

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

January 13, 2020

MINUTES

7 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 Larry G. Dobbins presiding.

Board Members Present: Mayor Pro Tem Taimoor Aziz
Alderwoman Soña Cooper
Alderwoman Jackie Jackson
Alderman James O'Garra
Alderwoman Fredricka Sutherland

Others Present:

Daniel Gerald, Town Manager
Tim Garner, Water Resources Director
Claiburn Watson, Finance Director
Melissa Pereira, Deputy Town Clerk

Ellis Hankins, Town Attorney
Troy McDuffie, Police Chief
Jason Williams, Fire Chief
Rhonda D. Webb, Town Clerk/HR Officer

2. Invocation

Alderwoman Sutherland gave the invocation.

3. Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Dobbins led the meeting in the pledge of allegiance.

4. Additions or Deletions to Agenda

The Board added a discussion of the Resolution for the Tablets as item 10d. They deleted Consent items 6a-6f, minutes, Item 10b, Bid Award, Spring Lake Fire Station #11 and Closed Session G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) – Economic Development from the agenda.

5. Approval of Agenda

The Board approved the agenda as amended.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve the agenda with the additions and changes.

Motion by: Alderwoman Jackson

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

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:

- a. Minutes of the October 17, 2019 Special Meeting
- b. Minutes of the October 28, 2019 Regular Meeting
- c. Minutes of the November 18, 2019 Special Meeting
- d. Minutes of the December 9, 2019 Regular Meeting
- e. Minutes of the December 10, 2019 Special Meeting

- f. Minutes of the December 19, 2019 Special Meeting
- g. Resolution (2020) 1, Bank Signature Card Change

(A copy of Resolution (2020) 1 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment two.)

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve consent item 6g, Resolution (2020) 1, Bank Signature Card Change.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous

7. Public Forum

Ms. Betty Sanford, 104 Wapiti Drive, thanked the Mayor and Board for what they have already done. She stated citizens want to see a movie theatre, bowling alley, a pool and Fun, Fun, Fun in Spring Lake. She also requested to know what happened to Big Lots. She spoke about the blight in Town and nuisance cars and asked what's wrong. She asked why, if someone wants to name a street or something after someone, can we not do it while they are living so they can enjoy it. She told the Board to get it together.

Mr. Efrain Delacruz, Fayetteville, NC (originally from Spring Lake) spoke about the Town Manager hiring process. He stated he wants an explanation on how the Town Manager hiring process went. He stated he is a retired Colonel with thirty-two years of military experience and stated he has experience managing budgets, commanded a Battalion of more than 3,600 soldiers under his command and more than \$500B worth of assets under his command. He stated that as the process progressed, he was one of the top 3 candidates and thought he would have a pretty good chance at the position. He stated he really thought Ms. Cox would be the best candidate for the position and told her that he wanted her to get the job because she would have been the right person for Spring Lake. He stated he did some research on the previous Town Manager and found negative things. He stated he learned that he had not handled the audits correctly at a previous municipality and stated the minimal thing a Town Manager must do is ensure that the audits and budgets are done. He stated he is disappointed because he spent two or three days preparing for the process and then he found out the whole process was a hoax. He stated that Mayor Dobbins looked him right in the eyes, Alderman O'Garra came in at the last minute, Alderwoman Jackson was falling asleep. At this point, Mayor Dobbins stopped him because his 3 minutes were up. Mr. Delacruz asked if Mayor Dobbins had ever extended the time for other people and Mayor Dobbins stated he may have but this is a new day and the time is set. Mayor Dobbins invited Mr. Delacruz to come back at the next meeting and speak again to finish what he wants to say.

8. Presentations

a. 2020 Census

Ms. Gross, Spring Lake Library, gave information about the US Census that is happening this year. It is a count taken every 10 years and is imperative that it is accurate. This year people can respond online. The first mailing will be sent out in March 2020. The library will provide two desktop computers to be housed at Town Hall for citizens to complete the form. She is the designated contact person for all things Census in Spring Lake. The Census Bureau is hiring people to go door to door after the time allotted for completing the form to try to get the information.

9. Public Hearing

a. Annexation, Spring Lake Fire Station #11

Mayor Dobbins open the Public Hearing. No one spoke for or against the Annexation.

Action: The Board approved a motion to close the Public Hearing.

Motion by: Alderwoman Jackson

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

Vote: Unanimous

10. New Business

a. Ordinance (2020) 1, Annex Spring Lake Fire Station #11 Property

Chief Williams presented Annexation Ordinance (2020) 1 to annex the property for the Spring Lake Fire Station #11.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Ordinance (2020) 1 to annex the property for Spring Lake Fire Station #11.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Agenda memo, site map, and Ordinance (2020) 1 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

b. Bid Award, Spring Lake Fire Station #11

This item was deleted from the agenda.

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

c. Budget Amendment 2020.2, Fire Department

Mr. Watson presented Budget Amendment 2020.2 to budget grant funds from South River Electric Membership Cooperative to purchase a night vision drone.

Action: The Board approved a motion to approve Budget Amendment 2020.2.

Motion by: Alderwoman Sutherland

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous

(A copy of the Agenda memo and Budget Amendment 2020.2 is hereby incorporated by reference and made a part of these minutes – see attachment three.)

d. Discussion of Tablet Resolution

After a short discussion about what the rules for the tablet stipend, the Board requested Mr. Gerald to check into the last time the Board received the stipend and report back.

**11. Closed Session G.S. 143-318.11(a)(4) – Economic Development – this item was deleted from the agenda
G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) – Personnel**

Action: The Board approved a motion to go into Closed Session pursuant to G.S. 143-318.11(a)(6) – Personnel.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous

Action: The Board approved a motion to come back into open session.

Motion by: Alderwoman Cooper

Second by: Alderwoman Jackson

Vote: Unanimous


12. Adjournment.

Action: There being no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

Motion: Alderwoman Jackson

Second by: Alderwoman Cooper

Vote: Unanimous


Rhonda D. Webb, MMC, NCCMC
Town Clerk

ATTEST:


Larry G. Dobbins
Mayor