

MINUTES  
OF THE  
TOWN OF SPRING HOPE  
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS MEETING  
JULY 10, 2006  
7:00 PM

Members present: Mayor Buddy Gwaltney, Commissioners Marion Clark, Bill Newkirk, Lee Bissett and Stanley Hawley. Commissioner Best was absent.

Also present: John Holpe, Town Manager; Mark Edwards, Town Attorney; Ken Ripley, Spring Hope Enterprise; Amanda Clark, Nashville Graphic.

Mayor Gwaltney called the meeting to order and invocation was given by Commissioner Newkirk.

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the minutes of the June 12, 2006 meeting as submitted. Commissioner Bissett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Public Forum: Joe Wilkinson was present as a concerned citizen. He had a complaint about the grounds at the depot. He stated the town should have a routine maintenance program.

Dylan Bunch, Chairman of the Revitalization Board presented General Guidelines for a Business Stimulation Grant Program. The Town Attorney will review this and discuss it at the August meeting.

Mayor Gwaltney recognized the Cub Scouts from Den # Two and Den # Seven for cleaning up Oakdale Cemetery. They volunteered a Saturday to clean up the cemetery by picking up limbs; Mayor Gwaltney presented each Den with a certificate from the Town of Spring Hope.

A report was given by the Town Hall Building Committee, Michael Harris, USDA, and Russell Pearlman with The Wooten Company on the New Town Hall Project. John Holpe, Town Manager stated the town would need interim financing until the project was completed which would require time consuming approval by the Local Government Commission. In talking with Michael Harris with the USDA, they were willing to advance the funds for construction once the bidding is completed and the costs established. Therefore, the interim financing would not be needed and the town would not have to apply to the Local Government for interim financing.

Last month the Town Board made a motion to table the reappointments for the Planning Board. Eugene Griffin, Ken Ripley, Howard Weeks, Eric Britson and Brian Brantley (county approved) terms expired in June 06. The board voted by ballots with their

signatures on the ballot. The ballots were counted by the Town Clerk and the Mayor. The name of Jennis Toney Carpenter was added to the list of non-members. The Planning Board Members elected by the board are as follows”

Eugene Griffin, Ken Ripley, Howard Weeks, Jennis Toney Carpenter and Brian Brantley (if county approved)

Commissioner Hawley made a motion to set a date for a Public Hearing for consideration of Amending Town’s Subdivision Ordinance. Commissioner Newkirk seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. The Public Hearing will be held at the August 14<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Chief Tim Denton gave the Police Department Report: (1) Funded for a Police Grant (2) Consideration of an ordinance for curfew for the youth. Commissioner Hawley stated that we need to appoint a committee to discuss the curfew for the time and ages. Also a draft ordinance prohibiting parking of 18 Wheeled Vehicles in residential areas. Commissioner Hawley made a motion to let the town attorney draft an ordinance to that effect. Commissioner Bissett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hawley resigned as an representative of the Upper Coastal Plain Council of Government. Commissioner Hawley made a motion to appoint John Holpe, Town Manager to fill the position for the town. Commissioner Newkirk seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Lillie Brodie stated that the lots on Wilder Drive and First Street had not been cut properly. John Holpe, Town Manager stated that he was going to get three bids and go with the low bid.

John Holpe, Town Manager stated a 6 feet by 6 feet section of the roadway on North Walnut Street near McLean Street gave way after a heavy rain. He had gotten three proposals and went with the low bid.

John Holpe, Town Manager discussed the work that had been done to the depot. After discussion, he decided we could repaint the Railroad Street side and put a type of skirting around the bottom of it. Commissioner Clark made a motion to have the depot sprayed for termites, trim, and paint and put skirting around it. Commissioner Hawley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Clark stated a few months ago we decided not to sell any more lots at Stallings Annex in the Oakdale Cemetery. She stated that she wanted to rescind that motion and not close the Stallings Annex part of the cemetery. Commissioner Hawley stated that it was close until the lots were straighten out. Mayor Gwaltney stated to wait until next month to discuss the cemetery.

Commissioner Hawley made a motion to go into closed session concerning property adjoining the town hall. Commissioner Newkirk seconded the motion and it passed

unanimously. Mike Harris with the USDA and Russell Pearlman were asked to attend this meeting.

After some discussion, Commissioner Hawley made a motion to adjourn the closed session and enter back into the Regular Meeting. Commissioner Newkirk seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Commissioner Newkirk and seconded by Commissioner Clark to have the Town Attorney to draw up the contract for the purchase of the adjoining property owned by Erader Mills for the sum of \$ 55,000 contingent upon the board proceeding with the construction of the New Town Hall.

There being no further business, Commissioner Hawley made a motion to adjourn. Commissioner Bissett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.