

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

July 14, 2014

MINUTES

7:02 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 James O'Garra
Alderman James Christian
Alderman Richard Higgins
Alderwoman Densie Lucas
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

Ken Metcalf, Town Manager	Tony Buzzard, Town Attorney
Byron Blumenfeld, Water Resource Manager	Gail Elder-White, Recreation Director
Rosa Henegan, Human Resources Director	Paul Hoover, Public Works Director
John Kleinhert, Maintenance Director	Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
T.J. McLamb, Fire Chief	Tina West, Interim Finance Director
Debora Hudson, Deputy Town Clerk	Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

2. Invocation

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra gave a non-sectarian invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra 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: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

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 June 23, 2014 Special Meeting
- b. Minutes of the June 23, 2014 Regular Meeting
- c. Minutes of the June 30, 2014 Special Meeting

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items from the minutes of June 23rd Special Meeting, June 23rd Regular Meeting and June 30th Special Meeting.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Mr. Gary Dobson, 404 Virginia Drive, about the speed limit on Weaver Street and requested it be changed to 10 MPH. The Town recently placed a speed limit sign on Weaver Street for 25 MPH and stated that speed cannot be done safely. Alderman Christian stated he will follow up on this.

8. Public Hearing

a. Initial Zoning of .58+/- Acre to R10 Residential or to a More Restrictive Zoning District, Located at 534 Thelma Searles Road, Owned by Terry Green

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra opened the Public Hearing. Mr. Terry Green, the owner of the property, stated he wanted to be annexed into the Town so he could have sewer. No one else spoke for or against the annexation.

Action: The Board approved a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

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

9. Presentation

a. Presentation from Partnership for Children

Ms. Erica Taylor gave the Board an overview of Partnership for Children. She provided each Board member with a packet of information to share with the citizens of Spring Lake. She wants to connect families and business owners to the resources that are available. She stated we must focus on the first five years of a child's development to make sure they get everything they need to succeed. Partnership for Children is a place where citizens can go to find the answers they need. There are volunteer opportunities available for those who may want to help.

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

b. Presentation, July 4th Festival Appreciation

Mr. Hunt presented certificates of appreciation to the volunteers who helped with the July 4th Festival for their hard work in making the Festival a success. He stated there were approximately 5,000 people who attended the event and this was truly a community effort. Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra presented Mr. Hunt and the Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce with a check for \$200

from the Spring Lake Optimist Club's proceeds.

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

Mayor Rey arrived at 7:14 p.m.

c. Presentation, Certificate of Achievement, Yard of the Month

Mayor Rey presented certificates to the Yard of the Month recipients who were in attendance. Mr. Starnes presented them with a small gift token as well. The following people won the award for June:

Mrs. Miranda Ashby, 3300 Hedgemoor Circle
Mr. and Mrs. Fredrick, 408 Samuel Drive
Mrs. Lien Guard, 1624 Mack Street

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

d. Presentation, Certificate of Appreciation, Meter Readers

Mayor Rey and Mrs. West presented the meter readers with certificates of appreciation for their diligence, dedication and initiative in performing their daily duties. Dameon Johnson, Del O'Toole and Greg Thomas were honored for their hard work.

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

e. Presentation, EDC Quarterly Report

Mr. Hunt gave the Board a quarterly report from the Economic Development Corporation. He stated this update will focus on the overall vision of Economic Development in Spring Lake. More than a year ago the EDC did a Main Street Master Plan which includes a Façade Improvement Program, Street Scape Plan, Main Street Overlay District, the formation of a Main Street Business Association and Special Assessment District Creation. There have been two grantees that received a Façade Improvement grant, The Professional Building and the Asian Grocery Market. Mr. Hunt stated the Chamber's budget request to fund the Façade program was denied, causing this program to be put on hold. The Chamber Board and the EDC Board is speaking with Commissioners and Manager from Cumberland County in hopes of a commitment to make a budget amendment to fund the program. If funded, they plan to reduce the grant amount to \$5,000 to enable them to help more businesses on Main Street. He spoke about the Street Scape portion of the Main Street Master Plan. The estimated cost for the Street Scape Plan is \$800,000 which has been submitted to NC DOT. The plan includes resurfacing Main Street, expansion of existing sidewalks, paver bricks to create pedestrian walk ways, create a landscaped gateway on Spring Avenue and install directional signage. He also provided information on the Main Street Overlay District. He stated there are two developers interested in building multi-use buildings on Main Street once the Overlay District is approved. He stated if we do not restrict Main Street to certain districts we will never change the look and feel of Main Street. He stated he would like to create a Main Street Business Association which would be a subsidiary of Spring Lake EDC. He would like to create a Main Street Special Tax Assessment District at some point in the future to help

put money back into Main Street. Other municipalities have done this in North Carolina: Dunn, Holly Springs, Fuquay-Varina and Hope Mills. All funds collected from this special tax goes back into Main Street to help with redevelopment. He reminded the Board that about a year ago they created a Neighborhood Revitalization and Stabilization Area (area includes Weaver Street, Riverside MHP to the Mutzberg property and the Balsawood project) to help bring more resources to that area. In a short period of time a storage facility has been constructed, Balsawood subdivision is under construction, there is a proposal to redevelop the former Riverside MHP and 18 acres off of McNeil Street. Community Development Block Grants are available for the Neighborhood Revitalization and Stabilization Area. Mr. Wellons is proposing to develop a professional complex on Third Street. RLM's Phase 3 development is under construction with plans to purchase the remaining 23.8 acres in the Industrial Park. A new strip mall is planned for the old Shell gas station on Hwy 87 north of Spring Avenue. There is interest in a Short Stop or Dunkin Donuts coming to the old tobacco shop on Highway 87 at Manchester Road and finally, discussions with Fort Bragg are taking place to acquire additional acres along Highway 87 and annexing Linden Oaks.

Focus of Spring Lake EDC

- Business Retention and Expansion
- Marketing and business Attraction
- Reuse and Redevelopment
- Neighborhood Development Strategies
- Economic Gardening
- Small Business Growth and Development

Alderwoman Sutherland thanked Mr. Hunt for his hard work. She stated she would like to see us focus on one thing at a time. She is glad we are focusing on all of Spring Lake. She requested as Mr. Hunt speaks on these projects he include the Board as they have been trying to work on them as well. Collectively we can work as a team and get where we want to go in the future. She inquired about the funds that were denied from Cumberland County. Mr. Hunt stated since he has been here, the Chamber has requested grant funds every year from Cumberland County, just like Hope Mills and Fayetteville. This year, the County decided to only fund the Fayetteville Chamber's request. He stated he requested \$75,000 which is more than we traditionally request. In years past the Spring Lake Chamber has requested \$35,000 but because they have done so well, he increased his request. He stated the EDC is committed to raising \$100,000 in seed money. Alderwoman Sutherland asked about the developers who are interested in building on Main Street. Mr. Hunt advised FDR and Bragg Hospitality who are government contractors. Alderwoman Sutherland cautioned telling people things before they are certain because they look forward to something that might not happen. She again, thanked the EDC and her colleagues for their visions for the Town.

Alderman Christian stated he spoke with Lexi from CEED and suggested the EDC look at partnering with CEED. He also suggested forming a Merchant's Association. Mr. Hunt advised that Suzy Hrabovsky, CEO of CEED is on the Spring Lake Chamber Board.

Mayor Rey inquired about what Mr. Hunt said about Dunkin Donuts (stated in jest) he said I tweet with Dunkin Donuts every day. Mr. Hunt advised there is interest from Dunkin Donuts and Mayor Rey again in jest stated that interest is coming from the tweeting, and said he just wants to put that out in the universe and stated that he did not leak that one. Mayor Rey stated he appreciates the

efforts of the EDC and the Board and it takes everyone to make something happen. He said clearly my tweets are not bringing businesses to Spring Lake but it is all of our efforts and making sure the people know they can do business here in Spring Lake. I appreciate the Board who continues to be out in the community championing Spring Lake. We need to continue to partner with organizations like CEED. We will do what we can politically to get the resources back for Spring Lake. Continue the hard work, we look forward to the next quarterly report and hopefully I won't leak too much stuff out there. Mr. Hunt stated "you do you Mr. Mayor" and Mayor Rey replied "oh I will, don't worry, I was just saying that to put it on the record." All stated in jest.

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

10. New Business

a. Case P14-27: Initial Zoning of .58+/- Acre to R10 Residential or to a More Restrictive Zoning District, Located at 534 Thelma Searles Road, Owned by Terry Green

Mr. Scott presented Case P14-27 and requested the Board approve the zoning of the property to R10 which is consistent with the surrounding properties. Currently the property is zoned R10 in the County. He stated County and Town staff recommends approval.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Case P14-27.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and the memorandum from Cumberland County Planning and Inspections Department is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment eight.)

b. Appointment to Recreation Advisory Committee

Ms. Elder-White advised Ms. St. Peter submitted an application to serve on the Recreation Advisory Committee and requested the Board appoint her to the committee.

Action: The Board approved a motion to appoint Ms. St. Peter to the Recreation Advisory Committee.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

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

c. Board to Consider KaBOOM Grant Application

Ms. Elder-White and Leslie Gilliams, Community Blueprint Representative, advised KaBOOM is a community built playground. KaBoom sends a project manager to the community to help the community get organized and to help the day of the event. The Recreation Advisory Committee has taken a lead on this and will coordinate the volunteers. The Town will have to provide approximately \$13,000 and all the volunteers. We will be partnering with our community leaders. Ms. Gilliams stated Community Blueprint is a national initiative for military communities and local

communities who service military personnel. Fayetteville Urban Ministries is a partner as well and the military. She stated she hopes to bring in some of the local businesses. Ms. Elder-White advised we will need a long term agreement with Cumberland County Schools for the property where they want to put the structure (behind the school in Woodland West.) They will apply for a Home Depot grant for \$5,000 and Ms. Gilliams will be looking for other grants that are available to help keep the Town from using tax funds for this project. Contributions can be made to the Town noted it is for KaBOOM and would be tax deductible. Ms. Elder-White advised if application is approved it will take approximately 2 months until playground is constructed and hopes to have it by the fall of this year.

Alderwoman Sutherland thanked Mr. Metcalf for not forgetting about this as she introduced it to him a few years ago. She is very happy and looks forward to many volunteers who will help make this happen.

Action: The Board approved a motion to move forward with the grant application for KaBOOM.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

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

d. Board to Confirm Appointment to EDC Board of Directors

Mr. Hunt requested the Board confirm the appointment of Mr. Shorter to the EDC Board of Directors.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve appointing Mr. Shorter to the EDC Board of Directors.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

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

11. Closing Comments

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

- I thank everybody for coming out here this evening.
- My partners in crime, you know who you are, we had a good time on the 4th of July and we look forward to doing this again next year and we will do it even better. I challenge everyone here to show up next time.
- As far as the money for Main Street, I would like every Board Member to call the Cumberland County Board and work on getting that funding.
- Welcome KaBOOM to Spring Lake.
- I send condolences to the family of the little girl.

Alderwoman Lucas

- I echo Mr. O'Garra on the 4th of July celebration. The only complaint if you can call it that is

that people want more vendors. I thank the Public Safety folks, you did a great job.

- Ms. Elder-White, thank you for making this place a better place for our youth.
- Ms. West, acknowledging good work.
- I'm looking for to whatever the future brings us.

Alderman Christian

- The 4th was very successful. I enjoyed myself, everyone did a great job. The band at the 4th Festival was really good and we should consider booking them for the Spring Fling.
- Gary and Ms. Daisy are my classmates and I appreciate that they are here. I appreciate you bringing the speed issue to our attention.
- I will be sure to call the County Commissioners about the funding.
- I would like to follow up with the Manager on a park and bus stop for Lakeview Gardens.
- I was sad to hear about Kayla Parker, the little girl who passed away. Her family is in my thoughts and prayers.
- I want to offer prayers for Frankie Rice, a good friend of mine, who is going through chemotherapy.

Alderwoman Sutherland

- I want to thank you all for coming out as well.
- Mr. Green, I'm glad we were able to help you out.
- I also want to thank the Town employees as well as the volunteers. I speak from my heart because I am concerned about this great Town of Spring Lake. I don't clique. When I sit here I mean business. Sometimes people try to just go along to get along. I try to do my homework and make sure I serve all people and not just certain people. I want to thank the Town, after I was talking about the gangs and graffiti I saw individuals out painting and taking care of the graffiti and I thank all of them and Mr. Metcalf who took my concerns serious. At that time I was also talking about the gangs and I want to thank the Town Attorney for letting you all know that when you put on an event, it is just not an event. I also talked with Chief McLamb who explained to me the details he had to go through to talk to Mr. Hunt to let him know in order to give an event there are certain channels to go through you can't just put an event on. Again, it was a learning experience and I'm glad everyone had a great time. I got reports back as well and the people who were out there were calling it a block party. The people who attended said they had a nice time and I'm glad for that. But, in order for this event to go forward, you continue to grow and learn from different situations that could be better next time. I thank the Public Safety personnel who got an individual who got real sick out there to the hospital on time as well as some small cuts that stuff like that and you all were there to take care of it. I again thank our Town employees for the hard work that you all put in as well as the volunteers. Prayerfully, it did change from the beginning of how it was stated and was for the Town. So that the Board will know, just like we do with the Spring Fling, we need to know how much it cost the Town to give that event on Main Street. Alderwoman Sutherland requested a printout of how much it cost the Town for the July 4th Festival. She stated Mr. O'Garra stated the Town could make some money off of the event and I see that he did give the Chamber \$200, but since the Town partnered up with them and we did use Town resources, a lot of Town resources to make sure the safety was covered, we need to know as a Board and taxpayers, how much money was spent to have that event. Again, I was praying for your event to make sure it all went well so I'm glad everybody had a great time and again to learn from it.
- I went to the funeral of the 5 year old little girl as the Town's representative. While I was at the funeral they requested to get signs for that area for hearing impaired because there are about

three children who live in that area who cannot hear. They stated they have been calling the Town to get signs for deaf children playing. I do not know how true that is but I am requesting that signs be placed in that area for hearing impaired.

- It was in the Fayetteville Observer that we were going to have a movie theater and I didn't know anything about it until someone at church asked me. Mr. Hunt did answer my question as to how it came about. For future reference, if it is going to be in the paper, I would like to know ahead of time.
- Thank you KaBoom.
- I thank the employees and I thank you all for working together.
- Mr. Hunt, it was stated in your board meeting that only one Board member was against the Main Street to go on. I wasn't against it, I didn't vote for it because of public safety. And, for future reference I would appreciate it if you follow up your comments with the reason why.

Mr. Metcalf

- Good to see Gary and Ms. Daisy.
- Ms. Gail, you have soccer coaches here in the front row so get with them afterwards.
- I too would like to say what a great group of guys we have in the meter readers, Tina thank you for everything.
- I congratulate the 4th of July committee, it was a wonderful effort and everyone is looking forward to next year.
- KaBOOM is a great project and I'm looking forward to that happening.
- Jeff great presentation on the EDC.

Mayor Rey

- I thank everyone for your comments this evening and hopefully we will do a better job of articulating properly how individuals feel so it doesn't seem like we are going back and forth, tit for tat.
- I apologize for not being here on time, I was leaving a Boys and Girls Club Board of Director's meeting today and had the opportunity to speak with their incoming chair to express my concern for the way our site director was released and my concerns about the Boys and Girls Club leadership. I hope we will have our site director back.
- I will not rehash everything that was said about the 4th of July. It was a great event, the Board's concerns were met and we were able to have a successful event. Kudos to every one of you. I had no idea you could see the fireworks so clearly from Main Street. I'm honored that we had the kind of attention we did as a city. I'm looking forward to it again next year. I do think it is appropriate that we do find out the cost so we can build that into the budget. I think the citizens loved it and it moves us in the direction of having the type of events that the community is looking for.
- Economic Development continues to be a big thing here in Spring Lake. I believe our strategy is and always will be to get the word out about what is happening in our community. Yes, we have been talking about a movie theatre for a long, long time. Yes, we have been talking about trying to get a grocery store here for a very long time and I think the city is now in a position to make that happen. The article that was in the newspaper was actually just the Fayetteville Observer doing a story on Spring Lake and the economic development piece came about at the last minute because most of the discussion was about the U-4444 project and the impact it was having on some of our local businesses. Because of the response from some of the individuals in the newspaper, I thought it was appropriate to let individuals know that there are things going on that are positive in Spring Lake. So, if I put out there that we are

having a movie theatre before it was supposed to happen, I apologize for that, but I think it is in good taste that people know we are moving forward and that we have things coming to our community.

- Fire Department, you know I have to bring it up, thank you so very much for not letting my house burn down. For those who do not know, well it wasn't that serious. I think everyone was impressed with all the equipment that you use. I really appreciate your work.
- If you have not had the opportunity to read to a child, I encourage each and every one of you to do so. Please volunteer in one of our schools. Test scores at each one of our elementary schools actually went up. We are very excited and I would like to think we can attribute that to our great teachers who are putting emphasis on making sure the kids are strong readers and to the people who are stepping up and reading to the kids.
- Thank you to each and every one of you for coming out.

12. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

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



ATTEST:

Chris V. Rey
Chris V. Rey
Mayor