

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

May 8, 2023

MINUTES

6:00 pm

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:

Carly Autry, Town Clerk
Officer Causey, Spring Lake Police Department
Tim Garner, Director of Water Treatment Plant
Detective Hurtt, Spring Lake Police Department
Banard Lemon, Audio Visual Coordinator
Officer Passmore, Spring Lake Police Department
Officer Paulo, Spring Lake Police Department
Dysoaneik Spellman, Chief of Spring Lake Police
Lieutenant Danny Sutton, Spring Lake Police Department
Jason Williams, Spring Lake Fire Chief/Interim Town Manager

1. Call to order

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

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Dr. Renay Y. Gregory gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Additions or Deletions

Mayor Anthony requested to delete Agenda Item 8a. Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Collection of Taxes Between Cumberland County and the Town of Spring Lake – Interim Town Manager Jason Williams under Old Business. Mayor Anthony stated the reason it is being removed from the agenda is at the last meeting (Monday, 4/24/23), it was tabled because there is verbiage on the agreement that needs clarity as there was interchanged use of “Town” and “City” and Cumberland County has not yet returned an updated copy of the Interlocal Agreement.

Action: Approval of amended deletion from the Agenda, Item 8a. Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Collection of Taxes Between Cumberland County and the Town of Spring Lake – Interim Town Manager Jason Williams under Old Business.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: Approval of May 8, 2023 Board of Aldermen Regular Meeting agenda with amended deletion of Agenda Item 8a. Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for the Collection of Taxes Between Cumberland County and the Town of Spring Lake – Interim Town Manager Jason Williams under Old Business.

Motion by: Alderman Palacios

Second by: Alderman Lackman

Vote: Unanimous

5. Approval of Consent Items

Action: Approval of Consent Items a. Draft Minutes of April 24, 2023, Work Session Meeting.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderman Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

6. Public Comment

Regina Xadu-Thompson of 200 Scarborough stated she is representing the Spring Lake Senior Citizens Club, the Spring Lakers, and there are several seniors that are interested in community gardening. Ms. Thompson stated there are some seniors that really would like to start growing some vegetables, fruits, etc. so she is requesting the possibility of some donated land that the Town owns so that they may partake in a community garden.

Fredricka Sutherland – Mrs. Sutherland stated it has been removed but had a couple of questions regarding the Interlocal Corporation Agreement and Collection Tax between Cumberland County that was discussed at the meeting on Monday, 4/24/23. Mrs. Sutherland stated where it states if Spring Lake is a “Town” or “City,” we have always been a Town and it also states a \$20,000 savings for the Town. Mrs. Sutherland asked how does this affect the citizens since we are paying those high dollar taxes if you own property here? Mrs. Sutherland also stated she wanted to applaud the Town Manager, workers, and citizens for getting out and cleaning the Town. Mrs. Sutherland lastly stated a letter was sent to the Town but no one responded, so she requested for future reference, if she or anyone else asks a question, please respond in writing as she feels it is the citizens’ business and thinks the citizens should know exactly what is going on with their tax dollars.

7. Presentation

- a. HAND-EE – Dr. Renay Y. Gregory, Chief Operating Officer – Dr. Gregory presented a PowerPoint explaining what the HAND-EE program is. Dr. Gregory stated the Mission Statement and Leadership for HAND-EE, explained who they are, what and why they do for the community, and the location of the grocery giveaway. Dr. Gregory stated HAND-EE is a 501C(3) non-profit organization designed to resource the needs of food-insecure individuals along with overall wellness. Dr. Gregory stated HAND-EE also provides healthy cooking classes.

- b. Memorial Day Event 2023 – Debra Clyde, Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee – Ms. Clyde also announced that she is no longer the chair of the Military and Veterans Affairs Advisory Committee as they had elections last month, and stated that Armond Caron is now the chair and he is the Commander of the American Legion Post 230. Ms. Clyde stated there will be a Memorial Day Event on Friday, May 26, 2023, at 11:00 am at the Spring Lake Veterans Park located at the corner of Main and Ruth Street with Mayor Anthony being the keynote speaker this year. Mr. Caron stated the Committee is planning a Service Day for Veterans, with tentative dates of Saturday, November 4th, and Sunday, November 5th and that depends on how many VSOs we can collect to come down and help. Mr. Caron stated he has reached out to some VSOs already that are willing to help and still has a few to contact. Mr. Caron stated the Army no longer charters Boy Scouts and there is one (1) Scout Troop and pack left on Fort Bragg, which they are about to lose its charter, and American Legion Post 230 has accepted their Charter and we will have the only Boy Scout and Cub Scout pack in Spring Lake. Mr. Caron stated on Saturday, May 20th at 4:00 pm, there will be a Memorial Day ceremony so we are not interfering with a dozen other people that are doing it and we will be retiring our flags at that time but we are also having a celebration, a potluck dinner, and everyone is invited. Mr. Caron stated it is in honor of the 73rd anniversary of the American Legion in Spring Lake and it is on Veterans Drive off Manchester Road. Alderman Lackman thanked Ms. Clyde for her time as the Chair and advised Mr. Caron that they are looking forward to him as the new Chair. Alderman Lackman also stated there are still vacancies on the Committee if anybody was interested.

- c. Introduction of New Spring Lake Police Officers – Police Chief Dysoaneik Spellman – Chief Spellman introduced three (3) new Police Officers, C. Causey, P. Paulo, M. Passmore, and one (1) new Detective, A. Hurtt, to the Board. Chief Spellman also gave a brief outline of their backgrounds and past experiences. Mayor Anthony and the Board of Aldermen took a picture with the new Spring Lake Police Department Officers.

- d. Yard of the Month – Alderman Raul Palacios, Spring Lake Community Appearance and Sustainability Committee Board Liaison – Alderman Palacios stated Yard of the Month is the opportunity to recognize neighbors for maintaining and upkeeping their property that makes Spring Lake a more attractive place. Alderman Palacios announced the four (4) residents that were chosen as the Yard of the Month for their neighborhoods. The only one (1) who showed up for their certificate was Steven Dilmore and his wife. The other three (3) who were not present were Patsy Troy, Johnnie Gaines, and The Parsons. Steven Dilmore and his wife took a picture with Alderman Palacios and Mrs. Sutherland, who is the Chair of the Spring Lake Community Appearance and Sustainability Committee.

8. New Business

- a. CASE NO. DEV-0005-23: Consideration for Reconstruction of Building Five in the Lakehurst Apartment Complex Previously Approved by the Board of Aldermen in 1987. Located at 139 Waterway Drive – Christopher Portman, Cumberland County Planner – Mr. Portman stated he did not have a presentation and does not need a Public Hearing, as this was only administrative and the Town Manager signs off on it if approved. Mr. Portman stated the Owner of the complex is present if there are any questions. Mr. Williams stated this is the building that was burnt down. Mr. Portman stated it is only one (1) building, not a whole complex. Alderman Lackman questioned Mr. Portman about the codes. Mr. Portman stated that all codes will be current to today's codes. Alderman Lackman asked to look at the drawings as the one in the packet was too small to read. Alderman Palacios asked the Owner if the building was going to be consistent with the others and the Owner stated it will be similar.

Action: Approval of CASE NO. DEV-0005-23: Consideration for Reconstruction of Building Five in the Lakehurst Apartment Complex Previously Approved by the Board of Aldermen in 1987. Located at 139 Waterway Drive.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

- b. Resolution (2023)5 Application for North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Transformation Grant Fund, Rural Engagement & Investment Program Reviving Main Street – Mayor Kia Anthony – Mayor Anthony stated this Resolution was attached to the Rural Transformation Grant that the Town is going to use to revitalize Main Street and the Town is applying to receive \$458,000 for this revitalization grant. Mayor Anthony stated this is a reoccurring grant so the Town can reapply for this grant continuously so that the Town can go through the several stages of major revitalization something happened while in the process of writing this grant that deserves an honorable mention. Mayor Anthony stated as everyone knows, the Town is under the Local Government's control and has been since October 2021, and while this grant was being written, the Town needed to get approval from the LGC to apply for funding. Mayor Anthony stated not only did they give the Town approval, but they gave a letter of support that was submitted with the grant and she read the letter in the Board meeting.

Action: Approval of Resolution (2023)5 Application for North Carolina Department of Commerce, Rural Transformation Grant Fund, Rural Engagement & Investment Program Reviving Main Street.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

Vote: Unanimous

- c. Creation of Special Events Advisory Committee – Mayor Kia Anthony – Mayor Anthony stated the Town wants to standardize the way events are being done and hosted and as everyone knows, the Recreation Center is now managed by Cumberland County, and the Town wants to make sure standards are being met that have been set forth as well as the standards for Spring Lake. Mayor Anthony stated there should always be order in everything that is done, so she would like to formally

create a committee that is going to orchestrate all and any special events that will be held on Town, private, and the Recreation Center properties as all have different standards. Mayor Anthony stated in the agenda packet is a draft of a special events management form and so this form will be reviewed by the Committee, and documents on the formulation as well. Mayor Anthony stated for the application process, there is a list of steps that the Town should take and the County has given the Town full control over the way events are managed in Spring Lake, however, if an event is approved, payment will go through the County, but the Town has full autonomy to approve or deny all events that happen in Spring. Mayor Anthony stated in the agenda packets are some examples of policies and permits used by Fayetteville because they work the most closely with Cumberland County and want to stay within the County by the limits and restrictions. Alderwoman Cooper asked if this has been looked at by the Town Attorney yet. Mayor Anthony stated it has not because she wanted to make sure that the Board was in favor of this committee and if so, it will be sent to the Attorney, Interim Town Manager, and all the Departments to formalize the event planning and event management forms, policies, and ordinances to make sure everything is following the current policies and ordinances. Mayor Anthony advised Mr. Williams to start the process of formalizing the Special Events Advisory Committee. Mayor Anthony stated the Special Events Advisory Committee is huge because, with this whole Main Street Movement, the Town is looking to start the "First Friday on Main."

Consensus to allow staff to formalize the Special Events Advisory Committee.

- d. Veteran's Day Event 2023 – Alderman Marvin Lackman – Alderman Lackman stated he talked to Mr. Lewis at the Parks and Recreation Center about holding a Veteran's Day Event and right now, it looks like Saturday, November 4th, and if anyone knows any VSOs (Veteran Service Organizations) that are willing to come from 9 am to 5 pm to assist Veterans that need assistance filing or updating their claims, please let him know.

- e. Mayor's Report – Mayor Kia Anthony – Mayor Anthony stated she, Alderwoman Cooper, and Chief Spellman attended a Human Trafficking event that ended with the Police Chief linking up with Superior Court Judge Toni King and they are going to work together to bring some training back to Public Safety about identifying human trafficking. Mayor Anthony stated that Cumberland County is one of the highest human trafficking spots in the nation and this is a very serious issue, as well as a crime, and wants to make sure that the Town is covering Spring Lake to protect kids, women, and the vulnerable from the atrocious crime of human trafficking. Mayor Anthony stated Chief Spellman will be bringing that training for residents and staff. Second, Mayor Anthony stated she, Alderwoman Cooper, and Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick attended CityVision in Concord, NC, and brought back some great training for the Board like the (10) Keys to Effective Governing Board Oversight, which is about managing and sustaining financial management for the Board. Mayor Anthony stated it is not just the training, but it is also the resources as they were able to sit among hundreds of vendors that are all directly connected to every faculty of municipal government, so we can get these resources and bring them back to the Manager to start moving forward with some much-needed updates and upgrades to envision the future. Third, Mayor Anthony recognized Alderwoman Soña Cooper, who was elected to North Carolina Black Elected Municipal Officials for the North Carolina League of Municipalities, which is an affiliate organization and she is now the elected secretary she is also on the League of Municipalities Board of Directors. Mayor Anthony stated we are not just working in the community; we are working

for the state to bring resources back to the community and allow the experience to connect with other elected officials. Fourth, Mayor Anthony stated Alderwoman Cooper has been advocating the League to create a Military Home Cities Council so she, Alderwoman Cooper, and Councilwoman Kathy Jensen on the Fayetteville City Council, along with other state and local elected officials from across the state, want to bring the military cities together to advocate together at a state level for Veterans and active-duty soldiers and their families, and this also happened at CityVision. Last, Mayor Anthony stated Lunch with the Mayor also called "Let's Talk Lunch" is on Wednesday, May 24, 2023, at noon at Kitadee's.

- f. Board of Aldermen Report – Spring Lake Board of Aldermen – Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick stated CityVision was insightful and being able to attend not only renewed her vision but also her passion that she has for Spring Lake. Second, Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick stated this is Teacher Appreciation Week so please recognize and thank teachers who make sure that children are educated. Third, Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick stated EOGs are next week on May 17th, 18th, and 19th, so please make sure they eat a solid breakfast and get enough sleep. Last, Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick stated she had the opportunity to attend the Cumberland County Schools Feather Ceremony on Thursday, May 4, 2023, and this was the 2nd Annual Feather Ceremony which recognized 98 Indian students and they were given a prestigious feather, which represents honor and determination and half of them were awarded one (1) year scholarships to UNC-Pembroke. Alderman Palacios stated the Appearance Committee meeting is Wednesday, 5/10/23, at 4:00 pm and one of the major topics for that meeting is the art mural that will be downtown on Main Street, and the Committee has selected the art and artist who will be submitting their piece of art on a small scale of what they will put on the building on Main Street. Alderman Palacios stated they will also discuss the Committee presenting that art to the rest of the Town and the Board at the next Board of Aldermen meeting on Monday, May 22, 2023. Alderwoman Thompson thanked everyone who attended the Torch Run on Saturday, April 29, 2023, and t-shirts are still available for purchase. Alderwoman Thompson stated Cops and Conversation is Thursday, May 25, 2023, at 6:00 pm here in the Boardroom. Alderman Lackman announced the death of Sergeant Major Charles Miller, which was Friday, April 30, 2023. Alderman Lackman stated he had a dignified honored ceremony at Sandhills Veterans Cemetery and afterward at the VFW 9103, there was a dinner for Charlie, for which Charlie paid the tab before his death for everybody to have a spaghetti dinner and drinks in order to celebrate his life, not his death, which spaghetti was his favorite meal. Second, Alderman Lackman stated Pastor Rob from the Reclamation Church went to Overhills High School and paid the lunch debt of approximately 150 students. Third, Alderman Lackman stated there were 26 bags of trash that accumulated to 700 pounds cleaned up on Saturday, May 6, 2023, in which 15 bags of that was dumped in tree lines on Poe Street, and has the name of the person who dumped the trash there. Alderman Lackman encouraged citizens if they see this happening, safely take a picture, if possible, and report it to Town Hall so it can be given to the Police Department. Last, Alderman Lackman stated the Memorial Day event is Friday, May 26, 2023, at 11:00 am at Veterans Park and everyone is invited. Alderwoman Cooper recognized Mayor Anthony's certificate, which she was invited by Fayetteville Economic Development to attend East Carolina Universities' research on economic development engagement. Second, Alderwoman Cooper stated the Board adopted a container policy for the donation containers, and two (2) owners have decided to remove theirs and one (1) is following through with the paperwork to maintain their donation box properly. Third, Alderwoman Cooper stated at CityVision, she and Mayor Anthony went to the North Carolina Black

Alliance on Friday, May 28, 2023, where Mayor Anthony was one of the speakers and she, State Representative Price, and State Senator Val Applewhite were on a panel to discuss navigating the Local Government Commission (LGC). Fourth, Alderwoman Cooper stated her organization, Community Heartbeats, had a food distribution on Saturday, May 6, 2023. Fifth, Alderwoman Cooper stated she is trying to obtain a 1.2-to-1.7-million-dollar grant to tutor students here in Spring Lake and it will pay everyone who works and tutors children. Last, Alderwoman Cooper thanked Alderman Lackman for the Town cleanups. Mayor Pro-Tem Chadwick gave a big shout-out to Mayor Anthony as she was named to the North Carolina Mayors Association.

g. Manager's Report – Interim Town Manager Jason Williams – Mr. Williams stated the Streets Department received two (2) new mowers, a new roller to fix bumps in the road, and a new backhoe. Second, Mr. Williams thanked the Streets Department for their hard work for the Town. Third, Mr. Williams acknowledged Police Chief Dysoaneik Spellman for his dedicated work to the Town and for the new Police Officers. Fourth, Mr. Williams acknowledged the Water Department for their hard work for the Town. Fifth, Mr. Williams stated he has seen individuals on the Board work hard but has never seen the whole Board work hard for the Town as this Board does and they are always on the same page. Sixth, Mr. Williams stated an agreement with T-Mobile is forming and residents will start seeing cameras throughout the Town. Last, Mr. Williams stated the US flags were at half-staff yesterday, Sunday, May 5, 2023, for the Fallen Firefighters Memorial.

h. Town Attorney Report – Town Attorney Michael Porter – Attorney Porter was not present for the meeting.

9. Adjournment

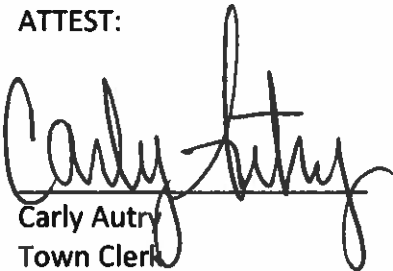
Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:31 pm.

Motion: Alderwoman Cooper

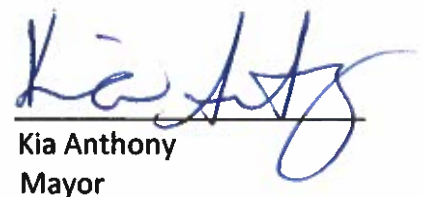
Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Chadwick

Vote: Unanimous

ATTEST:


Carly Autry
Town Clerk




Kia Anthony
Mayor