

# SPICELAND TOWN COUNCIL

October 14, 2025

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, Jody French and Darrin Jacobs, Jack Garner.

Audience present: Hope Stevens, Jeff Lane, Donnie Murray, Donna Tauber, Jamie Fitch, Lila Mondrush, Karen Fink, Jerry Cash, Jeff Ray, Katie Clontz-The Courier Times, Scott Teague, and Johnny Strong.

President Jack Garner asked for a motion to approve the Town Budget. Scott Fitch made a motion to approve the 2026 Budget as presented, Jody French seconded the motion, motion was carried 5-0.

President Jack Garner asked for approval of the September minutes. Darrin Jacobs made motion for approval of the minutes as presented, Scott Fitch seconded the motion, Motion carried 5-0.

Jack Garner opened up for discussion of claims for approval. Scott Fitch made motion for approval of the claim as submitted, Jody French seconded the motion, motion was carried 5-0.

Floor was opened to Jeff Lane Superintendent, Jeff had been asked to see about getting quotes from Survey companies, to come and survey the few properties that the Town currently own's. Jeff had a quote from Coor Consulting & Land Services, Corp., they would be able to survey all 3 properties at a quote of \$2,950.00. This was tabled until more discussion can be made on how the Council wants to proceed. Jeff also received to quotes from two different companies about crack sealing. The Town received two quotes one from AB sealcoating and Fred Hopkins Driveway guys. Driveway guys came in at the lesser of the two at roughly \$36,000.00 After discussion about what we need to be done, the crack sealing will be put on hold, as the Town would like to proceed with going after The Community Crossing Grant. Superintendent Jeff Lane, let the Council know, that we have wear and tear with the pumps and propellers at the Booster station. He has received a quote for fixing and replacing those items, the quote was right at \$8,000.00 dollars. He has asked them about replacing and updating the motors as well. Jeff asked council if they would approve the \$8,000.00 dollars to go ahead and proceed with fixing the pump and propellers, if the quotes for everything else come back at an astronomical amount. Scott Fitch made motion for approval of up to \$8,000.00 for fixing of the pump and propellers at the booster station, Jody French seconded the motion, motion was carried 5-0.

Floor was opened up to Clerk/Treasurer Hope Stevens, Hope did not have anything at this time.

Jack Garner opened the floor up to visitors from the Affordable Housing Solutions of Henry County Committee. Jerry Cash and Jeff Ray, were in attendance to discuss what the Affordable Housing Committee is looking to do in our community, The AHSHC mission is to significantly increase affordable homeownership opportunities for families in henry county with household incomes at or below 80% of the counties average median income (AMI) through the construction of homes in the 165,000-235,000 price range. They are currently looking at empty properties to be donated to them or to be purchased at a very low cost. They would then come in and build a home on the property that would then be sold to a homeowner thru the Affordable Housing Community. They have web sites at <https://www.ahshc.com/> as well as Facebook pages, Affordable Housing Solutions of Henry County. The Council has taken into consideration on possibly giving them one of our properties, they would like to have a further discussion on what would work best for the Town. Jerry and Jeff, told the council that they currently have in the works for 2 homes in the Spiceland area, they asked if the Council would be willing to wave the tap in fees. After discussion, Scott Fitch made motion for up to \$2000.00 of tap in fees be waved for the purpose of this project. Jody French seconded the motion, motion was carried 5-0.

President Jack Garner opened the floor back up to old business or business from the Council. Stop sign at 2<sup>nd</sup> and Harrison, was brought back up, Council made mention that we would need to get ahold of Newhouse and Newhouse to add the added stop sign to our ordinance. Darrin Jacobs made motion to proceed with getting everything in place to add the new stop signs at that intersection, Scott Fitch seconded the motion, motion was carried 5-0.

Floor was opened up to any new business, Jody French asked the Council what they thought about placing a Food box at the Town office, this box would be a place where the community can place donations of food items, for anyone in the Community to come to if food items are needed. The Council thought this would be a great idea, Jody will check with Tri High School about the possibility of the student helping to build said box. Scott Fitch also made a comment that the November Board meeting would fall on Veterans Day. After discussion, the Council felt it best to move the date of the Nov. board meeting. Scott Fitch made a motion and approval of the November Board meeting to be moved to November 18 at 6:00, Jody French seconded the motion, motion was carried 5-0.

The Floor was then opened up to the audience, Scott Teague Chief of the Fire Department was present and presented a notice to the Council that a new furnace would be needed to for the Fire Department, the current one, is not capable of keeping up with the building and the new bay that has been put in. The quote that he currently has for a new furnace came in just shy of \$5700.00. After discussion, Scott Fitch made motion for approval of up to \$5700.00 for putting in a new furnace in the Fire Department Building, Jody French seconded the motion, and motion was carried 5-0. Johnny Strong has concerns of his neighbor on Broad street, blocking the only fire entrance to his home. The council discussed the issue and the concern will be brought up to our Town office Matt Pierce for him to get in contact with said neighbor. Donny Murray who

