

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**November 7, 2024-----7:00 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Martin L. Jones, Commissioner Mark Lee, Commissioner Ralph Vogt, Commissioner Wood, and Commissioner Horne

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Clerk Connie Veeder, Admin. Assistant Whitney Barlow, and Attorney Donald Hudson

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Jones led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Mayor Jones called for adoption of the agenda. Motion was made by Commissioner Lee to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

October 3, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

October 3, 2024 Closed Session Meeting Minutes

Budget Amendment #BA2025-02

Resolution #2024-01

Resolution #2024-02

Commissioner Lee made a motion to adopt the meeting minutes and Commissioner Vogt seconded, the board was unanimous in approval.

**PRESENTATIONS** – None

**PUBLIC FORUM** – None

**OLD BUSINESS** –

- a.) Update Sweetgrass Subdivision Cross Slope Request. Mrs. Veeder spoke with our engineer at WithersRavenel. The engineer approved the cross slope being at 3%. Mrs. Veeder let the developer know so they could move forward with the plans.
- b.) Debt Setoff Update. Letters were mailed and the debt will be sent to setoff in December.
- c.) 2024 Audit should be completed no later than November 30<sup>th</sup>.
- d.) Property liens were filed on 5150 & 5182 Jefferson Street on October 22, 2024 by the town attorney. Copies of the liens were given to the board to review.
- e.) Commissioner Wood asked for an update on the pickleball courts. Mayor Jones stated he had spoken with Michael Gibson and Parks and Recreation are reviewing the project.

**NEW BUSINESS** – None

**STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

- a) Town Clerk's Report – There is a holiday on November 11<sup>th</sup> for Veteran's Day and November 28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> for Thanksgiving this month. Lighting of the Christmas Ornament in the park will be on November 26<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm. Mrs. Veeder reminded the newly elected or

re-elected board members about their Ethics Training Course online. The Town Christmas party is on December 12<sup>th</sup> at Alfredo's Italian Restaurant in Clinton, NC. December 14<sup>th</sup> the town is sponsoring a visit with Santa in Ernest Freeman Park from 1-4 pm. There will be food trucks in the parking lot of Home's Furniture building. The parade will begin at 7 pm.

- b) Chief of Police Report – Chief Jackson was not in attendance but sent a report. There were 11 incident reports this month, 10 traffic citations and 4 misdemeanor arrests.
- c) Stedman Fire Department – Kevin Carroll and Brian Parks were in attendance. Carroll told the board that the Fire Department Board had been rearranged and he was the new president, Andrew Maykovich was now vice president, and Brandon Walker was the new chief. Parks gave the monthly report stating they had 43 calls and used the drone to help find someone on the run from law enforcement.
- d) Planners Report – None
- e) Code Enforcement Report – None
- f) Mayor and Board of Commissioners – Commissioner Wood stated that the town needed to consider obtaining the land at the back of the Elementary School for development for additions to our parks and recreation area. Commissioner Lee spoke about the existing businesses in the town and how they are doing. He also spoke of annexation of the area around Food Lion and about how much revenue that could produce for the town. Lee stated that immediate revenue for the town is what is needed for growth and revenue. The big issue he brought up was allowing alcohol sales in the town. This would help profits of existing businesses, bring new businesses, and create revenue for Stedman. He stated that maybe the board should put a survey out for the public to voice opinions about having alcohol sales in the town. A question of what can the town provide for Food Lion and the other businesses in that section. Water can be provided but according to our water/sewer ordinance we would not be able to provide sewer to this area in a reasonable length of time. Commissioner Wood stated that there should be no more housing developments approved until the sewer system is repaired and the fire flow is corrected for the current developments. Jesse Hall, a resident at the meeting asked the board if he could speak. Mayor Jones gave Hall the floor. Jesse Hall, in his personal opinion, stated that the town auditor which was David Maxwell at the time years ago repeated brought to the board that the board should vote to fund an enterprise water and sewer fund to make repairs to the water and sewer system in the future. Hall also stated in his personal opinion that Maxwell's pleas were declined repeatedly by the board of commissioners. The sewer issues that the town now faces is a consequence of 10-15 years ago. The conclusion of the discussion was that the town has to increase revenue.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Horne to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Commissioner Lee to adjourn the November 7, 2024 meeting at 7:52 pm.