

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

February 28, 2022

MINUTES

6:00 p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a regular meeting in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Spring Lake Municipal Building with Mayor Kia Anthony presiding.

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Robyn Chadwick
Alderwoman Soña Cooper
Alderman Marvin Lackman
Alderman Raul Palacios
Alderwoman Adrian Thompson

Others Present:

Samantha Wullenwaber, Interim Town Manager
Jonathan Charleston, Town Attorney
Catherine Bamba, Attorney (via Zoom)
Melissa Pereira, Town Clerk
Banard Lemon, Audio Visual Coordinator
Susan McCullen, Local Government Commission
Mark Baker, Local Government Commission
Danny Sutton, Spring Lake Police Officer
Tim Garner, Water Resources Director
Jason Williams, Fire Chief
Dysoaneik Spellman, Interim Police Chief

1. Call to order

Mayor Anthony declared a quorum and called the meeting to order.

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Alderman Lackman gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Additions or Deletions

None

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: Approval of February 28, 2022, Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting agenda.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

5. Approval of Consent Items

Action: Approval of amended draft minutes of the February 14, 2022, Work Session Meeting, Appointments to Town Committees, Ex-officio Assignment to Town Committees, and conducting an orientation for all newly appointed town committee members on March 28, 2022, at 5:00 p. m.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Lackman

Vote: Unanimous

6. Public Comment

None

7. Presentation

a. Cumberland County Community Development

Ms. Devin Newton provided information regarding the Cumberland County Community Development programs and projects. Ms. Newton stated the projects or activities must meet one of the following national objectives such as, low- and moderate-income persons, elimination of slum and blight, or meet an urgent need. Ms. Newton provided information about grants, the Housing Rehabilitation Program (Deferred Forgivable Loan), Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program, Homebuyers Program, Affordable Housing Plan, Public Services Program, Homeless Programs, and the Emergency Solutions Grant Program. Mayor Anthony questioned the Continuum of Care Program because of the lack of funding to help homeless people in Spring Lake. Ms. Newton gave details for non-profits to reach out to the Continuum of Care Program and apply for a grant in October 2022. Ms. Newton stated her department handles the COC program and asked if the non-profits apply for homeless services. Mayor Anthony questioned the water/sewer funding. Ms. Newton gave details about partnering with Cumberland County. Alderman Palacios questioned the Rental Rehabilitation Loan Program process. Ms. Newton stated the first step is to fill out an application. Alderwoman Cooper questioned the health services in regards that the town only has one doctor that has limited capabilities. Ms. Newton provided information regarding the health services being non-profit, and their department provides funding for prescriptions, eyeglasses, and dental services for the homeless or people without insurance. Alderwoman Cooper questioned the process for Spring Lake to house a Health Department. Ms. Newton stated that would be under Public Facilities, and Ms. Dee Taylor is the point of contact. Alderman Lackman questioned the contact information being correct. Ms. Newton stated yes, she will give each board member a business card.

b. Local Government Commission Update

Ms. Susan McCullen asked the Board if they have any questions. Alderman Palacios questioned the Local Government Commission's existing strategy. Ms. McCullen stated we have the fiscal accountability agreements that enhance monitoring strategies, and we rework them so the exit strategies can be accomplished. Ms. McCullen

stated we haven't reworked it into what we call an exit strategy yet, because we are not that far along. Ms. McCullen gave details regarding information on the Local Government Commission website. Ms. McCullen gave an estimate at the end of the summer Spring Lake should take control of their finances. Alderman Palacios questioned the benchmarking progress with the Local Government Commission. Ms. McCullen stated they show in bold the accomplishments with the exit strategy.

8. New Business

a. Discussion of Budget FY22-23, b. Monthly Financial Report, c. Manager Report

Mrs. Samantha Wullenwaber stated she would discuss item a, item b, and item c altogether. Mrs. Wullenwaber gave details regarding the Budget FY22-23. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated the department heads had to submit their year-end estimates and capital outlay requests. Mrs. Wullenwaber gave details that a work session meeting will be held to discuss the budget. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated we are looking at ways to reduce furloughs or eliminate them. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated we are in a very good position, and she is proud of the staff for achieving these goals.

Mrs. Wullenwaber provided information to the public on the process with the Budget FY22-23. Mrs. Wullenwaber told the public that if they wanted a copy of the financial report; they can email the clerk to receive a copy. Mrs. Wullenwaber provided details regarding the financial report. Alderman Palacios questioned what fund does the \$794,988 FEMA check go to. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated it goes back into the Water/Sewer Fund. Alderman Lackman questioned does the town have any other reimbursements besides FEMA. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated the town does have around \$5.9 million left to spend on a project with the Water Treatment Plant by March 2022, but we don't have any projects at this time so we have asked for an extension. Alderman Lackman questioned town-owned property taxes. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated she will ask the Cumberland County Tax Office. Alderwoman Cooper questioned the FEMA reimbursement with other departments. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated the fund that the money was taken out of was replaced. Alderman Palacios asked about the debt services, and how much debt. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated the town is approximately \$423,601 in debt. She stated she would have to check the total amount. Alderman Palacios requested a debt service report. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated she would email the Board the debt service report.

Mrs. Wullenwaber gave details in regards to the Town Manager Report. Alderman Lackman questioned the water meter cut-offs. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated the ones who couldn't pay their bill were cut-off. Mayor Anthony questioned the timeline of the police department's activity log. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated the data from the Revenue report is from January 2021-2022, and the data from the police report is from January 2022. Alderman Lackman questioned the \$110,000 from the Revenue Department's total expenses. Mrs. Wullenwaber explained the debt owed is from January 2021 to January 2022. Alderwoman Cooper questioned the monthly average cut-offs. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated it's usually over a hundred. Alderwoman Cooper asked if the new hires could be introduced to the Board. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated yes; we can add to the agenda. Alderwoman Palacios questioned the nuisance cases. Alderman Palacios questioned the Master Plan. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated Mr. Tim Garner will provide details regarding the on-call engineers. Mrs. Wullenwaber explained although we budgeted for it, we don't have the cash flow to proceed. Alderwoman Cooper had concerns regarding the commercial trash dumpsters violating the town's Ordinances. Mrs. Wullenwaber explained she would have to look at their site plan, and the Board could decide to change the ordinance in a certain amount of time. The Board expressed appreciation and thanks to the Interim Town Manager and staff for their work.

Mrs. Wullenwaber gave details about street assessment. Mrs. Wullenwaber stated they will solicit quotes for repairs to the towns' streets. Alderman Palacios provided information that the street he lives on requires major repairs. Alderman Palacios questioned the Powell Bill revenue and street repairs. Mrs. Wullenwaber gave details

regarding the town receiving bids for street repairs. Alderwoman Cooper stated there had been several requests to place speed bumps on Goodyear Drive. Mrs. Wullenwaber asked Alderwoman Cooper to send the citizens emails requesting speed bumps on Goodyear Drive. Mrs. Wullenwaber gave details about the budget amendments, Resolutions, and the town's organizational chart.

d. Approve Resolution (2022) 3 Service Line Warranties

Alderwoman Cooper requested the approval of Resolution (2022) 3 Service Line Warranties. Alderman Lackman questioned the town recouping \$.50 per line on the proposal. Mr. Charleston stated the resolution is for approving the contract.

Action: Approval of Resolution (2022) 3, Service Line Warranties.

Motion: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Alderwoman Thompson

Vote: Unanimous

e. Approve Awarding On-Call Engineering Service Contracts

Mr. Tim Garner provided information regarding the town receiving six bid packets for on-call engineering service contracts. Mr. Garner stated all were chosen for different services. Alderman Palacios questioned the reasons why the town needs six engineering contracts. Mr. Garner stated that these jobs would require a professional engineer seal. Alderwoman Cooper asked about the town's funding for our infrastructure. Mr. Garner stated he is currently working on the budget. Alderman Lackman questioned the contractors being vetted and bonded. Mr. Garner stated yes, they all had to submit a packet with credentials.

Action: Approval of Awarding On-Call Engineering Service Contracts.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

8. Closed Session

a. N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3) – Attorney-Client Privilege

Action: The Board approved a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(3) – Attorney-Client Privilege.

Motion: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

Vote: Unanimous

Alderman Palacios made a motion, Alderwoman Cooper seconded by, to reconvene in an open session. No action was taken.

9. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.


Motion: Mayor Pro tem Chadwick

Second by: Alderman Lackman

Vote: Unanimous



Kia Anthony
Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Pereira, CMC
Town Clerk