

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

September 22, 2008

MINUTES

7:00

p.m.

The Spring Lake Board of Aldermen held a regular scheduled meeting in the Grady Howard Conference Room of the Spring Lake Municipal Building with Mayor Ethel T. Clark presiding.

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

Others Present:

Larry Faison, Town Manager

Alvin Brown, Police Chief

Debbie Disbrow, Human Resources Officer

Paul Hoover, Director of Inspections

Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk

John Jackson, Town Attorney

Allen Coats, Finance Director

Danny Gerald, W&WR Director

Ken Metcalf, Recreation Director

2. Invocation.

Alderwoman Hogans requested a moment of silence.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Clark led the meeting in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

Mayor Clark advised that there are two minor changes to items contained in the agenda packet. On page one of the September 8, 2008 minutes there is a phrase that was typed twice and one of those phrases was taken out and the minutes reprinted for adoption. Also on agenda item 7a, Amendment to Chapter 51, the Ordinance number has been changed from (2008) 7 to (2008) 6. Number 6 was assigned to an amendment that will not be submitted and to keep everything in sequence, Ordinance amendment (2008) 7 was changed to (2008) 6. The number is the only change being made.

5. Approval of Agenda and Consent Items.

The Board approved a motion to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2008 Board meeting and the consent items.

Motion by: Alderman Hogans

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment one.)

6. Public Forum.

Reginald Thompson, 1008 Diane Circle, co-chairman of Woodland West Community Watch, told the Board that they want speed bumps and want more police presence in the neighborhood. He stated that there is also gang activity in the area. Samuel Drive is the main roadway where speeding is a problem. Mr. Hogans asked him how he concluded that police are not patrolling adequately. He stated that the presence is not there. He stated that when he leaves his home around 4:00 a.m. or comes home around midnight, there are teens roaming the roads and congregating in the area. He also stated that when someone calls the police to check out the teens roaming the area, the police tell the teens who called.

Mr. Roger Hering, 412 Virginia Drive, asked about ambulance service in Spring Lake. He believes more should be done and asked if an ambulance could be stationed here.

7. New Business

a. Amendment to Chapter 51, Water Bill Policy

Mr. Coats presented an amendment to Chapter 51 of the Town's Code of Ordinances concerning the Town's billing practices. He stated that currently our Ordinance and software does not allow for prorating bills for less than a full month. He recommended that the Ordinance be changed to read that if a new customer has less than 10 days on his/her first bill, they will not be billed the flat rate. He stated that the usage of the first month will be added to the second month's bill. This way the customer will be billed for only the amount of water used.

Alderwoman Sutherland asked about a second notice. Mr. Coats stated that second notices are a possibility but the existing budget does not have funds to pay for sending second notices. Alderwoman Sutherland stated that she thought the late notice would pay for sending the notice and Mr. Coats stated that it will not, not at this time. Alderwoman Sutherland requested that Mr. Coats provide information concerning the costs of sending second notices.

Action: The Board approved a motion to adopt Ordinance (2008) 6.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

b. New Chipper Equipment.

Mr. Gerald requested approval from the Board to purchase a new chipper. He stated

that the chipper is down and has been going down periodically since he has been working for the Town. It has had problems for years. It is seventeen years old now and it is time to replace it. He recommended that we purchase one from Ditch Witch for \$32,900. He stated that this price was the high price before the storm hit in Texas but now it is the low price. He stated that the chipper price will go up \$10,000 to \$15,000. We are locked in for this price.

Mr. Jackson clarified that Mr. Gerald is requesting the Board to authorize the purchase and award the bid to Ditch Witch and then the financing of the purchase will be brought back before the Board. Mr. Gerald stated yes.

Action: The Board approved a motion to follow the recommendation of Mr. Gerald as explained by the Attorney.

Motion by: Alderman Hogans

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the supporting documentation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

c. Declaration of Official Intent to Reimburse.

Mr. Coats stated that we will send out for quotes to finance the purchase of the chipper. He stated that anytime you borrow money for something after you purchase it the United States Treasury allows you a 60 day window to get financing. If you go beyond that time frame a declaration of intent is required. This is a "just in case" measure.

Action: The Board approved a motion to accept the declaration of official intent to reimburse.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the supporting documentation is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment four.)

d. Budget Amendment #5.

Mr. Coats presented Budget Amendment #5 to budget loan proceeds for the purchase of a replacement brush chipper for the Sanitation Fund.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Budget Amendment #5.

Motion by: Alderman Hogans

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Budget Amendment is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment five.)

e. Cancel or Reschedule October 13, 2008 Board Meeting.

Mayor Clark advised the Board that she and Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra will be out of town

during the time the October 13th Board Meeting is scheduled and requested that the Board cancel the October 13, 2008 Board Meeting.

Action: The Board approved a motion to cancel the October 13th Board Meeting.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

8. Board and Staff Comments:

Alderman Higgins

- Glad to be here.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

- The Bus service averages 35-36 riders per day. The Town will have additional bus stop sites. Two on Odell Road and a stop right out front at the corner of Ruth and Morehead. He stated that the bus will no longer go down Bragg Boulevard. The bus will travel Murchison Road to Shaw Mill Road.
- Looking for someone to attend CCCAP meeting on October 16, 2008.

Alderwoman McCoy

- Thanked the citizens for coming out and supporting the Board.

Alderman Hogans

- Thanked the Recreation Department for getting the information to the Board. The community appreciates the efforts of the Recreation Advisory Board.

Alderwoman Sutherland

- Thanked everyone for coming out this evening and thanked the Woodland West Community Watch representative for voicing concerns about their community.
- Received information that a web site for soldiers coming to the area has Spring Lake listed as one of the places not to live. She will get the information about the web site and pass it along to Mayor Clark so we can address this and get Spring Lake off the list.
- Stated some concerns from a bus rider that the bus is standing room only and that the last trip to Spring Lake is around 5:30 p.m. If people get off work at 6:00 p.m. they are left without a ride home. She requested Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra to check into this. Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra stated that Spring Lake's route will be getting a bigger bus.
- For the record – she wanted to address a concern that was brought to her attention by Mr. Thompson. She stated that when she was absent from the last Woodland West Community Watch meeting, Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra attended the meeting and requested to speak. She was told that Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra stated that the Board did some illegal acts by telephonically voting while she was absent and after a Board member had died. She stated that Mr. Jackson stated that what we were doing was not illegal. He has never stated that we did anything illegal. She stated

that she believes what Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra did was not appropriate, was very unprofessional and was bashing Board members by stating that we did something illegal. She stated that it was said that the Town of Spring Lake is giving away money to Fayetteville. To her knowledge, Fayetteville is getting 70% of the revenue and Spring Lake is getting 30% of the revenue. She commended the Mayor and the Town Manager for getting the Town more than what was originally proposed.

John Jackson

- Happy to be here.

Mayor Clark

- Annual Fall Clean Up is scheduled for October 4, 2008. Meet at the Community Center at 8:30 a.m.

9. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

Rhonda D. Webb, CMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:

Ethel T. Clark
Mayor