

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

June 13, 2022

MINUTES

6:00 p.m.

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 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:

- Joe Durham, Interim Town Manager
- Jonathan Charleston, Town Attorney
- Melissa Pereira, Town Clerk
- Banard Lemon, Audio Visual Coordinator
- Dysoaneik Spellman, Interim Police Chief
- Jason Williams, Spring Lake Fire Chief
- Tim Garner, Director of Water Treatment Plant
- Kris Schara, Senior Center Program Assistant
- David Erwin, Local Government Commission
- Beth Wood, North Carolina State Auditor (Virtual)
- Susan McCullen, Local Government Commission (Virtual)
- Barbara Baker, Local Government Commission (Virtual)
- Victoria Bledsoe, Local Government Commission (Virtual)
- Debbie Tamasko, Local Government Commission (Virtual)
- Honorable Marvin Lucas, North Carolina General Assembly, District 42
- Colonel Scott Pence, Fort Bragg Garrison Commander
- Bob Stafford, Stafford Land Company, LLC
- Taneshia Kerr, President, Greater Sandhills Chamber

1. Call to order

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

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Honorable Marvin Lucas gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Additions or Deletions

Alderman Palacios requested that the agenda be amended to move item 7, Presentation after item 6, Public Comment, then move item 7b to item 7a under Presentation.

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: Approval of June 13, 2022, Board of Work Session Meeting with requested changes.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

5. Approval of Consent Items

Action: Approval of the draft minutes of the May 23, 2022, Regular Meeting, and draft minutes of the May 31, 2022, Special Meeting, and the Board Application for Recreation Advisory and Minimum Housing Appeals Board, Katrina Bratcher.

Motion by: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Alderwoman Thompson

Vote: Unanimous

6. Presentation

a. Fort Bragg Events, Colonel Scott Pence, Fort Bragg Garrison Commander

Colonel Scott Pence provided information regarding Fort Bragg as the largest installation by population by the Department of Defense. Colonel Pence gave an informational brief about the happenings and events regarding Fort Bragg. Colonel Pence stated there will be another Garrison Commander taking over in a few weeks, and his name is Colonel Wilcox. Colonel Pence stated he is looking forward to working with Spring Lake with a real point of opportunity for partnership. Colonel Pence provided details regarding the population, infrastructure, services, and security of the Fort Bragg Community.

b. Greater Sandhills Chamber, Taneshia Kerr, President

Ms. Taneshia Kerr provided details regarding the Greater Sandhills Chamber. Mr. Kerr provided information regarding the mission statement, plan of work, and how to support the chamber. Ms. Kerr stated our mission statement is to preserve and promote a strong economy, build relationships, and be an advocate for businesses while enhancing the quality of life for the community.

c. Yard of the Month, June 2022, Raul Palacios, Aldermen

Alderman Palacios administered Certificates for Yard of the Month to the winners for the yards that were chosen by the Appearance Committee.

d. Proclamation, Ruthie Townson, Mayor Anthony

Mayor Anthony presented Ms. Ruthie Townson with a proclamation for her 90th birthday.

e. Certificate of Recognition, First Annual Spring Lake Senior Center Over 80 King and Queen, Kris Schara, Senior Center Program Assistant

Mrs. Kris Schara gave a brief overview regarding the First Annual Spring Lake Over 80 King and Queen. Both awardees were not present for certificates.

Mayor Anthony recessed the meeting from 6:56 pm until 7:00 pm.

Local Government Commission Public Hearing

Ms. Sharon Edmundson opens the Public Hearing. Mr. David Erwin gave details regarding the Budget for FY 2022-2023. Mr. Erwin stated the total budget is \$12.9 million, and the largest component is the General Fund budget of \$7.7 million followed by the Water/Sewer budget of \$4.1 million. Mr. Erwin stated the budget reflects the desire to maintain cost-effective and quality services to customers and citizens of the municipality. Mr. Erwin provided information property taxes will not increase for FY 2022-2023. Mr. Erwin stated there will be a five-cent decrease from seventy cents to sixty-five cents concurrent with that there's going to be a five-cent recreation district tax will be imposed when Spring Lake joins the Cumberland County Recreation Department. Mr. Erwin stated there is a fourteen percent increase in the water rates and a five percent increase in sewer rates due to Fayetteville Public Works increasing their rates by sixteen percent. Mr. Erwin stated there are no stormwater increases at this time. Mr. Erwin stated the Budget for FY 2022-2023 contains no furloughs, and also a recommended three percent cost of living adjustment for staff included in the proposed budget. Mr. Erwin stated the town has made great progress in maintaining budgetary discipline and continues to replenish fund balance reserves in the general fund.

Mrs. Fredricka Sutherland expressed her concerns with the town's budget and increases in water and sewer bills.

Ms. Sharon Edmundson asked twice does anyone wish to speak.

Mr. Lennox Jobe expressed his concerns regarding the increase in water/sewer bills.

Ms. Sharon Edmundson closed the Public Hearing for Budget FY 2022-2023.

Mayor Anthony expressed her thanks to town citizens speaking on behalf of the Budget FY 2022-2023.

7. Public Comment

Mrs. Fredricka Sutherland provided information regarding the Appearance Committee. Mrs. Sutherland had concerns regarding the blight signage in the right of way and grass cutting.

8. Public Hearing

Odell Road Development Agreement

Mr. Joe Durham gave details regarding the Odell Road Development Agreement. Mr. Durham provided information that the project consists of the Developer's purchase of the Town Property for \$16,500.00, the development and construction of the Proposed Subdivision Infrastructure, and all related conditions and covenants.

Alderwoman Cooper questioned the \$16,500 will be added to our General Fund. Mr. Durham stated yes. Alderman Lackman questioned the town's property land dollar amount. Mr. Durham stated it's based on the tax value of the property. Alderman Lackman questioned the number of properties that the town owns. Mr. Durham stated he received a map that showed 19 properties throughout the town. Alderman Palacios questioned this property was rezoned last year for new development. Mr. Durham stated that's correct.

Mayor Anthony opened the Public Hearing for Odell Road Development. Mayor Anthony asked if there were individuals that wanted to speak and support this request. Mrs. Barbara Lewis asked about the purpose of the development. Mr. Jonathan Charleston stated it's a new residential subdivision. Mayor Anthony asked if anyone would like to speak against this request. Mayor Anthony asked three times if anyone wanted to speak or oppose this request. Mayor Anthony closed the Public Hearing for Odell Road Development Agreement.

Action: Approval of Ordinance to Adopt the Odell Road Development Agreement.

Motion: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Alderman Lackman

Vote: Unanimous

9. New Business

a. Cumberland County Joint Planning Bylaws Amendments, Joe Durham, Interim Town Manager

Mr. Durham provided details regarding the Cumberland County Joint Planning Bylaws amendments. Mr. Durham stated the amendment changes are changes that comply with General Statutes. Alderwoman Cooper questioned does the town have representation for the Cumberland County Joint Planning Board. Mr. Durham yes. Mayor Anthony stated Ms. Jamie McLaughlin is the town representative.

Action: Approval of the Cumberland County Joint Planning Bylaws Amendments.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

b. Resolution (2022) 6 By the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Spring Lake Agreeing the Town of Spring Lake will be included in the Cumberland County Recreation Service District, Joe Durham, Interim Town Manager

Mr. Durham provided information regarding Resolution (2022) 6 is a part of the process of entering into the Recreation district with Cumberland County as other jurisdictions. Mr. Durham stated once the town enters into this agreement; the town will have a five cents tax increase. Mr. Durham stated the town will be lowering its tax rate from seventy cents to sixty-five cents. Mr. Durham stated there will be an appropriation made on behalf of the County through the general fund for three hundred six thousand dollars that will pay for the recreation services for the Town of Spring Lake. Mr. Durham stated there are benefits associated with the town being a part of the Cumberland County Parks and Recreation that will include some cost savings to the economy of scale due to the town doesn't have a director for the Parks and Recreation Center, and the citizens would be able to pay the in-town rates and other facilities that are run by the County. Mr. Durham stated there will be cost savings that will be associated with our inclusion within the district. He said the vehicles that are currently owned by the Town of Spring Lake will retain the title by the town, and four employees will be transferring over to the City of Fayetteville. Mr. Durham stated this resolution is the first step, and we still have an operational agreement to approve. Mr. Durham stated there are over two thousand six hundred property taxpayers that were notified of the public hearing that will be held on June 20, 2022, at 6:45 pm in Cumberland County Court House.

Alderman Lackman questioned the five cents property tax decrease in dollar amount. Mr. Durham stated by two hundred twenty- eight thousand dollars. Alderman Lackman questioned the Parks and Recreation's ownership of property. Mr. Durham stated the personal properties the town will retain ownership of. Alderman Lackman questioned representation with Cumberland County Park and Recreation. Mr. Durham stated that's a great question and we will review the inclusion to add representation to the Fayetteville and Cumberland County Recreation and Parks Committee. Alderwoman Thompson questioned if this inclusion with Cumberland County Parks and Recreation was permanent or temporary. Mr. Durham stated it's a permanent move or can it be invoked. Mr. Jonathan Charleston stated this is going to be a long-term solution, however, if the town decided at one point and time it was no longer appropriate then the town could take that up and consider but what we believe is this is a smart solution for the town. Mayor Anthony including all other municipalities has joined except for Hope Mills. Alderwoman Cooper expressed she thinks this is a plus for the town and is excited that we can move forward with joining Cumberland County Parks and Recreation. Alderman Cooper provided information that she has spoken to a few Cumberland County Commissioners, and they would like our residents to apply to become a member of the Cumberland County Park and Recreation Board. Mayor Anthony stated Spring Lake has never been included in the Cumberland County Championship games. Mayor Anthony stated once we join Cumberland County, we then can participate in the Championship games. Alderman Palacios agreed that joining Cumberland County Parks and Recreation would be great for the town, and the cost savings initiated would help the town. Alderman Palacios stated having more programs, which he is in favor of.

Action: Approval of Resolution (2022) 6 By the Board of Aldermen of the Town of Spring Lake Agreeing the Town of Spring Lake will be included in the Cumberland County Recreation Service District.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

c. Mayor's Report

Mayor Kia Anthony announced the month of June has several different events to be recognized. Mayor Anthony provided information on Pride Month for the LGBTQ and Small Cities Month. Mayor Anthony expressed her thanks and appreciation to the town citizens for participating in Coffee with the Mayor. Mayor Anthony provided details regarding changing the time and place of Coffee with the Mayor. Mayor Anthony stated it is possible to change Coffee with the Mayor to the evening so we can receive more participation from the community. Mayor Anthony provided information regarding the Juneteenth Freedom Festival. Mayor Anthony stated with the saddest regret that our town carnival has been adjusted. Mayor Anthony explained there were some issues with the host of the carnival ride provider, and he dropped out at the last minute. Mayor Anthony stated the Food Truck Wars will be held at 1010 Bragg Blvd, Spring Lake.

d. Board of Aldermen Report

Alderman Lackman provided details regarding the town cleanups. Alderman Lackman stated the town cleanup is the first Saturday of each month. Alderman Lackman gave recognition to those who helped with the cleanup. Alderman Lackman provided information regarding the collection of twenty bags of trash from the roadways in town. Alderman Lackman and Alderman Palacios expressed their thanks and appreciation to Fire Chief Jason Williams and the firefighters for their support with the cleanup. Alderman Lackman provided information regarding the next cleanup will be held on July 9, 2022, at 8:00 am at the Pizza Hut parking lot. Alderman Lackman announced it will be the Army's Birthday on June 14th. Alderman Lackman asked for all active military, retired military, and military veterans to please stand for the Army Song. Alderwoman Thompson announced the Month of June is the Men's National Health Awareness. Alderman Palacios announced the Appearance Committee has two vacancies,

and the next meeting is on August 10th. Alderman Palacios announced the Audit Committee met last week, and he will give further details at a later date. Mayor Pro tem Chadwick announced there will be a job fair with North Carolina Works on June 24th and 25th in the Spring Lake Recreation Center from 6:00 to 8:00 pm. Mayor Pro tem Chadwick announced there's a Core Skills Training event with Fayetteville Technical Community College on June 18th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm in the Spring Lake Recreation Center. Alderman Cooper provided information regarding the COVID-19 tests that are available online at www.covid.com/tests. Alderwoman Cooper stated you can receive a minimum of eight tests per order. Alderwoman Cooper stated you can order three times. Alderwoman Cooper gave details regarding summer school meals for the town's children. Alderwoman Cooper announced the meals will be served on buses. Alderwoman Cooper stated the first stop will be at the Spring Lake Library at 101 Lake tree Blvd from 11:00 am to 11:45 am. Alderwoman Cooper stated the food must be eaten on the bus. Alderwoman Cooper stated the second stop is at the Spring Lake Fire Station at 2355 Lillington Highway from 12:00 pm to 12:45 pm. Alderwoman Cooper asked the community to please spread the word so our kids eat this summer.

f. Manager's Report

Mr. Durham provided information regarding the Budget for FY 2022-2023, and the lifting of the furloughs for town employees. Mr. Durham commended the staff for doing a great job with budgeting their departments. Mr. Durham stated the town will begin normal work hours from Monday thru Friday from 8:00 am to 5:00 pm to provide service for our citizens.

Mr. Jonathan Charleston expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Board of Aldermen.

10. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous



Kia Anthony
Mayor

ATTEST:

Melissa Pereira, CMC
Town Clerk