



**Stanley Town Council Meeting
Official Minutes
Monday, August 5, 2019**

The regular monthly meeting of the Stanley Town Council was held on Monday, August 5, 2019 at Stanley Middle School. The following elected officials and staff were present:

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

Jim Windham, Town Attorney
Heath Jenkins, Town Manager
Olivia Smith, Finance Director
Eric Withers, Fire Chief
Derek Summey, Police Chief
Catherine Greder, Town Clerk

Call to Order:

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

Invocation:

Council Member Bud Pate gave the invocation.

Pledge of Allegiance:

All citizens present recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Approval of Agenda:

Mayor Denton asked if there was a motion to approve the agenda as presented.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made a motion to accept the agenda and Council 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 July 1, 2019 Regular Meeting Minutes. Council Member Kerry Hart 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:

A. Downtown Improvements

Mayor Denton referenced a PowerPoint displaying sketches of the improvements proposed for Downtown.

The first item is fencing along the railroad tracks from the Police Department, on the Main Street side, and the coffee shop parking lot, on the Highway 27 side, to the intersection and again all the way down the next intersection. Mayor Denton stated that the proposal also includes a walkway across the railroad tracks that will lead into a pavilion area. This would include removing the current gazebo, putting down brick pavers and having a pavilion in the middle. The pavilion area would include custom "Historic Stanley" benches, planters and decorative landscape.

Council Member Kerry Hart asked if the Mayor was looking to do this all at the same time. Mayor Denton stated that we would do the lighting, then fencing and then the pavilion area and landscaping throughout.

Council Member Kerry Hart asked about the approximate pricing of the pavilion. Mayor Denton stated that it would be roughly \$15,000 for that area and Recreation Director Deason would be handling the construction of the project.

Town Clerk, Catherine Greder, stated that the wayfinding signage in the presentation had already been approved for purchase, but asked for the Council's approval on the design. Council agreed to move forward with the design as presented.

Mayor Denton referred to the proposal for new welcome signs. He stated that the writing would be etched into the stone. He explained that the staff left the logo off of the sign so if the logo changed in the future, we would not need to invest in new signs. Mayor Denton asked if the Council was happy with the design and colors.

Mayor Denton stated that altogether, these projects would cost roughly \$150,000. Mayor Denton asked if there were any questions regarding the proposed projects. There were none.

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to approve the purchase of all previously referenced projects as presented. Council Member Bud Pate made a motion. Council Member Kerry Hart seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

B. 141 S Main Street

Mayor Denton asked Manager Jenkins to provide an update on 141 S Main Street. Manager Jenkins stated that the upset bid process is per general statute. He stated that we received an upset bid and have advertised and received an additional bid. He stated that we will advertise again and see if another bid is received. He stated that this process repeats until no additional bids are received. Mayor Denton asked if that notice would be published tomorrow. Town Clerk, Catherine Greder stated that it would be submitted tomorrow and published in the paper on Wednesday.

Council Member Danny Sparrow asked if there was a calculation to the amount that must be bid. Town Attorney, Jim Windham stated that it is roughly 5% of the previous bid amount. Town Clerk, Catherine Greder stated that the current bid is \$78,800. Mayor Denton clarified that the next period would then be ten days from Wednesday. Catherine Greder confirmed.

New Business:

A. Call for Public Hearing – Zoning Ordinance

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to call for a public hearing for the Zoning Ordinance Adoption. 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. Call for Public Hearing – Voluntary Annexation of Parcel 175471

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to call for a public hearing regarding the annexation of parcel 175471. Council Member Kerry Hart made a motion. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

C. Public Hearing – Subdivision of Parcel 220853

Mayor Denton stated that the Planning Board unanimously recommended to approve the application for subdivision.

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to open the public hearing. Council Member Danny Sparrow made the motion. Council Member Bud Pate seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

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

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

D. Vote - Subdivision of Parcel 220853

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to approve the application as requested. Council Member Rob McMinn made the motion. Council Member Kerry Hart seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

E. Community Public Charter School

Mayor Denton deferred to Manager Jenkins. Manager Jenkins stated that the school staff has been working with Town staff for several months. He stated that they all met with NCDOT. The charter school has requested from the Town that they be allowed to stack traffic on Valley Street back to Fourth Street, during peak times. Manager Jenkins stated that due to time restraints and restrictions with Duke Energy, it was not possible to add a turn lane and open the school on time. Manager Jenkins stated that the resolution in front of the Council was recommendations from staff: Fire, Police and Public Works for an appropriate, temporary solution. He stated that the resolution is an agreement between the Town and the charter school to provide a safe way for students to load and unload. He stated that it would be appropriate to hear from the school and hear how they arrived at this request.

Wanda Fuller, the civil engineer for the charter school, addressed the council. Wanda stated that two buses will pick up students at two remote locations. Those two buses will hold 125 kids and are expected to be near capacity. She stated that there will also be before and after school care. She stated that based on this information, the NCDOT has an excel spreadsheet they use and based on that information they needed to be able to stack 53 cars at a time. Wanda stated that she moved the driveway down and it will be one-way in. She stated that she placed signage on Valley that there will be no left turn into the driveway during certain hours. She stated that she also put a sign on Ralph Handsel, no left turn during certain hours. She stated that they also may try to get the flashing school signals. Wanda stated that she has 48 spaces in the parking lot and on the street and 53 was half of the max for during peak hours. She stated that short of everything being somewhere else, there was no other option possible. She stated that when they add students next year, they would have to reevaluate. Wanda stated that teachers will be parking at the school and have crosswalks to get to the school. Wanda stated that this is the safest layout. She stated that Duke Energy could not move a pole that would have provided other options, so the option presented is the safest possibility. Wanda stated that there will likely be issues the first week while everyone gets acclimated and after that time the proposed solution should be effective. She stated that they are pushing to get everything approved so the school can open on time.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland asked what time school will begin. Eddie McGinnis stated that school starts at 8 am and before-school care will start at 6:30 am. Council Member Kerry Hart asked what time the peak traffic would be and if it would impact buses picking up students for Kiser, Springfield and Stanley Middle. Eddie McGinnis stated that the peak time would be around 7:40 am. Council Member Kerry Hart rephrased and asked if cars would be stacked in the road when buses for the other schools are trying to navigate those roads for pickup. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland asked if the road was wide enough to get a bus through with the cars stacked in the other lane. Eddie McGinnis stated that it was. Wanda stated that the road is 20 feet wide. She stated that there will also be an area for the bus to pull off and unload. Eddie McGinnis stated that he spoke with the homeowner on that street who will leave for work before school traffic and return after.

Council Member Rob McMinn asked if the plan showed half of the cars to be stacked. Wanda stated that the peak stacking lane is no more than 50% of the number provided in the NCDOT spreadsheet.

Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland asked if they release at 4 pm. Eddie McGinnis stated that the parents picking up will stack earlier. Wanda stated that she made the space for each car longer than needed for most models. She stated that she has channeled with islands and signage as much as she can.

Council Member Rob McMinn asked where other cars would stack when the first cars have filled the stacking area at 3 pm, with an hour to go before release time. Wanda stated that staff can make them park in the church lot and then drive into the queue line.

Council Member Rob McMinn asked if that had performed risk analysis. Wanda stated that she is not a traffic engineer but has met all requirements and NCDOT is not making any requirements because they would have to pay for them.

Eddie McGinnis stated that someone from the school would be outside making sure that parents follow the traffic pattern.

Mayor Denton asked if there were any other questions or comments. There were none.

Mayor Denton asked if there was a motion to approve the resolution for the charter school. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made the motion. Council Member Danny Sparrow seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Eddie McGinnis thanked the Council and staff for their assistance.

F. Resolution Supporting Bicycle and Pedestrian Planning Grant

Mayor Denton stated that the grant application had already been submitted and the Council just needed to approve an updated resolution.

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to approve the resolution. Council Member Kerry Hart made the motion. Council Member Bud Pate seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

G. Call for Public Hearing – North Carolina State Building Code: Fire Prevention 2019

Mayor Denton stated that the documents would be distributed prior to the meeting. Town Clerk, Catherine Greder showed the Council a large binder and stated that the Code would be available for review at Town Hall. Due to the size of the document, she would not be copying to distribute.

Mayor Denton asked for a motion to call for a public hearing for the Fire Code. Mayor Pro-Tem Cathy Kirkland made a motion. Council Member Danny Sparrow seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Special Presentations:

Recognition of Citizens Assisting Apprehension of Suspects

Special Presentation to Stanley Police Department from Representative John Torbett

Mayor Denton presented Chief Summey with a Certificate of Acknowledgement and Congratulations from Representative John Torbett. Mayor Denton stated that Representative Torbett could not be here this evening, but he was happy to present this recognition on his behalf. Mayor Denton read the certificate:

“Whereas, the mission of the Stanley Police Department is to provide a committed and professional service to the community in protecting life and property in an unbiased manner while soliciting the continued support and input from citizens of the community in a joint community problem solving effort; and

Whereas, this mission has been carried out above and beyond in the recent events that have occurred and were masterfully handled by the Stanley Police Department; and

Whereas, the citizens of Stanley are thankful to be protected and served by such an outstanding police department.

Now, therefore, this 5th Day of August in the year Two Thousand and Nineteen, Representative John A. Torbett extends sincere congratulations to The Town of Stanley Police Department.”

Chief Summey thanked Representative Torbett and the Mayor for this recognition. Chief Summey stated that the Stanley Police Department has strong support from the community

and that is not the case across the country. He stated that he and his department are able to do what they do because of that support. He thanked the community for their support. He stated that the department needs the eyes and ears of the citizens and they could not do what they do without the help of the community.

Chief Summey stated that he would like to have Sergeant Cape at a meeting to be recognized, but one of the things that Sergeant Cape stated about the incident is that he was able to respond to the location of the suspects rather than the victim, who had been shot multiple times, not just because of the witnesses on the scene, but because the Fire Department was in his rearview mirror. He knew that the fireman that responded would go to the victim to render aid and he could go to the suspects. Chief Summey thanked the fire department and stated he would like to recognize them for what they do.

Oath of Office – Claude Wilson, Fire Inspector

Mayor Denton swore in Claude Wilson as the Town of Stanley Fire Department Inspector.

Citizens Comments:

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

Department Reports:

Finance Department: Financial reports were provided. Mayor Denton asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Public Works: Mr. Roseberry had no further report.

Recreation: Mr. Deason had no further report. Mayor Denton thanked Mr. Deason for his hard work on the expansion of Town Hall and on the capital projects. Mayor Denton also wished Mr. Deason a belated Happy Birthday. Council Member Rob McMinn asked how many people came through town for the state tournament. Mr. Deason said around 3,000 people were in Town for the tournament. Mr. Deason stated that there were also 465 hotel rooms booked which makes it the single highest hotel usage of an event in Gaston County this year. Mr. Deason stated that the team that Stanley lost to is undefeated at the world series right now.

Fire: Fire reports were provided. Chief Withers stated that he is available to answer any questions. Council Member Rob McMinn asked about the breakdown in EMS and FIRE calls. Chief Withers explained that there are only the two categories in the reporting system. He stated that fire calls are not necessarily something burning, but the reporting system is broken up into two divisions, one being fire and the other being EMS.

Police: The call log was provided.

Manager's Report: Manager Jenkins stated that they had officially started the construction on the Town Hall expansion and if you drive by you will notice that there is no longer employee parking. Manager Jenkins stated that he had nothing further to report.

Council Comments: Mayor Denton asked if there were any additional council comments. Council Member Kerry Hart stated that East Gaston football is kicking off their season with a tailgate and

everyone from the community is invited. She stated that she would love to see the community come out to support the Warriors. Recreation Director Tug Deason stated that it was a free tailgate.

Mayor Denton stated that Stanley's National Night Out will be on August 22nd.


Town Clerk Catherine Greder reminded everyone that the September meeting would take place on September 9th due to the Labor Day holiday.

Mayor Denton asked about the lighting downtown. Recreation Director stated that all of the existing poles downtown would be coming out and new LED lights going in. He stated that if everything goes as planned they will be in by October. Mayor Denton thanked Recreation Director Deason for his help with the project.

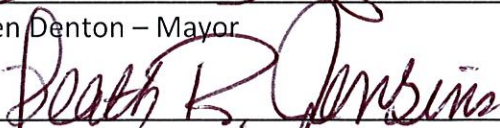
Manager Jenkins reminded Mayor Denton that there is a vacancy on the Centralina Council of Governments Board which is usually filled by an elected board member. Mayor Denton asked if anyone from the Council would volunteer. Council Member Cathy Kirkland asked when they meet. Manager Jenkins stated that he was not sure but would get the information. Council Member Danny Sparrow asked when the last time someone served on the board was. Manager Jenkins stated that it had been a while and it was an important board. Manager Jenkins stated that he would email the meeting information to the Council.

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 Bud Pate seconded the motion. A vote was held and the motion passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:



Steven Denton – Mayor



Heath Jenkins – Town Manager



Catherine Greder - Town Clerk

