

Minutes  
Of The  
Spring Hope Board of Commissioners  
March 13, 2006  
7:00 pm

Members present: Mayor Buddy Gwaltney, Commissioners Marion Clark, Clyde Best, Lee Bissett, Bill Newkirk, and Stanley Hawley. Betsy Boykin was unable to attend.

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

Mayor Gwaltney presided and Commissioner Newkirk gave the invocation.

Commissioner Best made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of February 13, 2006, as amended. Commissioner Hawley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hawley made a motion to take \$18,180.00 out of water and sewer contingency to pay for the 8" sewer main replacement on May Street. Commissioner Bissett seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Best made a motion to authorize the town manager to enter into a contract with The Wooten Company to proceed and complete the design work on the gate valve at 100K gallon water tank and with looping of the two dead end lines. Commissioner Newkirk seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Bissett made a motion to approve the proclamation designating April 17-30, 2006 as Litter Sweep in Spring Hope and the entire state. Commissioner Hawley seconded and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Best made a motion not to fill the 2 vacant positions in the towns water and sewer department, but instead to authorize the town manager to enter into a contract with Envirolink for \$4900 per month to provide the Water & Sewer and ORC services. Commissioner Hawley seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Commissioner Hawley made a motion to accept the tax discoveries & releases as submitted. Commissioner Best seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

A decision was made to hold the budget retreat on April 22, 2006 beginning at 9 a.m.

John Holpe, Town Manager gave his report to the town commissioners. The town manager mentioned that the town owned the depot platform, but that the NC DOT now had the lease for the property underneath the platform. The DOT needed to do a title search on their newly acquired property from the railroad and that there were additional documents regarding the town's previous lease with the railroad which they wanted to receive. If the town wanted to repair the platform, a long term lease with DOT was suggested by the town manager as presently the lease involving the land underneath the platform is only a month by month lease. If the town wanted to tear down the platform, the town needed to advise the DOT of such and the DOT would draft a "hold harmless" agreement. Mr. Holpe mentioned that he could get cost estimates on putting in a new platform with railings and prices on tearing out the existing platform. It was suggested that members of the following groups could be contacted to get their input on this issue: Library Board, Historical Society, Chamber of Commerce, the small Main Street group, and the Revitalization Board.

Mr. Holpe stated that he wanted to make a priority listing of sidewalks to repair and streets to be paved or resurfaced under the Powell Bill Fund. Streets that he mentioned included: Wilkins, Walnut, McLean and the sidewalks in the downtown area and about 200 feet of sidewalk on E. Nash St. Other priority areas mentioned by the town commissioners included Montgomery Street and a part of the Barber Shop alley. Mr. Holpe will get prices on these and report back to the commissioners.

Discussion followed regarding the town having two banks, but only using one bank for town business. It was suggested to share some of the towns invested funds with the other bank, if this could be done without the town losing any money. Mr. Holpe will check on this and report back to the commissioners.

Mayor Gwaltney handed each commissioner a copy of the recently completed audit report for the Spring Hope Recreation Association and asked that each commissioner review this report and that this matter be discussed at the next regular meeting.

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

Submitted by:

Sandra Morris  
Water Clerk/Tax Collector

Attest:

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