

Town of Spring Lake
Board of Aldermen Special Budget Workshop Meeting
Municipal Building
300 Ruth Street
Spring Lake, NC 28390

June 10, 2013

MINUTES

5:09 p.m.

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

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Napoleon Hogans
Alderman James Christian (arrived at 5:14 p.m.)
Alderman Richard Higgins
Alderman James O'Garra
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present: Ken Metcalf, Interim Town Manager
Allen Coats, Finance Director
Paul Hoover, Director of Inspections
Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
T.J. McLamb, Fire Chief
Tina West, Human Resources Director
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

The purpose for this meeting was to give the Board an overview of the FY 2013-2014 proposed budget.

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

2. Opening Remarks

Mr. Metcalf welcomed everyone to the budget workshop and thanked them for taking their time to discuss the direction in which they want the budget to proceed.

3. Discussion of Items Not Included In Current Proposed Budget

Mr. Metcalf advised that a Board member requested giving the Fire Department a salary increase. He presented three options: 2%, 3% and 5% increases and the budget amount it would require to make this happen. The Board's consensus was to leave the Fire Department's pay as is and if we have any extra funds during the year they will consider giving a bonus or increase at that time but to treat all employees the same.

Another item that was asked to be discussed is the elimination of the fee charged for police take home vehicles. There was a discussion concerning the Public Safety Foundation. Concern was expressed about the perception in the community that the Town is able to give \$2,000 prizes, etc. The Mayor suggested all future publications from the Public Safety Foundation have a statement on the publication stating that they are not affiliated with the Town of Spring Lake. The consensus of the Board was to leave the Police take home vehicle administrative fee as is.

The last item he reviewed with the Board that is not currently in the proposed budget is an increase in the contract amount for the Spring Lake Chamber Economic Development Corporation. Mr. Hunt addressed the Board and provided them with an overview of the work that he has performed over the past year and the reason he is requesting additional funding. He stated we have an increased interest in Spring Lake and he would like to have enough money to establish a marketing program to help facilitate the increased attraction. He also stated all the money does not go to him. Some of the funds are used to cover administrative costs of using the Chamber office. He stated he would like to take his efforts to the next level. Mr. Hunt advised he has obtained \$400,000 in grant funding to help promote the Town of Spring Lake. The Board expressed a desire to receive a quarterly report from Mr. Hunt made in an open meeting.

The Board consensus was to approve \$35,000 for the Spring Lake Chamber Economic Development Corporation contract.

(A copy of the Manager's memo and draft Economic Development Contract is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

4. Budget Overview

Mr. Coats provided the Board with a summary of the 2013-2014 proposed budget. The total budget for 2013-2014 is expected to be \$12,006,009.

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

5. Discussion, Project STEMulate Grant Application

Mayor Rey reported we have yet to hear back from the grant.

Concern was expressed about having room at the Recreation Center to support the programs that the grant would be used for. There was also concern expressed about the Board appointing a committee that would oversee the entire grant program. Mayor Rey stated the person would have to report to the Board and the Board would be kept informed through the entire process.

Concern was also expressed about the sustainability of the grant and the fact that the grant mandates the Town attempt to continue programs. Mayor Rey stated persons hired would be Town employee for as long as the grant money lasts. If we are unable to sustain the program when the funds are gone then the people and programs will be gone too. Mayor Rey clarified the grant can be used to support ongoing programs and since we have programs there now, there should be no concern about having enough space. He foresees the grant money being used to support programs already in place.

Board members thought this was a standalone grant when it was first proposed and they expressed concern about the grant not being discussed with the Board prior to the application being submitted.

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

6. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Motion: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Vote: Unanimous



Rhonda D. Webb
Rhonda D. Webb, MMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:


Chris V. Rey
Mayor