



The SHARPSBURG TOWN CRIER

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COUNCIL NEWS

These minutes are not the official minutes, nor are they a complete review of the business conducted. Requests for a copy of the complete minutes may be requested from the town clerk.

The meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was called to order at 7:30pm by Mayor Hal Spielman. Members present included Vice Mayor Bryan Gabriel; Councilpersons Jennifer Silbert, Darryl Benner, Mathew Barnhart, Cathy Hull and Brandon Smith. Brian Kane, town attorney and Kimberly Fulk, town clerk/treasurer were also present. The minutes of the April 4, 2011 meeting were read and approved by Darryl, seconded by Cathy with all ayes for approval. The treasurer's report was reviewed and approved by Mathew, seconded by Bryan with all ayes for approval.

PUBLIC COMMENT

A concerned citizen approached the council regarding the stone wall that is along South Hall Street that leads to Main Street. He states that this is falling and in need of repair. Bryan has a mason that will take a look at the area to see what would need done to repair this. He is also concerned regarding the speed and traffic on Main Street. He is questioning if anything can be done about this, such as stop signs, stop lights, etc. Mayor Spielman

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explained that the Main Street in Sharpsburg is owned by the State Highway Administration and that if anything were to be done, they would have to take care of that. A study was done in the town a few years ago and the state at that time determined that it was not feasible to place a stop light in the square, due to traffic volume. Kimberly will write a letter to the State Highway Administration in regards to the possibility of them re-evaluating the square for a possible stop light, four-way stop, etc.

Parks and Railroad Station— It was moved by Cathy and seconded by Jennifer to remove all of the picnic tables from the park facilities. Brandon will take those out of the park and dispose of them. It was moved by Brandon and seconded by Mat to purchase a new piece for the slide at the park that has been burned and vandalized. The mayor and council will install the new piece and four new swings when they arrive.

Building— Darryl was concerned that last week when the power was out in Sharpsburg, that the building alarm did not get dispatched to the fire department. Kimberly will look into this.

Streets—The county is able to paint the lines at each intersection, however; they are not able to paint "STOP" at the intersections. Mayor Spielman has been

into contact with a company to see the cost of having this done. He will report once they return his call with an estimate.

Blacktopping alley at Chapline Street—three estimates have been obtained for this project. The width and slope of the project need to be clarified with a few of the companies, and a weight load needs to be confirmed with each estimate. Once obtained, this will be voted on for completion.

Planning and Zoning— The county's water resource element has yet to be completed, this is holding up the completion of the comprehensive plan. Per the Maryland Department of Planning, this has been an issue for several towns, not just us. Brian and Hal will work on getting in touch with Patti and possibly Mike Thompson, or someone from the county planning department to arrange a meeting for some assistance on this plan.

Battlefield Advisory Committee— the meeting will take place on Wednesday. Perry Jamieson will bring Kimberly the notes to include in the crier.

Archives—Nothing to report.

Public Safety—Nothing to report.

Town Attorney Report— The town code is close to being codified. Once completed, this will be available to place on the website and internet.

Bridge project behind 130 E. Main Street—The construction specs have been completed and we are awaiting the final drawings from Frederick Seibert & Assoc. The Maryland

Department of the Environment evaluated the area last month and he did not feel it would be a problem to grant the permit, however the permit takes 60 days from the date of application to be granted. Once the permit has been granted, the bid packets will be available for pick up from town hall. This project will more than likely require a sealed bid process and work will more than likely not begin until August/September when the run-off has slowed down due to the dry season.

Annexation—this will be completed as of May 19th, since there have been no referendum from citizens. The property technically cannot be re-zoned within the town until the comprehensive plan is completed.

Mayor’s Report—A young man in the town would like to sell snow cones from his porch for the summer. This will be referred to Tim for evaluation.

Old Business— It was moved by Mat and seconded by Bryan for Poole & Kane, P.A. to be considered an independent contractor and not an employee of the town. Bryan will get the paperwork together for this.

Little League Ball Field Use Agreement—this was moved by Mat and seconded by Jennifer for approval. Motion was passed by the council.

Little League Lighting Agreement—it was added that the lights would go off by 10pm, with the time being extended to 11pm during tournament play, which only occurs every 6-7 years. This was moved by Cathy and seconded by Mat for approval; motion was passed.

Back room of the council chambers—Brandon reported that it would take approximately \$1,500 worth of materials to place a wall in the back room area. The mayor and council agreed that they would get together to do the work themselves. Mat moved to approve and Cathy seconded the motion; all ayes for approval. Brandon will take care of the materials.

Taxes—after a special work session and much thought and consideration, it was decided that the tax rate would increase from 0.20 to 0.25. The motion was made by Mat and seconded by Bryan with all ayes for approval.

Fishing Rodeo— this will be held on Saturday. Bryan has agreed to take charge of this. There is some mowing and general clean up that needs done to the pond area. This will be done Thursday evening and on Friday if anyone is available to help.

Elevator Contract—two new possible contracts were distributed to each council member for review. This will be discussed further at the next meeting.

New Business— There have been several weed complaints regarding properties in town. The town ordinance states that nothing can be done by the town until the weeds/grass is 12” or over.

Trimming the trees on main street—these trees will be trimmed in the fall/winter months.

Mowing of town grounds—per an agreement with the prison, they are to provide persons to mow/maintain town grounds for an entire day. Per Bryan, they have only been providing the town with about three hours each time they are here. A meeting will be held with the prison to see if this can be resolved.

Placement of Flags for Memorial Day—calls will be made between the mayor and council to establish a day and time to hang the flags along main street for the parade.

Replacement of recording device—In order to stay with the current standards in electronics and recording, Kimberly would like to replace the current tape recorder with a new digital recording device. This would allow for clearer quality recording. Mat moved to allow Kimberly to purchase a recording device under \$100 and Jennifer approved the motion with all ayes for approval.

The meeting was moved to be adjourned by Mat at 10:25pm and was seconded by Jennifer. The next meeting will be held on Monday, June 6th.

WORSHIP INFORMATION

The following is a list of churches in the area that would love for you to worship with them.

SHARPSBURG BIBLE CHURCH
Rev. Gene Renner
5134 General Stewart Court
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Sunday School: 9:30am
Worship Service: 10:30am and 6:00pm
Wednesday Worship Service: 7:00pm

SHARPSBURG BRETHREN CHURCH
Rev. Tom Fralin
120 East Main Street
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Worship Service: 10:00am
Children’s Sunday School: 10:30am
Adult Sunday School: 11:00am

ST. PAUL’S EPISCOPAL CHURCH
Rev. Mark Wastler
www.stpaulssharpsburg.org
209 West Main Street
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Worship Service: 10am

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. Delancy Catlett
117 West Main Street
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Worship Service: 9:00am
Sunday School: 10:00am

SHARPSBURG LUTHERAN CHURCH
Rev. Karen Valentine
201 East Main Street
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Sunday School: 9:00am
Worship Service: 10:00am

NEW HOPE CHURCH OF CHRIST
Elders: Bob Fraley and Eric Johnson
1800 Davis Lane
Fairplay, Maryland 21733

Worship Service: 9:00am

Town Hall Announcements

Trash Service Delayed

Trash service will be delayed by one day the week of May 30th. Trash will be picked up on Thursday this week instead of the usual Wednesday morning. Trash should be placed by the curb on Wednesday night this week.

Reserving of Town Hall

Town hall meeting rooms are available for use by community groups, church groups and individuals. Arrangements must be made with the clerk during normal business hours.

COMMUNITY NEWS AND EVENTS



144th Annual Memorial Day Parade and Festivities

Saturday, May 28th marks the 144th annual memorial day parade and festivities. The festivities begin at 11:00 with a wreath laying ceremony in the town square, followed by a concert by the Rohrersville Band at 11:45. The parade will begin at the Sharpsburg Elementary School at 1:30pm. The days events will conclude at 3pm with a ceremony sponsored by the National Park Service in the Antietam National Cemetery. Sharpsburg takes great pride in this tradition that has been deemed one of the oldest in the nation. We hope that you will celebrate with us.

Battlefield Advisory Committee



Thanks to Perry Jamieson for sharing the committee’s report with us.

The vacancy announcement for a new superintendent ended on May 4, 2011. Until a successor is named, Ed Wenschhof continues to serve as the acting superintendent. He can be reached at 301-432-2243 X 11.

Fifth graders from the Sharpsburg Elementary School will be placing flags on all graves in the Antietam National Cemetery on Thursday, May 26 for the memorial day period.

The White-tailed Deer Management Plan/ Environmental Impact Statement Public Scoping Meeting has been rescheduled for Wednesday, May 25, 2011 at 6pm at the Visitor Center.

At a press event on Monday, May 2, the Maryland Symphony Orchestra announced that the funding campaign reached its goal and the 26th Salute to Independ-

ence is set for July 2, 2011.

Miss Poppy Presents Poppy to Mayor



Blake Madison Harmon, 7 year old daughter of Dwayne and Kendra Harmon of Sharpsburg, presented Sharpsburg Mayor, Hal Spielman, with a poppy prior to the town meeting on Monday, May 2. Planned to coincide with the Memorial Day holiday, this presentation officially opens Antietam Unit 236, American Legion Auxiliary Annual Poppy Campaign.

A Canadian officer, Col. John McCrae, immortalized the flower in the famous poem, “In Flanders Fields.” He was a physician and fought on the Western Front in 1914. He was then transferred to the medical corps and assigned to a hospital in France. He died of pneumonia while on active duty in 1918. Soon after the armistice, patriotic organizations in different countries began conducting poppy sales.

In 1924, the American Legion Auxiliary adopted the poppy as the organization memorial flower and pledged its use to benefit our servicemen and women and their families. Veterans in veteran hospitals make each nine-piece flower across the nation. Today, the poppy continues to provide a financial and therapeutic benefit to those hospitalized and disabled veterans who construct them, as well as thousands of other veterans and their families.

This year’s poppy chairman, Darlene Eichelberger, advises that the memorial poppy is never sold, but given in exchange for a donation. Wearing a poppy has come to mean honoring the dead and helping the living.

“In Flanders Field”

“In Flanders Fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing fly

Scarce heard amid the guns below.
We are dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie
In Flanders fields.
Take up our quarrel with the foe
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch be yours to hold it high
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders Fields.”



Town Hall Hours: Tuesdays 1:00pm-6:00pm, Wednesdays 9am-12noon and Thursdays 1:00pm-6:00pm 301-432-4428			TOWN ORGANIZATIONS		
Hal Spielman, Mayor	432-6854		Am Leg. Aux.	Ava Gift	432-6658
Bryan Gabriel, Vice Mayor	432-2478		Hist. Society	Vernell Doyle	992-9767
COUNCIL			Mt. View		
Mathew Barnhart	992-4335		Cemetery	Jeff Saylor	432-4428
Darryl Benner	432-8331		Cub Scouts	Michael Miles	432-0275
Cathy Hull	304-279-8440		Boy Scouts	John Stewart	432-0564
Jennifer Silbert	432-7984		CHURCHES		
Brandon Smith	432-1941		Brethren	Lilly Grayson	432-6174
TOWN OFFICIALS			Bible	Rev. Gene Renner	739-1882
Kimberly Fulk, Town Clerk	240-675-7466		Episcopal	Carolyn Shaw	791-3357
Debra Jamison, Tax Collector	432-6572		Lutheran	Rev. Karen Valentine	304-676-9974
Patti Hammond, Planning Com.	432-5965		UCC	Melissa Reiff	465-9411
Anna Jamison, Election Board	432-6572		Church of Christ	Ed Beeler	240-625-5552

The Sharpsburg Town Crier
P.O. Box 368
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

Return Service Requested

SHARPSBURG
Oldest Town in Washington County
Founded July 9, 1763



Sharpsburg Town Hall

