

**TOWN OF COWPENS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
5330 N. Main St.
Tuesday, February 21, 2023**

The Town of Cowpens held a regular meeting on Tuesday, February 21, 2023, at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem Jarred S. Spencer, and Council Members Pam Camp, Thomas Voelker, and Erin P. Wofford. Staff present included: Steve Bolin, Town Administrator, Teresa Carter, Town Clerk, and Fire Chief Tony Blanton. Mayor Michael D. Hamrick called the meeting to order, and Erin P. Wofford held prayer, including a moment of silence for families who lost their loved ones during the month.

Approval of Agenda

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve and amend the agenda for February 21, 2023, to include information on the cell tower lease, seconded by Pam Camp, and carried.

Approval of Minutes & Financial Statements

Council reviewed the minutes, purchase journals, accounts registers, and monthly bank statements.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the minutes of January 17, 2023, seconded by Pam Camp and carried.

Pam Camp made a motion to approve the purchase journals for January 2023, seconded by Jarred S. Spencer, and carried.

Pam Camp made a motion to approve the January 2023 bank statements as presented, seconded by Jarred S. Spencer, and carried.

USS Cowpens Veterans Association

Mayor Hamrick recognized members of the USS Cowpens Veterans Association (Mark Giannini, Danyelle Goode, and Randy Goode). Association members updated town council on their plans to oversee a Cowpens Hometown Heroes Banner Program. For participants a custom banner will be displayed on the west side of Palmetto Street from Wednesday, June 14th – Sunday, June 18th. The cost to participants will be \$100.00 and will include a heavy duty, double sided vinyl banner with their military photo, name, branch and years of service on both sides. On June 19th the banners will be taken down. Participants will have the option to pick up the banner, have it mailed to their address, or make an additional donation of \$25.00 to have the banner stored and displayed at the 2024 Mighty Moo Festival. Proceeds will go to Cowpens Museum & Civic Center restoration. Mayor Hamrick and town council thanked the committee for the presentation and thinking of donating funds to the Cowpens Museum & Civic Center.

Miss Spartanburg Scholarship Organization

Mayor Hamrick recognized Mrs. Robin Dixon, Local Executive Director of Miss Spartanburg Scholarship Organization, Tambi Caggiano, Board Member for Miss Spartanburg Scholarship Organization, Maddy Strawn, Miss Cowpens, and Madison Foster, Miss Teen Cowpens. Mayor Hamrick presented Mrs. Dixon with scholarship funds for Miss Cowpens and Miss Teen Cowpens. Maddy Strawn and Madison Foster greeted town council with a brief introduction and stated their platforms. Mayor Hamrick and town council thanked Mrs. Dixon, Mrs. Caggiano, and scholarship winners for attending the council meeting.

Department Reports

Steve Bolin reported the number of calls for the police department. The police department issued 57 citations during the month of January 2023. Fines collected totaled \$4,957.00. The town's portion was \$1,651.17.

The fire department responded to 34 calls during January 2023. Eight calls were in the Town of Cowpens, 14 in the Cowpens Fire District, four in Spartanburg County Mutual Aid District, and eight in Cherokee County Mutual Aid District.

Mileage for each department was 10,235 in the police department, 2,031 in the fire department, and 509 in the street department.

NEW BUSINESS

A. 1st Reading – Fire Department Ordinance Update Chapter 7

Chief Tony Blanton reviewed with town council the proposed update of the Fire Department Ordinance. Chief Blanton explained that most of the updates were just house keeping updates. The main change was adding a paragraph in Section 7-74 "Each fiscal year the Town of Cowpens shall designate at least 27 mills of ad valorem taxes to fund the fire fund and the budget for the fire department." Pam Camp made a motion to approve the first reading of this ordinance, seconded by Erin P. Wofford, and carried.

Guest Present: Members of the USS Cowpens Veterans Association; Mark Giannini, Danyelle Goode, and Randy Goode. Maddy Strawn, Miss Cowpens, Madison Foster, Miss Cowpens Teen, Robin Dixon Local Director of Miss Spartanburg Scholarship Organization, and Tambi Caggiano, Board Member of Miss Spartanburg Scholarship Organization.

B. Hospitality Grant Request - Mighty Moo Crewmen Dinner

A Hospitality Grant Request was made to assist in funding the Mighty Moo Crewmen Dinner. The request is for \$2,000.00 and will help provide an evening meal for the crewmen and their families. Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to award the \$2,000.00 to the Mighty Moo Crewmen Dinner, seconded by Pam Camp, and carried.

C. Tiny Home Information

Steve Bolin provided a model ordinance for town council to review for “Tiny Homes”. Other towns across the state are facing similar situations with tiny homes being built. Mr. Bolin is providing information and discussion to adding a similar ordinance to the Town of Cowpens ordinances. Updates will be provided at a future date.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Farmer’s Market Rental

Steve Bolin, Teresa Carter, and town council discussed the use and rental rates of the Farmer’s Market building. No action was taken.

B. Cell Tower Updates

Mayor Hamrick provided town council with updated information on the cell tower buy-out. He also discussed investments for the funding and interest rates. No action was taken.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to adjourn, seconded by Erin P. Wofford, and carried.

Mayor Michael D. Hamrick

Mayor Pro-Tem Jarred S. Spencer

Council Member Pam Camp

Attest:

Council Member Thomas Voelker

Teresa Carter, Town Clerk

Council Member Erin P. Wofford

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