

## MINUTES

The Board of Aldermen of the City of Springhill, Louisiana met in regular session in the Council Chambers at Springhill City Hall on Monday, March 9, 2026 at 5:00 P.M with Mayor W. Ray Huddleston presiding.

PRESENT: Dimettera Frazier, Dennis Smith, Stacey Willard, and Derek Melancon, Aldermen.

ABSENT: Alderman Mike Whitlock.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston called the meeting to order.

Alderman Dimettera Frazier opened the meeting with Prayer.

Mayor W. Ray Huddleston led the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to adopt the minutes from the last regular meeting held on Monday, February 9, 2026 and the special call meeting held on Thursday, February 26, 2026.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to approve the financial statement for February 2026.

MOTION CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT: None.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

Vickie Case, Cook & Morehart, CPA's was present to give the Audit Report FYE 06/30/2025. Ms. Case explained that she was here a little later than normal this year was because of the federal government shutdown back in November 2025 the compliance supplement for federal funds was issued very late in the year which didn't allow enough time to get the all the audit procedures done in time to be completed by December 31, 2025. Blanket extensions were granted till 03/31/2026 to all entities that expended more than \$750,000 in federal funds for 06/30/2025 and because Springhill was granted more than \$750,000 in federal funds a Single Audit was required for the city to be in compliance this year.

Vickie addressed the prior year audit finding for 6/30/2024 in regard to personal vehicle use reimbursement. She went on to explain that the finding had been cleared up during the 06/30/2025 fiscal year by Management developing a policy with regards to vehicle use reimbursements so this finding has now been cleared up. Also, she addressed the one finding for the Audit FYE 6/30/2025 which was a Budget Finding. Actual expenditures and other financing use for the Sales Tax Fund were more than budgeted expenditures by more than 5%. The Local Government Budget Act requires the annual budgets be amended when actual plus projected expenditures and other financing uses are more than budgeted amounts by more than 5%. The City did not appropriately amend the budget for the year ended June 30, 2025 for certain transfer activity so therefore the City was not in compliance with the Local Government Budget Act. The planned corrective action for this finding will be the City will monitor its budgets in the future and amend as needed in order to comply with this requirement. This is more of an accounting adjustment but will need to be corrected in the future.

Next, she moved on to the city's finances. The General Fund is doing well but the problem is in the Water and Sewer Fund where the financial problems are showing that the utilities department is not being self-sustaining without help from the Sales Tax Fund. This is a business type activity for the City and it should be generating enough income to support itself without outside assistance from the Sales Tax Fund. The recent rate increases are not enough to cover the operating expenses for this department. It should be generating enough income to cover its expenses and cover the debt payments the city has on prior water improvements. Ms. Case addressed the need for a water rate study to be done as soon as possible to look at getting the system self-sustaining as soon as possible.

Overall, the Audit Report was in good standing FYE June 30, 2025.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to accept the Audit Report FYE June 30, 2025 as presented.

MOTION CARRIED.

Tanya Capps, Main Street Manager was excited to say that there there are two new businesses on Main Street, Ace Nutrition and Mimi's Place. Ace Nutrition is a nutrition and tea shop and Mimi's Place is a thrift and a resale shop.

Farmers Market opens back up on Saturday, April 4, 2026. That will be a real big day with lots of food vendors and all will be out at the market that day.

Love the Boot Week starts April 18<sup>th</sup>. It is a collaboration between the State of Louisiana and local communities to help clean up Louisiana. Springhill Main Street is actively participating in that. Local businesses are on board and excited. They are taking it for the whole month starting with Week #1 Window Week, Week #2 is Weed Out Week, Week #3 is Litter Up Week, and Week #4 is Front Flower Week. They are super excited about

this campaign. To kick this off March 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> the Springhill Fire Department will clean Main Street so they will be running through and cleaning Main Street with the hoses.

The last thing Tanya mentioned that the City of Springhill was awarded the LA DOTD Tap Grant so that's exciting news. It is a 5% match which puts the City responsible for about \$13,000 on that.

John French, JBF Engineering was present to give an update on various city projects. He started with the Water Department Projects. The first was the water meter replacement, he is currently working on the specs for that project. The next ones are Water Well #6 and Phase III Water System which are all under capital outlay. Still working on plans for that they are shooting for the state's end of fiscal year, which hopefully they will get the money moved from Priority 5 funding to Priority 1 funding and go into construction after that. The lead service line inventory he is completing that proposal for the state and a Ortho Phosphate Injection study that coincides with the lead copper study project which will be coming up in the future.

Wastewater Projects – Wastewater Treatment Plant he is currently working on getting files updated for the state. Lift Station #32 Rehab that is being done under a DRA Grant of \$265,000 and the city's match is \$75,000.

Recreation – Recreation Complex, he is currently working on the dirt installation and equipment which are under two grants of \$250,000 and \$100,000. Springhill Splash Pad Project is about 75% complete and should be completed by the end of March 2026.

Miscellaneous Projects – There are two road projects for \$50,0000 in capital outlay that will be used for road repairs on June Anthony Drive. The LGAP and CWEF Grants will be used to help complete this project.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Derek Melancon to Adopt a Resolution for the Cooperative Endeavor Agreement with the State of Louisiana for the \$100,000 appropriation for road repairs for June Anthony Drive.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Stacey Willard to Adopt a Resolution to authorize Louisiana Rural Water Association to conduct a water rate study for about \$4,000.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to Adopt a Policy for Travel Reimbursement for more than 30 miles outside the city limits for the Mayor's and Police Chief's Vehicles.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to Adopt a Municipal Water Pollution Prevention (MWPP) Resolution for January 2025 to December 2025.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Derek Melancon, seconded by Dennis Smith to raise Niki Anderson from \$19.24 to \$23.66.

MOTION CARRIED.

MOTION was made by Stacey Willard, seconded by Dennis Smith to authorize payment of the February 2026 monthly vendor bills totaling \$197,403.74.

MOTION CARRIED.

Announcements: None.

Meeting Adjourned.

---

Shelli Malone, LMMC  
City Clerk

---

W. Ray Huddleston  
Mayor