



## STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

### AGENDA

DECEMBER 4, 2025 @ 7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

STEDMAN TOWN HALL

5110 Front Street, Stedman, NC

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### 2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA –*Addition or Deletion*

(All additions, add to New Business, requires majority vote of Board to consider)

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Motion to adopt the agenda

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA-

Items on the consent agenda are considered routine or have been thoroughly discussed previously. A member of the Board of Commissioners may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion under New Business or at a later time.

- a.) Approval of November 6, 2025 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- b.) Approval of November 13, 2025 - Emergency Public Meeting Minutes
- c.) Approval of November 20, 2025 - Special Meeting Minutes for Viable Utility Program
- d.) Approval of November 25, 2025 - Closed Session Emergency Meeting
- e.) Approval of the Resolution #2026-06 for Viable Utility Program Designation

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented or as amended

#### 5. PRESENTATIONS – None

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** None

#### 6. PUBLIC HEARING – None

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** None

#### 7. PUBLIC COMMENT

*Each speaker is asked to limit comments to 3 minutes and the total comment period will be 15 minutes or less. Anyone desiring to speak must sign up with the Town Clerk by 6:55 p.m. The Board will not take action on an item that is presented during the Public Forum.*

#### 8. OLD BUSINESS –

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** None

**9. ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING--**

a. Recognition of Outgoing Council Members

Presenter: Mayor Jones

- Paul Pirro – Served as a Council Member for 8 years

Each outgoing Council Member/Commissioner will have an opportunity to share a few words.

b. Swearing -In of Newly Elected Council Members

- Martin L. Jones, Jr. – Oath to be issued by Judge Robert Steele
- Louis Wood – Oath to be issued by State Representative, Diane Wheatley
- Harvey Cain – Oath to be issued by State Representative, Diane Wheatley

Each newly sworn- in Council Member will have the opportunity to share a few words.

**10. RECESS (5 minutes)**

a. Recess the Meeting

b. Return to Regular Session

-Upon return to the meeting, newly sworn- in council will be seated at the front of the room on the dais.

**11. NEW BUSINESS –**

a.) Rescinding Previous Approval Charter Change Request For Police Chief Language

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Approval to note reason for removal of previously approved Charter Change Request on police Chief language

b.) Rescinding Previous Approval Adding Referendum for Alcohol Sales On The Election Ballot

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Approval to note reason for removal of previously approved language to ballot regarding alcohol sales

**12. CLOSED SESSION-**

**13. STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

a. Town Clerk Report

- b. Chief of Police Report
- c. Stedman Fire Department-
- d. Code Enforcement Report-see report
- e. Planners Report
- f. Mayor & Board of Commissioners

#### **14. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**December 4, 2025 ----- 7:00PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Martin L. Jones, Commissioner Wood, Commissioner Vogt, Commissioner Lee, Commissioner Pirro, Commissioner Horne and Commissioner Cain

**STAFF PRESENT**

Connie Veeder/Town Clerk, Whitney Barlow, Officer Bobby Smith, and Attorney Donald Hudson

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Jones led the invocation and Pledge of Allegiance.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

Commissioner Lee asked to add item 5a Introduction of Cumberland County Sheriff Johnathan Morgan, under Presentation. Commissioner Vogt made the motion to adopt the agenda and Commissioner Pirro seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by the board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- a.) Approval of November 6, 2025 – Regular Meeting Minutes
- b.) Approval of November 13, 2025 - Emergency Public Meeting Minutes
- c.) Approval of November 20, 2025 - Special Meeting Minutes for Viable Utility Program
- d.) Approval of November 25, 2025 - Closed Session Emergency Meeting
- e.) Approval of the Resolution #2026-06 for Viable Utility Program Designation

Commissioner Pirro made a motion to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented above and Commissioner Wood seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the board.

**PRESENTATIONS-** Cumberland County Sheriff Johnathan Morgan addressed the crowd by introducing himself. Morgan has signed up to run for Sheriff in Cumberland County in the 2026 March Primary. He stated he would be grateful for the town's people vote.

**PUBLIC HEARING- NONE**

**PUBLIC COMMENT-**

1. Senator Tom McInnis introduced himself as Senator of the 21<sup>st</sup> District. He wanted to inform the people that he is working against the Inter Basin Transfer request of water from the Cape Fear River and how it will affect the downstream communities. He did state that he is for taking

the water and putting it back. He asked that everyone reach research the information and please reach out to all senators and congressional people by letters or emails.

2. Michelle Currie from 190 Forte Road spoke again on her neighbors' rooster. She stated that she had been to the town meeting before but just wanted to come back to say the problem has not been taken care of as of this meeting. She spoke with our Code Enforcement Officer, Tony Porter on several occasions. Our code enforcement officer can only approach problems that can be seen out in the open. The neighbors have moved the rooster to the back yard but the rooster continues to crow early in the morning and wakes Currie up. She asked the town board if there was anything they can do.

#### **OLD BUSINESS-**

a.) Update on Funding Reimbursement- The final reimbursement check in the amount of \$455,805 has been received from DWI for the Sewer System Improvement I & I Study.

#### **ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING--**

a. Mayor Mardy Jones recognized outgoing Commissioner Paul Pirro for his 8 years of service to the town. Pirro spoke about how he enjoyed serving along side the town board and mayor. He also asked that the existing board and new member coming on to serve to make decisions based on what is best for the Town of Stedman citizens.

#### **b. Swearing -In of Newly Elected Council Members**

- Judge Robert Stiehl, III read the oath to Mayor Mardy Jones as he was re-elected as mayor to serve a four-year term. Mayor Jones was accompanied by his wife Emily Jones who held the Bible while he recited his oath.

- State Representative, Diane Wheatley read the oath to Louis Wood as he was re-elected as town commissioner to serve a four-year term. Commissioner Wood was accompanied by his wife, Elizabeth Wood who held the Bible while he recited his oath.

- State Representative, Diane Wheatley read the oath to Harvey L. Cain, Jr. as he is a newly elected town commissioner taking Paul Pirro's seat. Commissioner Cain was accompanied by his friend, Anna Moore who held the Bible while he recited his oath.

#### **RECESS (5 minutes)**

A short recess was taken after the swearing in ceremony beginning at 7:25 pm to allow for pictures and changing of the name plates before the new member took his seat. The meeting resumed at 7:31 pm.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

a.) Rescind previous approval of the charter change request for the police chief language in the town charter. The town clerk stated the date of the minutes, the motion, and the approval of the motion. The town clerk asked for the board to approve to rescind the vote and make note of rescinding it in the minutes. Commissioner Lee made a motion to approve the town clerk making a note of the approval vote to change the police language

in the town charter as it went against the NC Statute 160A-281. Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion and the board was unanimous in approving.

- b.) Rescind previous approval adding a referendum for alcohol sales to the election ballot. The town clerk stated the date of the minutes, the motion, and the approval of the motion that was made for the addition of the referendum to the election ballot. The town clerk asked the board to approve to rescind the vote and make a note of rescinding it in the minutes. Commissioner Wood made a motion to approve the town clerk making a note of the approval of rescinding the vote for a referendum addition to the election ballot to allow the people of the town to vote to approve or disapprove alcohol sales in the town. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and the board was unanimous in approving.

**CLOSED SESSION – § 143-318.11(a)(6)** Discuss Title Change and Pay Increase for Office Staff. Commissioner Wood made the motion to approve the title change and pay increase for the office staff. Commissioner Cain seconded the motion and the board was unanimous in the vote to approve.

### **STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

- a.) Town Clerk's Report-
- Holiday December 24<sup>th</sup>, 25<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, and January 1, 2026 for Christmas and New Year's holidays
  - Monday, December 15<sup>th</sup>, Staff Christmas Party at Ribeye's Steakhouse in Clinton.
  - Trash pickup for Thursday, December 25<sup>th</sup> will be on Monday, December 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - Tuesday's trash pickup next week will be on Wednesday November 12<sup>th</sup> due to holiday on the 11<sup>th</sup> The following week Thursday's trash will be picked up on Wednesday, December 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - The town clerk shared two quotes for services for the Santa in the Park event on December 13<sup>th</sup>. The quotes were for 2 port-a-potties and a DJ for the park from 3 pm – 6 pm at \$203.30 and \$250.00 respectively. Commissioner Vogt made a motion to approve the two quotes for services. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and the board approved unanimously.
  - Facebook Page update. The page is a government page, needs to be transparent, comments cannot be turned off, we can mark no profanity, etc. The site has to be monitored, can keep posts to advertising events, notices, emergencies, projects, etc. The town clerk asked if the board would like to continue with the Town of Stedman, NC Government Facebook page. Commissioner Vogt made a motion to continue with the Facebook page for 6 months to see how it goes for now. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion and the board was unanimous in the approval.
- b.) Chief of Police Report – Chief Jackson was not at the meeting. Officer Bobby Smith was in attendance but did not have a report.
- c.) Stedman Fire Department- Robert Lassiter was in attendance and provided the following report. 8 fire calls, 1 structure fire and 7 wood fires, 20 medical emergencies, 3 motor vehicle accidents and 14 other incidents. Parade applications are still available until the 10<sup>th</sup> of December.

- d.) Code Enforcement Report- None
- e.) Planners Report- None
- f.) Mayor & Board of Commissioners- Commissioner Wood invited the board to participate in the parade. He stated he would have a trailer with lights attached to his truck. Everyone is welcome to ride.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Horne and seconded by Commissioner Lee to adjourn the December 4, 2025 meeting at 7:56 pm.

# Town of Stedman



5110 Front St.  
P.O. Box 220  
Stedman, NC 28391

(910) 323-1892  
(910) 323-4255 (FAX)  
[www.townofstedman.com](http://www.townofstedman.com)

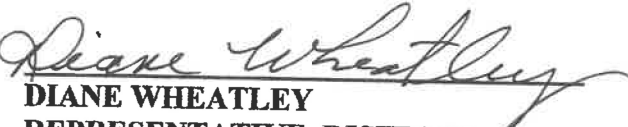
"A Special Place"

## "Oath of Office"

"I, HARVEY CAIN, JR. DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA, NOT INCONSISTENT THEREWITH, AND I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF MY OFFICE AS COMMISSIONER OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN, SO HELP ME GOD."

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**HARVEY CAIN, JR.**  
**COMMISSIONER, TOWN of STEDMAN**

**Administered By:**

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**DIANE WHEATLEY**  
**REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 43**

**DECEMBER 4, 2025**

**Date**



# Town of Stedman

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## *"Oath of Office"*

"I, LOUIS WOOD, DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA, NOT INCONSISTENT THEREWITH, AND I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF MY OFFICE AS COMMISSIONER OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN, SO HELP ME GOD."

**LOUIS WOOD**  
**COMMISSIONER, TOWN of STEDMAN**

**Administered By:**

**DIANE WHEATLEY**  
**REPRESENTATIVE, DISTRICT 43**

**DECEMBER 4, 2025**

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**Date**



# Town of Stedman

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## *"Oath of Office"*

"I, MARTIN L. JONES, JR., DO SOLEMNLY SWEAR THAT I WILL SUPPORT AND MAINTAIN THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF THE UNITED STATES, AND THE CONSTITUTION AND LAWS OF NORTH CAROLINA, NOT INCONSISTENT THEREWITH, AND I WILL FAITHFULLY DISCHARGE THE DUTIES OF MY OFFICE AS MAYOR OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN, SO HELP ME GOD."

\_\_\_\_\_  
**MARTIN L. JONES, JR.**  
**MAYOR, TOWN of STEDMAN**

**Administered By:**

\_\_\_\_\_  
**JUDGE ROBERT STIEHL, III**

**DECEMBER 4, 2025**

**Date**

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**RESOLUTION BY GOVERNING BODY OF TOWN OF STEDMAN**

WHEREAS, Session Law 2020-79 was signed into law on July 1, 2020 to improve viability of the water and wastewater systems of certain units of local government; the Viable Utility Reserve was established in the Water Infrastructure fund to be used for grants to include the study of rates, asset inventory and assessment and/or merger and regionalization options as well as construction projects which may include rehabilitation of existing utility assets, interconnections/extensions to provide regional service, decentralize an existing system, and/or other options deemed feasible to support financial, organizational, and operational viability; and

WHEREAS, The State Water Infrastructure Authority (SWIA) and the Local Government Commission (LGC) have developed criteria to assess local government units and identify distressed units, and

WHEREAS, The **TOWN OF STEDMAN** has been identified through the process approved by SWIA and the LGC as being potentially distressed, based on the financial, managerial, and technical challenges faced by the **TOWN OF STEDMAN** and which affect the long-term sustainability of the utility, as supported by the most recent assessment score which is above the designation threshold for the first time, and

WHEREAS, The **TOWN OF STEDMAN** has need for state grant assistance for study and/or construction project(s), training and education, and other related assistance in support of becoming a viable utility.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN:**

That the **TOWN OF STEDMAN**, if designated as distressed, will complete the viable utility requirements in §159G-45(b) by:

1. Conducting an asset assessment and rate study. (Recently completed asset assessment or rate studies may be sufficient to meet this requirement.)
2. Participate in a training and educational program.
3. Develop a short-term and long-term action plan considering all of the following:
  - a. Infrastructure repair, maintenance, and management.
  - b. Continuing education of the governing board and system operating staff.
  - c. Long-term financial management plan.

That the **TOWN OF STEDMAN** acknowledges that the State Water Infrastructure Authority and Local Government Commission can impose specific conditions on grants from the Viable Utility Reserve.

That the **TOWN OF STEDMAN** will provide adequate access to staff, documents, equipment, and other resources pertinent to complete any future Viable Utility Reserve projects, and upon completion of the projects provide good faith effort to implement their short-term and long-term plans to achieve system viability.

That CONNIE P. VEEDER, the **TOWN CLERK/FINANCE OFFICER**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized to execute and file these materials for consideration on behalf of the **TOWN OF STEDMAN** with the State of North Carolina for a distressed designation to aid in the completion of projects in support of system viability.

That the **TOWN CLERK/FINANCE OFFICER**, and successors so titled, is hereby authorized and directed to furnish such information as the appropriate State agency may request in connection with such process: to make the assurances as contained above; and to execute such other documents as may be required in connection with the designation process.

