

**TOWN OF COWPENS  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
September 24, 2018**

The Town of Cowpens held its regular council meeting on Monday, September 24, 2018, at 6:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda J. Adair, Council Members Roy Logan, and Jarred S. Spencer, and Thomas Voelker.

Mayor Hamrick called the meeting to order and Jarred S. Spencer held prayer and included a moment of silence for the families of area residents who had lost loved ones and those who have sickness in their families.

**Approval of Agenda**

Brenda J. Adair made a motion approve for September 24, 2018 and to add executive session under new business, second by Jarred S. Spencer and carried. Brenda J. Adair also made a motion to add discussion of the property at Palmetto Street and S. Main Street to the agenda under Old Business, second by Roy Logan and carried.

**Approval of Minutes & Financial Statements**

Council reviewed the minutes of August 20, 2018 and August 28, 2018. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve these minutes, second by Jarred S. Spencer and carried.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the purchase journals, account registers, and monthly bank statements, second by Roy Logan and carried.

**Department Reports**

Mileage for each department for the month of August is:

Police Department 5,643  
Fire Department 3,490  
Street Department 938

Steve Bolin reported the number of fire calls for the fire department. The fire department answered 20 calls for the month of August 2018. Seven calls were in the Town, eight calls in the fire district, three calls were mutual aid in Spartanburg County, and two calls in Cherokee County.

The police department issued 40 citations during the month of August 2018 and 38 warnings. Fines collected totaled \$3,589.50. The town's portion was \$1,302.25.

Chief Swofford introduced Kenneth Ettlemyer and Ray Mullinax as our new officers for the department. He also updated council on the Body Worn Camera grant that former Chief Meredith had applied for to upgrade the cameras, in the amount of \$7,900.00. This includes the purchase of two points of storage, one on site and one off site. Officers will be trained this week on the Spillman program.

Fire Chief Tony Blanton informed town council that some of the fire fighters from our department assisted with swift water rescue during Hurricane Florence. He is in the process of applying for reimbursement through FEMA.

**Old Business**

Steve Bolin updated council on the progress of forming the Board of Zoning Appeals and scheduling a meeting to discuss a variance for 105 Palmetto Street. Mr. Bolin recently formed the Board

of Zoning Appeals and scheduled a meeting. A quorum wasn't met, and the meeting was delayed. The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 2018 and then a public hearing will be scheduled to inform the surrounding property owners of any proposed changes.

### **New Business**

#### **A. Setoff Debt Update**

Teresa Carter updated council on the Setoff Debt Program. Initial letters were mailed on September 5, 2018. Since that time \$2,267.50 has been collected. Total debt for 160 letters was \$66,996.38. Since the Town of Cowpens started the program in 2014 \$16,080.09 has been collected. The next phase will be to send the report to the SC Department of Revenue for collection. This year the town is required to approve an update Resolution and Ordinance.

#### **B. Setoff Debt Resolution**

Council was present Resolution No. 001 TO AUTHORIZE THE MUNICIPAL ASSOCIATION OF SOUTH CAROLINA TO ACT AS CLAIMANT AGENCY FOR THE COLLECTION OF DEBT ON BEHALF OF THE TOWN OF COWPENS IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE SETOFF DEBT COLLECITON ACT. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to authorize Mayor Michael D. Hamrick to sign this Resolution on behalf of the Town of Cowpens, second by Roy Logan and carried.

#### **C. First Reading – Setoff Debt Ordinance**

Council review Ordinance No. 2018-002 RELATING TO THE RECOVERY OF COLLECTION COSTS AS A PART OF DELINQUENT DEBTS COLLECTED PURSUANT TO THE SETOFF DEBT COLLECTION ACT. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve the first reading of the SETOFF DEBT COLLECTION ACT ORDINANCE, ORDINANCE NO. 2018-002, second by Roy Logan and carried.

#### **D. Hospitality Tax Request – Cowpens Black Historical Committee**

Roy Logan made a motion to approve a Hospitality Tax Grant Request in the amount of \$500.00, second by Brenda J. Adair and carried. These funds are for a Silver Sponsorship in the amount of \$500.00 and the program will be provided as proof of receipt.

#### **E. Hospitality Tax Requests – Cowpens Area Merchants Association (CAMA)**

The CAMA submitted two grant requests. One for the annual fall Arts & Antiques on Main for \$1,400.00 and one for the annual Boo Fest for \$800.00. Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to award CAMA \$1,200.00 for the fall Arts & Antiques on Main event, second by Brenda J. Adair. Motion carried three to two (Michael D. Hamrick and Roy Logan opposed.) Roy Logan made a motion to award \$800.00 for Boo Fest, second by Jarred S. Spencer and carried. These funds will be used to purchase candy for Boo Fest.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to enter executive session to discuss personnel matters, second by Roy Logan and carried. Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to come out of executive session, second by Roy Logan and carried.

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

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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