



**MINUTES**  
**TOWN OF STOKESDALE**  
**TOWN PARK IMPROVEMENT**  
**COMMITTEE MEETING**  
**8325 ANGEL PARDUE ROAD**  
**STOKESDALE, NC 27357**  
**MARCH 16, 2023 AT 5:15 PM**

**Committee Meeting Attendance:**

- Town of Stokesdale Town Park Improvement Committee members present:
  - Thomas N. “Tee” Stephenson, Jr.
  - Deanna Ragan
  - Jimmy Landreth
- Town of Stokesdale staff members present:
  - Robbie Lee Wagoner II, Deputy Town Clerk.

**1. Call To Order.**

- The Town of Stokesdale Town Park Improvement Committee (“The Committee”) was called to order by Tee Stephenson at 5:28pm.

**2. Adopt The Agenda.**

- Deanna Ragan made a motion to adopt the agenda, as written, for the Thursday, March 16, 2023, Town Park Improvement Committee meeting.
  - Jimmy Landreth seconded the motion.
  - All present members of The Committee voted in favor of the motion.
  - The motion carried.

**3. Review and Approve minutes from the Town Park Improvement Committee meeting held on March 07, 2023.**

- Deanna Ragan made the motion to approve the minutes from the special-called committee meeting held on March 07, 2023.
  - Jimmy Landreth seconded the motion.
  - All present members of The Committee voted in favor of the motion.
  - The motion carried.

**4. Discussion of Improvements to Town Park.**

- Tee Stephenson mentioned that the most recent committee meeting was a very productive meeting as a whole. More specifically, hearing the various opinions of the town residents that attended the meeting was very insightful.
- Tee Stephenson discussed his concerns with the amphitheater project. Tee Stephenson explained that the amphitheater project has not received an overwhelming amount of support from the community. Tee Stephenson also explained that the Town of Stokesdale would need to create/increase a line item in

the budget for special events/entertainment in order to compensate entertainers that would perform at the amphitheater.

- Jimmy Landreth agreed that the amphitheater is a very costly project and that it has not received the amount of community support that he had originally hoped for. Jimmy Landreth also mentioned that he does not want to charge Stokesdale residents a property tax in order to cover the costs of special events/entertainers. Jimmy Landreth also mentioned that the time spent on the amphitheater project by The Committee was not wasted even if the project is abandoned because the completed work has laid the foundation for an amphitheater project in the future.
- Tee Stephenson discussed his concerns with the lack of adequate parking space at the Town Park.
- Jimmy Landreth mentioned that Greensboro Mulch can provide the Town with mulch for the playground at approximately one-half of the price of the mulch that was quoted in the proposal provided by Backyard Paradise. This price (approximately five-thousand-dollars) includes the cost of the mulch and delivery by Greensboro Mulch, but not the spreading of the mulch. The spreading of the mulch would still need to be completed by Backyard Paradise.
- Denna Ragan expressed her dissatisfaction with the playground equipment plans that were provided by Backyard Paradise. Deanna Ragan mentioned that the plans are too similar to the playground equipment that is already installed at the Town Park. Deanna Ragan explained that she would like to see playground equipment that is catered towards older children.
  - Tee Stephenson and Jimmy Landreth both agreed that a playground set that is catered towards older children would make a better addition at the Town Park.
- Tee Stephenson explained that Vulcan Materials would have the ability to supply the Town with the necessary eighty-five tons of gravel needed to prepare the land for the installation of a basketball court and pickleball court at a reasonable price.
- Jimmy Landreth mentioned that he and Derek Foy would contact local land grading companies to gather quotes on the land preparation needed for the installation of a basketball court and pickleball court at the Town Park. Jimmy Landreth is hopeful that the quotes provided by local grading companies will be significantly lower than the quote for land preparation that was provided by Jay Sherrer in his original proposal for the basketball court and pickleball court project.
- Tee Stephenson mentioned that if grant funding is not spent on the amphitheater project, then the funds can potentially be reallocated to the following projects: erosion issues on the backside of the Town Park; area lights around the basketball and pickleball courts; self-closing/self-locking apparatus added to the existing gate at the entrance of the Town Park.
- All present members of The Committee agreed that a storage facility should be added to the Town Park. This storage facility could house the surplus items that are currently being stored in the existing concession stand. This would allow the Town and the community to utilize the concession stand during events at the Town Park.
  - Jimmy Landreth explained that he would like the Town to purchase a 14 X 20-foot pre-built wooden shed that could be easily moved around the Town


Park with the use of a rollback truck. If necessary, the Town could purchase two 14 X 20-foot pre-built wooden sheds in order to meet the storage requirements.

- Deanna Ragan expressed her interest in moving forward with a plan for the addition of nature trails at the Town Park.
  - All present members of The Committee agreed that the addition of nature trails at the Town Park is a priority, especially considering the fact that it was the number one recommendation by community members during the 2020 interest survey.
- Tee Stephenson explained that, at the next Committee meeting, he would like to discuss the following: final decision of which playground proposal to recommend to the Stokesdale Town Council during the April 2023 Town Council meeting; and final decision of whether or not to recommend the addition of a pickleball court to the Town Park.


**5. Adjournment.**

- Jimmy Landreth made the motion to adjourn at 6:47pm.
  - Deanna Ragan seconded the motion to adjourn.
  - All present members of The Committee voted in favor of the motion.
  - Being no further business to come before The Committee, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47pm.

APPROVED: 03-30-2023

  
Thomas N. Stephenson, Jr.  
Committee Chairperson

ATTEST:

  
Robbie Lee Wagoner II  
Deputy Town Clerk