

**TOWN OF COWPENS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
July 29, 2019**

The Town of Cowpens held a goal setting workshop on Monday, July 29, 2019, at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor-Tem Brenda J. Adair, Council Members Roy Logan, and Jarred S. Spencer. Thomas Voelker was absent.

Steve Bolin, Town Administrator, updated council on the situation at 182 Maple Street. The grass hasn't been mowed in months. A written warning was issued in March and Mr. Bolin spoke with the owner. The problem is still present, and a citation has been issued. The court date is August 12, 2019. No further contact has been made with the owner/occupant. The vehicle hasn't been moved and the tag is expired. The utilities are apparently being paid. One of the neighbors mowed the front yard. Mr. Bolin will appear in court against the property owner.

Council discussed placing liens on derelict properties, if the town pursues cleaning the property, condemnation process, and other possible actions. Brenda J. Adair will visit Sharon West, at Spartanburg County, to research the lien process.

Mayor Hamrick and town council recognized Mr. Trey Eubanks, of Appalachian Council of Governments. Mr. Eubanks introduced himself as the Government Services Manager. He provides support for counties, municipalities, and special purpose districts in six counties of the upstate region.

Mr. Eubanks was present to conduct a "Goal Setting Session" with town council. He updated council on their responsibilities, informed them of training opportunities, and networking with other municipalities. He commended council for making the effort to set goals.

Goal setting gives good direction to your town administrator to move forward and prioritize projects and programs. Tonight, council will identify goals, prioritize their list, and move to develop an action plan. Goals need to be evaluated on an annual basis and adjust the action plan if goals change. There are benefits to goal setting. Everyone can express their thoughts, manage time more effectively, enhance communication, establish guidelines for the budget, and provide a standard to measure accomplishments. It is a good idea to hold annual sessions to review goals during policy changes and budget planning.

Council made a list of goals and prioritized them as follows:

- ❖ Options for the Cowpens Middle School Building
- ❖ Short Term Rental Ordinance – Air Bed & Breakfast
- ❖ Complete Veteran Park names
- ❖ Code Enforcement
- ❖ Comprehensive Plan & GIS Mapping
- ❖ Update Street Signs
- ❖ Option for cleaning up Linda Mill site
- ❖ Façade Program
- ❖ Review/Update Code of Ordinances
- ❖ Vacant Buildings
- ❖ Economic Development
- ❖ Repair Gazebo
- ❖ Kids Summer Lunch Program
- ❖ Expand Recreation Programs
- ❖ Examine Grant Opportunities

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- ❖ Better Communication with Cowpens National Battlefield – Tourism
- ❖ Become more Proactive with Hospitality Funds
- ❖ Beautification Program (Spots of Pride)

Mayor Hamrick suggestion was to research grant opportunities along with prioritizing the list. This would make a significant impact on the town council's decision-making process.

Council discussed the goals and after prioritizing them the top three goals included:

- Become more Proactive with Hospitality Funds
- Code Enforcement
- Kids Summer Lunch Program

Trey Eubanks encouraged council and acknowledged that council had a great blueprint to begin working on the goals for Cowpens. He suggested taking some of the goals and develop phases to work on over a five-year period.

The mayor and town council thanked Mr. Eubanks for his time and direction.

Meeting adjourned.

Mayor Michael D. Hamrick

Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda J. Adair

Council Member Roy Logan

Attest:

Council Member Jarred S. Spencer

Teresa Carter, Town Clerk

Council Member Thomas Voelker