

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

November 27, 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
Troy McDuffie, Chief of Police
Rhonda D. Webb, Town Clerk
Tony Buzzard, Town Attorney
Sam Jones, Recreation Director
T.J. McLamb, Fire Chief

2. Invocation

Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Rey led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

Alderwoman Sutherland requested to add discussions on the borrow pit (big hole) and pedestrian crosswalks and Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins requested to add discussion on purchasing.

Action: The Board approved a motion to add discussion on borrow pit as item 9c, discussion on pedestrian crosswalks as item 9d and discussion on purchasing as item 9e.

5. Approval of Agenda

The Board approved the agenda as amended.

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 November 13, 2017 Regular Meeting

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items: Minutes of November 13, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Reggie Thompson, 1008 Dianne Circle, spoke about paving on Holland Avenue. Mayor Rey stated we had a water main break and that we will do a better job of getting the roads fixed after incidents like that.

8. Presentation

a. Cumberland County Community Development

Ms. Taylor, Interim Director of the Cumberland County Community Development, provided the Board of Aldermen with an overview of the programs they provide for Cumberland County residents. They are funded by HUD. As part of meeting their requirements to obtain the funds they must prepare an annual action plan including programs they will provide in the upcoming year. Some of their programs include priority needs based on feedback from citizens. They include expanding affordable housing, addressing homelessness and expanding non-community development activities such as public services and public facilities. She stated Spring Lake residents have been the recipient of affordable homes, home repairs, funds were invested in the IHOP and in construction of sanitary sewer projects. She requested that Spring Lake provide feedback at 910-323-6110 or by email no later than the end of February. For the current year, HUD awarded approximately \$740,000 in community development block grants and \$270,000 in home investment partnership funds. She also stated the State has awarded Cumberland County approximately \$23M for community development block grant disaster recovery funds for damage that was caused by Hurricane Matthew. Citizens who are interested in applying for these funds can call 910-551-1155 to schedule an appointment. They also want to build a homeless shelter in Cumberland County. Brochures were provided.

Mayor Rey thanked Cumberland County Community Development for their support to Spring Lake. He requested staff to put their information on our web site. Alderman O'Garra also thanked her

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

b. Spring Lake Chamber of Commerce, Economic Development Corporation Quarterly Report

Ms. Clyde gave the Board of Aldermen a report on the past quarter.

Mayor Rey stated that as Ms. Clyde gets the Spring Lake Chamber in order, he and the Board of Aldermen would like to see more information on economic development to include tax base increase and/or other new businesses. He also suggested she make contact with the Town's Inspections Department to find out what businesses are slated to open.

Alderman Christian asked about Compare Foods and if she could help get that back on track. He also requested that she provide an update at a January Board of Aldermen meeting.

Alderwoman Sutherland stated that Mayor Rey has already stated what the Board is looking for in their scheduled report. She then inquired how much it cost to join the Chamber and Ms. Clyde stated it is \$200 per year and stated advocacy and marketing are the biggest things they get by being a member. Alderwoman Sutherland also inquired about Churches Chicken and Ms. Clyde stated she will check on that. Alderwoman Sutherland asked how many people have joined since she has been there and Ms. Clyde stated 4.

(A copy of the Agenda Memo and Quarterly Report PowerPoint is hereby incorporated by reference and made a

part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

9. New Business

a. Board to Consider Request to Transfer Real Property from Cumberland County to Spring Lake

Mr. Cooney stated this discussion began with the County when he and Chief McLamb were looking for a place to put emergency recovery boats into the Lower Little River. He stated the location on Highway 210 at the bridge where a church used to be would be a perfect location for what they need to do. When he inquired about it he found there are restrictions for the property but none that prohibits them from using it as a place to launch boats. During discussions with Cumberland County about using this property to launch rescue boats, the County suggested that they deed the property to the Town of Spring Lake. In order to move forward with this, we would have to make the request in writing with the Board's approval.

Alderwoman Sutherland asked what exactly is "real property" and Mr. Cooney stated it is "land". She also asked how much this will cost the Town and Mr. Cooney stated it should not cost us anything unless we have to pay to record the deed which should be less than \$100. He stated the County attorney will prepare the deeds and pay and other fees associated with this process.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the request from the Fire Department

Motion by: Alderman Christian

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)

b. Board to Consider December 25, 2017 Regular Meeting Schedule

Mayor Rey requested the Board cancel the December 25, 2017 Regular meeting.

Action: The Board approved a motion to cancel the December 25, 2017 Regular Meeting.

Motion by: Alderman O'Garra

Second by: Alderwoman Lucas

Vote: Unanimous

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

c. Discussion on Borrow Pit

Alderwoman Sutherland stated that she and some citizens do not believe we are taking this issue serious enough. She stated there are still no postings around the area. Mr. Cooney stated that is under the jurisdiction of the State Department of Environment and Natural Resources. He stated it is a permitted open borrow pit and is considered a surface mine by the State and is governed by their rules and regulations. He also stated that their rules do not necessarily require a sign, which I am not in favor of, but that is what their rule is. As long as there is a berm or some other method to protect folks from walking in there, they are following their protocol. They agreed, last time we met, to have their inspector go out and review the site and make some recommendations to the property owners. He stated he believes they have been out there because there has been equipment regrading it but he has not heard back from the State and will check back with them tomorrow and give the Board an update.

d. Discussion on Cross Walks

Alderwoman Sutherland stated traffic on Bragg Boulevard is still going pretty fast. The traffic light does slow them down a little but not much. To make it community friendly, like in downtown Fayetteville where they have the

yellow signs with the little men that tells you when to walk and when to stop, we need to make it more visible that this is a pedestrian area. They did put the lines down but nobody see the lines because they are going so fast. Also at night it is very dark. She stated we need to be proactive as a Board and make that area pedestrian friendly.

Mayor Rey stated that he has requested Greg Burns' contact information and will pass that along to the Mayor-Elect. He stated he would like for NCDOT to come out again and do another traffic study because the day they came out may have been a day when not many people were trying to cross the road.

Alderman O'Garra stated that he and the Mayor-Elect have already made contact with NCDOT to come back out on this issue as well as to have them look at the bridge and the need for reinforcements on the sides to prevent vehicles from going over the edge should someone lose control of their vehicle.

e. Discussion on Purchasing

Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins asked about the purchase of an F-150 truck for the Recreation Department. He stated he did not see a line item for this vehicle and would like to know where it is in the budget. Mr. Watson was not at the meeting but Mr. Jones was able to clarify this for the Board. He stated the vehicle was discussed during the budget workshop. Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins stated it was not put in writing that the vehicle purchase was approved. Mr. Jones replied that the funds for the vehicle are in his budget. Mayor Pro Tem Dobbins stated that he will look at the final documents and then he will be able to rest his case.

Mayor Dobbins stated he thanks Mayor Rey and hopes he will be passing the mantle to a worthy individual and if not I will know in two years and if that happens I will erase that two years from my memory. (Stated in jest.) He stated we look forward to continuing to work with him and he appreciates Mayor Rey's leadership.

Mayor Rey stated on December 11th we will have the last meeting of this administration and we will have the swearing in ceremony for the new Mayor and Board Members. He stated "it has been a great honor and an amazing ride and I appreciate you all so very much for what you have done and provided for the Town of Spring Lake".

The Tree Lighting is scheduled for December 4, 2017 at 6 p.m.

10. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

Motion: Alderman Christian

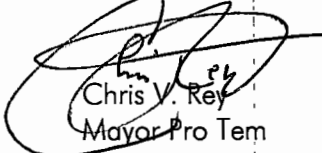
Second by: Alderman O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous



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

ATTEST:


Chris V. Rey
Mayor Pro Tem