

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

September 9, 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:

Ken Metcalf, Town Manager	Tony Buzzard, Town Attorney
Byron Blumenfeld, Water Resource Manager	Allen Coats, Finance Director
Paul Hoover, Public Works Director	Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
Jason Williams, Assistant Fire Chief	Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

2. Invocation

Mayor Pro Tem Hogans gave a non-sectarian invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rey led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

5. Approval of Agenda

The Board approved the agenda.

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

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

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 August 26, 2013 Regular Meeting

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes of August 26, 2013 Regular Meeting.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

No one spoke at the Public Forum.

8. Presentation

a. Yard of the Month for September 2013

Mayor Rey presented certificates to the Yard of the Month recipients in attendance. The following people won the award for September:

Ted and Rose Allen, 1611 Crescent Drive

Mr. & Mrs. Tony Burgess, 1015 Karen Circle

Mr. & Mrs. Burden Henry, 208 Kristen Avenue

Mr. & Mrs. Stanley McQueen, 610 Goodyear Drive

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

b. Best Gateway in Cumberland County

Mr. Johnny Lanthorn from the Cumberland County Joint Community Appearance Commission presented the Town of Spring Lake with a plaque for winning Best Gateway in Cumberland County. The Cumberland County Joint Appearance Commission awards this category every year at their annual awards ceremony and this year Spring Lake won for the area where Highway 210 and Highway 87 split.

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

c. NC DOT Widening of Odell Road Update

Mr. John Richards from the North Carolina Department of Transportation provided the Board with an update on the plans to widen Odell Road. He is the project planner for this project. The presentation included the location, need, purpose, proposed schedule, funding, and proposed improvements. The location is from the Fort Bragg boundary at the end of Odell Road to Highway 87. The project will include a joint effort with Fort Bragg to include a connection at the end of Odell Road to accommodate an access control point. This project is needed because a new access control point on Odell Road could divert approximately 20,500 to 30,000 vehicles away from NC 24/210/87. The purpose for the project is to provide sufficient traffic capacity along Odell Road to accommodate an additional access control point for Fort Bragg. He advised construction may not begin until 2023. It all depends upon funding. Alderman O'Garra inquired about the number of lanes and how that will affect the homes along this roadway. Mr. Richards stated it is too early to tell how it will affect the property at this time. He also advised from shoulder of shoulder the roadway will measure 110'. Alderman Christian inquired about the noise level and if there will be any kind of sound buffer. Mr. Richards advised they will do a sound barrier study and put up traffic barriers as necessary. He also inquired about improvements to align Odell Road with Chapel Hill Road and Mr. Richards advised this study does not include realignment with Chapel Hill Road and their study indicates leaving the roadways the way they are is more feasible. Mr. Richards also advised residents are welcome to share their concerns and ideas with NC DOT. Alderwoman Sutherland wants to make sure the affected community understands everything that is going on and that everyone is treated fairly. She also expressed concern about safety in the neighborhood

and stated she looks forward to workshops. Mayor Pro Tem Hogans stated this concept has been discussed with this Board in the past and there was a serious discussion about the ability to get in and out of the subdivisions off of Odell Road. He also expressed a desire to make sure these concerns are worked out in the workshops and public hearings. Mayor Rey expressed an economic concern with taking homes away from Spring Lake and how that impacts our tax base. He wants discussions to include this concern. His concern also included the fact that Spring Lake has to endure some of the NC DOT projects and help fund these projects for which we did not ask.

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

9. New Business

a. Board to Consider Agreement with Fayetteville State University Civic Engagement and Service Learning Program

Ms. Regina Xadu refreshed the Board's memory concerning the Fayetteville State University Civic Engagement and Service Learning Program. She stated this program offers the community an opportunity to partner with students at Fayetteville State with any programs we may have such as community garden, going green projects, criminal justice projects, in-direct studies, etc. She requested the Board's approval of the agreement for on-going service. Alderwoman Sutherland inquired about cost and if it is based on academics. Ms. Xadu stated there is no cost to the Town and it is academically based. Mayor Rey further clarified that the agreement is for students to come help with initiatives we have and the students get academic credit for helping with the initiative. The attorney advised there is always potential liability when we involve others but our insurance will cover that liability. The Town will be responsible for overseeing the work that the students do and Town staff will have to be present when they are working.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the agreement with Fayetteville State University Civic Engagement and Service Learning Program.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and agreement for Civic Engagement and Service Learning Program is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment five.)

b. Board to Consider Revised Water Meter Box and Meter Standards

Mr. Blumenfeld advised the current standards require us to use a "Ford yoke style" meter box. He requested the Board approve the new standards to allow us to use a plastic box equivalent to the Ford yoke style. The plastic box fits over the setter and allows the water department to manipulate the pipes inside the box. The current metal box does not allow this. Additionally, the current box we are mandated to use is sold by one company and leaves us no room to shop around for a better price. The proposed box will cost approximately 50% less than what we currently use. He proposed that the metal boxes will still be used in high traffic areas where heavy vehicles are likely to be and use the plastic ones in residential yards, etc. We will only use these as we need to replace meters and boxes. We are not proposing to retro fit all meters in the Town. Alderwoman Sutherland wanted to ensure that costs are not passed on to the customers and Mr. Blumenfeld advised they will not because the new boxes costs less and will save the Town money.

Action: The Board approved a motion to accept Mr. Blumenfeld's proposition.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Vote: Unanimous

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

c. Board to Consider September 23, 2013 Meeting Schedule

Mayor Rey advised he will be out of town on September 23, 2013 and requested the Board cancel the regular meeting scheduled for that evening. Mayor Pro Tem Hogans stated we need to have some sort of standard and protocol for cancelling meetings and consider very carefully the standard we use in cancelling meetings moving forward.

Action: The Board approved a motion to cancel the September 23, 2013 regular meeting.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

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

d. Ordinance Amendment (2013) 11, Minimum Housing Appeals Board

Ms. Webb advised the current ordinance does not clearly specify whether a Minimum Housing Appeals Board member may serve more than one term. She stated the proposed language clarifies the term limits and brings this Board appointed committee in line with the term limits of the other Board appointed committees. She requested the Board approve Ordinance (2013) 11.

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

Motion by: Alderman O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

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

e. Appointments, Spring Lake Minimum Housing Appeals Board

Ms. Webb advised there are three members on the Minimum Housing Appeals Board whose term expires this month. Ms. Shirlene Edwards and Mr. Nathaniel Fitch have both expressed interest in continuing to serve on this Board. Since the packet was published Mr. Dobbins requested that he not be considered for re-appointment at this time as he has other commitments that prevent him from committing his time to this Board. She requested that the Board re-appoint Ms. Edwards and Mr. Fitch to the Minimum Housing Appeals Board with terms that will expire September 30, 2016. She also stated there is one vacant regular position and two vacant alternate positions on this Board.

Action: The Board approved a motion to reappoint the two citizens to serve three-year terms expiring September 30, 2016 on the Minimum Housing Appeals Board.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and application for appointment from Shirlene Edwards and Nathaniel Fitch is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment nine.)

f. Budget Amendment 2014.3, Lillington Highway Project

Mr. Coats presented Budget Amendment 2014.3 and advised it is for the Lillington Highway Water Main project. This amendment is to align the project budget with that of the Public Water supply program budget for the water line project. Mr. Hoover advised the project should not affect the sidewalks.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2014.3.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Budget Amendment 2014.3 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment ten.)

10. Closing Comments

Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

- I want to take this opportunity to thank staff and employees for their good work. When you do good work we don't hear a thing but when you do bad work the phones are jumping off the hook.

Alderman Christian

- I echo Mr. Hogan's comments.
- I would like to know when the call boxes will be installed. Mr. Metcalf advised within a couple weeks to a month. It depends on the phone company.
- Congratulations to Pine Forest.
- September 21, 2013 Holly Hills community Watch will celebrate our 3rd Annual Fellowship Day. There is no charge and food will be served.

Alderwoman Sutherland

- I thank you all for coming.
- Mr. Mayor, did you attend the Affordable Care Act in Raleigh today? Mayor Rey advised he did not attend but was on a conference call about it. She requested someone come to Spring Lake to educate our citizens.
- I want to thank Officer Bronson for the work that he is doing. The Car Wash and Hotel have been torn down and I thank Officer Bronson for ensuring this work is getting taken care of. The Town is looking a lot better and I thank the employees for keep the grounds looking good.

Alderman Higgins

- I associate myself with everything that has been said here tonight.

Alderman O'Garra

- The first person I want to talk about is our Manager. Ken is keeping us so informed on what is going on and it is so amazing.
- I welcome the Smith family.
- We need more "Mr. Fitches" and Boy Scouts around here to help keep the kids out of trouble.
- The AAU football team is back again this year. They are trying to get it together. The Optimist

Club gave them \$400 and the Kiwanis gave them \$500, we were out done. The boxing team wants someone to cut him a check but he is asking too much right now, he wants a building.

- I want to say to my fellow Board members, we do read but I find if there is something on the agenda that you do not totally understand, the best thing to do is touch base with the individual who is responsible before we get here so we have a better understand of what we are being asked to do.

Mr. Buzzard

- Mr. Blumenfeld, you came in here last meeting and raised the bar with your presentation ... your presentation was dry tonight, can you work on that (stated in jest).
- I would like to introduce my daughter. She begs me to let her come with me to the Board meetings so I want to welcome her.

Mr. Metcalf

- I appreciate the good comments. We have a very good staff and everyone has been very helpful to me and I do appreciate all of them. I appreciate the Board members' conversations.
- I am glad to see so many citizens here tonight to hear the presentation on the widening of Odell Road.

Mayor Rey

- Thank all the Board for the comments and I thank the citizens for being here.
- If you have not signed up to read to a child, please do so. You can see Ms. Cynthia Flowers to do that. We are just asking for 1 hour a week.

11. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Motion: Alderman O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Higgins

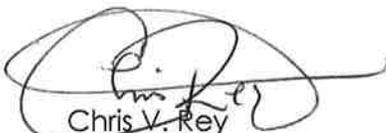
Vote: Unanimous



Rhonda D. Webb

Rhonda D. Webb, MMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:


Chris V. Rey
Mayor