

Town of Sharpsburg



Town Crier

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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.

Prior to the meeting being called to order, Dennis Weaver, Clerk of the Circuit Court swore in Russ Weaver as the Vice Mayor.

The meeting was called to order at 7:05pm by Mayor Hal Spielman. The minutes of the August meeting and the August treasurer's report were both approved as presented.

Comprehensive Plan reading: several community members and business owners were present to discuss the Plan and the possible changes that perhaps need to be made. Most of these concerns were in regards to economic development and the wording of this to encourage the right type of business in the Town. Russ Weaver suggested that the interested parties get together and sit down to discuss how to word these areas of the Plan to make it business friendly. Russ will get a meeting scheduled and Kimberly will notify these interested parties so that they may attend to assist with this process.

Public Comment

Mr. Wetterer was asking if the railing at the steps that used to lead to the BP Station was going to be replaced. Mayor Spielman stated that this was the responsibility of Ewing Oil and the Kimberly would get in touch with them to find out. Mr. Wetterer was also wondering if the trees on Main Street would be trimmed. Mayor Spielman informed him that they would be trimmed in the winter months.

It was questioned if the old BP sign would remain. Mayor Spielman stated that he did not know for sure, but that he is assuming that it probably would until Ewing Oil figures out what will go up there. It was reiterated that the BP Station would remain a green space for a year, while testing for petroleum continues. If petroleum is still present, the area will remain as is until the area has been deemed clean and safe for development. After one year, the property reverts back to a "residential" status and that if the Ewing Oil Company would like a commercial building to go there, they would need to come to the

Town and apply for a Special Exception and go through the BZA process. If houses were to be placed in those two locations, they would need to be architecturally consistent with the Town, as per the Ordinances.

There were concerns in regards to the curb damage from the blizzard along Main Street to the corner of North Hall Street. Mayor Spielman stated that he was unaware of this, but would look into it.

Meredith Poffenberger questioned why we cannot put a sign in the middle of the crosswalks that says Stop for Pedestrians, such as they have in Shepherdstown. Mayor Spielman explained that he has asked the State for this and that they state that those signs are not permissible on State roads in Maryland. Meredith was also concerned about a heroin overdose in Town. Darryl Benner explained that he goes on about two dozen of these calls with his job a month (not in Sharpsburg.) He stated that this is a rampant problem right now and Sharpsburg would not be immune to such an issue.

Committee Reports

Parks and Railroad Station:

Brandon stated that the fence at the pond will probably be installed the end of September. The aerator issue was taken care of. We also need to look into ways to control the algae in the pond.

Building: Heidler Roofing was awarded the contract for the new roof at \$19,000. The only extra cost would be if they pull the roof off and the insulation is wet and needs replaced, we would need to pay extra for that.

Streets: The potholes should be fixed the middle of September

Planning and Zoning: If anyone would like to be a part of the Planning Committee or BZA, contact Kimberly.

Battlefield Advisory Committee: There are two meetings coming up in the fall; September 28th is an administrative meeting, and the next regular meeting will be October 5th. It is possible that the October meeting may be moved to October 12th.

Public Safety: Nothing to report

Mayor's Report: Sharpsburg made the list of the top 10 small towns that are nothing but peace and quiet by the website www.onlyinyourstate.com. Sharpsburg was ranked 7th.

Old Business:

The County Commissioners will hold a meeting on Tuesday September 20th at 7pm at Town Hall. The public is welcome and invited to voice their questions to the County Commissioners.

Alley Dimensions: Jean Harne stated that her deed has that the back alley (Big Spring Alley) and the alley between her property and 122 East Main Street are 8'. That doesn't include the other alleys in Town, but Mayor Spielman stated that the alley beside his home is 8' as well, so it would appear that the remaining alleys in Town are more than likely 8', but Mayor Spielman will look into this.

BP Station: it was questioned after the one year of monitoring, what will happen if there is still petroleum discovered. If this is the case, the monitoring period will be extended, by Maryland Department of the Environment standards. Nothing will be permitted to be constructed on the site until the testing for the petroleum remains absent for a period of one year. We are in constant contact with Ewing Oil, the owner of the property, and the Maryland Department of the Environment with this situation. Mr. Wetterer stated that there are five monitoring wells in the residential property next to him and Triad Engineering comes periodically and takes samples to be tested.

New Business

Police Protection: Russ suggested that we put this on the shelf until Boonsboro gets some personnel issues in order and then approach them. However; we may want to get a planning meeting together with Mayor Long and the Boonsboro Police Department and possibly Keedysville, if they are interested, and sit down just to go over possible numbers and get something together from a budget standpoint. Mayor Spielman will talk with Mayor Long and see what he recommends for a possible date to have a meeting.

Christmas Celebration: Ed stated that he would be helping Kimberly with the Christmas celebration and that there are some townspeople that would like to help as well. When the committee gets together, they will establish a date for this.

Bulk Trash Pick-up: The Council was in agreement that we should have a bulk trash pickup. It was decided to have this in October. The date will be established with Apple Valley and Kimberly will get the word out in the Crier. Russ moved to have this October 19th if Apple Valley can do it this date and Ed seconded it.

Brush pick-up: Russ moved to wait until the spring to have a brush pick-up and Brandon seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Mayor Spielman shared that Brenda Gabriel resigned from the Council and there are two empty seats. A question was asked in regards to the election. Mayor Spielman stated that there are two Council seats and the Mayors seat that will be decided at the election. The election will be the third Tuesday in November and the applications will be due 15 days prior to the election. Kimberly will put all of the correct information in the Crier.

Zoning Administrator: Meredith Poffenberger questioned if the Zoning Administrator position had been filled. Mayor Spielman stated that the Council would be going into Executive Session to discuss. Meredith asked if it was too late to apply. Mayor Spielman stated that yes it is, the cutoff date was August 31st, as was stated in the newspaper, in the Crier and on the signs that were posted around Town at businesses and the post office.

The meeting was moved to executive session at 8:28pm by Russ and seconded by Ed. The meeting returned to open session at 9:25pm by Ed with a second by Brandon. Motion carried. The meeting was adjourned from public session at 9:26pm by Ed and seconded by Russ. The motion carried.

Town News

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.

Bulk Trash Pickup



Bulk trash pickup will be held on Wednesday October 19th. Bulk items should be placed out on the curb beside your regular trash items after 4pm on Tuesday October 18th.

Bulk Items Do Not Include:

- * televisions or electronics
- * paint, unless it is completely dried out
- * construction/remodeling materials
- * hazardous materials such as poisons, gasoline, oil, ammunition
- * automotive parts
- * tires
- * yard waste

Bulk items will only be removed if they are on the curb beside the regular household trash. Apple Valley cannot remove items from trailers or trucks for collection.

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. The Sharpsburg Pharmacy will be handing out glow necklaces by the town clock in the square. Each trick-or-treater is encouraged to go there first and get a necklace prior to trick-or-treating.

Many thanks to the Sharpsburg Pharmacy for donating these necklaces and passing them out to help protect our children!

Zoning Administrator

Mr. Howard Long has decided to stay on board as the Zoning Administrator for the Town. Mr. Long will keep his Tuesday hours, 9:00am-2:00pm, with additional hours by appointment.

Business News

Kids Haircut Special



Studio E is having a special on Kids haircuts. Kid's cuts are just \$12. Call Studio E today for an appointment before those school pictures!

Merchants Association Meeting

The next meeting of the Sharpsburg Merchant's Association will be held on Monday October 3rd at 12noon at the Town Hall. If you own a business in the 21782 zip code, you are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Community News and Events

American Legion Auxiliary Presents American Flag



Antietam Unit 236 Legion Auxiliary in Sharpsburg has begun a campaign to make certain that every business in the historical town of Sharpsburg has an American flag displayed. On Wednesday September 7, the first recipient to receive a flag was David H. Peters, Certified Public Accountant, whose business is located on the square on Main Street. The flag was presented just in time for the 15th Anniversary of September 11th.

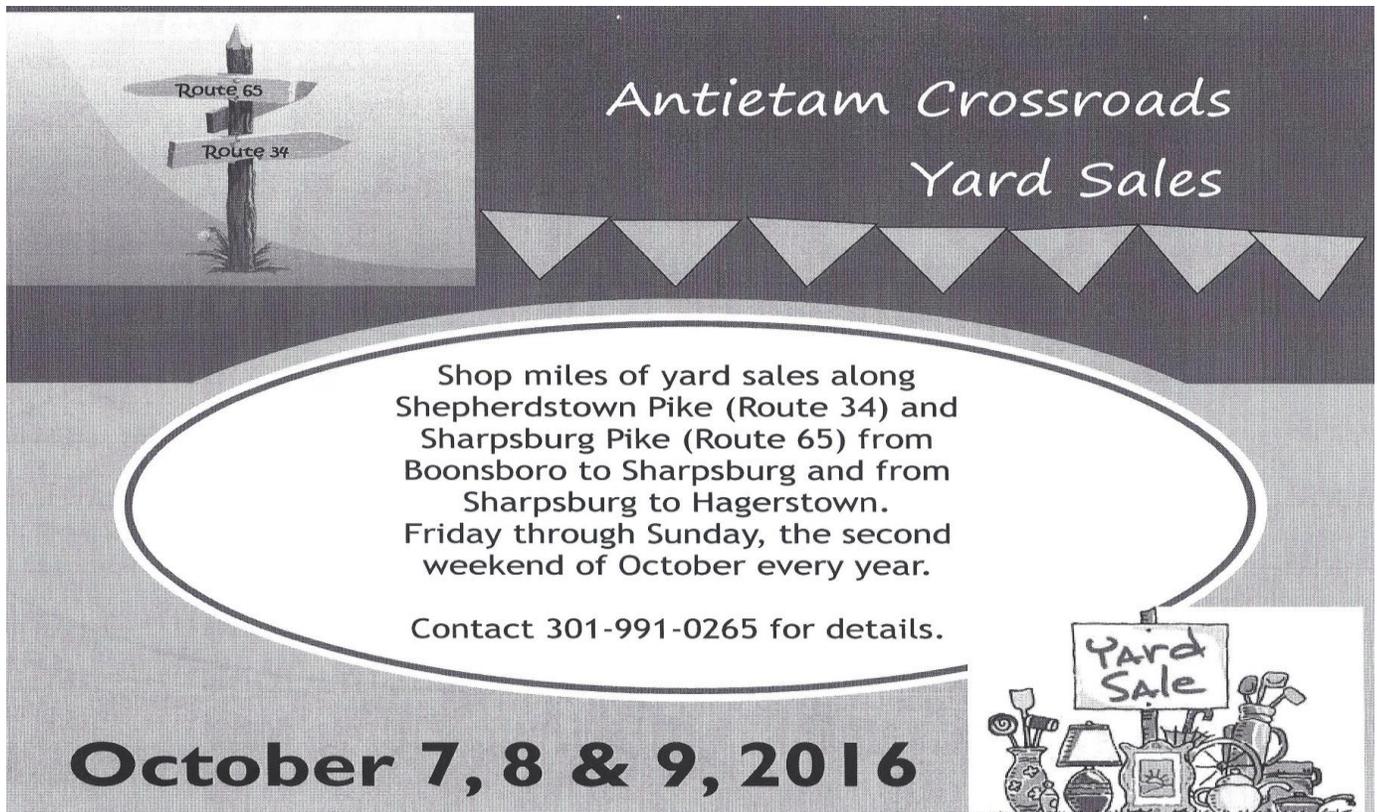
He like so many local businesses and citizens, have been supportive of the Auxiliary, which allows the unit to carry out the many worthwhile programs of the organization. Mr. Peters allows the unit to place a display in the window of his business every May to promote the Poppy Program which through the donations received assists disabled and hospitalized veterans.

Ava Gift, Americanism chairman for the Unit, reminds everyone that every day is a good day to display the American flag!

- Ava Gift

Rally Day Celebration at Tolson's Chapel Celebrating the 150th Anniversary of Tolson's Chapel

Come out and celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Tolson's Chapel on Saturday, October 1st from 10:30am-3pm. Events planned feature keynote speaker, Dr. Hari Jones, USCT encampment, music with the Spears Sisters, food, activities and much more! The day-long festival will be held at Tolson's Chapel, 111 East High Street.



The poster features a dark background with a light-colored oval in the center. In the top left corner, there is an illustration of a wooden signpost with two arrows pointing left, labeled 'Route 65' and 'Route 34'. In the bottom right corner, there is an illustration of a yard sale scene with a sign that says 'Yard Sale' and various items like a lamp, a wheelbarrow, and a vase. A decorative banner with triangular flags runs across the middle of the poster.

*Antietam Crossroads
Yard Sales*

Shop miles of yard sales along Shepherdstown Pike (Route 34) and Sharpsburg Pike (Route 65) from Boonsboro to Sharpsburg and from Sharpsburg to Hagerstown. Friday through Sunday, the second weekend of October every year.

Contact 301-991-0265 for details.

October 7, 8 & 9, 2016

Events at the Sharpsburg Library



Pumpkin Decorating Contest

September 27-October 29

Get in the Halloween Spirit by decorating an artificial pumpkin. Pick up your pumpkin any time after September 27 (while supplies last) and return it decorated by October 15. There will be age categories and prizes awarded. Let your imagination run wild! Winners will be determined by popular vote and announced October 29th.

Civil War Medicine Hollywood Style – the Good, the Bad and the Ugly

September 29th at 7pm

Presented by Licensed Antietam Battlefield Guide and Founder of the National Museum of Civil War Founder, Gordon Dammann. Scenes from seven movies will be shown and discussion will sort out medical truth and fiction presented by Hollywood.

Adult Book Share

October 5 10am-11:30am

In honor of Halloween bring your favorite scary book to share with the group. Barb, the librarian, will also share some Antietam ghost stories and folklore.

Story Time is also held at the library every Thursday at 3:30pm

The next meeting of the Mayor and Council will be held on Tuesday October 4th at 7pm.

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
Brandon Smith – Councilperson	301-491-4866
Kimberly Fulk – Town Clerk/Treasurer/ Tax Collector	301-432-4428

The Sharpsburg Town Crier
PO Box 368
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