

Minutes
Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting
August 5, 2024

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 Brenda Lucas, Eric Gainey, Brent Cone and Drew Griffin. Commissioner Tommy Toney and Attorney Mark Edwards were absent.

Also present was Town Manager Andrew DeLonno, Town Clerk/Finance Director Michele Collins, Police Chief Nathan Gant and Attorney Mark Osterhout.

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

Prayer was given by Pastor Larry Perry.

Commissioner Gainey made a motion, seconded by Commissioner Cone to approve the minutes as written, motion passed unanimously.

Town Manager DeLonno explained that the continued items were not ready for tonight's meeting due to not being advertised in time, will move to next month's meeting.

Reappointment of Planning Board Members: Manager DeLonno explained there were some reappointments to be made to the Planning Board. After much discussion, Commissioner Cone made a motion to table until next month to see the applications of the current members and the newly applied person, as well as clarification from Attorney Edwards on whether the standing Mayor can serve on the Planning Board. Commissioner Lucas seconded; motion carried.

Budget amendment 2025-01 for General Fund. There were no questions from the commissioners. Manager DeLonno explained that this was pulling forward the money stranded last year for the Caboose and depot project. Commissioner Gainey made a motion to approve, seconded by Commissioner Cone.

Manager DeLonno discussed the upcoming 2025 Pumpkin Festival. He explained that the SH Chamber needs public works personnel as well as police officers. The chamber needs the board to approve their event permit application as well. After some discussion, Commissioner Cone made a motion to approve the application seconded by Commissioner Griffin, motion carried.

Chief Nathan Gant gave his report which consists of 113 total calls for service. They were broken down as follows: 93 traffic stops, 58 security checks, 6 traffic accidents, 6 domestics, non-chargeable, 4 disturbances, 15 total investigations in July with 14 cases clear. Chief Gant told the board that they had 2 new officers, Kevin Raper who replaced Dalyn Follmer and Ruben De Los Santos. Officer Raper is now out of training and De Los Santos will be out in approximately 2 weeks.

Code enforcement officer Shawn Lucas gave his report. There were 43 people cited in the past month, 10 were sent over to the town contractor for abatement. Mr. Lucas also addressed some of the ones brought up at last month's meeting. Commissioner Cone thanked Mr. Lucas for being so thorough with the report.

Mr. DeLonno spoke about a clean up session with the DDB and the Chamber before the Pumpkin Festival. There is a sign-up sheet for people to sign up to assist. The date is September 14th from 8 am – 12 pm and the rain date will be September 21st from 8 am-12 pm. You can sign up through the town's website, just click on the downtown tab and there's an online form to be filled out. People will be asked to also sign a waiver. There will be pizza and water provided afterwards.

Discussions were held on the locks for the bathroom at the ballfields and issues with locks being stolen. No motions were made.

Discussion on possible paving of Virginia St soon. Manager DeLonno made note that Virginia St is slated for a water main so the paving will hold off until such time as that is completed.

Commissioner Lucas announced that we no longer have a seat on the Transportation and Advisory Committee for Upper Coastal. The seat was given to Whitakers. Commissioner Lucas can still attend the meetings, but Spring Hope no longer has a vote. With no further discussion from the commissioners, a motion was made by Commissioner Griffin and seconded by Commissioner Gainey, to go into closed session.

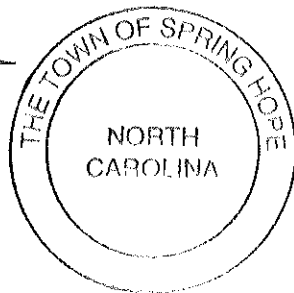
Closed Session

Commissioner Cone made a motion to go back into open session; Commissioner Gainey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

Submitted

Michelle K. Cole



Attest

K. E. Timney