

Minutes of Regular Meeting October 3, 2013

Determination of Quorum

A quorum was determined with the presence of Mayor Kevin Barbee, Mayor Pro-tem Larry Sides, and Commissioners Jerry Williams, James Griffin, Jason Smith and Greg Lucas.

Call to Order

Mayor Kevin Barbee called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Approval of agenda

Commissioner Larry Sides made a motion to accept the agenda as written with one exception with moving Dana Stoogenke to the beginning. All were in favor, motion carried.

Approval of minutes

Commissioner Larry Sides made a motion to accept the September 5, 2013 minutes as written. All were in favor, motion carried.

Approval of Bills

Commissioner Jerry Williams made a motion to pay the bills. All were in favor, motion carried.

Guest Speaker-

Dana Stoogenke gave a presentation on the potential routes the North Carolina Department of Transportation (NCDOT) is considering for a new expressway, the Stanfield Board of Commissioners made it clear that they do not want the new road going through Stanfield. The map, presented by Dana Stoogenke, director of the Rocky River Rural Planning Organization, showed several routes bypassing a section of N.C. 24/27 stretching west from Liberty Hill Church Road near Red Cross east to the Cabarrus County line. The expressway was proposed following predictions that this section of N.C. 24/27 would be exceeding its capacity by 2035. "We have to stay ahead of these problems. If we're going to solve them, you have to start early," Stoogenke said. She said that whatever route it took, the road and its shoulders would extend 200 feet from the center line. "It's a very large piece of infrastructure," she said. Some of the proposed routes went north of 24/27, arching north of Locust, but the majority of them went south, coming close, or crossing into, Stanfield city limits. "I'm here to listen to your comments and take your preferences back [to NCDOT]," Stoogenke said. The board made it clear that they were opposed to all of the southern routes except one, which would pass south of Stanfield by about a mile and travel mostly through farmland. "I know it wouldn't get built 'til 20 or 30 years down the road, but the other southern routes would be detrimental to the houses that are here," Commissioner Larry Sides said. "One of those lines takes out most of the back houses in Willow Creek," Town Administrator Bob Harvey said. Mayor Kevin Barbee worried that those routes would not only impact current homeowners, but future home owners as well. "Once something like that is established, even if its 20 years down the road, once it becomes a material fact, you have to disclose that you're going to have a bypass going through town. Who's going to want to buy property in Stanfield once they know a bypass is going through?" Barbee said. "Besides property values, you're going to have higher tractor trailer traffic," Commissioner Greg Lucas said. "You're going to have more access, more drugs. When you get trucks, you get truck stops. You get all sorts of crime that's associated with it." Lucas said the police department would need to get new equipment and more training if that happened. "I'm sure highway patrol would be responsible for collisions, but if it stays within our city, our guys are going to be out there and it's going to be a completely different ball game for them," Lucas said. Barbee also pointed out that all but the most southernmost route would cut between Stanfield and Locust. "I don't like seeing big interchanges between Stanfield and Locust. That's a big barrier. ... From their effect on Stanfield, I think those routes should be more or less taken off the plate," Barbee said. "The road needs to go either northern or totally southern, northern being preferred," Sides said. The rest of the board members agreed. "Originally 24/27 was supposed to go up and around Locust, similar to what that northern route is showing anyway. If that was what they considered the most viable route years ago, then maybe that is the most viable route now," Barbee said. Sides pointed out that the northern routes were shorter than the southernmost routes. "The northern route is just the most logical," he said. "But it shouldn't go through the Locust town center

either,” Lucas said. However, since the northern route goes around most of Locust, the board members felt it would affect fewer people than a southern route that goes directly through Stanfield. “Those other routes would cut our town in half,” Harvey said. “We’re a small community. We’re a residential community. We like to go home and live in a small town. You start getting expressways and it’s a big barrier. I wouldn’t want to be driving out there, even if I wasn’t 80 years old by the time it’s done,” Barbee said. Stoogenke said she would tell NCDOT that the northern route was preferred by Stanfield. “The one thing I will say about the northern route is that one of the concerns is the curvature of that route,” she said. Due to environmental issues, the northern route has to take a stiff curve near the Cabarrus County line, rather than tapering off like the other routes. “We’re not asking for any official action,” Stoogenke said. She said nothing is final at this point. NCDOT is just trying to gather the opinions of those affected by the road. NCDOT has met with Locust, Red Cross, Stanly County and now Stanfield. “We’ll be back with more maps, this is just an update. We’ll see you again, hopefully, in the December meeting.”

This article was written by the SNAP and I would like to incorporate this into my minutes- the information is accurate.

Public Comment:

No one spoke

BUSINESS MEETING

Finance

The financial report was handed out and discussed.

Public Safety

Police report was handed out and read.

Transportation

A citizen of Stanfield came to the board about flooding at Charlotte Street. Jason Smith explained that the resident ask that we put a catch basin on his property to resolved this issue. Bob Harvey and Commissioner Jason Smith evaluated the situation and determined that the Town of Stanfield has no obligation to do this. Several months ago we as the town corrected a lot of drainage issues around the school area.

Environmental/Sanitation

Nothing at this time

Parks & Recreation

We submitted a “Keep Stanly Beautiful” grant for the Park.

The “Big Serve” project announced by Mission Church has been filled up with smaller projects that directly benefit the Stanfield Community rather than the Park suggestion.

Water & Sewer

Nothing at this time

Planning and Zoning

Nothing at this time

Town Administrator

Bob Harvey suggested that we change our pay period from starting our pay week on Sunday instead of Monday. This will be a cost savings to the town. A new phone list was handed out. Also the staff will be mailing out Festival Flyers and Newsletter to all residents.

Mayors Report:

The Fall Festival is coming up October 26, 2013 from 6-9; we could use a few more vehicles.

Commissioner Jerry Williams made a motion to go into closed session-

Commissioner Jerry Williams made a motion to hire Ed Hoffman on full time, all were in favor, motion carried.

Commissioner Jason Smith made a motion to adjourn. All were in favor, motion carried.

Mayor Date

Town Clerk Date

Summary Page:

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