Town of Cowpens
Special Council Meeting
April 5, 2016

The Town of Cowpens held a special meeting on Tuesday, April 5, 2016, at 6:30 p.m. Present were, Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda J. Adair, Council Members Bobby Dowis, Roy Logan and Jarred S. Spencer.

Mayor Michael D. Hamrick called the meeting to order and prayer was held by Bobby Dowis.

Brenda J. Adair informed council that the Veterans Park Committee has a very few members to date. She is suggesting that Steve Bolin and Teresa Chadwick take care of any financial matters that need to be handled through Spartanburg County Foundation, since they are at town hall during normal business hours. Council agreed and Mrs. Adair will bring the paperwork to town hall.

Mayor Hamrick suggested allowing the American Legion Post to help with activities and get the membership boosted in the Veterans Park Committee.

Bobby Dowis remarked that he is receiving complaints about the tarps and trees at the green house, on the corner of Palmetto Street and Main Street, making visibility hard and putting drivers at risk. Council suggested contacting the owner and encourage them to correct the situation.

Brenda J. Adair would like to add shrubs and other plants at Timken Community Center. Council agreed to spend approximately $200.00 for the work.

Brenda J. Adair also reminded council that the acoustics were bad in the community room. Steve Bolin has been working with Les Duggins on an option for council to consider, black and white photos on frames with foam backing. Mr. Bolin was instructed to come up with the cost to present to council.

Mr. Bolin reviewed ordinance violations within the town. Some situations will require funding for demolition and legal expenses. He will continue working to resolve issues on dilapidated properties throughout town.

Council reviewed a proposed budget for 2016-2017. The following expenses were reviewed:

- General Expense – to include insurance, veterans park expenses and upcoming capital expenses
- Police Expense – discussion of Body Worn Cameras (BWC) including a new line item for BWC, training, retention and storage for BWC, gas and oil prices, and inmate fees
- Street Department Expense – to include contract labor
- Garbage Expense – increase in 1 year contract
- Office/Administrative/Judicial

Mr. Bolin presented information on Quiet Zones for railroad crossings. He has found that the process to implement a quiet zone can be difficult. There are one or two quiet zones in SC and they are in larger cities. Quiet Zones would require the closing of multiple crossings. The engineering fees alone would cost the town $200-$300,000. Council instructed Mr. Bolin to put this item on the agenda for April 18, 2016.

Brenda J. Adair wants to use the remaining funds from the Allure Project Committee to place new flags on Main Street. She will get more information for council.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, second by Brenda J. Adair and carried.

Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor

Brenda J. Adair, Mayor Pro-Tem

Bobby Dowis, Council Member

Attest: Roy Logan, Council Member

Teresa Chadwick, Town Clerk Jarred S. Spencer, Council Member