

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

February 17, 2017

**MINUTES**

8:30 a.m.

A majority of the Spring Lake Board of Aldermen was in attendance at a meeting with the Cumberland County Legislative Delegation. The majority of Board members being present constituted a special meeting of the Spring Lake Board of Aldermen.

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Chris Rey  
Alderman James Christian  
Alderman James O'Garra  
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

**Cumberland County Legislative Delegation Members Present:** Senator Ben Clark  
Representative Marvin Lucas  
Representative Elmer Floyd

**Others Present:** Tad Davis  
Claiburn Watson  
Rhonda Webb

(A copy of the Public Notice is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment one.)

**Impact of Disabled Veterans Property Tax Exclusion**

Mayor Rey inquired about the proposed HB2 and explained that Spring Lake will see an additional \$31,344 in lost revenues if it is passed. Representative Lucas explained that the Representative who introduced the Bill did not fully understand the financial impact on municipalities and has since "parked" the Bill.

**Economic Impact of NCDOT U-4444B Highway Project**

Mayor Rey explained that the NCDOT U-4444B project has had a negative impact on the Town in lost commercial property and in lost revenue. Mr. Davis advised that 13 businesses and 4 residences were in the footprint of the U-4444B project and they no longer exist in the Town. He reviewed the new construction between 2012 and 2017 which is minimal. He provided the Delegation with the total number of permits for the past 4 Fiscal Years which shows a sharp decline beginning in FY15-16. He stated the Town has lost 59 businesses due to the impact of the project. He also advised the Town will be required to pay more than \$550,000 for the costs to relocate utilities. Mayor Rey asked if they would support helping to eliminate the Town's cost or at least support extending the payback terms. Senator Clark inquired about the total revenue loss and Mayor Rey stated we will get that information to him. Representative Lucas suggested we discuss this issue with Senator Meredith.

**Support for Additional Sidewalk Funding**

Mr. Davis reported on the current sidewalk situation in Town and highlighted the lack of sidewalks throughout Town, particularly on State maintained roads. He stated we have received two grants for sidewalks, one from FAMPO (Fayetteville Area Metropolitan Planning Organization) that focuses on pedestrian traffic ability and another one from NCDOT that will be linked to Federal Highway dollars. He stated those projects are in the \$180,000 to \$200,000 range with a 20% match from the Town. He stated we are not sitting back waiting on someone to come to the rescue, we are out there trying for grants to get us where we want to be. Mayor Rey stated that he eventually would like our community to be walkable from one end to the other. Representative Lucas suggested that we confer with some of our National Representatives to help address the pedestrian traffic, particularly the Highway 87 bridge.

**Support for Fort Bragg/Pope AAF Connector to NC Hwy 87**

Mayor Rey offered the Delegation some background information on the proposed connector routes. He stated originally NCDOT proposed to widen Odell Road which would have cost the Town even more lost revenues. He also stated the residents along this route were extremely unhappy with this option. After the public's outcry, NCDOT offered two other options. He stated Spring Lake feels we have a lapse in support on this issue. Representative Lucas inquired if there was an alternate that is preferable to Spring Lake and it was determined that Alternative 3 would be the Town's choice. Representative Lucas suggests we keep close touch with Senator Meredith and Senator Tillis to keep this on their radar.

**Support for Legislation to Enable Red Light Camera Safety Program**

Mayor Rey requested support for having a red light camera program. Mr. Davis said the legislation we are asking for is an amendment to existing legislation approved for the City of Fayetteville so that we can piggyback off of what they are doing. He stated the Town's benefit is a public safety benefit and the financial benefit will be 60% to the schools and 40% to administer the program. Representative Floyd stated when Fayetteville enacted this program there was a lot of pushback. Representative Lucas believed the program was initiated specifically in military communities and felt if we approach it from this angle it would be best. Senator Clark felt this could be passed during the current session and there will always be those who do not like it but the ones who see the benefit outweigh the ones who do not. Mr. Davis asked for advice from the Delegation on the best way to pursue a red light program in Spring Lake and stated we do not wish to jeopardize what Fayetteville is doing. Senator Clark clarified that he believes piggybacking off of Fayetteville's legislation should not be a problem and should not jeopardize what Fayetteville is doing. Representative Floyd expressed concern with piggybacking on Fayetteville's legislation. Representative Lucas stated they will ask Senator Clark to initiate this on the Senate side and he will do a companion bill on the House side.

**Support for Continuation of One Stop Early Voting in Spring Lake**

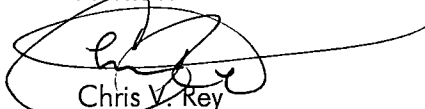
Mayor Rey stated the Board just wanted to mention to the Delegation that the Early Voting in Spring Lake is very important to Spring Lake and requested their support should there ever be conversations about closing our location. Representative Floyd stated it is really up to the local Board of Elections to determine the number and locations of precincts. He stated it will take all of us to make sure the Board of Elections knows how important the Spring Lake location is.

In closing, Representative Floyd stated the money from the Educational Lottery is not supposed to fund education, but it was meant to be one of many tools to help supplement educational funding. This was in response to a comment that was made earlier in the meeting.

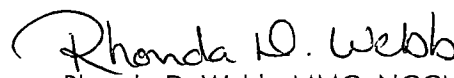
Representative Lucas stated he would like to see some upgrades to the Town's Veteran's Park. He stated that he has spoken with the Speaker of the House to have some funds allocated for this purpose. He requested feedback from the Board of Aldermen as to what they would like to see happen. Mayor Rey stated we will get that information to him as quickly as possible. Representative Lucas stated there is no guarantee but he would like to try.

There was no action taken by the Spring Lake Board of Aldermen.

ATTEST:

  
Chris V. Rey  
Mayor



  
Rhonda D. Webb, MMC, NCCMC  
Town Clerk