

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**April 23, 2024-----6:30 PM**  
**Growth Plan Meeting**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Martin L. Jones, Commissioner Paul Pirro, Commissioner Louis Wood, Commissioner Mark Lee and Commissioner Vogt

**STAFF PRESENT**

Connie Veeder, Town Clerk/Finance Officer  
Whitney Barlow, Administrative Assistant

**CITIZENS PRESENT**

There were 15 citizens attending the meeting.

**INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Jones led the invocation and the Pledge of Allegiance.

**OPENING REMARKS**

Mayor Jones opened the meeting with a summary of the February Growth Plan Meeting. He also referenced the zoning map so the new citizens could see the future residential developments that are in the works. A copy of the February meeting minutes was given to each commissioner.

**DISCUSSION: Businesses for the Area**

Mayor Jones opened up the discussion by telling the citizens that tonight's meeting was going to be an open session to discuss businesses for the town. One area of business that is needed is service businesses like food and gas establishments. Also an urgent care facility is needed maybe through Cape Fear Valley. Jess Hall spoke up and volunteered to help head this search. Mr. Hall has land and property available for this type of establishment. Commissioner Pirro stated that he may be able to make contact with someone about a Carolina Quik store. Commissioner Lee stated his wife works for First Health and maybe she could give the board more information about potential contacts. Pirro and Lee said they would email any information they found to Mr. Hall so he could make contact.

Some of the items that will be needed when talking with potential businesses is a road county for Hwy. 24 and the town needs to be making preparations for annexation on some of the areas on the highway.

The town needs to speak with the management/owners of the businesses that are thriving and doing well in the town. This information may be beneficial in seeking business to join our community. The town also needs to talk with businesses that did not thrive and find out the reasons why.

No advertisements on Hwy. 24 for existing businesses may be hindering business.

Nice restaurants are needed in our area. Most of them sell alcohol and it helps their sales. The town may need to open a vote for the citizens or the governing board to decide if the town stays dry or modernize it with alcohol sales being allowed.

Everyone agreed that the town needs to focus on bringing activities to the town to give young people things to do and participate in to keep them off the streets and out of trouble. Some examples would be expanding the park, expanding the ball fields, pickle ball courts, splash pad, etc.

**CLOSED SESSION: To discuss quote for complete sewer CCTVing for the remainder of the sewer.**

Commissioner Pirro made a motion and Commissioner Lee seconded the motion to go into closed session at 7:35 pm.

Commissioner Vogt made a motion and Commissioner Pirro seconded the motion to go back into open session at 7:50 pm.

Once open session began, Commissioner Pirro made the motion to move forward with the additional CCTVing with KRG and Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. The board was unanimous in the vote to move forward.

**CLOSING:**

Mayor Jones commented that this meeting had a lot of great discussion. Jones also asked if there was anything else from anyone that needed discussion. Commissioner Vogt moved that the meeting be adjourned. Commissioner Pirro seconded the motion and the April 23rd meeting was adjourned at 7:56 pm.