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**Stanley Town Council Meeting  
Official Minutes  
Monday, May 13, 2019**

The regular monthly meeting of the Stanley Town Council was held on Monday, May 13, 2019 at Stanley Middle School. The following elected officials and staff were present:

Steven Denton, Mayor  
Cathy Kirkland, Mayor Pro-Tem  
Kerry Hart, Council Member  
Bud Pate, Council Member  
Danny Sparrow, Council Member  
Rob McMinn, Council Member

Jim Windham, Town Attorney  
Heath Jenkins, Town Manager  
Scott Wright, Captain – Police Dept.  
Michael Hullett, Deputy Chief – Fire Dept.  
Ashley Price, Deputy Chief – Fire Dept.  
Eric Withers, Chief – Fire Dept.

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***Call to Order:***

Mayor Denton called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

***Invocation:***

Citizen Michael Crisp gave the invocation.

***Pledge of Allegiance:***

All citizens present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

***Approval of Agenda:***

Manager Jenkins informed the Council that he would need to add a closed session to the end of the meeting to discuss legal matters. Mayor Denton asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of a closed session.

Council Member Kerry Hart made a motion to accept the agenda and Council Member Bud Pate seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

***Approval of Minutes:***

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to accept the April 1, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Danny Sparrow made a motion to approve the minutes as presented. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

**Old Business: None**

**New Business:**

**A. Call for Public Hearing – Adoption of FY 19-20 Budget**

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to call a public hearing for the Regular Meeting on June 3, 2019 at 6:00 PM at Stanley Middle School for the FY19-20 Budget. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made the motion. Council Member Rob McMinn seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

**B. Budget Amendment – Town Hall Phase II**

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to approve the budget amendment. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made the motion. Council Member Kerry Hart seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

**C. Proclamation Designating May 13-19, 2019 as National Peace Officers’ Memorial Week**

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to approve the proclamation. Council Member Kerry Hart made the motion. Council Member Danny Sparrow seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

**D. Resolution to Declare Equipment Surplus and Authorize Donation**

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to approve the resolution declaring the old Fire Department airpacks as surplus and authorize the donation of the equipment to a charity that sends equipment to Honduras. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made a motion. Council Member Bud Pate seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

**Special Presentations:**

**Swearing-In Ceremony for Fire Chief Eric Withers:** Mayor Denton swore in the Town’s new Fire Chief, Eric Withers. His wife, children and father were present for the ceremony.

**Budget Discussion:**

The Town Council scheduled a budget work session for May 23, 2019 at 6:00 PM at Town Hall. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made a motion to schedule the special meeting. Council Member Kerry Hart seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

**Citizens Comments:**

Mayor Denton asked if there were any citizen comments. There were none.

**Department Reports:**

**Finance Department:** Financial reports were provided.

**Public Works:** Mr. Roseberry was not present. Mayor Denton asked Manager Jenkins about the pre-construction meeting for the Community Development Block Grant. Manager Jenkins stated that staff and consultants, as well as the contractor, were in attendance.

**Recreation:** Mr. Deason was not present due to recreation games.

**Fire:** Fire reports were provided. Council Member Kerry Hart asked about burning debris and trash at a home near Bennington Woods. Deputy Chief Hullett stated that you cannot burn trash. Mayor Denton asked Chief Withers and Deputy Chief Hullett about the status of the grant for the new fire truck. Deputy Chief Hullett explained that the Town is responsible for 5% + the grant writer's fee. He stated that if they can get the truck below \$500,000, the probability of receiving the grant increases. He stated that they are taking the quotes down to the basics, as much as possible, to try and get the number at \$500,000 or less. He explained that they are customizing the truck to fit the needs of the Town of Stanley, rather than a demo. Deputy Chief Hullett reminded the Council that the Town owes nothing unless they get the grant. The grant writing fee is \$7,500, rather than the normal 2% of the total grant. Deputy Chief Hullett stated that Chief Withers is involved in the process now that he is here with the Town.

Mayor Denton welcomed Chief Withers and asked him to introduce himself. Chief Withers stated that he started in the fire service on the EMS side, at age 16. When he returned home from college one summer, he spent time with his brother at the Gastonia Fire Department. He knew then that he wanted to work in the fire service. Since then, he has worked his way up to Battalion Chief at the City of Charlotte, where he will continue to serve. Chief Withers served as the Chief for Crowders Mountain for the last five years. Chief Withers explained that Crowders Mountain had talked about hiring a full-time Chief and he knew that his tenure there would end. He stated that he looks forward to the challenges to come and to working with the Town leaders.

**Police:** Chief Summey was not present. Captain Wright was present and updated the Council on a shooting at Stanley Square Apartments. He stated that the department located the suspect vehicle and firearms. He stated that there is no ongoing threat.

**Manager's Report:** Manager Jenkins stated that he met with consultants working with Community Public Charter School regarding logistics and traffic pattern. He stated that he knows Council expressed concern over the amount of traffic on the roadways before and after school. He stated that the goal is to get as many vehicles out of the road as possible. He stated that he believes they have come to a solution that is safer and more efficient than was originally proposed. He explained that cars will need to turn right onto Ralph Handsel. Council Member Kerry Hart asked about dismissal time. Manager Jenkins stated that it would be staggered from the other schools. He stated he has the times, and he believes it was 3:30. He stated that before and after school programs will help stagger traffic. Manager Jenkins stated that he has copies of the site-plan if anyone would like to see them. Manager Jenkins thanked Council Member Sparrow for the traffic count numbers provided via the MPO. Manager Jenkins believes the data

is lower than actual, but still helpful information. Manager Jenkins stated that there is potential of a traffic signal and it is being investigated. The Town will have to be cautious in how they go about making recommendations regarding traffic to the school, as the Town would be responsible for the bill if the Town is requiring the improvements.

Manager Jenkins stated that the Town has secured a few easements and obtained a parcel of property for the CDBG project as there have been a few changes. He stated that there are extremely old lines that will be replaced.

He also stated that there was an old line that ran from the Buckeye pump station to the Meadow pump station behind Pennsylvania Steel. He stated that once it gets to that location, it is all up hill. There is a tremendous amount of pressure on the line, which is probably thirty years old. The line was tested, and the engineers thought that it would be okay, but a new line may be needed. Council Member Pate asked what material the pipe was. Manager Jenkins stated that he was not sure. Don Ritter, Utilities Superintendent, stated that the pipe is made of PVC. Manager Jenkins stated that if one of the pumps goes out, it could cost \$50,000-\$100,000. Manager Jenkins stated that this is the reason for impact fees, to help pay for improvements that will have to be done.

Manager Jenkins thanked Deputy Chief Hullett for his service as Interim Chief and welcomed Chief Withers aboard and acknowledged the hard work that he has already done.

**Council Comments:**

Council Member Rob McMinn stated that he wanted to start receiving monthly reports from the Police Department again. He also requested data on how many children cross streets to the park, walking track at Common Ground and Woodshed. He also stated that some of these areas are poorly lit. Manager Jenkins agreed with Council Member McMinn regarding pedestrian safety. Manager Jenkins stated that we would need to partner with NCDOT for some of these as some areas involve state roads. Manager Jenkins also stated that the funding we receive from the state is inadequate to manage and keep the roads from deteriorating.

Council Member McMinn also stated that there were concerns in Kelly's Landing and the HOA is asking for clarification regarding the funding provided for finishing the sidewalk in Kelly's Landing. Manager Jenkins explained that when he first took the Manager's position, he noticed that there were only two small areas where sidewalks had been installed. He stated that the Town pursued an expert in construction violations because the bonds were released on the infrastructure and it never should have been approved – which was no action of current Council or staff. The Town repaved and resurfaced from the cul-de-sac to the water crossing. He stated that it was a large percentage of the Town's overall Powell Bill funding. He stated that any infrastructure installed now is signed off on by an engineer, core samples taken and no developments started or carried out without proper inspection.

Council Member McMinn also questioned the financial summary sheet regarding water/sewer revenue and expenditures. The Finance Director was not present so Manager Jenkins stated that he would follow up and get clarification on which revenues may not have yet come in. Manager Jenkins did state that there were concerns with rainwater and additional expenses were incurred.

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussing legal matters. Council Member Danny Sparrow made a motion. Council Member Bud Pate seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Return to open session.

**Adjournment:** Mayor Denton asked for a motion to adjourn. Council Member Kerry Hart made a motion to adjourn the regular session of the Council meeting. Council Member Rob McMinn seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
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Steven Denton – Mayor

  
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Heath Jenkins – Town Manager

  
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Catherine Greder - Town Clerk

