

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

March 12, 2012

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	Thomas Neville, Attorney
Byron Blumenfeld, Water Resource Manager	Allen Coats, Finance Director
Paul Hoover, Public Works Director	Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
Ken Metcalf, Recreation Director	Tina West, HR Director
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk	

2. Invocation

Mayor Rey gave a nonsectarian invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rey led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

Mr. Burns requested a motion to add as Item 10f Mendoza Park Status Update and 10g Town Attorney Update. Mayor Rey requested that Item 11 on the agenda become Closing Comments and Adjournment become Item 12.

5. Approval of Agenda

The Board approved the agenda as amended.

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

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

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 February 27, 2012 Regular Meeting
- b. Minutes of the March 5, 2012 Special Retreat Meeting
- c. Minutes of the March 5, 2012 Special Public Input Meeting

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

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Mr. Robert Cooper, 130 Deerfield Drive, spoke concerning the Town's garbage collection Ordinance. His concern was the time frame outlined in the Ordinance that requires receptacles to be removed from the curb within 12 hours of pick up. He stated this causes an unreasonable burden on people. He also expressed concern about the part of the Ordinance that requires receptacles to be stored out of public view. He requested the Town delete these sections of the Ordinances.

Ms. Peggy Moore, 309 Elaine Street, requested to speak to praise the Board and Mayor Rey. She likes all the ideas that Mayor Rey has for making Spring Lake better. She thanked the Board and Town staff as well.

8. Presentations

a. Proclamation, Girl Scouts of the USA, 100th Anniversary

Mayor Rey read his Proclamation and presented Troop Leader Latrea Wyche and the Girl Scouts in attendance with the Proclamation for the Girl Scouts of the USA 100th Anniversary Celebration.

9. Old Business

a. Resolution (2012) 8 and Resolution (2012) 9, Tables Items

Mr. Burns advised the Board that the two resolutions need to be placed on hold until a later date due to possible litigation concerning the property.

Action: The Board approved a motion to place Resolution (2012) 8 and Resolution (2012) 9 on hold.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Resolutions (2012) 8 & 9 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

10. New Business

a. Appointment, Spring Lake Minimum Housing Appeals Board

Ms. Webb advised that the Spring Lake Minimum Housing Appeals Board held an organizational meeting where they determined their staggered terms by random draw. Mr. Hostetter drew a one-year term which expired in September 2011. If the staggered terms had been set up at the time the Board was established, he would have submitted an application for re-appointment last September for a three-year term. She

requested that the Board of Aldermen re-appoint Mr. Hostetter to a three-year term to expire September 30, 2014.

Mayor Pro Tem Hogans requested, in the future when there is a vacancy on a Board appointed committee, each Board of Aldermen member is given an opportunity to nominate someone for the position. He also stated he believes we should try to reimburse the volunteers for going to meetings.

Action: The Board approved a motion to re-appoint Mr. Hostetter.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

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

b. Appointment, Spring Lake Board of Adjustment

Ms. Webb advised that Ms. Dianne Howard Sheppard resigned from the Spring Lake Board of Adjustment and left a vacant regular position. She requested the Board of Aldermen to appoint Ms. Alice Geier, who has faithfully served on this committee as an alternate, to the regular vacant position. She would serve out the remainder of her three-year term which expires August 31, 2013. At that time, if she so chooses, she may submit an application for re-appointment.

Action: The Board approved a motion to appoint Ms. Geier.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

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 four.)

c. Proposed Contract with Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce for Economic Development Services

Mr. Burns advised the Board the Town is lacking a go to presence for our economic development efforts. He believes this is one area the Town needs to have more control and more distribution over. One way to address this gap is to contract with the Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce for Economic Development services. He requested two actions from the Board. They are approval of the contract and consent to the funding provisions as stipulated in the contract.

Alderwoman Sutherland asked when the contract will expire and Mr. Burns advised it will expire June 30, 2013. She requested clarification on who we will actually pay and it was clarified the contract is with the Chamber but full accountability is to the Chamber Board and the Town Board. It was further clarified the Chamber Board will designate someone from its membership to carry out the responsibilities. She also clarified that the Board of Aldermen can terminate the contract with a written 60 day notice. She would like the EDC and the Chamber to work together and would like to attend some of their meetings.

Alderman Christian clarified the money paid to the Chamber must go toward economic development and

the Board of Aldermen will receive monthly reports. He requested that they not forget local businesses.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the first year contract for \$10,000.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to direct the Town Manager and Finance Officer to include the second funding request of \$25,000 in the upcoming fiscal year 2012-2013.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and contract for economic development & recruitment services with Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment five.)

d. Ordinance (2012) 3, Demolition of Property at 307 Rutherford Street

Mr. Spinks requested approval from the Board of Aldermen to remove and/or demolish the structure at 307 Rutherford Street. This Ordinance has been vetted by the attorney.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Ordinance (2012) 3.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Ordinance (2012) 3 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment six.)

e. Ordinance (2012) 4, Demolition of Property at 311 Cedarwood Street

Mr. Spinks requested approval from the Board of Aldermen to remove and/or demolish the structure at 311 Cedarwood Street. This structure is unsafe. This Ordinance has also been vetted by the attorney.

Alderwoman Sutherland requested clarification on the process. Mr. Spinks advised that his department goes through a notice process, title search, administrative search warrant, and a period of order to demolish/repair. If the property owner fails to abide by the order, it then comes before the Board of Aldermen for direction to demolish the property. After that, the property owner has 30 days to appeal to Superior Court. If they do not appeal or if the order is upheld, the Town requests three bids for demolition contractors, they hire a contractor to demolish the property and place a lien on the property; or the property owner can have the property demolished.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Ordinance (2012) 4.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Ordinance (2012) 4 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment seven.)

f. Mendoza Park Status Update

Mr. Metcalf provided the Board with an update on what is transpiring at Mendoza Park. He stated the contractors have made much progress. The paving of the parking lot will be the final thing done. Major accomplishments thus far include the new playground, reorienting the ball fields, most of the fencing will be completed this week, the concession stand has a floor, walls, and the beginnings of a roof and paving began today on the walking track.

He requested limited supervised public access to the park beginning Friday for baseball and softball practice. It was clarified that the access will be in the evenings and on Saturday during practice. He stated there would only be approximately 50 – 60 people at the park at any one time and they would be supervised by a minimum of one full time and one part time employee. Mr. Burns expressed some concern about providing public access to an active construction site. Mr. Metcalf stated that they have cleared this with the contractor and will place caution tape around areas that are restricted. Mr. Burns stated that we will clear this with the insurance company.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve limited supervised public access to the park.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

g. Town Attorney Update

Mr. Burns read a letter of resignation effective March 31, 2012 from Mr. Jackson. Mr. Burns stated that it is with deep regret that we received this news.

Action: The Board approved a motion to regrettably accept the resignation of Town Attorney John Jackson.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to authorize the Mayor and Manager to send out a request for qualifications to firms for town attorney services.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

II. Closing Comments.

Alderman Christian

- I will miss Mr. Jackson's adventure stories and I wish him a speedy recovery.
- We do need to have an information meeting on the corridor and how that is going to affect the Town, especially for the public and existing business owners.

- Entrance to Mendoza Park needs to be addressed in the real near future.
- Appreciate all the work the employees do.
- Happy Birthday to the Girl Scouts.

Alderwoman Sutherland

- Thanked the Recreation Advisory Board for all the work that they did to help bring about the changes at Mendoza Park. Thanked Ken Metcalf and the recreation staff.
- Would like citizens to receive safety information during weather safety week and during this time of possible severe weather. I would like to see our citizens get information they can use. I spoke with Chief McLamb and he was going to look into getting safety packages that the Town could get at a discount price, as well as the radios.
- Thanked Ms. Peggy and her community watch group.
- Thanked the citizens for coming out.
- Thanked staff.

Alderman Higgins

- Happy to be here.

Alderman O'Garra

- I did not know we had Girl Scouts in Spring Lake. The Optimist Club has looked for them in the past and to start them off the Optimist Club will give them \$200.

Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

- I appreciate the work that the staff does every day.

Mayor Rey

- Debora Hudson's aunt will be celebrating her 105th birthday on Saturday and the Town will recognize her with a proclamation. We are excited to have those jewels in our community.
- Thanked everyone for coming out. We look forward to your continued input and your services to our community, what you do makes us better.

12. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Hogans

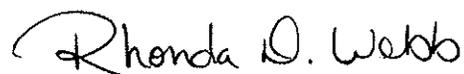
Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST

Chris V. Rey
Mayor





Rhonda D. Webb, MMC
Town Clerk