**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**September 5, 2024--------7:00 PM**

**REGULAR MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

Mayor Martin L. Jones, Commissioner Mark Lee, Commissioner Paul Pirro, Commissioner Ralph Vogt, and Commissioner Horne

**STAFF PRESENT**

Town Clerk 0Connie Veeder, Admin. Assistant Whitney Barlow, Attorney Donald Hudson, and Police Chief Tracy Jackson,

**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 Lee to adopt the agenda. Commissioner Pirro seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the board.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

August 1, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes, LGC Response Letter to the 2023 Audit- Commissioner Pirro made a motion to adopt the meeting minutes and Commissioner Vogt seconded, the board was unanimous in approval.

**PRESENTATIONS** – None

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** –None

**PUBLIC FORUM** – Senator Thomas McInnis, NC Senate District 21 introduced himself and spoke about the importance of voting in November. He asked for our support and offered assistance to the town if and when it is needed.

**OLD BUSINESS** –

1. Update on 5135 Sessoms clean up - The board approved the quote from Clark’s Welding and Landscaping. Clark’s Welding declined the job and Jackson’s Lawn Care was called for the job. Work should be completed in the next two weeks.
2. Update from Tony Porter, Code Enforcement Officer – Grass cutting is ending soon. Most of the posted properties have followed thru and taken care of the problems.
3. Update on Speed Limit Ordinance – The board decided to have the attorney draw up a new ordinance and bring it to the next meeting for approval.

**NEW BUSINESS** –

1. Growth Meeting September 24, 2024 at 6:30 pm.
2. Annexation of 5363 Clinton Rd.- The Foust family has turned in a voluntary annexation form and is asking to be connected to the town water. The water at this residence catches on fire and has high levels of other chemicals. Chemour’s will be completing the water tap. Commissioner Pirro made the motion to move forward with the annexation public hearing and Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to move forward with the annexation public hearing.
3. Picture with Santa/Parade, $300 cost- This year the town is partnering with the fire department to offer more family activities. Pictures with Santa will be in the park before the parade on Saturday, December 14th from 2-5pm. Commissioner Pirro made a motion to approve the activity and cost of Santa and Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. The board voted unanimously to approve.
4. Approve moving forward with an AIA study if funding is awarded. This study will include the SDF study and fire flow issues. Commissioner Wood made the motion to approve moving forward with the study as long as funding is found and awarded for the town. Commissioner Pirro seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously.
5. Christmas light structures drawn by school students for the park. This will be the first year we have our first structure added to the park. We will have an unveiling ceremony for the student, parents, and school.

**STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

1. Town Clerk’s Report – There are still 2 past due sewer accounts that are off. Another one was shut off on 9/3/24. The burn notices that were approved to be mailed will be too costly to the town. The office will provide information on our website and paper copies.
2. Chief of Police Report – Chief Jackson introduced Bobby Smith as one of our night time officers for the town. Jackson stated that the accreditation is going well. The town has been granted $2500 for software.
3. Stedman Fire Department – Brian Parks shared that the department had been on 52 calls
4. Planners Report – None
5. Code Enforcement Report – None
6. Mayor and Board of Commissioners –Mayor Jones stated that the town is searching for more funding for the expansion and he is hoping to combine the conference room extension and the restrooms in the park into one project with the contractor. Mardy is also waiting on a date for a meeting with the Cumberland County Parks and Rec to discuss updating the old tennis courts over by the gym into pickleball courts.

**CLOSED SESSION:** pursuant N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss Personnel Issues

Commissioner Vogt made a motion to enter into closed session at 7:30 pm. Commissioner Horne seconded the motion. The full board was unanimous in their vote.

Commissioner Pirro made a motion at 8:30 pm to return to open session. Commissioner Lee seconded the motion and the board voted unanimously.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Horne to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Commissioner Lee to adjourn the September 5, 2024 meeting at 8:32 pm.