TOWN OF COWPENS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 15, 2018

The Town of Cowpens held its regular council meeting on Monday, October 15, 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 Brenda J. Adair 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

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion approve the agenda for October 15, 2018, with adding an executive session to discuss personnel matters, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Approval of Minutes & Financial Statements

Council reviewed the minutes of September 24, 2018. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve the minutes, second by Jarred S. Spencer and carried.

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve the purchase journals, account registers, and monthly bank statements, second by Thomas Voelker and carried.

Department Reports

Mileage for each department for the month of September is:

Police Department 6,780
Fire Department 4,260
Street Department 782

Steve Bolin reported the number of fire calls for the fire department. The fire department answered 18 calls for the month of September 2018. Eight calls were in the Town, four calls in the fire district, six calls were mutual aid in Spartanburg County, and zero calls in Cherokee County.

The police department issued 30 citations during the month of September 2018 and 29 warnings. Fines collected totaled $4,153.50. The town's portion was $1,674.84.

Chief Swofford introduced Breanna Cuff, our new police officer for the department. She was recruited from Limestone College Public Safety. He announced that the department was now at full staff. Officer Cuff thanked council for the employment opportunity.

Chief Swofford stated that having School Resource Officers in our schools has aided in the officers being more aware of situations within the community.

Brenda J. Adair and Jarred S. Spencer commended the fire department in their deployment to the lower part of the state during the recent hurricane. Jarred S. Spencer also commended them during the recent storm resulting from Hurricane Michael.

Fire Department Pickup Truck

Chief Blanton would like to purchase a new pickup truck to replace the 2003. He and Steve Bolin have talked about transferring the use of this vehicle to the street department. Chief Blanton requested council to consider and approve the purchase of a 2019 pickup truck for the fire department, at a cost of $33,192.00. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to purchase the truck, second by Roy Logan, motion carried. Financing terms will be determined later.

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to transfer the use of the fire department 2003 F250 to the street department and to use the street department franchise fees, of up to $3,000.00, to letter the new truck and install a bed liner, second by Jarred S. Spencer, motion carried.

Old Business

A. First Reading – Setoff Debt Ordinance

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

B. Christmas Lighting – Council discussed the purchased of outdoor garland for the street lamps. Brenda J. Adair has researched the garland and would like to purchase 24 strands of 10' garland. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to purchase the garland with the cost not to exceed $4,000.00, second by Roy Logan and carried.

C. Coyle Family Recognition – Council reviewed the Coyle Family's request to place Crepe Myrtles where the Bradford Pears used to sit at the corner of N. Main and Foster Streets and a marker to honor the Coyle Family as business owners and their contribution to the community. Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to accept trees from the Coyle Family, second by Brenda J. Adair and carried.

New Business

A. Assessment Year – Tax Rollback Millage

Council reviewed information from the Spartanburg County Assessor's Office. This year was a re-assessment year and the year in which a reassessment program is implemented, the rollback millage, as calculated pursuant to S.C. Code Ann. Section 12-37-251(E), must be used in lieu of the previous year's millage rate. Therefore, the millage rate for the Town of Cowpens will decrease from .1084 to .1014. Jarred S. Spencer stated this was a win, win for the town and the community. He felt our citizens deserved this great tax deduction.

Mayor Hamrick pointed out that Steve Bolin has submitted the road paving list to Spartanburg County. If the roads on this list meet the requirements for paving the town will be notified later this year.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to go into executive session to discuss personnel related 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. No action taken.

Jarred S. Spencer made a motion to adjourn, second by Thomas Voelker and carried.

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