

Town of Spring Lake
Board of Aldermen Workshop
Municipal Building
300 Ruth Street
Spring Lake, NC 28390

July 28, 2008

MINUTES

5:30

p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a workshop in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Municipal Complex with Mayor Ethel T. Clark presiding.

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro-Tem James O'Garra
Alderman Richard Higgins
Alderman Napoleon Hogans
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present: Larry Faison, Town Manager
Tom Spinks, Director of Planning
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

The workshop was held to discuss BRAC RTF priorities. Mr. Spinks gave an overview of what BRAC RTF is doing. Their job is to assist an eleven county region with transitioning communities from pre-BRAC to post-BRAC. They want to help us but they need to know how. They requested we create a list of priorities and where we need help. The Spring Lake Area Detailed Land Use Plan was created in 2002. At that time goals were set for utilities, future growth, economic development, industrial, commercial, environmental, educational facilities and services, park and recreation facilities and services, and transportation. Mr. Spinks gave a brief description of each category. Some things have already been addressed and things have changed since 2002 but this will provide a guideline and a starting point for the Board to consider.

The Board was asked to set up goals and help staff come up with a priority list to present to BRAC. MPO will do a congestion management study. BRAC RTF stated that they will be willing to help us but they wanted a list from the Board of what the Board sees as priorities.

Mr. Faison stated that BRAC RTF is willing to try to assist us with finding funds to do various projects, assist with planning studies, policy level options such as zoning, development strategies, etc.

Mr. Spinks presented a list created by staff that will help the Board with their task. He asked the Board to prioritize the goals and then set objectives for each goal.

Alderman Higgins stated that some of his concerns are pedestrian traffic, pedestrian

bridges and the Industrial Park. He also stated that until the roadway design is determined, some of the initiatives will be hard to determine such as revitalizing Main Street. Main Street may not be easily accessible depending on how the roadway is designed.

Mr. Faison stated that roads should support a vision plan not the other way around.

Alderman Hogans stated that there are implications to some of the items listed. He stated that we need to be careful.

The traffic impact of the East side of Bragg Boulevard in the area of McCormick Farms property was discussed. It was determined that the traffic impact of future development has not been factored in.

Alderman Hogans stated that he does not have enough information to do what he has been asked to do.

Alderman Higgins stated that we really need to work on the neighborhoods in town. The appearance of some of the properties in neighborhoods needs to be addressed. If we don't get a handle on this problem the nice neighborhoods will run down and become blighted areas.

PRIORITIES DETERMINED:

Manager and Staff were given authority to create a Smart Growth Study – a holistic approach including transportation and walkability, development strategies, and design strategies for infrastructure.

Rhonda D. Webb, CMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:

Ethel T. Clark
Mayor