

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

April 23, 2018

MINUTES

5 p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a special meeting in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Municipal Complex with Mayor Larry Dobbins presiding.

Board Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem James O'Garra	Representative Lucas
Alderman Christian (arrived at 5:23)	Representative Szoka
Alderwoman Cooper	Representative Richardson
Alderwoman Jackson	Representative Floyd
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland	

Others Present:

Daniel Gerald, Town Manager
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

1. Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Dobbins called the meeting to order.

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

2. Invocation

Mayor Dobbins gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Open Discussion with Members of the Cumberland County Legislative Delegation Regarding Various Topics

Mayor Dobbins, Board of Aldermen and the Town Manager explained the need for NCDOT to fix what they messed up. They have essentially split the Town and made it hard for people to get to the businesses along Bragg Boulevard which is causing major hardships on the Town as businesses leave and revenues decrease.

Possible solutions included:

- Opening up the East side of Spring Avenue again or opening it up as a right turn only from Bragg Boulevard.
- A service lane on both sides of Bragg Boulevard to access the businesses.
- U-turn lanes like the ones on Ray Road to provide vehicles the opportunity to navigate being able to change from traveling north to south and vice-versa.

5. Approval of Agenda

The Board approved the agenda as amended.

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

Motion by: Alderwoman Jackson

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:

- a. Minutes of the April 9, 2018 Special Meeting
- b. Minutes of the April 9, 2018 Regular Meeting

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items: Minutes of April 9, 2018 Special Meeting and Minutes of the April 9, 2018 Regular Meeting.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Ms. Betty Sanford, 104 Wapiti Drive, spoke concerning resurfacing road markers on various streets. She stated she is so sick of seeing junk cars in the Deerfield subdivision. She stated the dead trees on the sides of Chapel Hill Road need to be removed before they fall and hurt someone. The trash in the storm drains needs to be removed and the streets need to be taken care of. She also stated that the area near W.T. Brown needs to be secured with a fence. That is a dumping ground and someone could dump a body there or kids could go out there and get hurt.

8. Presentation

a. Quarterly Finance Update

Mr. Watson provided the Board of Aldermen with an overview of the Financial Comparison Analysis for each Fund.

He stated overall the Town is in very good financial condition. This update is through the end of March 2018. He stated the revenues for the General Fund through March are 73.75% compared to the expenditures which are 68.62%. He stated as we get closer to June the difference will get smaller For the Water and Sewer Fund revenues are 78.39% compared to expenditures at 55.54%. He stated this number seems low but there is a large debt service payment coming due in May or June. The Stormwater Fund revenues are at 97.59% compared to the expenditures which are at 27.96%. The Sanitation Fund revenues are at 76.04% compared to the expenditures at 55.48% and the Fleet Fund is only showing expenditures which are 67.59% at the moment because this Fund does not take in revenues. The grand total for all Funds is revenues are at 75.75% compared to expenditures are at 63.29%

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra inquired about water rates and whether we will have to increase rates. Mr. Watson stated that they are still assessing this and will be speaking more on this during the upcoming budget meetings.

The last time the water rates were increased for the citizens was in 2013. Each year the rates have increase each year for the Town but we have managed to not pass them along to the citizens. That may be harder this year. Alderwoman Sutherland stated she hopes Town staff will work on negotiations with PWC so we will not have to have an increase in rates. She also inquired about the salaries and benefits for each Fund on this spread sheet and if they are the same breakdown in the audit and Mr. Watson stated they are not broken down the same so this sheet will show one view and the audit will show a different view of these items. He offered to sit down with Alderwoman Sutherland and show her how the audit breaks down the salaries and benefits.

Mr. Watson reported the account balance for BB&T which is \$1,307,635.33 at the end of March. The NCCMT's balance in the Government Portfolio is \$3,480,449.91 and in the Term Portfolio the balance is \$1,024,224.23 for the end of March. Alderman Christian inquired what we paid off and Mr. Watson stated we paid off two water transactions from the NC Department of Environmental Quality totaling \$69,000-\$70,000 and \$734,009.34 for firetrucks, Mendoza Park and several vehicles.

The Summary of Purchasing Card by Month report included a total of December 2017, January 2018 and February 2018 for a grand total of \$19,581.79. Alderwoman Cooper inquired if the businesses would offer a discount if we purchase in bulk. Mr. Watson stated that we are doing that now and Mr. Gerald stated this is the final report of the PCard program and we now using a business card program.

Mr. Watson also reported on the BB&T card and stated the total amount purchased on the BB&T cards total \$2,903.81. Alderwoman Sutherland stated she did go and check on the card purchases and she commended the staff for what they are doing.

b. Department's Monthly Report

This item was deleted from the agenda.

b. Introduction of New Parks and Recreation Director

Mr. Gerald introduced Mr. Jay Graves who was hired as the Town's new Parks and Recreation Director. Mr. Graves stated he is very passionate about sports and leisure programs for all ages. He stated he has a vision to upgrade existing programs and increase participation of all the programs as well as adding new programs of public interest. He stated he is here to add to the existing department and bring it to the next level. Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra stated he is happy to hear him say "our". Alderman Christian welcomed Mr. Graves. He asked if Mr. Graves had ever served in the military and Mr. Graves stated he had not. Alderman Christian stated he and Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra are happy to help him as it relates to the military. The Board of Aldermen and Alderwomen all welcomed Mr. Graves.

9. New Business

a. Ruth Street Park Tennis Courts

Ms. Combs requested the Board of Aldermen approve opening the tennis courts for public use. She advised they are planning a grand opening ceremony in the near future.

Alderman Christian asked if the Recreation Advisory Committee is planning to name the courts after anyone. Ms. Combs stated the new Recreation Director is working on getting a naming policy to the Board for approval. Alderman Christian stated his preference is to name the tennis courts after Cal Tenhet.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra inquired when the courts would be finished and Ms. Combs advised it has been completed for approximately the last month but there were some landscaping issues that had to be addressed.

Alderwoman Sutherland stated that the Board has previously requested that the Recreation Department get a reputable person to do some tennis lessons and training. She stated that we want to take this to the next level.

Mayor Dobbins inquired about the opening date and Mr. Gerald stated staff can set the date or the Board could amend the motion to include a date for the opening. Ms. Combs stated the memo states within two weeks of the Board's action.

Action: The Board approved a motion to open the tennis courts for public use.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

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

10. The Last Word

Alderwoman Jackson stated thank you again Jay for coming and joining our Team. She also wanted to say a special thanks to the Spring Lake Police Department and one of the County Sheriff's Deputy for helping a citizen get back home.

11. Closed Session G.S. 143-318-11(a)(6)

Action: The Board approved a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6).

Motion: Alderman Christian

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to go back into Open Session.

Motion: Alderman Christian

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

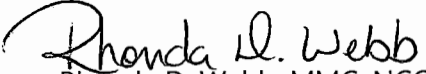
12. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous


Rhonda D. Webb, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:



Larry Dobbins
Mayor