

Minutes
Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting
February 9th, 2026

A regular meeting of the Town of Spring Hope Board of Commissioners was held at 7 pm at the Spring Hope Town Hall in the Commissioners Room.

Members present were Mayor Pritchard, Commissioners Brenda Lucas, Pam Brantley, Stephen Brumfield, Antonio Toney, and William Toney.

Also Present, Town Clerk Michele Collins, Chief Nate Gant, Code Enforcement officer Shawn Lucas, Town Attorney Mark Edwards, Public Works Director Bobby Ball, Linda Pena, and Shyanne Bell.

Commissioner Brumfield made a motion to approve the minutes for January 5th meeting, Commissioner Brantley seconded the motions, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Forum

Jeannette Bucher from 207 Hopkins St said she would like to know the status of what is being done about the property across the street from her at 206 Hopkins Ave. She said that nothing had been done at the property and that at the last meeting she thought he was giving it until the 14th of January to get it clean up. Ms. Bucher said she is trying to sell her home and the property across the street is causing her not to be able to do that. She wanted to know what the town planned to do about it.

Continued Items

Mayor Pritchard addressed the board about extending the ETJ. He pointed out several items in the information that he had prepared about why extending the ETJ would be beneficial to the town of Spring Hope and how other towns that didn't do it are now regretting not doing it when they still had the chance to. He, along with the attorney, stated that this was not at all a final decision and that the people could still choose not to be included in the extending the ETJ. He also reminded the board that they were within their rights to call for the extension since currently the 1-mile radius had been lessened by some voluntary annexations. Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the extending the ETJ, Commissioner Lucas seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Paving Program price proposals, the Town Clerk explained that there was no regulation that required hiring an engineer and that it was up to the town if that wanted to or not. It would also depend on the severity of the project. Commissioner Lucas asked wasn't this sent out for bids, but it was explained to her that it wasn't for this project that was sent out for bids. Commissioner Antonio Toney made a motion to not except either of the quotes and to put it out to bid. Commissioner Brumfield seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

New Items

Surplus Property for 2016 Charger, Chief Gant explained that the motor and the catalytic converter both would need to be replaced in the car and that would be close to 9,000.00 and with the car having close to 100,000 miles on it already and being in bad shape was why he wanted to surplus it while it's still running. He said that they might get 2,000 to 2,500. Commissioner Antonio Toney said he needed to keep the Charger and sell the crown Vic's. Chief Gant told him the charger isn't a reliable car, but the Crown Vic's are reliable cars that his guys can use if their cars need service, but they are not good enough to be used every day. Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve resolution 2026-03, commissioner Lucas second the motion, and the motion passed.

Budget amendment, Town Clerk explained that it was for the purchase of the vehicle for the police department. She told the board even though it says 20,000 they only paid 18,500 so that leaves 1,500 to help

with the upfitting of the vehicle or anything else they might need for it. The money came out of the town hall maintenance so therefore it was still inside the operating budget. Commissioner Brumfield made a motion to approve the budget amendment, Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion, the motion passed.

The Town Clerk told the board that the postmaster had car trouble was not going to make the meeting. She explained to the board that she and the postmaster had been talking and were on the same page. The postmaster had told her that after the town drops of the bills office they send them to Rocky Mount. The postmaster said he believes that they are loading the water bills in there wrong or putting too many in there at a time. He said they should separate them and put other mail between them, but they don't they just put them all in there together and that's why they keep getting messed up. He said he called them and he is hoping that he can get them to change the way they are doing it and that he had also spoken to the bulk mail supervisor in Greensboro. He said that the supervisor there had mentioned that he had been helping the Clerk and the town with ways to potentially help.

The Commissioners chose February 26th at 6:00pm for the budget retreat.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to approve the two DOB applications, Commissioner Brumfield seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Commissioner William Toney talked about ways he would like to help the low-income families in the community get help with their water bills and different ideas he had to help. Like flat rate billing for the low-income families or customer round up, churches, community partnership, optional customer surcharge. Michele explained that the office already helps with many of these services like United healthcare and Humana alone with several churches. Also, that that office does their best to help people out with payment plans and any other way they can when the people call them. They said they will discuss this more at the budget retreat.

Public works update, Bobby Ball said two wells went to pumping air and quit pumping water due to a failure of the pumps. He said that Ash St well had been taken offline several months ago by DEQ because of a manganese problem. He said that it would have made a difference if it had been operational at this time. He said Wooton is working on chemicals to treat the problem, and he had been given a date of April 1st. for it to be operational again. He said he told them he needed it back before then. He said they had to decide to take school well back offline today. The well driller Underwood suggested that the pump be lowered in the well so we can pump more water out of the well, but when he went to do that he hit rock. So, he is going to come back tomorrow pull the pump out and he has equipment to bust the rock so it will fall to the bottom of the well. Bobby said the reason this happened in the first place is because the pumps are working overtime and never shut off due to Ash St being off. Before they would at least turn off some at night or one wouldn't ever run during the day, but now not having Ash St well, they are all 3-running nonstop. He said he knows it's frustrating. That's frustrating for him as well, but he is doing everything he can to get everything back working.

TRC review, for minor and Major subdivision code enforcement office Shawn Lucas told the board both Nashville and Bailey both do the same as Spring Hope as for as minor subdivision when its 4 or less having it done with staff approval in-house and not having to go out. Major subdivision is where he said we wanted to look more in depth. This is where the mayor and the commissioner want to have the TRC establish and some others over say in the major subdivision review. Mrs. Lucas told them per their ordinance anything 5 or more would have to go to the TRC. He told them in Nashville that they use department heads, they also invite town engineers to come on call. They also let the schools know if it's a major subdivision that could affect the schools. He said they also send coordinates out to the DOT if it affects their roads. He told the board of commissioners they would just establish a TRC committee and it would go through the same regiments as other towns. He also said that if the commissioners would like the planning board to be involved in the decision making, they would just need to adopt the ordinances that other towns follow for the TRC. He said TRC makes recommendations to the developer, and the developer has the right to challenge or comply with the recommendations. Once the TRC approves it then it will go to the Planning Board would review it and

make recommendations, then after that it will then go to the Board of Commissioners where they would make the vote to approve it and have it recorded at the Nash County Register of Deeds office.

Reports

Chief Nate Gant police report, Chief Gant gave his report for January. They had five incident reports, a total of 458 calls for services, 166 traffic stops, 203 security checks, 10 accidents, 2 domestic violence calls, 4 non-domestic calls, 13 investigations with 13 total cleared.

Spring Hope Chamber no report.

Code Enforcement reports he told the board they knew about the three hearings he had about the properties on south Pine St, he said all three owners are making good efforts to get the properties back to town standards. He said he issued out eight zoning permits for the subdivision that is being built on S Big Woods Rd.

Mr. Lucas said he went and did another inspection on 206 Hopkins Ave after several complaints for the neighbor at 207 Hopkins. He said he went out and did another inspection, and he did cite the property owner back on December 31, 2025, and he was given till January 14, 2026, to get the property clean up. And that was to remove all the junk items from the property and clean the property up to town standards. Mr. Lucas said he has gone back numerous times since then. The dates are January 1st; property was still in the same shape. January 17th property same condition. January 26th property same condition. February 5th property same condition. He said he had not checked it as of today, but after checking it Sunday it was still in the same condition as all the times before. Mr. Lucas addressed the mayor and the board and told them that he wanted to give people a chance he was asking for 30 more days to give Mr. Harris to get the issues fixed. After that he asks the board to retain a private vendor to go out and abate the nuisance and clean the property. He said that if we go out and do that all bills associated with that will go to Mr. Harris and if he does not pay the lean will be put on his property.

Mr. Lucas presented the board with ordinance 2026 01 that would give the town the right to go and abate the property at 206 Hopkins. He said for the sake of the record he would read it out loud. Commissioner Lucas made a motion accepting the ordinance and changing the date to March 10th. Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion, the motion passed.

Mr. Lucas addressed the board about Conditional Zoning he said that Nashville has it and so does Bailey. He told them conditional rezoning is a tool planning boards and commissioners can use to grow the town at a smart approach because it gives the town more oversight, because it allows the town to put conditions on rezoning.

Commissioner Brumfield made a motion to go into closed session, Commissioner Brantley seconded the motion, and the motion passed.

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to leave Closed Session; Commissioner Lucas second and the motion passed

Commissioner Brantley made a motion to adjourn the meeting, commissioner Lucas seconded the motion, and the motion passed.




