

# SPICELAND TOWN COUNCIL

January 13, 2026

President Jack Garner called the regular session of the Spiceland Town Council to order at 6:00 pm. at the Spiceland Town Hall located at 130 E. Main Street.

Council present: Robert Blake, Scott Fitch, Darrin Jacobs, and Jack Garner,

Audience present: Hope Stevens, Donnie Murray, Julie Newhouse, Jamie Fitch, Scott Teague, Johnny Strong, Matt Pierce and Katie Clontz Courier Times.

First on the agenda was Election of new officers. Darrin Jacobs made motion for the nomination of Jack Garner as Council President, Robert Blake seconded the motion. Motion was carried 4-0. Scott Fitch made a motion for Darrin Jacobs to be nominated for Vice President of the Spiceland Town Council, Robert Blake seconded the motion, Motion was carried 4-0.

Next on the agenda was the signing of the 2026-1 Salary Ordinance, that was voted on and approved in December.

Third on the agenda was approval of amending Ordinance 1992-1 Fire protection/emergency service fees. Scott Fitch made a motion for approval of Ordinance 2026-2, Amending Ordinance 1992-101, Fire Protection/Emergency Service fees within said Township, Robert Blake seconded the motion, motion was carried 4-0.

President Jack Garner asked for approval of the December minutes. Scott Fitch made motion for approval of the minutes as presented, Robert Blake seconded the motion, Motion carried 4-0.

Floor was opened to Jeff Lane Superintendent, Jeff was unable to attend, currently have nothing.

Floor was opened up to Clerk/Treasurer Hope Stevens, Hope presented to the Council that they will each need to complete the Nepotism form. Last month she let the Council know that an upgrade needed to be done to the Server as well as possibly a new laptop. Reach had gotten back to her with quotes. The Server would be updated to a Windows 2025 Server and would have a onetime cost for the hardware and software license and that would run 2499.99. She also has a quote for a Lenovo i9, Windows Pro 11 laptop at the quote of \$1059.99. Scott Fitch made a motion for approval up to \$3700.00 to be paid to Reach Network, for upgrade of the new Server and Laptop. Robert Blake seconded the motion, motion was carried 4-0. At the December meeting it was asked for Hope to get some quotes on possibly putting a new electronic board up. Hope presented 3 quotes ranging in different sizes and cost. Scott Fitch made the motion for approval up to \$2000.00 to be spent on an upgrade to an Electronic Sign Board to be placed at the Town Hall Building. Robert Blake seconded the motion, motion was carried 4-0. DNR had requested that an updated ordinance be done for Floodplain, Newhouse and Newhouse, put together the updated version for this ordinance, Scott Fitch made a motion for approval of this ordinance that will be sent to DNR. Robert Blake seconded the motion, motion was approved 4-0.

Jack Garner opened up for discussion of claims for approval. Scott Fitch made motion for approval of the claim as submitted, Robert Blake seconded the motion, motion was carried 4-0.

President Jack Garner open the floor to Old Business, Scott Fitch asked where we were on the vacant board member seat. Darrin Jacobs, let the council member know, that it has not been started yet, and he would keep everyone updated on when all paperwork has been submitted, and results from that paperwork. Darrin Jacobs asked Julie with Newhouse and Newhouse, on if we have proceeded with the process for the South Pearl street property. Julie had not done anything with that property, but she would get going, to foreclose on the property that contains the tax lien the Town of Spiceland has on the property, and that she would get back to us with updates. Darrin also asked if anyone had thought about who we would recommend to step up and be on the EDC Board. Jack Garner said that he would be interested in being on this board, with the understanding that he might not be able to meet every meeting. Darrin Jacobs made the motion for approval of accepting Jack Garner as the new EDC Board seat, Scott Fitch seconded the motion, motion was approved 3-0.

Floor was opened up to any new business, Jack Garner stated that he has been working with Julie Newhouse on possibly putting together a new Noise and Nuisance Ordinances, he presented to the board similar ones from other counties, and asked if the board member could possibly look through them, and tweak what we would like the one for the Town of Spiceland to look like. Council will work together to revise and get those changes to Julie, for future approval of an ordinance.

The Floor was then opened up to the audience, Scott Teague with the Fire Department spoke, he presented to the board members the annual report for the Fire Department. Scott Fitch asked if headway has been made on getting a title for the new truck. Scott is still working on this, or even getting a bill of sale, to complete the transaction. Johnny Strong spoke next and asked about what can be done about the Alley located next to his property on Broad St. The current alley is being parked in, and this could possibly cause issue in the future is access is needed to that alley. Matt Pierce stated that he will meet with residents around this area, letting them know that parking is not permitted. This will be a final warning given to said residents, with towing being the next step.

Nothing else was brought forward at this time, Scott Fitch made motion for meeting to be adjourned Robert Blake seconded the motion, Motion carried 7-0 approval. Meeting adjourned at 6:58 p.m.

UJH

Scott Sidel

Jamie D

Robert Blake