

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

April 9, 2018

MINUTES

5:30 a.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
Alderman Christian (arrived at 5:35)
Alderwoman Cooper
Alderwoman Jackson
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

Daniel Gerald, Town Manager
Claiburn Watson, Finance Director
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 Dobbins led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Budget Development Strategic Planning Session 2018-2019

Mr. Gerald reviewed the emerging financial obligations that the Town has already incurred and the yearly payment amounts that will have to be paid in the upcoming budget year. They include:

- A water line remediation that was damaged by Hurricane Matthew. The Town was provided funds by FEMA.
- PWC Water Rate Increase
- Harnett County Water (we do not anticipate a rate increase in the upcoming year)
- Security for Employees - Town Hall (a bid tabulation sheet was provided)
- Poe Avenue Bridge Construction Payment - DOT
- Irrigation for the Plant/Beautification – DOT (entering Spring Lake from the South)
- Interlocal Sales Tax Agreement
- Possible Insurance Carrier Change

Mr. Gerald reviewed the proposed (possible) capital outlay items:

- Three police vehicles
- A large truck and a small SUV for the Fire Department
- Large generator for WWTP (emergency power to the wastewater treatment plant)
- Vibratory roller (used for street patches)

Mr. Gerald reviewed the early revenue projections which are expected to be stagnant or possibly very little growth.

Mr. Watson stated the existing debt for the General Fund is \$302,939.00, the Water/Sewer Fund is \$238,102.63 and the Sanitation Fund is \$49,063.32. The total existing debt payment for the upcoming year is \$590,104.95.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra inquired about something attractive like a fountain in the middle of the round-a-bout. They also discussed a mural on the sides of the bridge that would be attractive coming into Town. Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra also stated that we need a High School and Mayor Dobbins stated that is already in the works. Mr. Gerald confirmed that Mayor Dobbins is already working on it.

Health insurance was discussed. Alderwoman Sutherland inquired how much we saved by switching from Blue Cross Blue Shield to MedCost and Mr. Watson advised between \$50,000 and \$60,000. She stated that she did not feel like we did our homework and stated that the Board did not approve the switch during budget time. Mr. Gerald stated that we are looking for options for this budget year.

The Board discussed the Bragg Boulevard roadway and the possible options that could help the businesses. Mr. Gerald stated he, Mayor Dobbins and Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra met with representatives from NCDOT regarding several issues the Town has regarding the entire U-4444 project. They included: a service road beginning just before Arby's, making the far right lane a turn lane, opening Spring Avenue again, the lighting on the bridge and that area, and signage. We also need to slow traffic down.

Mr. Gerald explained that the Capital Outlay items are not a definite and the final list will be approved by the Board of Aldermen.

Mr. Gerald reviewed the revenue projections which are early projections. They include:

- Property Taxes \$3,214,318 (this goes into the General Fund)
- Sales Tax \$2,353,878 (this goes into the General Fund)
- Powell Bill \$280,300 (all of this goes back into operations)
- Water/Sewer Revenue \$3,569,996 (this goes into the Water/Sewer Fund)
- Storm Water Revenue \$292,446 (this goes into the Storm Water Fund)
- Sanitation Collection \$736,877 (this goes into the Sanitation Fund)

He reviewed the existing debt which includes:

- General Fund - two large items are the Spring Lake Community Center and the street paving project, \$302,939.00
- Water/Sewer Fund - there are five items for this Fund that are still outstanding: two are USDA projects and the other three are Clean Water Management Trust Fund projects, \$238,102.63

- Sanitation Fund – this is for the clam shell truck, \$49,063.32

Mr. Gerald stated he is aware that one of the Board's Priorities is a Splash Pad. He advised that bid requests have gone out and believes we received three bids. The Board's discussion included placement of the Splash Pad and two locations were considered, the property purchased from Wellons that is located across the street from the Recreation Center and in the middle of the walking trail that is located across the street from Town Hall. Mr. Gerald inquired about other priorities the Board of Aldermen have and Alderwoman Sutherland stated she would like to see a movie theatre. She was not suggesting the Town build and/or run the theatre but go out and find someone who is interested in investing in a movie theatre in Spring Lake or even a bowling alley. Alderman Christian stated he would like to see a new Fire House.

The discussion also included a proposal for an economic development strategic plan from the NC Main Street & Rural Planning Center. The Board of Aldermen will be asked to approve this document at their next meeting.

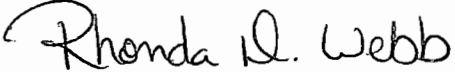
5. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 p.m.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous


Rhonda D. Webb, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:


Larry Debbins
Mayor