

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

November 13, 2017

MINUTES

7 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 Rey presiding.

Board Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins
Alderman James Christian
Alderwoman Densie Lucas
Alderman James O'Garra
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

William "Bill" Zell, Interim Town Manager
Tom Cooney, Public Works Director
Sam Jones, Recreation Director
Claiburn Watson, Finance Director
Rhonda D. Webb, Town Clerk

Tony Buzzard, Town Attorney
Rosa Henegan, HR Officer
Troy McDuffie, Chief of Police
Jason Williams, Asst. Fire Chief

2. Invocation

Alderwoman Lucas gave the 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: Alderwoman Lucas

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 October 23, 2017 Regular Meeting
- b. Proclamation, America Recycles Day/Fall Litter Sweep

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items: Minutes of October 23, 2017 Regular Meeting and Proclamation, America Recycles Day/Fall Litter Sweep.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Dobbins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Sergeant McCormick, Spring Lake Police Department, spoke about the NC Special Olympics and asked everyone to please give a donation to help Spring Lake move up the list of donors.

Betty Sanford, 104 Wapiti Drive, thanked Mayor Rey for a job well done. She stated the traffic is getting ridiculous and something needs to be done. She also stated that she would like to see the Board members and our first responders attend events at the schools. She also expressed concern about speeding in Deerfield. She also stated that we do great things in Spring Lake but she never sees Spring Lake on the TV and she wants to see Spring Lake on TV for something good instead of something stupid.

Kathy Parker, 126 Software Street, spoke concerning how Alderman O'Garra spoke to her and treated her while she was at the Second Harvest Food give-a-way. She stated that Alderman O'Garra said he was mad at her and she asked why he was mad at her and Mr. O'Garra responded it was because she received a ride from Chaz Sampson to go to the early voting. She then stated that she received her box of food which she sat on the ground while she was waiting on her ride to come pick her up. She stated that Alderman O'Garra began to yell at her that if she did not pick the food up he would terminate her from his program. She stated the box was too heavy for her to hold while she waited on her ride to arrive. She stated that he continued to yell at her like she was his child and she did not like the way he yelled at her. She also expressed concern about Alderwoman Sutherland and stated she did not like the way Alderwoman Sutherland approached her at the early voting. She stated that Alderwoman Sutherland snatched a paper out of her hand. She stated that she did not say anything to Alderwoman Sutherland at the time, she just went in and voted and when she came out of the building she gave Mr. Sampson a hug and told him that they appreciate him giving them a ride and while doing so, she stated that Alderwoman Sutherland was snapping pictures of them. She stated when they had voting here at Spring Lake, here at the Water Department, Alderwoman Sutherland approached her and stated that to her "you know I love you". Ms. Parker stated to Alderwoman Sutherland "you don't love me cause if you loved me you wouldn't have acted toward me the way you acted if you love me". She stated that Alderwoman Sutherland then continued on about how long she has known Ms. Parker and how much she loves her. Ms. Parker stated that the only time Alderwoman Sutherland has shown her love is when she is running for Alderman and other than that she has had no communication with her. She stated that she has never had a problem with Mr. O'Garra or Ms. Fredricka but she does have a problem with how they treated her during these episodes. She stated that she has never done anything to disrespect either one of them but she felt disrespected by both of them.

Alderwoman Sutherland stated that she apologized on that day and she apologizes again but it is up to Ms. Parker to accept it. Alderwoman Sutherland stated that she gave her a hug but if she did not receive it there is nothing she can do and Mr. Parker stated she did not want a fake hug and that was fake and she keeps it real. Alderman O'Garra stated that being a representative of the Food Bank, you cannot put food on the ground. Ms. Parker stated no one ever told me that and if you had told me that I would have known but you never told me that. Mayor Rey stated that any citizen has the right to stand before this council and share anything that they want to and I hope in the future you can work out these differences with the Board Members and I hope the Board Members will try to work these things out. He then stated your concerns have been heard and thank you for sharing that information.

Messiah McLean, 126 Software Street, spoke regarding the same issue as Mr. Parker and stated that he is a witness to everything that happened to her. He stated that some people believe they can say or do anything they want to and get away with it because of their position.

8. New Business

a. Budget Amendment 2018.4, Recreation Department

Mr. Watson stated this Budget Amendment is provided to recognize revenues from Halloween items that were sold for \$1,554.35. He requested approval and stated the proceeds will go toward events like Heroes Homecoming and the Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2018.4

Motion by: Alderwoman Lucas

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Agenda Memo, Budget Amendment 2018.4 and list of items sold is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

b. Appointment, Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee

Ms. Webb advised that Mr. Beyers submitted an application to serve on the Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee. If appointed, Mr. Beyers will serve a three-year term ending November 30, 2020. She requested the Board of Aldermen to determine the appointment of Mr. Grant Beyers.

Alderwoman Sutherland thanked the Committee for the wonderful job that they did on the Veterans Benefits Fair.

Action: The Board approved a motion to appoint Mr. Grant Beyers to the Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee for a three-year term expiring November 30, 2020.

Motion by: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Agenda Memo and Application from Grant Beyers is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

c. Resolution (2017) 15, 2018 Holiday Schedule

Ms. Henegan presented Resolution (2017) 15 for the 2018 Holiday Schedule approval.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Resolution (2017) 15 approving the 2018 Holiday Schedule.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Agenda Memo, Resolution (2017) 15 and the 2018 Holiday Schedule is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment four.)

d. Police Department Position Reclassification

Chief McDuffie requested the Board approve reclassifying the vacant Captain's position to the rank of Major. He stated this change is in name only and no increase in salary is requested. He also requested that a current Police Officer Position be reclassified back to the previous Detective Lieutenant position. He also requested that the Neighborhood Improvement Team (NIT) be reinstated and that two current Police Officer position in the unit be reclassified to Detective positions.

Alderman Christian requested that the Chief inform the future Police Chief to keep the NIT. Alderwoman

Sutherland also thanked Chief McDuffie for the work that he has done.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve reclassification for Appendix A and Appendix B.
Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland
Second by: Alderman O'Garra
Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Agenda Memo, Appendix A and Appendix B is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment five.)

Mayor Rey introduced Alderwoman-Elect Cooper and Alderwoman-Elect Jackson. He also thanked everyone who ran and stated this process is very important.


9. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.
Motion: Alderwoman Sutherland
Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins
Vote: Unanimous



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

ATTEST:


Chris V. Rey
Mayor