

Minutes
Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting
October 3, 2022

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, Tony Jefferys, Drew Griffin, and Brent Cone. Commissioner Prudence Wilkins was absent.

Also present was Town Manager Andrew DeIonno, Town Clerk Michele Collins, Town Attorney Mark Edwards and Chief Nathan Gant.

Lindell Kay from the Nashville Graphic and Hannah Whitley from the Spring Hope Enterprise were in attendance.

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

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve the agenda; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to accept the minutes of the September 6th meeting as written; Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed.

Mr. DeIonno told the board that the upcoming public hearing was the final stage for the annexation of Bryson's Ridge.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to open the Public Hearing for Annexation of Parcels 044084 and 007494; Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed.

Public Hearing

Mayor Pritchard told the public that this was their opportunity to voice their thoughts on the voluntary annexation. There was no comment from the public.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to go back into regular session; Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioner Jefferys asked Mr. DeIonno if NCDOT had any plans to widen Louisburg Rd. to accommodate for the extra residents. Mr. DeIonno told him no that it was not in the original scope of the project and that it was not proposed as a high traffic area.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to adopt the request for the Contiguous Annexation of parcels 044084 and 007494; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed.

Mr. DeIonno told the board that there was only one bid for the Dodge Durango that they had agreed to surplus the month prior. He told them that he did not think that it was an appropriate amount for the vehicle.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to reject the bid and relist the vehicle; Commissioner Cone seconded and the motion passed.

Mr. DeLonno told the board that the current water disconnect policy gave residents who were late an extra 20 days to pay. He said that even though water bills are due on the 20th of the month the policy gives users until the 10th of the following month to pay. He said that this encourages people to not pay as well as hurts the bottom line as it pertained to collecting revenues. Mr. DeLonno said he was recommending cutting off water accounts 6 days after they are due on the 26th of the month. He said that the new policy would begin in January 2023 after residents have been informed.

Mayor Pritchard said that it was a hard decision with the current state of the economy. Mr. DeLonno said that the town currently works with residents that are having difficulties. Commissioner Cone asked if the shorter time would help to avoid reconnection fees; Mr. DeLonno said yes because it would not get to that point.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to amend the current policy to adhere to request by town to cut off on the 26th; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed.

Chief Gant told the board that there were 40 security checks, 4 traffic accidents and 113 calls for service during the prior month. He also said that there had been reports of catalytic converters being stolen and that it may help to park in a well-lit area.

Mr. DeLonno said that he reached out to Senator Barnes office and requested additional funds to assist the town. Commissioner Jefferys asked if the funds would be for next fiscal year. Mr. DeLonno said it would be up to the legislature and when they would disburse funds. He mentioned that the Community Building probably would not be ready for the elections and that the elections would most likely be at town hall. Mayor Pritchard asked if NCDEQ had gotten the information that was sent for the ARPA request; Mr. DeLonno said yes that they had sent confirmation. The mayor also asked what the next steps were in that process; Mr. DeLonno said that they would have to give approval of the tentative projects.

Mr. DeLonno said that Budget Amendment 2023-03 was needed to take money out of non-restricted funds to be able to pay the auditor from last year who had just sent in the invoice late.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2023-03; Commissioner Cone seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Commissioner Cone made a motion to go into Closed Session; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Closed Session

Commissioner Cone made a motion to leave closed session; Commissioner Griffin seconded and the motion passed.

Commissioners said he mentioned that Public Works was doing a wonderful job and that he was happy to have them as well as the office staff.

Commissioner Lucas mentioned that the COG may have a grant the town needed to explore.

Commissioners Griffin had no new business.

Commissioner Cone mentioned that there would be a meet the candidates on October 5th at the Pentecostal Church. He said everyone was invited but that seating would be limited.

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

Submitted

Attested

Michael Cone



Kyle Paul