

Minutes
Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting
March 3, 2025

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

Members present: Mayor William Pritchard, Commissioners Drew Griffin, Brenda Lucas, Eric Gainey, Brent Cone and Tommy Toney.

Also, present was Town Manager Andrew DeLonno, Town Clerk Michele Collins, Town Attorney Mark Edwards, Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Lucas and Chief Nathan Gant.

Mayor Pritchard called the meeting to order and led the pledge of allegiance.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to approve the minutes from the February 3rd meeting; Commissioner Toney seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Continued Items

Mr. DeLonno stated that a copy of the agreement with Axiom Holdings for the buildings on Ash St was sent to each member of the board in the past week. He also said that Mr. White was present to discuss those buildings as well as Main St. due to a request from Commissioner Cone for an update on progress.

Mr. White said he got a letter stating that his buildings on Main St. were dilapidated. He said that he had only promised to knock down the partially collapsed wall which he had done. He said that his cash flow had been a bit slower than expected so he was behind. He also mentioned that he had secured a loan that would partially upgrade the two lift stations that were part of the agreement with the town for Bryson's Ridge.

Commissioner Cone said he understands that he completed the agreement with the Main St. building. He also said that as the owner of the buildings he had to comply with the town's ordinances and that the condition of the buildings are in violation of the code. Mr. White asked what would make the board satisfied as far as the building condition, Commissioner Cone said he needed to work with Shawn, the Code Enforcement Officer. Commissioner Cone said he was mainly concerned with the Ash Street buildings and the breach of the original agreement. Mr. White said that he would be happy to update the agreement as he had invested quite a bit of money in making the buildings safe on the inside. He mentioned that there were people vandalizing the back of the building. He mentioned that he would try and put up some kind of camera to maybe catch and deter vandalism.

Mayor Pritchard read from the agreement referring to the part of the wording that said he could not take any liens against the buildings or get additional investors. Mr. White said he had not violated the agreement in any way. He said he was paying for the buildings out of pocket.

Mr. DeLonno told the board that as far as Boy Scout Hut, he was still waiting to hear from the state. He reminded the board that the grant that was used at the park had stipulations and that the regulations had to be followed.

New Items

The Finance Officer told the board that the proposed budget was very preliminary and that the numbers could change. The Manager said that some numbers for expenses had not come in yet.

Mr. DeIonno showed the board the plans for the Depot Improvements. He told the board that the main concern was to keep the depot looking much like it would have years ago. He said that the state preservation office would have to approve of any changes.

Mr. DeIonno said that as far as the water project the town was waiting for DWI to approve of the work. He said that the downtown area would have the most work and road closures due to the age of the area and that the work would begin soon and probably last through the fall.

Mayor Pritchard commented on Caleb (Lap) Smith getting a promotion to field supervisor. Mr. DeIonno said that the town was very fortunate to have Lap.

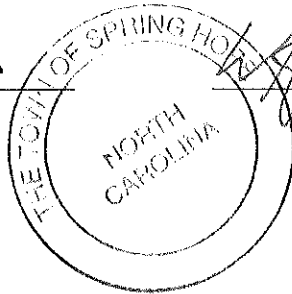
Commissioner Cone made a motion to appoint Lori Harris to the DDB; Commissioner Gainey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Lucas gave his report. He told the board that he had several hearings scheduled and that the owners of the properties did not show up. He also said that the town had been attaching fines to several properties.

Chief Gant told the board that the department had a total of 427 calls for service. He said that they cleared 6 out of 7 open cases.

Commissioner Gainey made a motion to adjourn; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Michelle L. Cobb



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