

Minutes
Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting
September 1, 2025

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, Commissioner Griffin, Commissioner Lucas, Commissioner Gainey, and Commissioner Toney

Also Present, Town Manager Andrew Delonno, Town Clerk Michele Collins, Town Attorney Mark Edwards, Lieutenant Jason Leary, Public Works Director Bobby Ball,

James Gwaltney III, Priscilla Caps, Mike Gordon, Edward Lopez, Dominique Richards, Tony Jefferies, Nick Barry, Tom White

Mayor Pritchard called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance and a word of prayer.

Public Forum: First up: James Gwaltney III for 807 East Nast Street compliance with auto repair ordinance. James Gwaltney gave the board a diagram about his plans pertaining to landscaping and fencing that would bring his property into compliance. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve the plans for James Gwaltney, commissioner Gainey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Next up: Priscilla Capps from 505 North Walnut St speaking on the stream and the road. She Believes the new subdivision is the cause for the flooding in the area.

Next up: Mike Gordon from 215 Riley Way, spoke for himself and his neighbors. They feel like the builder did not do what they said they were going to do, and this has led to the problems they are having now.

Next up: Edward Lopez from 608 Walnut. Mr. Lopez believes the developers are to blame for the flooding because they never fixed the things they said they were going to.

Next up: Dominique Richards 233 Riley Way spoke about the flooding she and her neighbors are dealing with. And, she said nobody wants to take accountability for this and just blame each other.

Next up: Mr. Tony Jefferies Mclean St spoke and said he was not blaming anyone, but he had called the county and DEQ telling them they had problems and that their study was wrong. He said he does blame the builder be blames the designer and the county.

Tom White spoke and said he thought the issue had been addressed but did express his understanding to the people that spoke on the issues. And he said he did not have an answer to why all the rain is going into Mr. Lopez yard. But did say he would reach out to Dream finders to see what they can work out.

Commissioner Gainey made a motion to approve the minutes from the August 25th meeting; Commissioner Griffin seconded the motions, and the motion passed unanimously.

Continued items:

Consideration of the vacant building ordinance draft the Town attorney and Town Manager were still having conversations to conform with statute and decriminalization requirements at the state level. They also said that they would like the board to consider what an acceptable fee would be for vacant building owners to have to register annually. Commissioner Gainey made a motion to table this till next month. Commissioner Griffin seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business

Consideration of bids for water system improvement project, Town Manager Delonno said all the bids came in over the budget, which is approximately three million dollars of the 3.7 million. The consulting engineer eliminated parts of the project that could wait and therefore a bid modification was submitted. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to reject the winning bid but to accept the bid modification at 2.9 million submitted by Herring-Rivenbark, Inc. and get started with the project as soon as possible; Commissioner Gainey seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of budget amendments 2026-01 and 2026-02 PEG, Town Clerk Michele Collins said both budget amendments are just increasing the appropriations that were made at the beginning of the budget year.

Commissioner Gainey made a motion to approve budget amendment 2026-01 peg channel, Commissioner Griffin second the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Gainey made a motion to approve budget amendment 2026-02 the economic development account, Commissioner Griffin second the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of hazard mitigation plan, Mr. Delonno said it is a requirement of federal law and subsequently the state to qualify for certain things like pre-disaster mitigation funding and its part of the FEMA process. Commissioner Gainey made a motion that we adopt regional hazard mitigation plan, Commissioner Griffin second the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of event permit for the Dan Finch Potter's Festival. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve Dan Finch Potter's Festival, Commissioner Lucas second the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of event permit for Clifton Chapel Church Revival on September 26th and 27th, Miss Jodelle Richardson said they are having a 2-night community revival. And everyone is invited. Commissioner Gainey made a motion to approve event permit for Clifton Chapel Church Revival, Commissioner Toney seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of the NC DOT rail agreement, Town Manager Delonno said this is the agreement between the town and the DOT to house the caboose temporarily on the main track so it can be renovated and moved into place used for storage at the depot. He said that the town had to provide additional insurance. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve the NC DOT rail agreement, Commissioner Gainey second the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Police Reports

Lieutenant Jason Leary told the board for the month of August they had 622 calls for service and 199 vehicle stops. They performed 290 security checks for the month; they investigated 12 accidents. They had 5

Manager Report

Mr. Delonno said he was happy to answer any questions and again wanted to highlight seeking out storm water engineer to evaluate the north walnut neighborhood.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to go into closed session, commissioner Gainey seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

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

  