

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

June 23, 2025

MINUTES

6:00 pm

The Spring Lake Board of Commissioners 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 Soña L. Cooper
Commissioner Robyn Chadwick
Commissioner Marvin Lackman
Commissioner Raul Palacios
Commissioner Adrian Thompson

Others Present:

Carly Autry, Town Clerk
James Overton, Finance Director
Jon Rorie, Town Manager
Lieutenant Danny Sutton, Spring Lake Police Department
Fire Chief Jason Williams, Spring Lake Fire Department

1. Call to order

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

2. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Pastor Marsh gave the invocation and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. Additions or Deletions

Mayor Pro Tem Cooper requested to add the Independence Day Proclamation under Presentations.

4. Approval of Agenda

Action: Motion to approve the June 23, 2025, Work Session agenda with the addition of the Independence Day Proclamation under Presentations.

Motion by: Commissioner Chadwick

Second by: Commissioner Palacios

Vote: Unanimous

5. Approval of Consent Items

Action: Motion to approve the draft minutes of June 9, 2025, Regular Meeting and Budget Amendment (BA-21) (corrected from BA-11).

Motion by: Commissioner Palacios

Second by: Commissioner Lackman

Vote: Unanimous

6. Public Comment

None

7. Presentations

- a. Yard of the Month – Commissioner Raul Palacios – Commissioner Palacios announced that Larry Dobbins was the winner for June's Yard of the Month.
- b. Independence Day Proclamation – Mayor Anthony acknowledged the importance of the Fourth of July to the country and mentioned that a Proclamation had been prepared to recognize Independence Day, though it was not read aloud during the meeting.

8. New Business

- a. Adoption of TOSL Budget Ordinance for FY 2025-2026 – Mayor Kia Anthony and Town Manager Jon Rorie – Mr. Rorie presented the Budget Ordinance for Fiscal Year 2025-2026. He highlighted that the budget was structured around four (4) strategic focus areas: sustainable water, revitalization of infrastructure, safe and vibrant community, and economic development opportunities.

Mr. Rorie provided a breakdown of the budget:

- General Fund: \$9,579,800 (balanced)
- Water and Sewer Fund: \$5,673,226 (balanced)
- Storm Water Fund: \$543,000 (balanced)
- Sanitation Fund: \$931,940 (balanced)

He noted that the tax rate would be .741 cents per \$100 valuation as of January 1, 2025, which is expected to generate approximately \$733,000,000 in the tax digest with an estimated 98% collection rate.

Commissioner Palacios acknowledged the high tax threshold for citizens but emphasized the importance of executing the Town's vision. He reiterated the four (4) focus areas and expressed readiness to move forward with the plan.

Action: Motion to approve Town of Spring Lake Budget Ordinance for FY 2025-2026.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem Cooper

Second by: Commissioner Thompson

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of Mr. Rorie's Presentation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see Attachment One.)

- b. Update Regarding Current GFL Recycling Agreement – Town Manager Jon Rorie – Mr. Rorie presented an update on the current GFL Recycling Agreement. He explained that the current agreement runs through June 30, 2028, with a rate of \$13.19 per household per month for municipal solid waste and recycling. The current fee schedule is \$32 per month for weekly garbage and biweekly recycling, plus a \$1 per month litter control fee.

Mr. Rorie presented three (3) options for consideration:

- Keep the same rate at \$396 per year, including six (6) pickups monthly (4 garbage, 2 recycling).
- Reduce the rate to \$368 per year, eliminating recycling.
- Keep the rate at \$396 per year without recycling, but convert some fees to additional blight control and code enforcement efforts.

The Board discussed the options, with several Commissioners expressing concern about eliminating recycling. Commissioner Palacios noted that many in his neighborhood use recycling and worried about waste accumulation if it were eliminated. Commissioner Lackman raised concerns about households having multiple trash cans without paying for additional units.

Mr. Rorie suggested tasking one of the focus groups to look into this issue and report back to the Board by Friday, August 8, 2025. The Board agreed to maintain the current rate of \$396 per year for now and revisit the issue later.

Per Board Consensus, this item was **TABLED** for a later date.

(A copy of Mr. Rorie's Presentation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see Attachment Two.)

- c. Mayor's Report – Mayor Kia Anthony – First, Mayor Anthony wished everyone a Happy 4th of July and mentioned that the July Board meetings have been recessed. Second, Mayor Anthony advised of a heat advisory and urged residents to stay hydrated and check on neighbors, pets, and plants. Third, Mayor Anthony announced that First Friday on Main would begin in August, encouraging interested vendors or sponsors to contact the Clerk. Last, Mayor Anthony reminded everyone of the upcoming Lunch with the Mayor event tomorrow, Tuesday, June 24, 2025, at K-Food Seoul at 12 noon.
- d. Board of Commissioners Report – Spring Lake Board of Commissioners – Mayor Pro Tem Cooper mentioned her ongoing attendance at municipal finance classes, which are available online and free for staff and Board members. She also noted a series on resilience for local municipalities. Commissioner Thompson stated there would be no Cops & Conversations with the Police Department this month, and they will reconvene next month (July). First, Commissioner Lackman discussed the barricade design initiative involving local schools. He presented the designs from Manchester Elementary, Spring Lake Middle School, and W.T. Brown Elementary School, noting that Manchester's design was the most popular in a social media poll. Second, Commissioner Lackman reported on recent community cleanups, highlighting that 66,240 pounds of debris were removed on Saturday, June 7, 2025, with the help of volunteers and Town employees. Last, Commissioner Lackman announced a

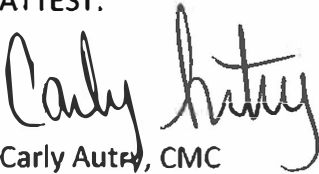
rededication of Veterans Park scheduled for Friday, July 18, 2025, at 3:00 pm, inviting the public to attend and celebrate the park's transformation. Commissioner Chadwick reiterated Mayor Anthony's message about extreme heat and reminded everyone about cooling stations available at Social Services and the Library.

- e. Manager's Report – Town Manager Jon Rorie – First, Mr. Rorie expressed appreciation for the staff's hard work, particularly in relation to the Veterans Park improvements. He mentioned plans for celebrating the park's rededication for the staff. Last, Mr. Rorie discussed the "Paint the Town" initiative involving the decorated barricades and highlighted other small improvement projects around Town, referring to them as "little bets" that add value and improve quality of life.
- f. Town Attorney Report – Town Attorney Michael Porter – First, Attorney Porter briefly commented on Commissioner Palacios' announcement that he would not be running for re-election, expressing that it had been an honor to serve with him. Last, Attorney Porter apologized for missing the last meeting due to illness.

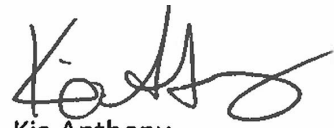
9. ADJOURNMENT

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, Mayor Anthony adjourned the meeting at 6:53 pm.

ATTEST:



Carly Autry, CMC
Town Clerk



Kia Anthony
Mayor



ATTACHMENT ONE

Town of Spring Lake

Managers Proposed Budget

FY 26 Budget Public Hearing

June 23, 2025



Strategic Focus Areas

Safe, Reliable & Sustainable Water, Sewer and Stormwater Systems

Revitalize Town Infrastructure

Safe, Vibrant, and Healthy Community

Economic Development



Budget Ordinance

PROPOSED BUDGET ORDINANCE
FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 2026
PRESENTED FOR ADOPTION ON JUNE 23, 2026

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE by the Board of Commissioners of the Town of Spring Lake, North Carolina pursuant to General Statute 159-181(c)

Section 1. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Town of Spring Lake General Fund for the operation of the Town and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025 and ending June 30, 2026

Department	Amount
GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES	
GENERAL GOVERNMENT	
GOVERNING BODY	118,387
ADMINISTRATION	305,879
FINANCE	688,922
TAX COLLECTIONS	70,000
LEGAL	57,000
HUMAN RESOURCES	102,383
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY / COMMUNICATIONS	201,368
PUBLIC BUILDINGS	530,259
PUBLIC SAFETY	
POLICE	3,626,659
FIRE DEPARTMENT	2,125,029
INSPECTIONS	304,839
TRANSPORTATION	
STREET DEPT	572,543
POWELL BILL	398,000
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT	
PLANNING	40,063
DEBT SERVICE	
PRINCIPAL	230,937
INTEREST	115,567
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	
CONTINGENCY	18,885
Total General Fund Expenditures	\$9,579,800

(Enterprise Fund)



Each Department is an enterprise that must run like a self-supporting business.



Department	Amount
WATER AND SEWER EXPENDITURES	
REVENUE COLLECTION DIVISION	442,236
REVENUE BILLING DIVISION	419,737
PURCHASE OF WATER	2,185,200
WATER & SEWER OPERATIONS	1,200,340
WASTE WATER TREATMENT PLANT	800,002
DEBT SERVICE	
PRINCIPAL	248,011
INTEREST	46,700
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	331,000
Total Water and Sewer Fund Expenditures	<u>5,673,226</u>



Section 5. The following amounts are hereby appropriated in the Spring Lake Storm Water Fund for the operation of the unit and its activities for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2025, and ending June 30, 2026:

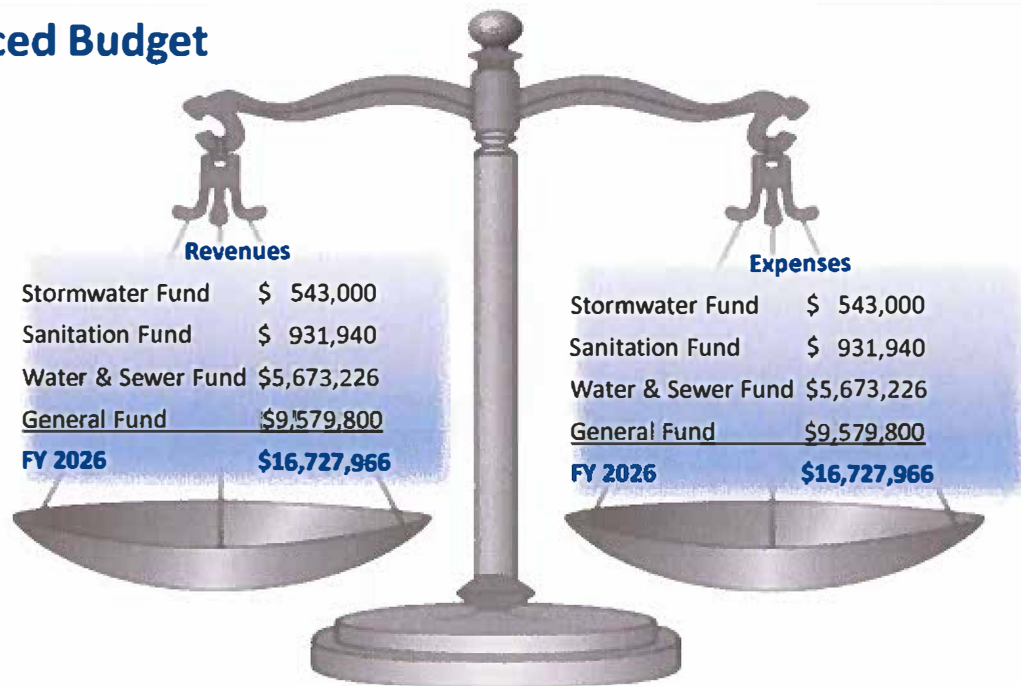
Department	Amount
STORM WATER FUND EXPENDITURES	
STORM WATER	498,000
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	45,000
Total Storm Water Fund Expenditures	543,000



Department	Amount
SANITATION FUND EXPENDITURES	
SANITATION	233,026.00
CONTRACTED SERVICE-SOLID WASTE FEES	425,000.00
INTERFUND TRANSFERS	227,914.00
CONTINGENCY	46,000.00
Total Sanitation Fund Expenditures	<u>931,940.00</u>

- Section 11:** There is hereby levied a tax at the rate of seventy-four and 1/10th cents (\$0.741) per one hundred dollars (\$100) valuation of property as listed for taxes as of January 1, 2025, for the purpose of raising the revenue listed "Current Year's Property Taxes" in the General Fund in Section 2 of this ordinance. The property value is listed as \$733,386,160. This rate is based on an estimated rate of collection of 98%. The estimated rate of collection is based upon the 2024 rate of collection as provided by the Cumberland County Tax Assessor's office.

Balanced Budget



Sanitation-GFL



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA COUNTY OF
Cumberland

ATTACHMENT TWO

AMENDMENT #2 OF Solid Waste CONTRACT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE TOWN OF Spring Lake AND WASTE INDUSTRIES, LLC

This Amendment of the Contract made between the Town of Spring Lake and Waste Industries, LLC dated July 1, 2013, will be as follows.

Section 8.1 Contract Term

The Term of this contract will be extended for an additional term beginning July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2028.

Section 9: Rates

The Contractor will provide service for the following rates from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024 (same as original contract).

\$ 10.55 per Household per month for MSW (1 cart) and Recycle service (1 cart)
\$ 8.00 per additional Household unit in addition to the basic contracted level.
\$ 2.55 per additional Recycle unit.

The Contractor will provide service for the following rates effective July 1, 2024.

\$ 13.19 per Household per month for MSW (1 cart) and Recycle service (1 cart)
\$ 10.00 per additional Household unit in addition to the basic contracted level.
\$ 2.55 per additional Recycle unit.

Section 11: Adjustments of Rates

11.4 The Service Fee (rates) will be adjusted annually effective July 1, 2025, based on the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), U.S. City Average, by expenditure category and commodity and service group, "Garbage and Trash Collection" for the previous 12 months. Notice must be provided to the Town Finance Department no later than January 15th prior to July 1st renewal to ensure the Town can adopt a balanced budget. Notice by Company to Town's Finance Department must be both registered in email and sent to Finance@springlake-nc.gov

Sanitation-GFL



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Sanitation-GFL



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Current Fee Schedule

- \$396 Annual Fee -Revenues
 - \$32 Per Month- Weekly Garbage and Bi-Weekly Recycling
 - \$ 1 Per Month Litter control Fee

\$33 Per Month

<u>FY 2025/2026 Sanitation Budget</u>	<u>\$658,026</u>
Two Techs-	\$ 78,700
Motor Fuels-	\$ 38,240
Debt Service	\$ 0
GFL Contract Costs	\$425,000
Tipping Fees	\$ 32,360 Increase/Ton(Blight)
Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$1,006,000

Proposed Fee Schedule

- **\$368 Annual Fee -Revenues**

- \$29.67 (Per Month- Weekly Garbage Only (**No Recycling /Comingling-68%**)
- \$ 1 Per Month Litter control Fee
\$30.67 Per Month (~\$2.35/Month Cost Reduction or \$28/Year)

<u>FY 2025/2026 Sanitation Budget</u>	<u>\$658,026</u>
Two Techs-	\$ 78,700
Motor Fuels-	\$ 38,240
Debt Service	\$ 0
GFL Contract Costs	\$425,000
Tipping Fees	\$ 32,360 Increase/Ton(Blight)
Unrestricted Fund Balance	\$1,006,000

Solid Waste Fee-Cumberland County - \$130/Year

- Yard Debris(3" Dia., 3' Long, <4 Cubic Yards) No Charge/Week
- Bulky Waste (Mattress/Furniture) \$10/Item
- Construction Debris(\$800/ Roll off) \$38/Ton
- Tires- 5-Tires per year **"Free Disposal"**

Spring Lake Residents do net pay for this service

How can we help?



Options?

- Rate remains \$396/Year for 6 Pick up monthly(4 Garbage and 2 Recycling) \$5.50 per pick up
- Reduce rate to \$368/Year for 4 Pick up Monthly(**Eliminate Recycling**) \$7.66 per pick up
- Rate remains \$396 without recycling, but some fees are converted to additional blight control/code enforcement efforts?