

**TOWN OF COWPENS
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
October 16, 2017**

The Town of Cowpens held its regular council meeting on Monday, October 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. Present were Mayor Michael D. Hamrick, Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda J. Adair, Council Members Roy Logan, and Thomas Voelker. Absent: Jarred S. Spencer.

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.

Spartanburg School District Three

Mayor Hamrick recognized Kenny Blackwood, Superintendent Spartanburg School District Three.

Mr. Blackwood thanked town council for displaying the Broome High School banners on Main Street, as well as, hosting the Arts & Antiques event for the community.

He shared a campaign initiative that would promote Spartanburg Three and its communities as the District of Choice/Communities of Choice. The district is growing rapidly and the concept is to promote our district and the communities that it serves. This campaign will bring the communities of Spartanburg Three under one roof. Mr. Blackwood is meeting and working with other organizations to get everyone on board. He is requesting that the town provide a representative to serve on the committee. The committee will meet in mid-November - early December to design and prepare the campaign for completion in early spring. Town Council agreed to work with Spartanburg Three on this campaign.

Mr. Blackwood updated council on Spartanburg Three's Educational Space Review. A review of this nature has not been done in our district since 1976. An outside consultant will look at the needs of the students and community. Issues will include childcare, special needs, population levels, program needs, extracurricular activities, revitalization and new construction.

The mayor and town council were very appreciative of Mr. Blackwood's presentation and information.

Approval of Agenda

Roy Logan made a motion to approve the agenda, second by Thomas Voelker and carried.

Approval of Minutes & Financial Statements

Council reviewed the minutes of August 21, 2017 and September 18, 2017, the purchase journal, and the account registers and monthly statements. Brenda J. Adair made a motion to approve of the minutes, the purchase journal, and the account registers and monthly statements second by Roy Logan and carried.

Department Reports

Steve Bolin reported the mileage for each department: 7,702 miles for the police department, 1,891 for the fire department, and 808 for the street department. He also noted that the street department completed the fall cleanup period.

The police department issued 58 citations and 92 warnings during September. The fire department responded to 37 calls during September.

Chief Meredith will have the police department reinstate coverage for third shift soon. During the time other agencies have covered for our department officers responded to 57 calls, most of which were traffic stops.

Fire Chief Tony Blanton made town council aware that the emergency siren was not working. The siren is owned, operated, and maintained by Spartanburg County. He is requesting that repairs be made to the siren. The siren is a necessity for the citizens of our community.

Chief Blanton stated that Community Day at the fire department was a success.

Chief Blanton requests town council consider the sale of the 1989 Pierce Engine. This truck is a reserve engine. Insurance and maintenance cost are rising with the age of the vehicle. This will be a first phase in the fire department's long term plans for the vehicles.

Chief Tony Blanton informed council that a FEMA Grant was awarded to the fire department in the amount of \$180,000, over a four year period. The grant is for firefighter recruitment and retention. Funds can be used for stipends, weight equipment, educational reimbursement, etc. The majority of funding will focus on recruitment and retention. A billboard on I-85 will be leased for a recruitment tool.

Mayor Hamrick thanked the volunteers for their time and commitment to the fire department.

Chief Blanton is also getting quotes for a message sign at the fire department.

Old Business - none

New Business - none

Brenda J. Adair noted that the Farmer's Market building needed to be cleaned up and recommended that we hire someone to clean the building or give Faith Homes a donation to perform the work.

Brenda J. Adair and Thomas Voelker volunteered to represent town for the campaign to promote Spartanburg Three as the District of Choice/Community of Choice.

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Roy Logan asked if Steve Bolin had contacted SC DOT regarding the drainage problem on Old Pacolet Road. Mr. Bolin assured Mr. Logan that he had submitted multiple requests every few months and the problem has not been resolved. Mr. Logan will work with Mr. Bolin and the SC DOT to correct the issue.

Steve Bolin informed council that he had partnered with the Spartanburg County to repair a serious drainage problem on Baldwin Street, and made repairs to other potholes in the area. He also informed them that paving requests are due this week.

Brenda J. Adair made a motion to adjourn, second by Roy Logan and carried.

Mayor Michael D. Hamrick

Mayor Pro-Tem Brenda J. Adair

Council Member Roy Logan

Attest:

Council Member Jarred S. Spencer

Teresa Chadwick, Town Clerk

Council Member Thomas Voelker