

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

March 10, 2025

**MINUTES**

6:00 pm

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

**Board Members Present:** Commissioner Marvin Lackman  
Commissioner Raul Palacios  
Commissioner Adrian Thompson

**Others Present:**

Carly Autry, Town Clerk  
Police Chief Errol Jarman, Spring Lake Police Department  
James Overton, Finance Director  
Michael Porter, Town Attorney  
Lieutenant Danny Sutton, Spring Lake Police Department

**1. Call to Order**

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

**2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Pastor England gave the Invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**3. Additions or Deletions**

Mayor Anthony adjusted the presenter for agenda item 8b. 2025 Spring Lake Resurfacing Project from Town Manager Jon Rorie to Finance Director James Overton, as Mr. Rorie was not present at the meeting.

**4. Approval of Agenda**

**Action:** Motion to approve the March 10, 2025, Regular Meeting agenda with the adjustment.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Thompson

**Second by:** Commissioner Lackman

**Vote:** Unanimous

**5. Approval of Consent Items**

**Action:** Motion to approve Draft Minutes of February 24, 2025, Work Session Meeting, Budget Amendment (BA-15), amended Policy 41. Military Banner Program, and Community Appearance and Sustainability Committee Application – Appoint Lloyd Evans.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Palacios

**Second by:** Commissioner Lackman

**Vote:** Unanimous

Commissioner Lackman clarified the changes to the Military Banner Program. Organizations can now submit applications for a banner using an organizational picture and providing when the organization was founded. Additionally, the dates were changed from Memorial Day to Armed Forces Day when flags will start being flown.

## **6. Public Comment**

Bettye Sanford, Wapiti Drive, raised several concerns regarding the condition of Highway 87, emphasizing the need for repairs to prevent accidents, especially during rainy conditions, inquiring about ongoing work in a specific area, requesting a letter for updates, and questioned why trash collection was delayed.

## **7. Presentations**

- a. Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation – Mayor Kia Anthony – Mayor Anthony read the Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation, declaring April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Town. The Proclamation emphasized the importance of child safety, the serious nature of child abuse and neglect, and the community's role in prevention efforts. After reading the Proclamation, Mayor Anthony invited Ms. Faith Boehmer to accept it and share a few words.
- b. Child Advocacy Center – Faith Boehmer, Prevention & Volunteer Coordinator – Ms. Boehmer provided an update on the center's activities. She reported that in fiscal year 2023-2024, they received 772 referrals of children with allegations, suspicions, or discoveries of abuse. Of those, 552 children came in for forensic interviews. Ms. Boehmer mentioned upcoming events, including a child abuse summit on Friday, April 4, 2025, and a fundraising event on Friday, April 11, 2025, at noon. Mayor Anthony and the Board expressed their gratitude for the Child Advocacy Center's work. Attorney Porter highlighted the critical role the center plays in the Cumberland County legal system, particularly in reducing trauma for children by allowing them to be interviewed only once.
- c. Driven to Lead 5K/10K Fundraiser Run – Stephen Brock, Owner, DRIVEN Sports Academy, LLC – Mr. Brock presented his plans for a 5K/10K Fundraiser Run. He explained that the event aims to raise funds for improving the sports fields at Mendoza Park. Mr. Brock mentioned challenges in getting the fields maintained and his attempts to communicate with County Officials. He stated that the run is scheduled for Saturday, May 31, 2025, and will use Town roads, however, he did not request Town sponsorship. Mr. Brock also noted that 32 Spring Lake athletes have signed up for baseball this Spring through DRIVEN Sports Academy.

## **8. New Business**

- a. Special Event Permit Application: Driven to Lead 5K/10K Fundraiser Run – Mayor Kia Anthony – This item was discussed during agenda item 7c. Mayor Anthony clarified that the event was coming before the Board for approval because it anticipated over 150 attendees. The Special Events Committee had already approved the application. The event would use only Town roads, not DOT roads, so a road closure permit wasn't required. Commissioner Lackman asked about the specific roads affected and

the timing of road closures. Mr. Brock requested for Little River Road to be closed from 8:00 AM to 12:30 PM on the day of the event.

**Action:** Motion to approve the Special Event Permit Application: Driven to Lead 5K/10K Fundraiser Run.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Lackman

**Second by:** Commissioner Thompson

**Vote:** Unanimous

- b. 2025 Spring Lake Resurfacing Project – Finance Director James Overton – Mr. Overton presented information on the Spring Lake resurfacing project. He reported that after initial challenges in receiving bids, they received five (5) bids for the project. The lowest bid was \$755,309.50 from Highland Paving Company. This included \$591,000 for resurfacing various streets and \$164,000 for stormwater improvements on Hedgemoor Circle. Mayor Anthony provided context about the unique challenges of Hedgemoor Circle, describing it as a "unicorn" in terms of complicated piping and mentioning that it had been causing massive flooding issues.

**Action:** Motion to approve the bid submitted from Highland Paving, LLC. in the amount of \$755,309.50.

**Motion by:** Commissioner Palacios

**Second by:** Commissioner Thompson

**Vote:** Unanimous

- c. Budget Amendment (BA-14) – Finance Director James Overton – Mr. Overton presented Budget Amendment 14, which appropriated funds for the resurfacing contract. He explained that they were increasing the budget by \$294,000 from Powell Bill fund balance, noting that they currently have \$1.5 million in Powell Bill funds. Mr. Overton also detailed adjustments to Stormwater Fund allocations. Commissioner Palacios asked for clarification on the discrepancy between budgeted and collected stormwater fees. Mr. Overton explained that some of the additional collected fees may have come from prior year collections.

- d. Mayor's Report – Mayor Kia Anthony – First, Mayor Anthony encouraged residents to download the Town's app to report issues directly. Second, Mayor Anthony stated she and Mayor Pro Tem Cooper attended a Housing Summit and are forming a housing task force to address workforce housing needs. Third, Mayor Anthony stated she and majority of the Board met with County Commissioners to discuss collaboration on various issues. Last, Mayor Anthony stated Lunch with the Mayor is on Wednesday, March 26, 2025, at 12:00 PM at MiCasita.

- e. Board of Commissioners Report – Spring Lake Board of Commissioners – Mayor Pro Tem Cooper was not present at the meeting. Commissioner Thompson stated the Community Watching meeting, which is being held by the Police Department, is on Thursday, March 28, 2025, at 6:00 pm at the Spring Lake Senior Center. Commissioner Lackman's updates are attached in the minutes as **Attachment One**. First, Commissioner Palacios stated the Appearance Committee meeting is Wednesday, March 12, 2025, at 4:00 pm at the Spring Lake Recreation Center. Second, Commissioner Palacios stated the

Town Spring Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 5, 2025, which will include litter pickup and various drop-off services for residents. Third, Commissioner Palacios stated the deadline for informal appeals of property revaluations is Monday, March 24, 2025. Last, Commissioner Palacios stated the Appearance Committee submitted a Grant application for a new mural in the Town. Commissioner Chadwick was not present at the meeting.

- f. Manager’s Report – Town Manager Jon Rorie – Mr. Rorie was not present at the meeting.
- g. Town Attorney Report – Town Attorney Michael Porter – First, Attorney Porter briefly mentioned that the Plush nuisance case would be heard next month. Last, Attorney Porter wished everyone an early Happy St. Patrick’s Day.

**9. Adjournment**

**Action:** There being no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Anthony adjourned the meeting at 6:44 pm.

ATTEST:

  
Carly Autry  
Town Clerk



  
Kia Anthony  
Mayor

## ATTACHMENT ONE

Lackman Notes for BOC Meeting March 10, 2025

Mayor a lot has happened since our last meeting,

**Clean Up** – Our March 01, 2025 was a success. We had 11 volunteers come out and help, many of our regular volunteers, Charles, Patrick Kimberly, Commissioner Thompson and the Spring Lake Chapter of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity Inc.

<https://www.facebook.com/share/v/18rqLEbRzY/>

**Strategic Planning Session** – Has been a great opportunity for our elected officials, Town Manager and staff to come together and discuss and plan our Spring Lake Forward initiative.

**Name change** from Fort Liberty – to Fort Bragg. An interesting story Madam Mayor, Ms. Dianne Watts, daughter of PFC Roland Bragg, whom the Army Installation is now named after, was staying in one of our local hotels and was shopping local here in Spring Lake. I give credit to Jennifer Alexander, our latest Veteran of the Year who had a conversation with Ms. Watts and Jennifer introduced Janine, my wife to her. They struck up a conversation and Janine was “Braggin” about Spring Lake. We saw Ms. Watts at LTC Anderson’s mixer on Friday night and we became her unofficial escort getting from the LTC home back to Spring Lake and escorting her to 18<sup>th</sup> Airborne Corps on Friday. The story does not end there, Jesse Underwood, a member of our MVAAC was working the gate that morning and let her in the gate. I thought that was pretty cool.

More “Braggin” about Spring Lake, I spoke to Ms. Watts about our Military Tribute Banner Program and wanted to have a banner flown in Spring Lake in honor of her father. Now that is ‘Spring Lake Cool”

Spring Lake continues to improve! Over the weekend we had a new business up on and for those residents that want another (different) place to eat, Legacy Rolls is now open.

**Military Tribute Banner Program** – The window is open for the Spring Lake Military Tribute Banner Program. As discussed in Policy #41, the banners will fly on Main Street from Armed Forces Day, May 17<sup>th</sup> through Veterans Day 2025. Last year we had 32 banners flown. Those that had banners flown last year, come in and fill out a waiver form and your banner will be flown for free. Those that would like a banner flown for their loved one, like Dianne Watts in honor of her father, PFC Ronald L. Bragg, the cost is \$188. The deadline for submission is Thursday, April 17, 2025.

**Veterans Park Update** – If you have not seen it, our Streets Department placed the Veterans Park stone at the park. The weather is getting nice and one day soon the centipede grass will start to turn green, bringing our Veterans Park to life.

Lastly, I would like to talk about our “Legacy Program”, If you saw the bench at Veterans Park, we are looking to host our first and hopefully many more to come. The Legacy Program is a sitting bench that is placed either at Veterans Park, other parks, Town Hall, or other approved places. This beautiful bench will be prominently placed, bolted down and a plaque to recognize the honoree.

The benches associated work is \$1900, the ToSL will help offset the cost by 50%. You will need to submit the application along with a Commissioner to sponsor the application to the BOC to be voted on. How cool will that be?