

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

October 10, 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
Alderman Soña Cooper
Alderman Marvin Lackman
Alderman Raul Palacios
Alderman Adrian Thompson

Others Present:

Michael Porter, Town Attorney (Arrived at 6:06 pm)
Patricia Hickmon, Interim Inspection Clerk
Banard Lemon, Audio Visual Coordinator
Jason Williams, Fire Chief
Dysoaneik Spellman, Police Chief
Tim Garner, Director of Water Treatment Plant

1. Call to order

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

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Fredricka Sutherland gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Additions or Deletions

Alderman Cooper requested to remove c. Draft Minutes of the August 22, 2022, Regular meeting and f. Draft minutes of the September 26, 2022, Regular Meeting there are errors that need to be corrected.

Alderman Palacios requested to add b. Discussion of Fiscal Accountability Agreement under New Business and c. Promotion of Police Officer, Police Chief Spellman under Presentation.

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: Approval of the October 10, 2022, Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting agenda with amended deletions and additions.

Motion by: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Alderman Lackman

Vote: Unanimous

5. Approval of Consent Items

Action: Approval of Consent Items with the removal of c. Draft Minutes of the August 22, 2022, Regular meeting and f. Draft minutes of the September 26, 2022, Regular Meeting

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderwoman Thompson

Vote: Unanimous

Alderman Palacios welcomed Mr. Armand Caron to the Military Veterans Advisory Committee. Alderman Lackman stated Mr. Caron is the Commander of the American Legion Post 230 here in Spring Lake.

6. Public Comment

Mrs. Fredricka Sutherland stated she would like to talk about the \$21.80 that was added to the tax bill for Recreation Fees. She is concerned that they have separated the \$21.80. She would like to have clarification. It looks like they separated it during budget time, which is twenty percent recreation with merging with Fayetteville and if I'm confused then the citizens are confused. She expressed her concern about individuals driving vehicles home with gas prices going up and certain departments that are not approved. Mrs. Sutherland stated that the taxpayers here in the Town of Spring Lake have a right to set at the table at the Recreation Advisory Board and any other boards that are served here in the Town of Spring Lake. She thanked the employees for cleaning up the Town.

Ms. Kelly Jo Metz stated she is representing C-me Trailer Park. Ms. Metz explained that residents are long-timers and in January they received a notice that the Park is closing. She expressed concern about people being homeless and still wanting their rent and it is hard for people to save up for a new place to live. Please if you can do anything to help these guys it would be greatly appreciated. She stated I don't think it is proper or right that the new owner has the right to say you have to be out by January 31st and still want my rent. Ms. Metz stated that he is telling people you can buy their mobile home but it has to move. Ms. Metz provided a copy of the notice to the Mayor and the Board of Aldermen.

7. Presentation

a. Senior Games Update

Mrs. Kris Schara stated that the Seniors participated in Senior Games every year which falls under Mid Carolina Senior Games which includes Harnett, Cumberland, and Sampson Counties. This was the first year back in person since COVID. Mrs. Schara stated they had eighteen participants in the athletic events and they took home fifteen metals with six of them being gold with the average age being seventy-five. Regina Thompson-Xadu won a silver medal in her talent solo.

b. Yard of the Month, October 2022

Alderman Palacios administered Certificates for Yard of the Month to the winners that the Appearance Committee chose.

c. Promotion of Police Officer

Chief Spellman stated that Sergeant Sutton was promoted to Lieutenant Sutton.

8. **New Business**

a. Resolution Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Resolution Supporting Operation Green Light for Veterans

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

b. Discussion of Fiscal Accountability Agreement

Alderman Palacios stated that the Board did enter into a new Fiscal Accountability Agreement that was signed on September 26, 2022. This Agreement is a great development for our Town and where we are at right now. Alderman Palacios stated this gives us a road map to essentially take over our finances again. As long as we can meet the metrics and the benchmark dates, we have a really good shot at advancing this Town for our own sake and the future. Mayor Anthony added there were ten items that the Town needed to address and we are now down to three items. Mayor Anthony stated those are simply hiring positions and completing some policies. Mayor Anthony thanked the employees for their hard work, due diligence, commitment to long hours, and stress. Alderwoman Cooper asked if we posted it on the website. Mayor Anthony stated it will be posted tomorrow.

9. **CLOSED SESSION**

a. Pursuant to N.C.G.S. § 143-318.11(a)(6)- Personnel

Action: The Board approved a motion to go into closed session pursuant to N.C.G.S. §143-318.11(a)(6) – Personnel.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to come back into open session. No action was taken.

Motion: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to appoint Chief Jason Williams as the Acting Town Manager

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to appoint Justine Jones, effective October 24, 2022, as Town Manager of Spring Lake, conditioned upon approval of the contract with Ms. Jones by the LGC, the Board of Aldermen, the Town Attorney, and acceptance of the contract terms by Ms. Jones.

Motion: Alderwoman Thompson

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

Vote: Yes

Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick
Alderwoman Cooper
Alderwoman Thompson

No

Alderman Lackman
Alderman Palacios

Alderman Palacios stated that he is against this position and this appointment. He stated I feel like there was somebody that was more qualified and has the experience that the Town needs at this time.

10. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:12 p.m.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:



Patricia Hickmon
Interim Town Clerk



Kia Anthony
Mayor