

Town of Sharpsburg



Town Crier

Volume 26

April 2017

Number 4

The minutes of the Council meeting are an overview of business conducted and are not the official minutes of the meeting. The official minutes will be available at the Clerk's office after they are approved by the Mayor and Council at the April council meeting.

The monthly meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was an informal meeting, as there were not enough councilmembers present for a quorum to hold an "official" meeting.

Mayor Spielman began the session at 7:03pm with Public Comments. Rick Canfield of Sharpsburg, asked about the postings on Facebook about a gas station, such as AC&T or a Sheetz coming to town. The Mayor stated that that is an ugly rumor. No one has approached the town, or asked questions of the town to see if this could even be a possibility. The properties in question are located in a "Town Residential" zone, so that would be red tape to go through, as well as red tape to get through the Ordinances of the town. The public was assured that if something like this were to come about, that the townspeople would be notified via the newspaper, Town Crier, the website, postings, etc. to let them know.

Dwayne Harris of Sharpsburg, presented a drawing to the Mayor and Council, which mapped out how the Come All Who Are Thirsty Veterans Group would organize space at the Mark A. Smith Park to have garden space. The areas would be maintained by Veterans, as part of their therapy, and the items would be sold at the Victory Garden Ranch, with the profits going back to the Come All Who Are Thirsty Organization.

Clay Herzog of Sharpsburg, was concerned about the log that appears to be lodged in the wires of Verizon on North Mechanic Street. The Mayor stated that the Town has called Verizon about this before, and that we would put another call into them and get it taken care of ASAP.

Committee Reports

Parks and Railroad Station: Brandon was not present for a report

Building: Michael stated that he would get the lettering completed on Town Hall ASAP

Streets: Tamara was not present to give a report, but Darryl let Kimberly know that there are only two areas in the alleys that he felt the Fire Truck would not be able to get through. He stated that it is nothing major, and our mowing contractor should be able to handle it, or the inmates if we get them back soon.

Planning & Zoning: Russ stated that there will be a meeting for the Planning Commission on Wednesday April 12th at 7pm at Town Hall. Meetings are open to the public

Battlefield Advisory Committee: Perry Jamieson stated that Chris Vincent has joined the committee. The committee will meet Wednesday and Mr. Jamieson will get the notes to Kimberly for the Crier

Public Safety: Darryl was unable to attend, however; the Mayor, Vice Mayor and Councilpersons that are able, will have a meeting with the Boonsboro Police Department on Tuesday at 10am to discuss getting an officer for Sharpsburg. It was also discussed that people are running the stop sign at W Antietam and S Hull Streets. We will see if a deputy can pay attention to this area and Kimberly will also see if the Little League could send out a blanket email, reminding their parents to slow down and obey the traffic signs.

Town Archives & Historical Planning: Ed reported that he has begun archiving items.

Mayor's Report: Mayor Spielman reminded the Council of the gala to benefit Tolson's Chapel on Saturday. The Town purchased a table, and if you would like to go, let Kimberly know. Mayor Spielman also mentioned that he would like to attend the MML Convention again this year and he would like the Council to discuss paying for the convention registration fees again this year. Russ stated that since he is not a paid Mayor, that his travel expenses should also be discussed. This will be discussed at the May meeting when a quorum is present.

Old Business

Veteran Flags: Michael stated that he would do a rough sketch of the building and how we could possibly hang Veteran Flags.

The session ended at 7:45pm.

Town News

Town Meetings

Town meetings are held on the first Monday of each month at 7pm in the council chambers of Town Hall. All town meetings are open to the public and agendas for the meetings will be posted on the door to Town Hall and on the town Facebook page the Wednesday prior to each meeting.

Mayor and Council Workshop Session

The Mayor and Council will be having a workshop session on Tuesday April 25th at 7pm in Town Hall to discuss future planning and projects. Workshops are open to the public and agendas for the workshop meetings will be posted on the door to Town Hall and on the Facebook page a week prior to the meeting.

150th Memorial Day Parade



Mayor Hal Spielman as Uncle Sam, participating in the parade with the Sharpsburg Elementary School, approx. 1958

The 150th Memorial Day Commemoration will be held Saturday May 27th. The wreath laying in front of Town Hall will begin at 11am, with a concert by the Rohrersville Band to follow. The parade will begin at 1:30.

Memorials and Sponsorships for the commemorative parade book are still being accepted. The cost is \$2 for up to three lines. Submissions should be typed or printed legibly. Submissions can be mailed to

the Town, or dropped off at Town Hall with payment no later than April 27, 2017.
Pre-orders for parade books are available at Town Hall as well. The cost of the book is \$3.

If you have old parade books, parade pictures or any other parade memorabilia that you would like to contribute to be included in the parade book, please contact Kimberly in the town office. The items will be scanned and returned to you the same day. You may also email your photos to her at townofsharpsburg@comcast.net. Many thanks to those individuals that have already submitted photos.

If you would like to participate in the parade, please let Kimberly know by April 27th, to assure that your name is placed in the parade lineup in the Commemorative book.

Parade day is full of hustle and bustle. Please take note of the following road closures, so that you may plan your day accordingly:

From 11:00am-11:45am, Main Street from the intersection of Rt 34 and Rt 65 to the intersection of Rt 34 and Hall Streets will be closed. During this time, Antietam and Chapline Streets will be open for travel.

From 1:30pm-3:00pm, Rt 34 (Main Street) will be closed, so please plan your travel to and from Sharpsburg accordingly. There will be no cutting through the parade allowed, due to safety concerns.

A reminder from the Tax Collector



If you have not paid your fiscal year 2017 taxes, that were billed in July, 2016, they must be paid as soon as possible. Final invoices were mailed to those individuals April 10th.

Taxes that have not been paid by May 5, 2017 will be forwarded to the County Treasurer, and will be at risk to be sold at tax sale.

If you need to know what you owe, or have further questions, contact Kimberly at Town Hall at 301-432-4428, or via email at townofsharpsburg@comcast.net.

Brush Pickup



Brush pickup will be held Monday May 8th. Brush, as defined by the company performing the pickup, is “woody material 4” in diameter, or smaller.” Yard waste, garden waste and anything with a root ball will not be collected.

Brush should be placed in the alleys at the end of your property, clearly visible from the alley. Do not place brush behind buildings or fences, as the company will not go onto your property to collect it.

All brush must be placed along the alleys prior to May 8th, as the company will not return due to brush not being out in time.

If you could place your brush all going in the same direction, that would make the job easier on the company collecting the pile.

THERE WILL BE NO BULK TRASH PICKUP THIS SPRING

Community News and Events

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 236 to hold annual sandwich, soup and bake sale



A reminder that the ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 236 will be holding their annual soup, sandwich and bake sale in front of Jefferson Security Bank on Friday April 14th and Saturday April 15th beginning at 9am and ending when they are sold out, both days.

The unit members take pride in the fact that all monies raised at their annual fundraisers, are put back in the community through the many worthwhile programs supporting our veterans, active military personnel, children and senior citizens.

COME ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY MONTHLY MEETING

The monthly meeting of the local veterans group, Come All Who Are Thirsty, will be held on Saturday May 6th at 9:30am at the Burnside First Church of God, located at 3904 Mills Road in Sharpsburg. Breakfast is provided and the meeting is open to all Veterans and their families, First Responders and anyone who has an interest in supporting Veterans.

American Legion Auxiliary Unit 236 flower sale



The ladies of American Legion Auxiliary Unit 236 will be holding their annual flower sale at the square on Friday May 12th and Saturday May 13th from 9am-?

Come out and support this very worthwhile organization while treating mom to flowers for Mother's Day.

All proceeds are put back in the community, to support veterans, military personnel, children and senior citizens.

Congratulations to Pastor Gene Renner

Pastor Gene Renner just celebrated his 40th year as the preacher at Sharpsburg Bible Church. A program was put together to honor him with songs, message and a meal afterwards. The congregation was given the opportunity to express their thoughts and thanks, many have been there since he first came. His wife, Erma, has been right there beside her hubby, playing the piano, teaching, etc. Whatever needs done, they try to do it. They live what they preach, he doesn't spare words when he tells us just what the Bible says. He has a great sense of humor which adds a special touch to his sermons. The love just flows freely from both of them.

There is always room for more...so come on over, Sunday morning 9:30 Sunday School, 10:30 Church service, 6:00 Evening service and Wednesday 7:00 for prayer service. On the third Saturday of the month, there is a Bible Study with Erma teaching. We'd love to see you! God bless.

- Darlene Hoffman

Palm Sunday Tradition Continues at Sharpsburg Bible Church

Linda May and Vanetta Potts distributed palm crosses on Palm Sunday, the same way their parents had done 70 years ago. The tradition has never missed a year and each year the design is a little different.

- Darlene Hoffman

Antietam Unit Presents Blue Star Service Banner



Left to right brother Kevin, Jr., father Kevin, Sr. mother Bridget, fiancée Cara Ferguson, sister Kourtney unable to attend presentation was sister Kandace

Antietam Unit 236, Sharpsburg American Legion Auxiliary, presented Rohrsersville residents Kevin and Bridget Lowery with a Blue Star Service banner at the March 21 unit meeting.

The Lowery's son, Kurtis a 2011 Boonsboro High School graduate, is currently serving with the United States Marines at Camp LeJune, with the 3521 Motor Transport/Mechanic.

Kurtis comes from a military background. His father was in the Marines and served in Okinawa. His paternal great-grandfather Victor Martin was in the Navy and served in World War II. His maternal grandfather Robert Hutzell was in the Army and served in Korea.

Created in 1917, Blue Star Banners were a common site during World War I and World War II. Resurrected by the Legion in 2001, the banner is displayed to show that a family member is currently serving in the armed forces.

- Ava Gift

Battlefield Advisory Committee



The committee met on Wednesday April 5th.

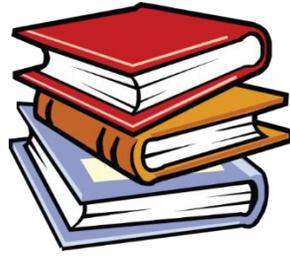
The committee welcomed three new members: Robert Murphy, Christopher Vincent and Michael Wasiljov. For their benefit Superintendent Trail reviewed the history and purposes of the committee. She also explained how the Antietam Battlefield is organized and listed its divisions and their chiefs.

The Burnside Bridge renovation project was completed a few days before Christmas. The holidays and the weather made that a bad time for the ceremony. The Burnside Bridge will be rededicated on Friday April 21 at 1pm.

In November 2016 Antietam Battlefield held an open house on its Visitor Access and Circulation Plan, a study that takes into account changes since the 1990's and considers how the experience of today's visitors could be improved. The battlefield staff gained ideas that night from roughly forty citizens who attended the open house and later suggestions made electronically and other ways. Using these recommendations, the staff now is developing plans to rehabilitate the Visitor's Center; add and relocate tour stops; and make changes in the current trail system. The next open house will be held in the late spring or early summer.

- Perry Jamieson

Happenings at the Sharpsburg Library



Science in the Library: Learn about oceanography by conducting experiments using microscopes, micro viewers and magnifying glasses to observe microscopic sea life. The program is free and all materials will be supplied. Classes are small, with 16 students each, so register early! Registration begins May 22. This program is for children entering grades 4-7 and will be held June 20-22 from 2-3:30pm.

Lego Club: May 6 at 10am: Build your names with Legos.

May 9 at 7pm: *Too Afraid to Cry: Maryland Civilians in the Antietam Campaign*

Kathleen Ernst will discuss her book, which took over a decade to research and write, about the inhabitants of Sharpsburg and surrounding farms before, during and after the battle of Antietam. Must register by calling 301-432-8825 or online at www.washcolibrary.org

Town Government

Town Office – 301-432-4428

Hours of Operation: Monday-Thursday 8:30 am – 2:00 pm

Zoning Administrator hours: Tuesdays 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

Additional hours for the Clerk and Zoning Administrator are available by appointment

Mayor and Council

Hal Spielman – Mayor	301-432-6854
Russ Weaver – Vice Mayor (Planning & Zoning)	301-432-5907
Ed Beeler – Councilperson (Town Archives & Historical Planning)	301-800-6877
Darryl Benner – Councilperson (Public Safety)	301-992-2230
Michael Carr – Councilperson (Town Buildings)	301-991-6988
Brandon Smith – Councilperson (Parks & Railroad)	301-491-4866
Tamara White – Councilperson (Streets)	301-432-7754
Kimberly Fulk – Town Clerk/Treasurer/ Tax Collector	301-432-4428

The Sharpsburg Town Crier
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