Town of Cowpens
Regular Council Meeting
January 19, 2016

The Town of Cowpens held a regular meeting on Tuesday, January 19, 2016, at 7:00 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 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.

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve the agenda for January 19, 2016 and to amend the agenda adding the group Three + One, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the minutes of the December 15, 2015 and January 9, 2016, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Guest

Mayor Hamrick recognized Three + One's Co-Owner and CEO, Joe Rulison. Mr. Rulison informed council that his company assists public entities with their banking needs and helps them in understanding the direction of where banking is going. Three + One comes in and takes a look at what the town should take advantage of and make sure we are aware of our needs. This study will get the town ready to use more technology. The cost of the study is $2,500 and if they find that they cannot help us then there will be no charge for their services. Mayor Hamrick and council thanked Mr. Rulison for his time and presentation.

Council reviewed the purchase journals Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to approve the purchase journals, account registers and monthly statements, second by Brenda J. Adair and carried.

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve the account registers and monthly statements, second by Jarred S. Spencer and carried.

Street Department

A total of 289 miles were accumulated on three vehicles.

Fire Department

Steve Bolin reported that the fire department had 36 fire calls during the month of December. Thirteen calls were in the town, 11 calls in the fire district, eight in Spartanburg County, and four in Cherokee County. Calls consisted of one brush fire, six structure fires, two vehicle fires, four alarms, four first responder calls, 12 vehicle accidents and seven others. A total of 1,629 miles were accumulated on seven vehicles.

Chief Blanton made inquiries at Spartanburg County and Cherokee County about the tax revenue coming from Beri Cap and Dollar Tree. Cherokee County provided the necessary information and Chief Blanton was able to recover fire district taxes beginning in 2009, totaling $37,596. This will generate an annual $10,000 in the fire department budget, from Beri Cap alone. Dollar Tree taxes will follow after construction is completed. Long term debt and small needs (furniture, uniforms, etc.) will be considered using the funds. Council commended Chief Blanton for his efforts.

Police Department

The police department received 195 calls for service during December. Officers issued 38 citations and 65 warnings. Eleven of these citations were for speeding. Total fines collected $3,991.00 and the town's portion was 1,429.43. A total of 9,994 miles were accumulated on seven vehicles.

Body Worn Cameras – Steve Bolin presented a timeline for the cameras. State guidelines came out in December 2015. Ours is due 3/7/2016. Chief Makupson has a copy of the timeline. First draft should be completed by 2/15/16. Funding will not be available if you don't have your policy in place. Training will be provided by the manufacturer. Guidelines still have to be met by LETC. Storage is an issue as well. Cloud storage and other options will be considered.

The police department has purchased a 2016 Ford Explorer. The 2016 Ford Taurus will be in and a purchase order has been issued.

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to mark all of the police vehicles, second by Jarred S. Spencer and carried. One in favor (Jarred S. Spencer) and four opposed. Brenda J. Adair amended her motion to allow 75% to be marked vehicles, second by Michael D. Hamrick. Three in favor and two opposed (Jarred S. Spencer and Roy Logan).

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to accept the design for the marking the vehicles regardless of the price, second by Bobby Dowis and carried.

Chief Makupson and Steve Bolin decided to allow a mechanic to inspect the vehicles to determine which ones would perform best to meet the needs of the department.

Chief Makupson wanted to commend the police officers for their performance. The department has recently had a flood of calls. Some of our citizens have also gone above and beyond what was expected of them and have been supportive of the police department.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion for the meeting to adjourn, second by Roy Logan 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