

Town of Spring Lake
Special Meeting of the Board of Commissioners
Municipal Building
300 Ruth Street
Spring Lake, NC 28390

December 18, 2024

MINUTES

6:00 pm

The Spring Lake Board of Commissioners held a Special Meeting in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Spring Lake Municipal Building with Mayor Kia Anthony presiding.

Board Members Present:

Mayor Pro Tem Sofia L. Cooper
Commissioner Marvin Lackman
Commissioner Raul Palacios
Commissioner Adrian Thompson

Others Present:

Carly Autry, Town Clerk
Police Chief Errol Jarman, Spring Lake Police Department
Jon Rorie, Town Manager

1. Call to order

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

2. Closed Session

Action: Motion to approve to go into Closed Session pursuant to NCGS §143-318.11(a)(3) – Attorney-Client Privilege – TOSL vs. Plush Lounge and Alhobishi Convenience Stores & Rentals, Inc.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Cooper

Second by: Commissioner Thompson

Vote: Unanimous

Action: Motion to approve to come back into Open Session. No action was taken.

Motion by: Commissioner Thompson

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem Cooper

Vote: Unanimous

3. Open Session – Policy Committee meeting to discuss policy changes.

Town Clerk Carly Autry presented a list of nine (9) policies that she recommended for elimination. These policies included:

- Cellular Phones
- Special Separation Allowance for LEO

- Public Comments
- Security of Sensitive and Confidential Information and Breach Response Plan
- On Call Policy
- Code of Ethics
- Education Incentive Policy
- Mendoza Park Concession Stand Guidelines
- Christmas Bonus (now Longevity Pay)

Ms. Autry explained that most of these policies were either already included in the new TOSL Personnel Policy Manual, state-mandated, or no longer applicable.

Ms. Autry stated there was recent discussion regarding the creation of a Proclamation Policy and suggested that instead of creating a separate policy, it could be added to the Rules of Procedure and presented to the Board at the first meeting in January on Monday, January 13, 2025.

Town Manager Jon Rorie raised concerns about prematurely eliminating the Mendoza Park Concession Stand Guidelines. He proposed developing a Facility Use Agreement for a potential baseball and softball program at the park. Mr. Rorie suggested creating a public-private partnership (P3) where a private entity could lease field space for maintenance and a small per-head fee per player.

Mr. Rorie emphasized the importance of taking advantage of community pride and ownership in services provided. He proposed converting the potential partner LLC to a nonprofit to enable tax-deductible donations and sponsorships. The proposed model would include a usage fee for participants, with funds going into a fenced account to support park maintenance.

Mayor Anthony expressed concerns about potential pushback from Cumberland County, which currently offers baseball programs in the Town. Mr. Rorie acknowledged this and mentioned his conversation with Michael Gibson, indicating that the Town was not trying to take over but to participate and support programs within the Town.

There was a discussion about working collaboratively with Cumberland County rather than against them. Board members agreed on the importance of benefiting the Town's shareholders while recognizing the County's role in managing the park.

Mayor Pro Tem Cooper suggested allowing school organizations or nonprofits to use concession stands for fundraising during events. Mr. Rorie emphasized the need for rental fees to ensure that shareholders benefit from the use of public resources.

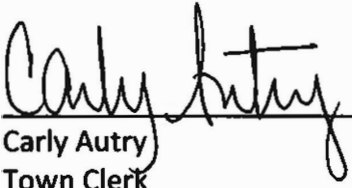
The Board reached a consensus to allow Mr. Rorie to continue working on the Mendoza Park proposal and explore potential partnerships and facility use agreements.

The Board reached a consensus to proceed with Ms. Autry's other recommendations for policy elimination, with the exception of the Mendoza Park Concession Stand Guidelines, which would be held for further consideration. Mr. Rorie requested Ms. Autry to place the remaining eight (8) policies on the agenda for the Monday, January 13, 2025 meeting under Consent Items.


4. Adjournment

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Anthony adjourned the meeting at 6:43 pm.

ATTEST:


Carly Autry
Town Clerk




Kia Anthony
Mayor