

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

June 14, 2010

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 James Christian
Alderman Richard Higgins
Alderwoman Debora Hudson
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

Michael Uskiewicz, Town Manager	John Jackson, Town Attorney
Byron Blumenfeld, Interim W&WR Director	Allen Coats, Finance Director
Paul Hoover, Director of Inspections	Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
Ken Metcalf, Recreation Director	Tom Spinks, Planning Director
Rhonda Webb, Town Clerk	

2. Invocation.

Mayor Clark gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Clark led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

5. Approval of Agenda.

The Board approved the agenda.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the agenda.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

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

6. Approval of Consent Items.

The Board approved the consent items: Minutes of May 19 & 20, 2010 Special Budget Workshop Meeting and Minutes of the May 24, 2010 Regular Meeting with corrections.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the consent items.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Ms. Peggy Moore of 309 Elaine Street spoke concerning appreciation to Alderman Christian, Alderwoman Hudson and Mr. Uskiewicz for coming to Lakeview Gardens community watch meeting and for getting the ball rolling on correcting some problems.

8. New Business

a. Approval of Planning Agreement with IBI Group.

Mr. Uskiewicz introduced Mr. Jon Thomas and Mr. Darwell Rogers from the Spring Lake Economic Development Committee. They gave a presentation about economic development and key facts that concern Spring Lake and the future growth that is expected. The Committee has determined that they need a master plan, full partnership of the Town of Spring Lake and to create some funding sources. The Board had previously requested that the committee provide recommendations on enhancing the economic opportunities in the town. They also wanted the regional influence area defined. Mr. Thomas advised that the committee had determined the regional influence area as Highway 87 to Spout Springs, across to Highway 210 and back to Andrews Road. He also explained the activity timeline leading up to the request for approval of the planning agreement. They stated that IBI Group was a unanimous decision of the committee and they requested that the Board approve the agreement with IBI Group to conduct an analysis of the market area, community charrettes, assessment of sustainability, evaluate market conditions, recommend specific uses and future funding assistance. They requested that the Board approve IBI Group as the consultant to create Spring Lake's Comprehensive Development Plan – Phase I. Mr. Uskiewicz advised that he concurs.

Alderman Christian asked about the money that the Chamber is requesting from the County. They stated that money is not for this initiative. They expect to get \$30,000 from NC Initiative and if approved \$20,000 from the Town of Spring Lake for this project.

Action: The Board approved a motion to select IBI Group as the professional consultant and authorize the Manager to move forward to prepare a contract for approval by the Town Attorney and Board.

Motion by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo, the planning agreement and the Economic Development Committee powerpoint is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

b. Resolution, Annexation Petition, Quality Oil.

Mr. Spinks presented Resolution (2010) 8 and requested that the Board approve it to annex the Quality Oil property. Part of the property is already in the Town limits.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Resolution (2010) 8.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Resolution (2010) 8 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

c. Approval of 2011 FYE Budget Ordinance.

Mr. Coats presented the proposed FYE 2011 Budget Ordinance and requested that the Board approve it.

Alderman Higgins stated we didn't have much public input. This is not the budget he would like to see. He would like to see more firemen and more money for roads and streets but because of the financial times we just can't do it all. He cautioned all the Board members to monitor the revenue as it comes in to ensure we are bringing in enough money to cover the budget.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the Budget Ordinance for the Town of Spring Lake for the year 2010-2011.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and FYE 2011 Budget Ordinance is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment four.)

d. Resolution, Approving Financing for Fire Truck.

Mr. Coats advised that the final piece of business to be completed to get the fire truck taken care of is to approve the financing for the vehicle. He stated that BB&T was the lowest bidder. We will borrow \$316,006 for a seven year period with an interest rate of 2.97%.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Resolution (2010) 9.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderwoman Hudson

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo, Resolution (2010) 9, table of proposals and debt loan schedule is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment five.)

e. Request for Purchase of Replacement Vehicle, Police Department.

Chief McDuffie requested approval to replace a police vehicle that was involved in an accident. He stated that he intends to buy a used vehicle for \$9,450 to replace it. The vehicle will not be used as a patrol vehicle but as an admin vehicle.

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

f. Budget Amendment #23, Police Department.

Budget Amendment #23 is to amend Fiscal Year 2009-2010 Budget to recognize the insurance settlement funds and the capital purchase associated with replacement of Police Vehicle VIN #5228 that was damaged in an automobile accident

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Budget Amendment #23.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and budget amendment #23 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment seven.)

g. Interlocal Agreement, Town of Spring Lake and Cumberland County Board of Education.

Mr. Metcalf presented the interlocal agreement with Cumberland County Schools. He stated that we have an interlocal agreement currently but it is time to renew the agreement. We renew the agreement every three years.

Alderman Higgins expressed concern about an article that was in the paper today about the Town using the Mae Rudd Williams school building. He wants to make sure that we do not commit Town resources to take over the building without information on the impact on the Town's budget. Mayor Clark clarified that the intent with the Mae Rudd Williams school building was not for the town to take over the building but to have some uses of the building so the building would not sit vacant. Also, they anticipate that with BRAC they will probably need to use the building as an elementary school within the next few years.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the interlocal agreement between the Town of Spring Lake and Cumberland County Board of Education.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderwoman Hudson

Vote: Unanimous

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

h. Ordinance, Minimum Housing.

Mr. Spinks presented the proposed Minimum Housing Ordinance. It was introduced at the last meeting. He stated that it will bring the Town's Ordinances into compliance with the General Statutes. He recommends approval.

Mr. Jackson stated that he approves the Ordinance. He also answered Mayor Clark's question about how long it would take to collect the money once we close on a lien. He advised that we would have to go through the process laid out in the ordinance before we could place a lien on a property. G.S. 160A-233 is the enabling legislation for enforcement. Once you get to the point of having a lien, with 30 days notice, you can choose to foreclose or to collect the debt as a money judgment.

Action: The Board approved a motion to adopt Ordinance (2010) 6.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Ordinance (2010) 6 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment nine.)

i. Ordinance, Public Consumption.

Chief McDuffie presented an Ordinance to enforce the state charge for public consumption. The Town does not currently have an ordinance on the books for public consumption and it is needed to enforce State law.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Ordinance (2010) 7 to amend the Town of Spring Lake Code of Ordinances by adding subsection 50, Public Consumption of Alcoholic Beverages.

Motion by: Alderman Higgins

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Ordinance (2010) 7 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment ten.)

j. Board of Aldermen Code of Ethics Policy.

Mayor Clark presented the ethics policy and advised that it is required by General Statute.

Alderwoman Sutherland stated that she would like to see the policy followed to make sure we stay on the right track.

Action: The Board approved a motion to adopt the Code of Ethics Policy.

Motion by: Alderwoman Hudson

Second by: Alderman Higgins

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the agenda memo and Governing Board Administrative Policy #19 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment eleven.)

9. Board and Staff Comments:

Alderwoman Hudson

- Thank you to everyone for coming out.
- Excited to see Spring Lake moving forward and urged everyone to keep working together. Team work makes the dream work.

Alderman Christian

- Glad everyone came out.
- Thanked Ms. Moore for her comments.
- Thanked the Economic Development Committee for their work.
- Appreciate the hard work that our employees are doing.

Alderwoman Sutherland

- Asked the Police Chief about music being played loud and what the limit is on how many feet away it can be heard? She stated that she believes it is 50 feet. A citizen told her that they called the police about loud music and no one responded. He will check the Ordinance.
- She asked the manager about the front desk and the phone system not being user friendly. Also asked how the Human Resources Director can help if she is busy and if people do not know she is there. The Manager advised that the Clerk and Human Resources Director will set up at the front desk if traffic is heavy during the time that the office assistant is on vacation. He will check on the phone system. He is receiving his phone calls. Mayor Clark advised that she has had problems with the automated phone system. She would like people to reach a person instead of a machine when they call Town Hall.
- Asked about the employee of the month recognition program and requested how it will be handled. The Town Manager advised that anyone can nominate an employee and the Human Resource Director will determine the winner. There will be 4 winners per month. This is a peer structure system. She asked if the Department Directors will have input in the process and the Manager stated yes. She would like to see a committee established to help select the winner. She also asked if an employee can get it more than once. Her main concern is that every employee is equally and fairly treated and has the opportunity, if they are worthy, to get the employee of the month and not the same person getting it all the time. The Manager stated that he will have the Human Resource Director address her concerns in a memo. She stated that this is a great program.
- Thanked Chief McDuffie for securing some grant funds.

Alderman Higgins

- Police Department is commended for the job they are doing. He is seeing progress as far as enforcement of Ordinances. He wants us to keep moving forward, we are on the right track now, keep up the good work.
- Thanked all the employees.
- Appreciate the citizens for coming out to see what we are doing.
- CC Powers' wife passed away this past week. CC Powers was the Town's second Mayor.

Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

- Glad to see the citizens of the Town.
- Good to see the Town departments represented.

Michael Uskiewicz

- Complimented Officer Bronson for the job he is doing with Code Enforcement.

John Jackson

- Happy to be here and appreciate the Board's courtesy for allowing him to go on the trip.

Mayor Clark

- Sworn in a new female police officer today. Our department is looking more like our population.
- Wednesday is Town Hall Day.

10. Closed Session, G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3) – Attorney-Client Privilege.

The Board went into Closed Session at 8:11 p.m.

Action: The Board approved a motion to go into Closed Session under G.S. 143-318.11(a)(3).

Motion: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

Mayor Clark called the meeting back into open session at 8:36 p.m.

11. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Motion: Mayor Pro Tem O'Garra

Second by: Alderman Christian

Vote: Unanimous

Rhonda D. Webb
Rhonda D. Webb, MMC
Town Clerk



ATTEST:

Ethel T. Clark

Ethel T. Clark
Mayor