

**Town of Cowpens
Regular Council Meeting
April 18, 2016**

The Town of Cowpens held a regular meeting on Monday, April 18, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. Present were, Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Council Members Bobby Dowis, Roy Logan and Jarred S. Spencer. Absent: Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda J. Adair.

Mayor Michael D. Hamrick called the meeting to order and opened the floor for prayer request or mention of families who may have had a death during the last month. Prayer was held by Jarred S. Spencer and included a moment of silence in memory of the citizens of the Cowpens area.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the agenda for April 18, 2016, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Becky Slayton, Director of Spartanburg Community Indicators Project, was recognized by Mayor Hamrick. The Project has identified seven indicator areas of Spartanburg County's quality of life: Civic Health, Cultural Vitality, Economy, Education, Natural Environment, Public Health and Social Environment. Ms. Slayton shared information on the Project and changes that have been implemented.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the minutes of the March 21, 2016 and April 5, 2016 meetings, second by Bobby Dowis and carried.

APPROVAL OF FINANCES

Council reviewed the purchase journals, account registers and monthly statements. Bobby Dowis made a motion to approve the purchase journals, account registers and monthly statements, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Police Department

Officers issued 31 citations and 26 warnings. Thirteen of these citations were for speeding. Total fines collected \$10,407.25 and the town's portion was \$3,900.99. A total of 8,895 miles were accumulated on seven vehicles.

Fire Department

Steve Bolin reported that the fire department had 32 fire calls during the month of March. Nine calls were in the town, eight calls in the fire district, eight in Spartanburg County, and seven in Cherokee County. A total of 2,207 miles were accumulated on seven vehicles.

Street Department

A total of 279 miles were accumulated on two vehicles. Spring clean-up has been completed.

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Peace Officer's Memorial Day

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve a Proclamation designating May 15, 2016 as Peace Officer's Memorial Day, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Quiet Zone for Railroad Crossings

Steve Bolin compiled information from Norfolk Southern and other entities for a Quiet Zone in Cowpens. All requirements of the Federal Railroad Administration rules must be met to establish a new quiet zone, including submitting a written notification to initiate the process. A \$5,400 quiet zone administrative handling fee applies and requesting parties will be responsible for payment before completion of the Norfolk Southern's review. The Town of Cowpens pays for preliminary engineering, construction, maintenance, and replacement of active warning devices or their components installed at crossings to meet quiet zone standards. The Town of Cowpens must enter into a contract guaranteeing reimbursement to the railroad 30 days after railroad work is completed. Costs to install safety measures vary.

Examples:

- ✓ Four-Quadrant Gate Systems - \$400,000
- ✓ Basic Active Warning System - \$250,000
- ✓ Basic Interconnect - \$10,000 (yearly)
- ✓ Annual Maintenance - \$7,000

In addition, Norfolk Southern would close a portion of the crossings in town. Council decided not to pursue this venture and to contact Norfolk Southern to exert efforts to control the frequency of the horn as it passes through the community.

Employee Handbook Revisions –

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to continue the revisions on the employee handbook until the next scheduled meeting, second by Bobby Dowis and carried.

Veterans Park Lights

Get price about taking care of lights.

Show Pros/Mighty Moo Festival

Steve Bolin presented information from Show Pros to enter into an agreement to secure extra help during the Mighty Moo Festival. This would consist of four personnel and one supervisor to help keep park clean, and assist with security during the parade, 5K and children's parade. The cost will be \$1,799.99 for entire event. Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the cost using Hospitality Tax Funds, second by Roy Logan and carried.

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Hospitality Grant Request

The Phyllis Logan presented a hospitality grant application requesting \$500 for a Mother's Day Brunch at the Timken Community Center. The keynote speaker, Dr. Carlotta Reddish, will make a presentation on The Importance of Community Leadership. Donations will be accepted for the brunch and proceeds will benefit the Children's Miracle Network. Bobby Dowis made a motion to award the grant request, second by Roy Logan, three in favor and one opposed (Jarred S. Spencer). Motion carried.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, second by Bobby Dowis 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