Minutes Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting July 1, 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 Toney was absent.

Also present was Town Manager Andrew Delonno, Town Clerk/Finance Director Michele Collins, Town Attorney Mark Edwards, and Police Chief Nathan Gant. Developer Tom White, and PE Project Manager, Ethan Averette with Stocks Engineering were also present.

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

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 3rd and 19th 2024 board meetings, Commissioner Gainey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing:

for map amendment from RA to R8, Pilatus Ave, Parcel # 302085 in Bryson's Ridge. Commissioner Cone made a motion to go into public hearing seconded by Commissioner Griffin, and the motion passed unanimously. Ethan from Stocks Engineering passed out a map showing the lots for this part of the development. The maximum number of lots should be 27, depending on the new subdivision regulations just adopted; it will have access to gravity sewer through Bryson's Ridge and public water; if rezoned it would have the same street sections as there are currently. No one from the public spoke so Commissioner Cone made a motion to go back into regular session seconded by Commissioner Griffin and the motion passed unanimously.

After discussion between Ethan, Tom White, and the commissioners, Commissioner Cone made a motion to accept the map amendment changing Parcel # 302085 from RA to R8. Commissioner Griffin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Code Enforcement Officer Shawn Lucas gave his report for the past month. Commissioner Cone voiced concerns over problems he saw that needed to be corrected in the commercial district. Mr. Lucas stated that he had been working on some of those and would continue to do so.

Chief Gant gave his report for the Police Dept. There were 205 total calls for service this month, including 23 traffic stops, 10 vehicle accidents, 10 domestic calls with no charges, 53 security checks, 5 disturbance/unrest calls, 11 total investigations, and 11 cleared cases.

Chief Gant informed the board that the 8th position for the police dept had been filled, thanks to the board voting for the new funding and career ladder. Ruben De Los Santos from Wake County comes to Spring Hope with his Batchelor's degree in Criminal Justice, his Advanced Law Enforcement Certificate and is bilingual. He has 19 years of law enforcement experience. Santos will begin training with Sgt. Lucas as soon as his papers come back from Training & Standards. The prior new hire, Kevin Raper is still in training with Sgt. Wilson and should be finished in the next 2 weeks. He will then spend the last 2 days with Lt. Leary and be able to go on patrol after that. The addition of the 8th officer will give the town a car for the day shift, mid shift, and night shift with the Sgts being able to float through all shifts. It will also make it possible for the officers to go to training or take off and the Sgt take over while they are gone so part-time officers should not have to cover them.

There was no one in attendance for the Chamber update.

Manager Delonno began his manager's report by thanking Finance Director Michele Collins for all her hard work in getting the town off the UAL. He stated that FY 24 was very successful, and the rollover went smoothly. The town received \$537,000 from NC Commerce for phase 2 of the depot project. This will build the outdoor platform like the one previously. It will be utilized as an outdoor event space, a stage, have its own separate restrooms, and provide sprinklers for the entire facility. Manager Delonno stated that the grant documents needed to be signed to proceed. The match for the grant is included in the FY 25 budget. Commissioner Cone made a motion to accept the grant as presented and Commissioner Griffin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Attorney Edwards had no updates for the board.

Commissioner Gainey asked for updates on the S Ash St project. Tom White spoke about the progress he had made in the buildings. Commissioner Cone made mention that it appeared the back door to one of the builders may be open. Tom said he would ride around there after the meeting and check it out.

With no further business, Commissioner Cone made a motion to adjourn, Commissioner Griffin seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

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