

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

October 12, 2020

**MINUTES**

6:00 pm

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a work session meeting in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Spring Lake Municipal Building with Mayor Larry G. Dobbins presiding.

**Board Members Present:** Mayor Pro Tem Taimoor Aziz  
Alderwoman Soña Cooper  
Alderwoman Jackie Jackson  
Alderman James O'Garra (Absent)  
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

**Others Present:**

Daniel Gerald, Town Manager  
Debora Hudson, Town Clerk  
Jonathan Charleston, Town Attorney  
Catherine Bamba, Attorney  
Melissa Pereira, Deputy Town Clerk  
Jaimie Walters, Cumberland County Joint Planning (Via Telephone)  
Benard Lemon, Audio Visual Coordinator

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Dobbins gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Approval of Agenda**

Action: Approval of the October 12, 2020 Board of Aldermen work session meeting agenda.

Motion by: Mayor Pro tem Aziz

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

**4. Approval of Consent Items**

Action: Approval of the consent item for the September 28, 2020, Regular Meeting minutes with the corrections to add Ms. Tucker's position and salary to the minutes for the public to be aware.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous

5. New Business

a. Case No. 20-119. Consideration of Lot 11-13 Spring Lake; request for a zero-lot line subdivision review.

Ms. Jaimie Walters explained the zero-lot line case to the Board, and asked if they had any questions. Alderwoman Sutherland asked where the property was located?

Action: Approval of Case No. 20-119

Motion by: Mayor Pro tem Aziz

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous

b. Discussion of formation of audit committee.

Mayor Dobbins opened the floor for discussion on forming an audit committee. Alderwoman Sutherland stated she thinks it is great and would like to have nine members. Alderwoman Jackson asked for clarification on the audit committee. Mr. Gerald stated the Board needs to decide what powers they want the committee to possess. Alderwoman Jackson had concerns on the requirements and the experience. Mr. Gerald stated the citizens would need to be trained in government finance. Mayor Pro tem Aziz had concerns about the value of an audit committee and giving them powers. Mayor Pro tem Aziz also said, that would be an abandonment of our own duties. Mayor Pro tem stated, he doesn't understand why we need an audit committee. Alderwoman Cooper said that we don't have to give them any powers but to look over audits. Mr. Charleston shared that a number of towns' and cities use their own board members to oversee financial audits. Mr. Charleston suggested two board members. Mayor Dobbins discussed the LGC gave us a checklist to use. Mr. Gerald stated he will create a proposal. Alderwoman Jackson said she believes the committee should be board members. Alderwoman Jackson suggested Alderwoman Sutherland and Alderwoman Cooper suggested Mayor Dobbins. Mr. Charleston stated that the board should not have any surprises with the audits, and stated the board is responsible for the finances of the town. Mayor Dobbins asked the board to agree on 2 board members. Mr. Charleston recommended the board proceed with forming an audit committee. Mayor Dobbins stated that Mr. Gerald will create a proposal and bring it to the next board meeting.

c. Authorization of the termination and release of well easement.

Ms. Catherine Bamba explained the termination and release well easement. Ms. Bamba mentioned the site plan for Village on the Lakes Apartments, stating the well easement is owned by the Town. Ms. Bamba explained that we can release the well easement because the Town no longer needs it. Alderwoman Cooper asked if the Town will pay any monies? Ms. Bamba stated no, but that the Town will be compensated. Ms. Bamba stated the compensation is under \$22,000.

d. 2020 Halloween activities.

Mr. Gerald discussed eliminating trick-or-treating due to Covid-19 for the Town of Spring Lake. Mr. Gerald said that in the past we have always set the trick or treating hours during meetings. Alderwoman Cooper suggested that citizens should turn their lights off. Mayor Pro tem Aziz asked, do we always regulate treat-or treating? Mr. Gerald stated we just normally set the hours, but we are not encouraging any Halloween activities this year.


6. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15pm.

Motion: Mayor Pro-tem Aziz

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous

  
Melissa Pereira  
Deputy Town Clerk

ATTEST:

  
Larry G. Dobbins  
Mayor