

MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS
October 5, 2023-----7:00 PM
REGULAR MEETING

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Martin L. Jones, Commissioner Billy Horne, Commissioner Paul Pirro, Commissioner Louis Wood

STAFF PRESENT

Town Clerk Connie Veeder, Whitney Barlow, Attorney Donald Hudson
Deputy White

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 Horne to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Wood seconded the motion and the motion to adopt the agenda was passed unanimously by the board.

CONSENT AGENDA

September 7, 2023 – Regular Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Wood made a motion to accept the minutes as written which was seconded by Commissioner Pirro and was passed unanimously by the vote of the board.

PRESENTATIONS – DeLaine Jones from the Cumberland County Health Department introduced herself. Mrs. Jones is an educator with the CCHD and is willing to come into the Stedman community to collaborate services that are offered through her department. She gave us many pamphlets to look over and asked if there were any people groups that we thought she could help. We are going to post her information on our website. We also suggested she reach out to the parks and rec center in Stedman.

PUBLIC FORUM – None

OLD BUSINESS –

- a) The Inflow & Infiltration study update was discussed. Mayor Jones shared with the group that the progress was moving along to find an engineering firm to do the study for us. Mrs. Veeder shared that Samantha at the Mid Carolina COG had completed a Request for quote (RFQ) for the project. The RFQ closes on the 23rd of October. The applicants will be reviewed and introduced to the board at the next BOC meeting on November 2nd.
- b) Progress on the funding for the new addition to the town hall. The state budget was passed. Representative Wheatley called and verbally told Mrs. Veeder that the Town of Stedman had been awarded the \$250,000 for the construction of the new conference room.
- c) The Cross Connection Ordinance was presented to the BOC for approval. The most important revision to the ordinance was to shut water supply off to the customers who do

not comply with installing a backflow or getting an existing backflow tested in the amount of time allotted. Letters will be mailed in the month of October to all businesses and residents who will need to have their backflow installed and/or tested.

- d) Police Chief Position- The Town is actively seeking a new police chief for the town. A new and improved job description was presented to the BOC. The job will be posted on the North Carolina Association of Chiefs of Police website, the Town of Stedman Website, ZipRecruiter, and Indeed.com until October 27, 2023 at 5 pm. The board was in favor of the updated job description. Commissioner Pirro made a motion to approve the updates and Commissioner Wood seconded the motion with the full board voting unanimously to approve the job description.
- e) Update on restrooms in the park. Commissioner Wood stated that the plans for the restrooms were approved and sent out for bid. Four vendors bid and the chosen bid came in at \$71,000. This bid includes upgrades and some extra items. James McMillian and Tim Johnson from the county Parks and Rec came by Town Hall to meet with Mayor Jones. They shared that Parks and Rec will be contributing \$28,000 to the bathroom project. The town will take care of the remainder.
- f) Update on Nighttime Deputy Coverage. An excel sheet was given to the board to show the cost of hiring a sheriff's deputy to patrol during the night time hours 7pm – 3am comparing a 5night week and a 7night week @ \$40 per hour. After reviewing the information on the excel sheet, the board voted to move forward with the 5night week off duty officer for the night time coverage beginning November 1st if possible. The BOC asked Mrs. Veeder to make contact with the sheriff's department to arrange the nighttime coverage. A motion was made by Commissioner Wood to approve the hiring of off duty officers for nighttime coverage. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Horne and unanimously approved by the full board.

NEW BUSINESS –

- a) Titan Environmental Solutions- A proposal was shared with the BOC to discuss the possibility of contracting them to take care of all the town's water maintenance instead of PWC. The Mayor and Town Clerk met with Tracey Miller who is the owner of Titan's. The meeting was called due to the increased costs that the town is experiencing with PWC. The company can do everything for the town that PWC can do except the monitoring of our lift stations. PWC monitors them 24/7. The BOC decided to work with Titan's for about 3 months to take care of all our water maintenance items. Commissioner Wood made a motion to begin this trial for 3 months with Titan and Commissioner Horne seconded the motion. The Board voted unanimously to approve the 3-month trial. The BOC asked Mrs. Veeder to reach out to PWC to find out the requirements of the current contract with PWC and to gather details of what maintenance was allowed to be done by other vendors.
- b) Purchase of a new garbage truck- This topic was brought up to the BOC due to repairs needing to be done to the existing garbage truck. The repairs to the existing truck are band aids to keep the truck operational until the town can determine if it is more cost effective to continue to repair the truck we have now or invest in a new truck. The new truck may be a side arm truck which would allow 1 man instead of 2 men on garbage days. There will be more to come on this topic at future meetings.

- c) Party in the Park funding- Mayor Jones has been asked by the Stedman Historical Council to help fund the annual event. The group needs \$15,000 to pay for the expenses of the event. Mayor Jones asked the BOC to consider voting in a \$5000 donation to the event along with the \$1500 Arts Council Grant that we award them each year. Commissioner Wood made a motion to donate \$5000 in addition to the Arts Council Grant, Commissioner Pirro seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to provide the donation to the Historical Society group.

STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

- a) Town Clerk's Report – Town Hall will be closed October 9th in observance of Columbus Day. Community Day at Stedman Primary, October 26th. The school has asked Doug and Jeremy to participate by driving the work truck/garbage truck over to the school at a 10:30 am. The Town Hall will provide goody bags for the students. On October 27th, Stedman Elementary 2nd grade students will be visiting Town Hall for Community Day. We will greet the students, show them around town hall and give them a little treat bag. Chad Lucas is no longer our Backflow tester. Chris Medlin is taking on this job moving forward. Chris is currently our ORC for our water system. Letters for the Cross Connection program will be mailed this month. There are 45 businesses/residents that required to have a backflow on their water meters but do not at this time. Call Multiplier is up and running. We had a test call and it seems to be working well. We are still working on some glitches with the ACH draft. Speed bumps should be put in designated locations soon. In all the town needs 42 speed bumps, 4 signs per pair (21 pair). Doug and Jeremy rode around the area and selected spots that need them.
- b) Chief of Police Report – None
- c) Stedman Fire Department –Next meeting is September 19th, @7:00pm, 5256 Front St., Christmas parade is December 2, 2023
- d) Planners Report – The county planners meeting was canceled for this month.
- e) Code Enforcement Report – Four letters sent out in September, 1 property in last steps.
- f) Mayor and Board of Commissioners: Mayor Jones shared with the board that the Christmas angels will be delivered by November 25th and the town will have more angels displayed on the light poles through the town this year. He also stated that he will be setting up a meeting with the County developers to show them the potential Stedman has for business and development, People have been inquiring about the field that has been cleared at the end of Blake Rd. The field was cleared to be a sod field. A new business is opening up in the building that housed Hwy. 55. It is a new Mexican restaurant. Johnathon's Pizza will be closing in October. Commissioner Wood stated that the part number that was given to him at first for the switch for the lift station was incorrect. They have the correct number and the part should be in by the end of November. Generator quotes should be finalized by the beginning of the week.

ADJOURNMENT A motion was made by Commissioner Horne to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Commissioner Wood to adjourn the October 5 2023 meeting at 8:24 pm.