



## STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING

### PROPOSED AGENDA

JANUARY 2 @ 7:00 P.M.

REGULAR MEETING

STEDMAN TOWN HALL

5110 Front Street, Stedman, NC

#### 1. CALL TO ORDER

#### 2. INVOCATION & PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

#### 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA –*Addition or Deletion*

(All additions, add to New Business, requires majority vote of Board to consider)

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Motion to adopt the agenda

#### 4. CONSENT AGENDA-

Items on the consent agenda are considered routine or have been thoroughly discussed previously. A member of the Board of Commissioners may request that an item be removed from the consent agenda for further discussion under New Business or at a later time.

- a. Approval of December 5, 2024–Regular Meeting Minutes

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Motion to adopt the consent agenda as presented or as amended

#### 5. PRESENTATIONS

#### 6. PUBLIC FORUM

*Each speaker is asked to limit comments to 3 minutes and the total comment period will be 15 minutes or less. Anyone desiring to speak must sign up with the Town Clerk by 6:55 p.m. The Board will not take action on an item that is presented during the Public Forum.*

#### 7. OLD BUSINESS –

#### 8. NEW BUSINESS –

- a. Install a Second Speedbump on Raspberry Rd.

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Motion to approve installation of a second speedbump on Raspberry

- b. Approve payment of vendor invoice for Santa pictures

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Motion to approve payment of invoice

- c. 2025-2026 Biennium Legislative Goals – vote for 10 out of the 16 proposed advocacy goals, vote for 1 representative to cast the vote for the town

**POTENTIAL ACTION:** Vote for 1 representative to cast the vote for the town

**9. STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

- a. Town Clerk Report
- b. Chief of Police Report
- c. Stedman Fire Department-
- d. Code Enforcement Report
- e. Planners Report
- f. Mayor & Board of Commissioners

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

**11. ADJOURNMENT**

**MINUTES OF THE TOWN OF STEDMAN BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**  
**January 2, 2025-----7:00 PM**  
**REGULAR MEETING**

**MEMBERS PRESENT**

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

**STAFF PRESENT**

Admin. Assistant Whitney Barlow, Chief Tracy Jackson, and Attorney Donald Hudson

Mayor Jones introduced Kirk DeViere, who was in attendance, as the newly elected chairman for the Cumberland County Commissioners.

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

December 5, 2024 Regular Meeting Minutes

Commissioner Pirro made a motion to adopt the minutes and Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the board.

**PRESENTATIONS** – None

**PUBLIC COMMENT** – RK Prater, representative for the annual Party in the Park event along with Mr. and Mrs. Kollar, spoke about the upcoming event this May of 2025. He stated that they need about \$15,000 to run the event. Mr. Prater also mentioned that if there are spots available for vendors and business partners.

**OLD BUSINESS** – None

**NEW BUSINESS** –

- a) Installation of a second speed bump on Raspberry Road. Commissioners discussed this issue and decided to wait on voting until further information could be gathered from the maintenance department for clarification on need and spacing.
- b) Approve payment of vendor invoice for the decorations at the Santa pictures event. Commissioner Vogt made a motion to approve the payment and Commissioner Horne seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously by the board.
- c) The 2025-2026 Biennium Legislative Goals were presented to each board member. The commissioners had to collectively decide on the top 10 goals out of 16 proposed advocacy goals. The board also voted for one representative to cast the vote for the group. Mayor Jones suggested the board elect Connie Veeder, the town clerk to cast the

vote for the board. Commissioner Vogt made a motion to approve Connie Veeder, Town Clerk as the representative to cast the board's vote for the legislative goals. Commissioner Horne seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously by the board.

#### **STAFF REPORTS/BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

- a) Town Clerk's Report – Town Hall will be closed January 20, 2025 in honor of Martin Luther King. The Kero Auto Sales at 7213 Clinton Rd. is up for sale. It has not opened yet but the owner is trying to sale the property due to personal issues.
- b) Chief of Police Report – Chief Jackson reported 7 incidents, 5 misdemeanors, 2 DWI, and 11 traffic stops. He also stated he would be attending the NC Police Chief Conference in Cherokee.
- c) Stedman Fire Department – Kevin Carroll and Brian Parks were in attendance. Chief Parks reported 54 calls, 14 fire and 28 EMS.
- d) Code Enforcement – Three new letters to properties with issues.
- e) Planners Report – None
- f) Mayor and Board of Commissioners – Mayor Jones spoke about the BRIC/FMA2024 grant competition. The town received the information late. The town clerk worked 3 days straight to get the proper paperwork completed and turned in by December 20<sup>th</sup>. Gary Crumpler, Cumberland County Emergency Management Coordinator was a huge asset in helping meet the deadline with the proper documents. This was the first stage in the application process. If the town's project is selected, then we will move to phase II which will require a more detailed application with quotes, drawings, plans etc.

**CLOSED SESSION-** pursuant N.C.G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss Personnel Issues  
Commissioner Wood made the motion to go into closed session at 7:50 pm and Commissioner Vogt seconded the motion. The board discussed personnel issues. Commissioner Pirro made a motion to end the closed session and Commissioner Lee seconded the motion. The board was unanimous with the vote to return to open session. The board returned to open session at 8:07 pm.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Commissioner Horne to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Commissioner Lee to adjourn the January 2, 2025 meeting at 8:07 pm.



# Invoice #11092415

Thank you for choosing us to help you celebrate. Stay colorful ❤️📷

All invoice deposits are due 24-48hrs after email in order to secure your spot in our Book. Most weekends we are completely booked and we would hate to miss you 🍷🎉

Joyfully,  
- Karoll Echeverri Kuri

**Customer**  
Town of Stedman  
summerj.jones@gmail.com

**Invoice Details**  
PDF created December 18, 2024  
\$602.10

**Payment**  
Due December 18, 2024  
\$602.10

Items	Quantity	Price	Amount
Large Garland - 9' to 14' <small>Choose this design for an indoor or outdoor display. Price includes your choice of up to three balloon colors ranging in size from 5" to 36". Other extras available to add-on include foil balloons, fringe, or custom wording</small>	1	\$385.00	\$385.00
Backdrop Rental Medium	1	\$75.00	\$75.00
Small Tree Backdrop	2	\$35.00	\$70.00
Delivery Fee 🚚 <small>Delivery fee of \$2.50 per mile will be charged for any orders outside 5 mile radius from our Shop. We appreciate your understanding and continued support! 😊📷🎉🎊</small>	14 mi	\$2.50/mi	\$35.00

Subtotal \$565.00  
Sales Tax \$37.10

**Total Due \$602.10**



View online

To view your invoice go to <https://gosq.me/u/B8WkTAEi>

Or open the camera on your mobile device and place the QR code in the camera's view.

# LEGISLATIVE GOAL STATEMENTS

## RECOMMENDED BY THE NCLM BOARD OF DIRECTORS

*The following goal statements are NOT listed in any priority order.*

- **Expand funding opportunities for disaster resiliency and recovery efforts.**
  - North Carolina has faced a number of damaging natural disasters in recent years, including the unprecedented storm that devastated western North Carolina in the fall of 2024.
  - To fully recover from these natural disasters requires a broad approach that focuses on infrastructure, housing and economic losses.
  - Federal assistance and private insurance will not be enough to address these ongoing, critical needs or mitigate damage when future disasters hit.
  
- **Establish long-term funding streams that adequately address water, sewer, stormwater, transportation and other infrastructure needs.**
  - Infrastructure – including roads, water, sewer, stormwater, parks and beaches – are critical to economic development and job creation.
  - Many cities in the state are growing, creating a constant need for investment to keep pace with population growth; many cities and towns also have aging infrastructure that must be replaced.
  - Creating long-term and more permanent funding streams for infrastructure will ensure adequate investments so that North Carolina thrives now and into the future.
  
- **Expand state transportation funding streams for construction and maintenance of municipal and state-owned secondary roads.**
  - Current Powell Bill and other state funding is not adequate to address transportation needs, particularly as they affect municipal and state-owned secondary roads.
  - In many cities and towns, major commuting corridors are not receiving the level of investment needed to keep pace with traffic.
  - More investment is needed for these roads if existing residents are to embrace business and residential growth

- **Increase funds to remediate contamination in local water supplies.**
  - Local municipal water systems and their ratepayers increasingly are footing the costs of cleaning up PFAS and other “forever” chemicals from drinking water supplies.
  - As more regulations are set at the state and federal level to limit these chemicals in water supplies, costs will escalate.
  - Cities primary recourse to try to recoup the cost for utility ratepayers is through the courts.
  
- **Expand incentives and funding for local economic development.**
  - Funding is simply inadequate in many cities and towns to encourage job growth.
  - State grants and incentives are often targeted in ways that fail to assist the areas in greatest need of job creation.
  - Maintaining or expanding funding for film tax credits, major industrial site development, downtown development and renewable energy tax credits helps cities and towns across the state.
  
- **Create incentives to encourage the development of diverse housing options.**
  - Housing affordability continues to be a significant problem across many areas of North Carolina, affecting people of different income levels.
  - The lack of affordable housing acts as a major impediment to business and workforce recruitment.
  - State incentives to encourage the construction of housing for people of various income levels are extremely limited.
  
- **Provide resources to rehabilitate or purchase blighted properties.**
  - In many cities and towns, blighted properties act as an impediment to economic and business growth.
  - Cities and towns have limited means to address these properties, particularly in more rural, smaller communities.
  - Rehabilitating blighted properties can help address North Carolina’s housing needs.

- **Create incentives that encourage and adequately fund regionalized water and sewer solutions.**
  - A number of municipal water and sewer systems continue to financially struggle with deferred maintenance needs.
  - These challenges came about largely due to population and job losses in rural areas, leading to an erosion of taxpayer and ratepayer bases.
  - While legislators and municipalities have begun to address these issues with the creation of the Viable Utility Reserve and the use of ARPA funding, state estimates show needs still exceed expenditures by several billion dollars.
  
- **Reduce regulatory conflicts between state agencies that discourage voluntary consolidation, merger and interconnection of municipal utility systems.**
  - Municipalities have contractually obtained older, smaller utility systems of other municipalities and private enterprises in order to provide better and more efficient services to residents and businesses.
  - Older laws and regulations impose penalties on mid-size and large municipalities due to state agencies requiring them to pay for relocation of utilities when those penalties would have been reduced or eliminated for the smaller entities they were purchased from.
  - The State should work to reduce and eliminate these conflicts which have the effect of discouraging voluntary consolidation, merger and interconnection of municipal utility systems.
  
- **Create an orphan road program whereby the state improves those roads to N.C. Department of Transportation standards before municipalities assume maintenance responsibilities.**
  - So-called orphan roads are typically created when a street in a subdivision is not built to state or municipal standards, and the developer walks away without an agreement for maintenance.
  - The abandoned road can leave homeowners on the hook for the cost of maintenance.
  - For cities and towns, these abandoned roads can serve as a deterrent to voluntary annexation agreements even as the residents seek municipal services.



- **Provide local revenue options beyond the property tax.**
  - Roughly 40 percent of municipal general fund revenue is generated by local property taxes.
  - Cities have little to no authority to raise significant revenue in other ways.
  - A lack of diverse, local tax options can affect economic growth, as well as cause large swings in revenue based on economic changes.
  
- **Support technical assistance programs to assist municipalities with securing or maintaining grants or other necessary municipal resources.**
  - Many municipalities do not have the resources to seek or administer grants, even as that source of funding could help meet the needs of residents.
  - State, federal and other grant funding offers a significant opportunity for cities and towns to improve infrastructure or enhance services.
  - Providing technical assistance to these municipalities can provide them with access to grant funding, providing resources not otherwise available to them.
  
- **Address the needs of a changing municipal workforce through state assistance that supports employee retention, including training and recruitment.**
  - Municipalities across the state are facing staffing issues as current workers age and retire.
  - Training and retention resources are limited and competing with wages offered in the private sector can be difficult.
  - The use of training and recruitment tools across state and local government boundaries can improve public sector workforce availability.
  
- **Update the annexation petition thresholds to make voluntary annexations easier to initiate.**
  - Voluntary annexation by petition currently requires 100 percent consent from all property owners, a threshold that can be impossible to meet even if a majority of property owners can benefit by utilizing their property for business or residential purposes.
  - Lowering the threshold from 100 percent represents a middle ground that would still reflect the will of property owners but not handicap communities' ability to economically thrive.
  - The ability of a city or town to grow and reflect its urban footprint is vital to its financial health; city services are relied on by residents whether they live in or near municipal boundaries.

- **Preserve authority for extraterritorial jurisdiction to ensure that growth is well-planned and investments by homeowners and business owners are protected.**
  - A community's land-use planning tools, including ETJ, are vital as infrastructure investments are made that pave the way for economic growth.
  - Protecting homes and businesses from incompatible uses continues to be an important feature of ETJs. As of 2022, at least 14 counties in North Carolina had no zoning restrictions, with several others being only partially zoned.
  - Protecting neighborhoods from incompatible uses ultimately protects the value of residents' homes and property.
  
- **Protect the ability of municipal elected officials, acting on behalf of local voters, to determine election formats, districts and other election matters currently under their purview.**
  - Locally-elected municipal officials are best positioned to understand the wishes of local voters and how those should be applied to local election matters.
  - In many areas, residents prefer to avoid political polarization when it comes to the practical tasks of municipal government.
  - Locally-elected municipal officials are in their communities every day and accessible to voters.