

Town of Sharpsburg

Town Crier



Volume 25

August 2016

Number 6

The minutes of the Council meeting are an overview of business conducted and are not the official minutes of the meeting. The official minutes are available at the Clerk's office.

The meeting of the Sharpsburg Mayor and Council was called to order at 7pm by Mayor Spielman. Members in attendance included Councilpersons Darryl Benner, Russ Weaver, Brandon Smith and Ed Beeler.

The minutes of the June meeting were approved as read. Both the June and July treasurer's reports were approved as presented.

Vice Mayor Bryan Gabriel resigned his position after the June 2016 meeting. Darryl Benner moved to have Russ Weaver take over the Vice Mayor position for the remaining two years left on the term and Brandon seconded it. The motion carried, with Mr. Weaver abstaining from voting.

Public Comments

Jay Brandenburg of the Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company notified the Mayor and Council that they are going to be applying for grant monies through Preservation Maryland to improve the façade on the old fire station. They would like a letter of support from the Town to send in with the grant packet. The Mayor and Council support their plan and Kimberly will type up the letter.

Meredith Poffenberger stated that she has found about 5-6 people that would be interested in helping the town with Christmas activities.

Committee Reports

Parks & Railroad Station: Fence at the pond – this will be installed hopefully within the next three weeks. This fence will replace the chain link fence that was destroyed during the blizzard. Lease extension for the Railroad Station – Kimberly worked up a lease agreement to extend the lease that the town has with the Hagerstown Model Railroad Museum at Antietam Station. The lease is up in October, 2017. The only change was to change the wording under Terms from "Lease" to "Agreement" to remain consistent with the rest of the Lease Agreement. Noting that change, the lease agreement was approved.

Building: We received two estimates for the roof replacement. Mayor Spielman will talk to Heidler Roofing to see if we can get their cost down to \$19,000. If so, we will go with them to replace the roof. Town Garage – Darryl stated that since our budget is tight with the extra cost of Chapline Street and since we need to replace the roof, he would like to table the concrete floor of the Town garage until next fiscal year. The council was in agreement.

Streets: The Council approved for Jeter Paving to move forward with fixing the several potholes throughout the town and to fix the apron at the intersection of S Church and E Antietam Streets, to allow water to drain off the road.

200 Block of W Chapline Street – there is a No Parking Sign, however there are cars that are parking in this area. When this occurs, the street is almost impassable and emergency equipment would not be able to get through. We will change the sign to read “No Parking this side of street” and we will paint the curb red to help with this problem. Darryl has also spoken with the home owners where this is occurring and they have agreed to speak with their tenants about this.

Alleys – Russ stated that he would like to have a company look into trimming and cleaning up the town’s right of ways, as many of the alleys are getting overgrown and are almost impossible to drive through. Kimberly will obtain some pricing for this from companies.

Planning and Zoning: The Comprehensive Plan will need final approval. There will be a first reading of the Plan at the September meeting and a second reading held at the October meeting. Citizens can view the Comprehensive Plan on line, in the library, or in the Clerk’s office. Copies can also be obtained from the Clerk, for a copying fee. The public can make comments on the Plan at the September or October meeting for consideration by the Council.

Battlefield Advisory Committee: The bylaws have changed for the Committee; there are 10 seats on the committee with one of the seats being a resident of the Town. Perry Jamieson has been this representative for several years, after Vice Mayor Jeff Saylor asked him to do it. The Council approved for Mr. Jamieson to continue being the Town representative.

Mayor’s Report: Mayor Spielman attended the MML Convention the end of June. The Council approved to reimburse him for his convention registration fee.

Old Business

- 1. Budget:** The Highway/Streets Maintenance budget was increased from \$50,000 to \$64,000, to allow for the repairs of the potholes and the improvement to the intersection of S Church and E Antietam St. The Municipal Building Repairs budget was increased from \$20,500 to \$21,500, to allow for the roof repair.
These changes were made with the agreement that we would take monies from the Money Market Account if need be. The budget was approved.
- 2. Inmates:** We currently have the inmates the last Friday of the month. The smaller towns in the County are working with the County Commissioners to try to get the inmates back once a week. This would require the town to pay for the guard hours and also to pay \$2.80 per inmate per day for their wages. The County Commissioners are working on finding a van for them to use. We will be kept updated on the process.
- 3. BP Station:** The work on the BP Station is complete. It will be kept a green space and underground monitoring wells have been placed to continuously monitor for petroleum. The monitoring will continue for one (1) year. As long as no petroleum has been found within that year, the land can be developed. If petroleum is still found, they will continue the monitoring process.

New Business

- 1. Town Meeting with County Commissioners:** The County Commissioners will be here at the Town Hall for a meeting on Tuesday, September 20th at 7pm
- 2. Pond Aerator:** Brandon stating that it is working just fine, but that we are going to have to lock it, as it is being messed with and turned off. Brandon will get the locks and take care of this. He is also looking into natural methods to control the algae.
- 3. Trick-or-Treat:** This will be held on Monday, October 31st from 6-8pm

The meeting was moved to closed session at 8:21pm to discuss personnel matters. The meeting returned to open session at 9:03pm and was adjourned.

Town News

Job Opening Zoning Administrator

The Town of Sharpsburg is accepting resumes for the position of Zoning Administrator. The position is a part-time position, with approximately 8-10 hours per week, plus the possibility of additional hours if needed.

Resumes will be accepted until Wednesday, August 31, 2016.

Resumes can be dropped off at Town Hall Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-1:30pm, mailed to the town at PO Box 368, Sharpsburg, MD 21782, or emailed to townofsharpsburg@comcast.net.

Duties include:

- * Interacting with the citizens
- * Maintaining a professional working relationship with the Town Clerk, Mayor and Council
- * Working with the County Planning and Zoning Department regarding permits
- * Review and become familiar with the Town Code, Town Zoning Ordinances and the Ordinances of the County
- * Investigate and enforce ordinances of the Town, both by visual non-compliance and by citizen complaints
- * Review all building and zoning permit applications for compliance with the ordinances both before they are sent to the County for final approval and after final approval is given
- * Receive and respond to citizen complaints. Issue letters of violation that require compliance with the ordinances and Code of the Town. Issue municipal citations when appropriate
- * Prepare necessary letters and documents for hearings
- * Attend meetings of the Mayor and Council, Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals if requested
- * Complete Maryland Department of Planning on-line zoning course within the first month of employment

Town Office Closure

The office of the Clerk will be closed on Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day.

September Mayor and Council Meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 7th at 7pm

The September meeting will be held Wednesday, September 7th at 7pm. The first reading of the Comprehensive Plan will be held at this time. Citizens that are interested in the Comprehensive Plan can view it online at www.sharpsburgmd.com (under Zoning Documents), in the Clerk's office Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-1:30pm, in the Sharpsburg Library, or may request a copy from the Clerk at a cost of \$10.00. The Plan will not be read aloud at the meeting. In-town residents and in-town business owners may ask questions and make suggestions at the September meeting. Comments will be limited to 10 minutes.

County Commissioners to hold meeting at Town Hall

The Washington County Commissioners will be holding a meeting at the Sharpsburg Town Hall on Tuesday, September 20th at 7pm in the Council Chambers. The public is invited to attend to ask questions or share their concerns.

Trick-or-Treat



Trick-or-Treat will be held Monday, October 31st from 6pm-8pm. If you are interested in handing out treats to the children, please turn your porch light on.

Parents are encouraged to accompany your child and to cross in the crosswalks.

Parade Meeting

There will be a parade meeting at Town Hall on Tuesday, September 27th at 7pm. Everyone is welcome to attend to assist with the organization and planning of the 150th Memorial Day Commemoration activities.

Community News

'COME ALL WHO ARE THIRSTY' VETERANS GROUP PRESENTS TOP 40 CHARTING VETERAN ROCK BAND THE J.O.B.

The Veteran band The J.O.B. will perform a special concert for the Veteran support group, Come All Who Are Thirsty (CAWAT) on September 3 at 11am at the Burnside Church of God, 3904 Mills Road in Sharpsburg. Come out and enjoy live music, food, drink and fellowship.

Come All Who Are Thirsty is a local organization that meets the first Saturday of each month from 9:30am-11:30am at the Burnside First Church of God. Free breakfast is provided by Burnside First Church of God. Meetings are open to all Veterans and their families, First Responders and anyone that has an interest in supporting Veterans.

More information is available at their website www.comeallwhoarethirsty.org.

Sharpsburg Merchant's Association

The Sharpsburg Merchant's Association will be meeting on Monday, September 12th at 12 noon in the council chambers of Town Hall. The Merchant's Association welcomes business owners in the 21782 zip code.

Questions can be directed to Meredith Poffenberger at 301-991-0265 or via email at themarketplaceofsharpsburg@gmail.com.

Sharpsburg Historical Society Shirt Sale

The Sharpsburg Historical Society is selling t-shirts that feature The Big Spring. Shirts may be purchased at 100 E. Main Street and are available in sizes S-XXL.

Call 301-992-9767 for more information.

Sharpsburg Resident Crowned Miss Maryland Jr. Teen 2016



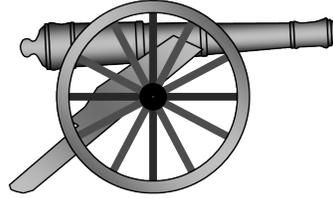
Miss Karen L. Hosova

Congratulations to Sharpsburg resident Karen L. Hosova, daughter of Pavel Hosa and Jolana Hosova, who was crowned Miss Maryland Jr. Teen 2016 on August 15, 2016. Karen is a student at Boonsboro High School. In addition to her state title, Karen also won first place for academic achievement, second place for her resume and fourth for her spokesmodel contribution. As part of her duties, Karen will be making appearances at charity events, children and youth programs, parades, etc. If you would like to arrange for Karen to appear at an event, or to volunteer at a charity that is focused on children, youth or women, contact Jolana at 240-329-1770.

Freedom's Run

The 8th Annual Freedom's Run will take place on Saturday, October 1st. The run includes a marathon, half marathon, 10K, 5K and a Kids Fun Run. For course information or to register, visit www.freedomsrun.org.

Battlefield Advisory Committee



As reported in the Herald Mail on Monday August 8, the Burnside Bridge project is making very good progress. The Witmer Group, a stone masonry restoration company based in Pennsylvania, has finished two-thirds of the work on the walls of the bridge. The entire project, including putting coping on top of the walls and repaving the roadway across the bridge, probably will be done by the end of this year.

An extensive renovation of the Visitor Center has been included in the National Park Service's Plan for 2019. The interior of the building will receive a complete overhaul. Planning for this effort will begin in 2017 and funding for the work will come from Fiscal Year 2019 monies.

On June 14th, the Washington County Commissioners voted to revise the Antietam National Battlefield Advisory Committee's bylaws. Three of the committee's ten members will serve a three-year term, three will serve a two-year term, and three will serve a one-year term. Perry Jamieson will continue to serve as the Town of Sharpsburg's representative.

- Perry Jamieson

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	301-432-5907
Ed Beeler – Councilperson	301-800-6877
Darryl Benner – Councilperson	301-991-2230
Brenda Gabriel – Councilperson	301-432-2478
Brandon Smith – Councilperson	301-491-4866
Kimberly Fulk – Town Clerk/Treasurer/ Tax Collector	301-432-4428

The Sharpsburg Town Crier
PO Box 368
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

