Minutes Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting June 3, 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, Tommy Toney, Brent Cone and Drew Griffin.

Also present was Town Manager Andrew Delonno, Town Clerk/Finance Director Michele Collins, Town Attorney Mark Edwards, Public Works Director Bobby Ball, and Police Chief Nathan Gant. Tom White, Developer, and Rep Allen Chesser.

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

Rep Allen Chesser was on hand to present Commissioner Tommy Toney with the Capitol Flag honoring his retirement from the Nash County Sheriff's Dept.

No one registered to speak on Public Forum

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2024, board meeting, Commissioner Gainey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

New Business:

Tom White spoke on the importance of being cautious about the price of the new fees being tacked on for new houses.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to go into public hearing for the 24-25 budget, Commissioner Gainey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Public Hearing:

Peggy Leggett: Spring Hope Garden Club presented a proposal to the town for funding. Ms. Leggett reminded everyone it was National Garden Club week and invited everyone to join their raffle for Father's Day.

There were no questions from the public about the budget.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to go out of public hearing, Commissioner Gainey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Manager Delonno made it known that the 8th police officer is being partially funded with the increase from the new Nash County tax evaluations for the town. Currently, the tax rate is set at .67 per \$100 valuation. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to accept the 24-25 budget by leaving the tax rate at .67 per \$100 valuation. Commissioner Gainey seconded, and the motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of Reorganization, Compensation and Reclassification system. Manager Delonno stated that the board members had this new information in their packets. Mr. Delonno explained that this had not been done since 1999 and would address some issues from the past with pay and compensation and includes steps for merit increases. With no questions from the board, Commissioner Gainey made a motion to adopt the Reorganization, Compensation, and Reclassification study. Commissioner Griffin seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

Consideration of the Spring Hope Police Dept Career Development Policy. Chief Gant explained that it was close to what the Commissioners had just passed. The Chief went into detail on exactly how the officers would move step by step through the process to obtain more increases and better overall pay. Manager Delonno let the board know that this is in addition to the rates the town already has in place. Commissioner Cone made a motion to adopt the SH Police Dept Career Development Policy as written. Commissioner Griffin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Consideration of the revised Spring Hope Personnel Policy. Manager Delonno made note that it also dated back to 1999 and that it has been updated to include current life events that had never been added previously. Commissioner Lucas made a motion to adopt the revised Spring Hope Personnel Policy. Commissioner Cone seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Consideration of adoption of Budget Amendment 8 for the Enterprise Fund. Finance Director Michele Collins explained that she needed more funds for salaries to finish out the fiscal year. Commissioner Gainey made a motion to adopt Budget Amendment 8, Commissioner Griffin seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Consideration of Discoveries and Releases for the 23-24 fiscal year. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to accept the discoveries and releases as noted, Commissioner Gainey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Consideration of request for funding for the 2023 appropriation. Manager Delonno explained that this was the \$3.7 million that was awarded to the town with the help of Rep Allen Chesser and Sen Lisa Barnes. Bobby Ball, PW Direction has requested that Wooten develop a plan to focus on the collection system and the WWTP. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to accept the 2023 appropriation and Commissioner Cone seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Manager Delonno spoke on restoring the ETJ to correspond with the extension of the town's city limits. Mr. Delonno stated that a public hearing was required in order to achieve this. Commissioner Griffin made a motion to begin the process of restoring the 1-mile radius of the ETJ from the corporate limits. Commissioner Cone seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

Other Items:

Freddie Howell was in attendance to honor Commissioner Toney on his retirement since he couldn't be at the county meeting.

Spring Hope Chamber report - nothing to report

Spring Hope Garden Club – Peggy Leggett noted that everything was in the report presented to the Board earlier. Mayor Pritchard spoke of his appreciation for the work being done.

Code Enforcement – Manger Delonno gave some brief comments on the top spots in town that Shawn Lucas is working with. Commissioner Cone requested more detail in the reports and requested more progress be made on the commercial properties in town.

Chief Gant gave the police report. 121 calls for service; 50 traffic stops; 39 security checks; 9 traffic accidents; 5 domestic disturbances with no charges; 16 disturbances/fight calls; 13 total investigations with 10 cases cleared.

Manager Delonno asked the board if they had any questions for him on the Manager's report that was enclosed in their packets. There were no questions, so a motion was made to go into closed session by Commissioner Griffin. Commissioner Gainey seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

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

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

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Minutes Spring Hope Board of Commissioners Meeting June 19th , 2024

A special meeting of the Town of Spring Hope Board of Commissioners was held at 11am at the Spring Hope Town Hall.

Members present: Mayor William Pritchard, Commissioners Brenda Lucas, Eric Gainey and Drew Griffin. Commissioner Cone and Toney were absent.

Also, present was Town Manager Andrew Delonno and Town Clerk Michele Collins.

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

Town Manager Andrew DeIonno reminded the board that there were only two items on the agenda. He asked the board to look Budget Amendment #9, he said that the amendment would clean up a few line items to make them balance for the end of the fiscal year.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to approve Budget Amendment (9); Commissioner Gainey seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. DeIonno said that the second amendment was to return unused appropriated fund balance back to the general fund. He said it wasn't used due to the state using a different reimbursement process for the water/sewer grant.

Commissioner Gainey made a motion to approve Budget Amendment #10; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Mr. DeIonno said that the last item was approval of his employment contract. HE said that the only real change was that he would get 6 months severance instead of 4 if the town decided to part ways with his employment. Commissioner Griffin asked if this was local government standard and Mr. DeIonno said yes.

Commissioner Griffin made a motion to accept the contract as written; Commissioner Lucas seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

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

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