

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

February 28, 2011

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 Ethel T. Clark presiding.

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

Others Present:

Leonard Barefoot, Interim Town Manager	John Jackson, Town Attorney
Byron Blumenfeld, Water Resource Manager	Allen Coats, Finance Director
Paul Hoover, Director of Public Works	Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
Ken Metcalf, Recreation Director	Tina West, HR Director
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk	

2. Invocation.

Alderwoman Sutherland gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Clark 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: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem 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: Minutes of the February 14, 2011 Regular Meeting.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderwoman Hudson

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum.

No one spoke at the public forum.

8. New Business.

a. Budget Ordinance Amendment, Authorized Positions, Police.

Ms. West advised the Board that the proposed Ordinance authorizes additional personnel for the Police Department. It authorizes an additional Police Sergeant, grade 18; a Police Detective, grade 16, and an additional Office Assistant, grade 6. Approval of the Ordinance will allow these positions to be filled.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Ordinance (2011) 2.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo, Proposed Changes to Authorized Positions, Police Chief's Memorandum, and Ordinance (2011) 2 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

b. Budget Amendment, Police Department.

Mr. Coats presented Budget Amendment #12 appropriating fund balance in the amount of \$45,461 to fund the three positions that the Board just authorized for the remainder of this fiscal year.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Budget Amendment #2011.12.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Budget Amendment #2011.12 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

Ordinance, Franchise Renewal, Progress Energy.

Mr. Barefoot advised that Mr. Elliott from Progress Energy contacted him and requested that the Town renew the franchise agreement. Mr. Elliott provided the Board with an overview of what the franchise agreement is and explained it section by section. The original agreement was for 60 years and expires this year. The agreement gives Progress Energy permission to come inside Spring Lake to do business, conduct preventive maintenance, install power lines, etc. It also allows Progress Energy the ability to establish their long term plans for electrical needs that Spring Lake may have. He requested a 60 year agreement from the Board. Alderwoman Sutherland inquired if this is a standard amount of time and it was clarified that it is.

Action: The Board approved a motion to renew Progress Energy's franchise for 60 years.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Ordinance (2011) 3 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment four.)

9. Board and Staff Comments:

Mayor Clark

- Thanked the Board members for going with her to Raleigh to NC DOT to discuss the proposed Bragg Boulevard roadway changes.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

- Thanked everyone for coming out. Glad to have our guests.

Alderman Hudson

- Glad to see everyone.

Alderman Christian

- Glad everyone came out.
- Tammy Stephens father has been ill and I want her to know that she is in my thoughts and prayers.
- Commended Justin Ward for helping to get his mother and brother out of a burning house. His relative Jeff Ward coaches in Spring Lake and I wish his family a speedy recovery.
- I enjoyed going to the State Legislature and hopefully we will make some changes to the proposed speedway they want to put through our Town.

Alderman Sutherland

- I am also keeping Tammy's father in prayer.
- Thanked Byron for the street sweeper coming through Woodland West.
- Question for Paul Hoover – I want to thank you as well but I have a problem with citizens calling about a dead animal and being told that they have to pick the animal up and put it in a trash bag and wait until the next trash pick up. Mr. Hoover stated that the citizen did not get to the right people to get to the right answer. If a citizen calls animal control, they are not allowed to mix dead and live animals. If citizens will call the street department or public works department we will dispatch a person almost immediately to handle this. I do not care where it is in town, we will go get it. That has been the policy ever since I took over the street department when Hal Hegwer was manager. There is no reason at all for an animal to be placed in the trash can and left there like you said. She stated that other employees may not know the practice and requested that he inform employees of the policy. He stated that he will produce an informational statement and place it at each of the phone operator's stations so they will be familiar with how we handle these situations and that should resolve the problem in the future.

Alderman Higgins

- Inquired to Mr. Hoover where we are going with the Waste Management situation. Where are we with our part of things that we did not do in the past? Mr. Hoover advised that back billing and supplemental billing went out today for the additional cans. Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra expressed concern about the rentals that belong to military personnel who are not here to contact. Mr. Hoover advised that we use the address that the tax office has on file for the property. Mr. Barefoot advised that he has begun putting in place measures that will ensure accountability concerning this situation. He will bring a formal policy back to the Board that outlines the measures that will be put in place. Mr. Higgins expressed concern about how the future policy will address the old cans that are used for yard debris.

- Trash cans are on the street on 1st street near the garage and apartment complex. He wants them to be pulled away from the street because they are left at the street all the time.
- We need to host another Town clean up but citizens also need to help themselves, we have got to help ourselves to keep the Town clean. We can possibly push this initiative through the neighborhood watch groups or the Police Department. It is to the point now that we just can't clean up the Town in two days. The Appearance Commission needs to work on this and address some of the worse areas.
- Newspaper article concerning Amy Jenkins was a wonderful article. We need to tap into that history and start getting that down on paper. Alderwoman Sutherland advised that Ms. Jenkins would like to work with Mr. Pate for a part 2 of his book to get the total history of our Town. Alderwoman Hudson advised that she has an aunt who will be 104 in March.

Mr. Barefoot

- Announced that Robert Doberstein, Fire Chief, tendered his resignation.

Mr. Jackson

- Happy to be here.

10. Closed Session Pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) – Personnel

Action: The Board went into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) – Personnel.

Motion: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

The Mayor called the meeting back into Open Session at 8:35 p.m.

11. Adjournment.

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

Motion: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous



Rhonda D. Webb, MMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:



Ethel T. Clark
Mayor