jones has a concern as to where the Town stands with the Code Enforcement Agreement with the County. From what is understood, every year an agreement was signed, given the County the authority to do code enforcement in the town. The board ask that Rebecca check with Attorney Yarbrough in reference to where we stand with code enforcement. Per Scott Walters at the County, their attorney stated that even with the signed agreement, the county would not enforce the agreement. In talking with Duke Power, the Town is looking to save \$1300 a year by changing out the streetlights to LED's. Commissioner George would like to make a motion to accept the LED agreement. Commissioner Stewart seconded and was carried unanimously to accept LED lighting in the Town.

d. Planners Report---none

e. Stedman Fire Department

Chief Nobles stated that they have received 301 calls since the first of the year. There have been 2000 hours of training for volunteers. The Fire Department has asked the DOT to leave a right of way large enough for fire trucks to get through since there are homes in our jurisdiction. This is located on Carol Street when the road is closed for repairs. DOT has not told Chief Nobles whether this will be possible. Cumberland is changing their mass notification system. They will now be using a system called Cumberland Alerts. This is where you would get emergency information, such as weather. You have to opt in the system to receive it. This will begin August 24, 2017.

CLOSED SESSION-PURSUANT N.C.G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss personnel issues

Mayor pro-tem Jones made a motion to go into closed session at 8:26pm Commissioner Raymes seconded and was carried unanimously.

Commissioner Raymes made a motion to go out of closed session at 8:43 pm. Commissioner Stewart seconded and was carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Raymes made a motion to adjourn the August 3, 2017 Board meeting at 8:45 pm. Commissioner George seconded and was carried unanimously.

