

Town of Spring Lake
Regular Meeting of the Board of Aldermen
Municipal Building
300 Ruth Street
Spring Lake, NC 28390

April 8, 2013

MINUTES

7:00 p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a regular scheduled meeting in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Spring Lake Municipal Building with Mayor Chris V. Rey presiding.

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Napoleon Hogans
Alderman James Christian
Alderman Richard Higgins
Alderman James O'Garra
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

Tommy Burns, Town Manager	Tony Buzzard, Town Attorney
Byron Blumenfeld, Water Resource Manager	Allen Coats, Finance Director
Paul Hoover, Public Works Director	Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
T.J. McLamb, Fire Chief	Ken Metcalf, Recreation Director
Tom Spinks, Inspector	Tina West, Human Resources Director
Drew Brooks, Fayetteville Observer	Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

2. Invocation

Alderwoman Sutherland gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rey led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

Mr. Burns requested to add 9g Grant Announcement for the Spring Lake Fire Department to the agenda.

Action: The Board approved a motion to add 9g, Grant Announcement for the Spring Lake Fire Department to the agenda.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Vote: Unanimous

5. Approval of Agenda

The Board approved the amended agenda.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the agenda as amended.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment one.)

6. Approval of Consent Items

The Board approved the consent items:

- a. Minutes of the March 19, 2013 Special Meeting
- b. Minutes of the March 25, 2013 Regular Meeting

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items for March 19 Special Meeting as well as March 25 Regular Meeting, Proclamation Litter Sweep and Proclamation National Volunteer Week.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

No one spoke at the Public Forum.

8. Presentation

a. Presentation to Outgoing Town Manager

Mayor Rey presented Mr. Burns with a plaque of appreciation for his dedication and hard work for the Town. Mayor Rey said this is tough for us and Mr. Burns gave us so much while he was here and today our town is much better for it. Mr. Burns received a standing ovation. Mr. Burns stated he was tasked with restoring the image and name of the Town and he believes we, as a team, rose to that task. He also stated he appreciates everything the Board has done for him. You collectively have the Town's best interest at heart and truly believe you want to make Spring Lake a better place. I hope you will still call on me; I am just up the road. This place has made me a much better man and I'm grateful for it.

b. Spring Lake Economic Development Corporation Market Profile

Mr. Hunt gave the Board an overview of what the Spring Lake market looks like. He stated corporate and franchise decisions are driven by demographic data. He stated some of the companies he has talked with about Spring Lake is excited about coming to Spring Lake but they expressed concern about the traffic congestion. Our average household income is growing. The demographics are becoming more desirable. The Board inquired about how to incorporate Fort Bragg's populations into our demographics and Mr. Hunt stated he does share the Fort Bragg demographics with companies that he has spoken to. The Board would like to put some demographic information on our web site and Mr. Hunt stated he does recommend we do so. Mr. Burns stated in addition to looking at the demographic information, developers look at the ease of doing business with a town.

(A copy of the agenda memo and PowerPoint Presentation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

c. Spring Lake Transit

Mr. Hoover provided the Board with information they requested at the Special Meeting held March 19, 2013 concerning the Spring Lake Transit System. He gave the Board an overview of the reduced service option. Eliminating Saturday service, making no bus stop improvements and changing the hours of operation would save the Town \$60,000 to \$90,000 per year. He explained the proposed change in the hours of operation. He requested the Board's consensus on this proposal to allow time to get the word out should the Board decide to approve these changes. Mr. Hoover stated the contractor does not have any problem making these changes.

The general consensus of the Board was to proceed as explained by Mr. Hoover.

(A copy of the agenda memo and PowerPoint Presentation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

9. New Business

a. Application for Reappointment, Spring Lake Board of Adjustment

Ms. Webb advised that Ms. McCoy submitted an application to continue to serve on the Spring Lake Board of Adjustment. If approved, she will serve a three-year term to expire April 30, 2016.

Action: The Board approved a motion to re-appoint Ms. McCoy to the Spring Lake Board of Adjustment for a three-year term ending April 30, 2016.

Motion by: Alderman O'Garra

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and application from Ms. McCoy is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

b. Resolution (2013) 10, Petition for Annexation, WCDC, Inc. Property

Ms. Webb presented Resolution (2013) 10, a petition for annexation from Mr. Wellons for the WCDC, Inc. property located at 511 Highway 210 North. This property is contiguous to the Town. If the Board so desires, I request approval of Resolution (2013) 10 to direct the Clerk to investigate the sufficiency of the petition, direct staff to conduct a feasibility study and authorize the Clerk to set the Public Hearing date if all is found to be in order.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Resolution (2013) 10, Petition for Annexation.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo, petition for annexation, deed, map and Resolution (2013) 10 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment four.)

c. Contract, Municipal Solid Waste and Recycling

Mr. Hoover requested the Board approve changing both service providers from Waste Management and Onslow Container to Waste Industries. He stated the contract for municipal solid waste and recycling with Waste Industries is a five-year contract and does not include a clause for CPI (consumer price increase) which is something we have not had in the past. Our costs will be the same in five years as it is today. The reduced cost to the Town is approximately \$4 per customer. This equates to approximately \$120,000 per year. He requested the board approve the contract for a five year period with the option to renew it if the Town so chooses. The Board inquired if the attorney reviewed and approved the contract. Mr. Buzzard stated he did make some changes that are in the contract and he has approved it.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the contract with Waste Industries for Five Years.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and contract is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment five.)

d. Ordinance (2013) 3, Restricting Tobacco Use In and On Town Owned Properties

Mr. Metcalf presented Ordinance (2013) 3 to restrict smoking and tobacco use on Town owned property. He stated it is reflective of the Town's commitment to a safer work environment. Highlights of the Ordinance are: it prohibits smoking and tobacco use in enclosed areas to include town owned or leased vehicles; restricts smoking and tobacco use to at a minimum of 50 feet from town owned buildings, bleachers and playgrounds; employees taking a smoke or tobacco use break will follow the site supervisor's guidelines; and this Ordinance will take effect 6 months from adoption. He advised staff recommends approval.

Board comments included support for the Ordinance, the difficulty of enforcement, both support and non-support for erecting structures for the smokers, incentives for employees who want to quit smoking, signs educating the citizens and the importance of healthy lifestyles and the message we send to our kids about smoking. Mr. Metcalf stated once the Ordinance is approved this will be discussed at the staff level and he believes the County Health Department's grant may be able to help with some of this.

Action: The Board approved a motion to adopt Ordinance (2013) 3 Restricting Tobacco Use In and On Town Premises.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Ordinance (2013) 3 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment six.)

e. Ordinance (2013) 4, Demolition of Property at 220 S. Sixth Street

Mr. Spinks requested approval from the Board of Aldermen to remove and/or demolish the structure at 220 S. Sixth Street. This Ordinance has been vetted by the attorney.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Ordinance (2013) 4.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo, notice to owners regarding Case No. 2010-004 and Ordinance (2013) 4 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment seven.)

f. Resolution (2013) 11, Removing Town Manager from Bank Signature Card

Mr. Coats requested approval of Resolution (2013) 11 which will remove Mr. Burns from the Town's bank signature card.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Resolution (2013) 11.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Resolution (2013) 11 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment eight.)

g. Grant Announcement for the Spring Lake Fire Department

Mr. Burns stated the Spring Lake Fire Department received a SAFER (staffing for adequate fire and emergency response) grant from the Department of Homeland Security, FEMA Division. The grant is for \$309,000 and will be administered over 4 years. It is used to provide a salary incentive to start a volunteer fire response capability. There is no cost share to the Town. It allows the Town to employ a grant manager or an assessment manager to put the program in place. That person will be responsible for developing a recruitment and retention plan for volunteer firefighters. We will do as much in house as they will allow. The formal letter will come to the Town and at that time the Town will have to take action to accept the grant.

10. Closing Comments.

Alderman Sutherland

- I want to thank the Fire Department from myself and from citizens in the community that I have talked to. I appreciate the job you do because it is a dangerous job and I appreciate what you do for the great Town of Spring Lake for always putting your lives on the line for others.
- When I ran for this Board, I ran on dilapidated areas in the Town of Spring Lake. For many years we have worked on these homes coming down. My colleague Mr. Higgins always mentions these homes also. Tom Spinks, we appreciate what you are doing. I know sometimes the citizens think we can just make this happen but there is procedure and a long process that we must go through to get this done and I thank you so very much.
- I thank the Department Heads and the employees of the great Town of Spring Lake. This Town would not run successfully if we did not have experienced professionals that we have. It takes a whole governing body to make the Town run and we appreciate everything you do for the Town of Spring Lake.
- I received a letter from Adams Elementary School in Indianapolis regarding the Flat Stanley project. My granddaughter Angel sent the Town of Spring Lake Flat Angel and asked us to participate. I know how our Mayor is when it comes to supporting the kids, he is big on education and I would like the Board to take a picture with Flat Angel after the meeting.

Alderman Higgins

- I associate myself with many of the comments Ms. Sutherland made.
- I really appreciate seeing this house go away. I suggest each Board Member take a ride down North First Street and if that doesn't become your #1 priority, shame on you.

Alderman O'Garra

- I give Tom an "at-a-boy" for the work you are doing in getting rid of houses that need to go.
- Tommy, you are leaving us but you are leaving us with an attorney that we appreciate. I know you won't be far away.
- We lost some funds when they shut down the sweepstakes machines but listening to Paul tonight it looks like he found some of that money.
- TJ, the Safety Foundation will not hold that grant against you when you come to get money – stated in jest.

Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

- I also want to associate myself with what has been said already.
- Tommy, I thank you for your service to Spring Lake. I have worked with five managers and I want to go out on a limb here and make a personal prediction that you will be successful in this business. Your personality and ego is exactly what it is supposed to be. Your professionalism is exactly what it is supposed to be. Your technical competence, from what I've seen, is extraordinary. I wish you well. We hate to see you go. We truly appreciate what you did for us.

Alderman Christian

- I would like to echo what everyone else has said. Tommy, I will be in Lillington every other week or so because of that job I have which shall go unnamed (stated in jest) and we will have lunch. I really do appreciate everything you have done for the Town.
- My brother guy was through Town this past weekend and commented on how clean the Town is looking.

Mr. Burns

- I could say something individually about each of you.
Mr. Christian, you have always been respectful of my position and have always followed the proper protocol.
Ms. Sutherland I have always enjoyed working with you. I feel I can be always be honest, straight up and at time quite candid about things.
Mr. O'Garra I have always enjoyed your humor and coming to see me quite frequently, I will certainly miss that.
Mr. Hogans has always been respectful of me and of my position. He has always called me about issues rather than blindsiding me.
I cannot say enough about Mr. Higgins. I have a tremendous amount of respect for Mr. Higgins as well as personal admiration. I sometimes feel that we as a Town, and as a staff and as a Board do not value your input enough like we should for your years of service on the Board and as the Manager prior to that. I feel like I have made a good friend.
I have certainly enjoyed working with the Mayor. The Mayor and I meshed well from the get go. We are on the same level in a lot of areas about our ideas, visions and thoughts on things. He is more of a go getter, out in front and I tend to assume the support role. I will serve with him anytime and anywhere. I appreciate the enthusiasm he has brought to this.
I would be remiss if I didn't mention Mayor Clark because she is the reason I came to Spring Lake. I have always had a good relationship with her and I have a lot of respect for her as a public servant.
I could go on and on about the staff. We have a great staff, the finest staff I have ever worked with. They are diligent and hard working. I would not change a thing that we have been able to accomplish. I have also been fortunate to have the best Clerk I have every worked with as far as someone who is diligent and dedicated and she has also become a good friend and I am thankful for that.
A farewell is often necessary before we can meet again.

Mayor Rey

- Everything has been said tonight that needs to be said about the amazing staff we have, about this amazing Town we have and about the amazing leadership we have. I am very fortunate to be about a lot of goodness and I thank God that He continues to smile down upon this Town. I appreciate everyone's hard work, especially the folks on this Board who continue to do amazing things to move us forward. I appreciate you all and your leadership. I cannot say it enough.

- Tommy, we will be calling you so don't act like you don't know us when we call.
- Spring Lake Annual Roadside Cleanup and Household Hazard Pickup is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2013 from 9 AM until noon.
- Spring Fling is scheduled for April 20, 2013 at Mendoza Park beginning at 10 AM.

**11. Closed Session G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) - Privilege-Confidential – Approval of Closed Session Minutes
Closed Session G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) - Economic Development
Closed Session G. S. 143-318.11(a)(6) - Personnel**

Action: The Board approved a motion to go into closed session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(1) – Privilege-Confidential – Approval of Closed Session Minutes, G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) – Economic Development and G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) - Personnel.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

Mayor Rey invited Mr. Metcalf and Mr. Hunt to the Closed Session.

Action: The Board approved a motion to go back into open session at 8:15 p.m.

Motion by: Alderman O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

12. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Motion: Alderman O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous



Rhonda D. Webb

Rhonda D. Webb, MMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:


Chris V. Rey
Mayor