

**TOWN OF COWPENS
SPECIAL COUNCIL MEETING
5330 N. Main St.
August 10, 2021**

The Town of Cowpens held a special meeting on Tuesday, August 10, 2021, at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem Jarred S. Spencer, Council Members Roy Logan, Thomas Voelker, and Erin P. Wofford. Mayor Hamrick called the meeting to order, and Jarred S. Spencer held prayer.

Tax incentives for first responders that work for the town were discussed. Jarred S. Spencer spoke about the incentive for first responders. It was brought to his attention that some other entities were creating incentives to attract first responders to their departments. Chief Tony Blanton stated that this was considered to attract volunteers and requested that town council consider any incentives and check with our town attorney to see what could be done.

Chief Danny Swofford presented raises for the police department and discussed promotions with town council. Thomas Voelker questioned who would be called in the chief's absence. Chief Swofford stated that it would be the lieutenant. Jarred S. Spencer wanted to know if the pay raises were for all police officers and would like to see a comparison at the August 16, 2021, meeting. Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to continue discussion until this meeting, second by Erin Wofford and carried.

Town Council discussed the road fees collected by Spartanburg County. There are still paving requests pending, including S. Linda Street. Steve Bolin informed town council that S. Linda Street and the 2020 paving request will be completed. The 2021 request is still in question to be paved in 2022.

A resolution was passed by Spartanburg County in 2019 to suspend services to municipalities for animal control, road paving and patching, stormwater services, etc., with no notice. This decision was passed by County Council and was not communicated except where services were denied as needs were reported. The mills still show on the county budget as being paid by municipalities. Unincorporated areas still receive services.

Town Council discussed property owners in the central business district having window billboards on their store fronts. Mayor Hamrick has been focusing on façade grants with the merchants. Steve Bolin spoke with the administrator of the zoning department for the City of Gaffney, and they don't have a window billboard ordinance. Erin Wofford agrees that we don't need advertising for outside business on windows. Jarred S. Spencer feels that it is worth researching and Steve Bolin was instructed to check with the town attorney.

The use of the farmer's market was discussed by town council. Mayor Hamrick detailed roadblocks encountered by the USDA. He would like to pursue a grant from Mary Black Foundation to upfit the facility and partner with Regenesys to utilize the building. This will be discussed after more information is obtained.

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Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to adjourn, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Mayor Michael D. Hamrick

Mayor Pro-Tem Jarred S. Spencer

Council Member Roy Logan

Attest:

Council Member Thomas Voelker

Teresa Carter, Town Clerk

Council Member Erin Wofford