

**SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING AGENDA**  
**JULY 14, 2025**  
**6:00 PM**

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, July 14, 2025 at 6:08 P.M. in the Council meeting room of Town Hall located at 106 E. Main Street in Sharpsburg. In attendance were Mayor Russell Weaver, Vice Mayor Jacob Martz, and Councilmembers Ed Beeler, Joseph Kudla and Heather Waters. Town Administrator Debra Valentine-Smith was also present and Zoning Administrator Tim Lung attended via Zoom.

Regular meeting and call to order by Mayor Weaver with the pledge led by Councilmember Waters.

**MDOT MD 34/65 Informational Update** – Mayor Weaver stated that five-(5) letters were sent out on May 20th to residents on the east bound side of the MD 34/65 intersection asking for proposed strategies for mitigating the traffic concerns that have been raised regarding the safety of the intersection. Ideas were requested to be in writing, email or an in-person meeting could be scheduled. Three-(3) residents responded. Councilmember Kudla provided a schematic showing the latest proposed safety measures from MDOT for the intersection.

1. install a yellow line with a lane shift to the right at the intersection headed east.
2. increase the width of the solid white pavement line to 10’
3. extend the no parking zone to state required minimum
4. install continental crosswalk
5. install temporary speed cushions (10.5’ x 6’) headed east in both the east and west bound lanes along with Bump Ahead signage

- Residents were concerned about the noise the speed cushions would create especially with large trucks. Councilmember Kudla stated that the installation of the speed bumps is proposed to be temporary for 6-months and removed during the winter months; and if it appears they are determined not to be a good choice, they do not have to be re-installed.
- Also proposed was to request the installation of a new signage post to allow the radar sign to be anchored on the 25 MPH sign as you enter town.

**Motion** by Councilmember Kudla, second by Councilmember Waters to approve all of the proposed safety measures from MDOT. Motion carried.

**GUESTS: 2025 Citizenship Award** – Mayor Weaver acknowledged Vice-Mayor Jacob Martz as the 2025 Citizen of the Year for his exceptional success of the towns Annual Memorial Day Ceremonies and unwavering dedication to the Citizens of Sharpsburg.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS** - Perry Jamieson of 223 E. Main Street thanked the Mayor and Council and Robbie Waters for the alley maintenance behind his house.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

- June 2, 2025 FY26 Budget Public Hearing Minutes – **Motion** by Councilmember Waters, second by Councilmember Beeler to approve. Motion carried.
- June 2, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes – **Motion** by Vice-Mayor Martz, second by Councilmember Beeler to approve. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS**

June 2025 Financial Report – **Motion** by Councilmember Kudla, second by Vice-Mayor Martz to approve. Motion carried.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT** – Tim Lung (APRIL - JUNE 2025)

- Reviewed and responded to various inquiries and questions regarding zoning and permitting requirements.
- Completed and submitted MDE Waterway Construction Permit application for Big Spring wall restoration project.
- Received and reviewed MDE “Acknowledgment letter” and forwarded application to Corps. of Engineers for review per letter.
- Reviewed and responded to comments received from Corps of Engineers.
- Contacted MDE and Corps representative for follow-up and timetable for approval. Waiting for response.

- Reviewed and signed off on building/zoning permit application from AT&T for an antenna and equipment cabinet swap at the County water tank site.
- Finalized permit for an application to occupy a portion of the street (sidewalk) for the purpose of placement of scaffolding for a roofing project at 107 E. Main Street. Approved by Mayor & Council at April meeting following public hearing.
- Corresponded with MD Dept of Planning (MDP) regarding completion of 2024 annual report.
- Completed MDP 2024 Annual Report form and forward to Planning Commission for review and approval.
- Investigated and issued notifications for tall weed/grass at several properties.
- Reviewed summary of recent MDP meeting with Western Maryland planners.
- Reviewed and signed off on a building/zoning permit application for a mud room addition and garage at property on W. Main Street.
- Reviewed draft MOU between County and Towns regarding tax credits for restoration of historic properties.
- Attended County Historic District Commission meeting regarding Draft MOU with Towns for implementing tax credits for historic properties.
- Reviewed planning and zoning related bills passed by the Maryland General Assembly at their 2025 session.
  - HB1466 mandating accessory dwelling units (ADUs) will be monitored closely.

#### **Mayors Comments – Mayor Weaver**

- **Historical Park:** A few last-minute details remain –identification sign in front, placards, water connection
- **Lutheran Cemetery:** Focal item for this fiscal year.
- **Big Spring:** Looks like permit date will be late August.
- **Community Development/Sharpsburg Day:** Focal area.
- **Sign at Elementary School:** No progress. We have preliminary permission to place a sign in front of school for Sharpsburg (need to decide)
- **Main Street beautification campaign kickoff (street scape):** Focal area. No progress. Discuss with council and get feedback from community
- **Council Vacancies-**Announced that applications for the 2 vacant council seats are now being accepted

**MML SUMMER CONFERENCE UPDATE** - Vice Mayor Martz attended the MML Summer Training Conference in Ocean City and stated that he found the courses on 1<sup>st</sup> Amendment Social Media and Cyber Security to be very beneficial. He also stated that he found the experience to be valuable to the town and would recommend the town to participate in future MML trainings. Mayor Weaver also agreed and encouraged Council to participate in MML events and the Town Administrator will be attending the upcoming fall conference.

#### **COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:**

##### **Councilmember Beeler:**

- Attendance has been picking up. We had 200 visitors
- Since the last month, I've answered 4 inquiries of family names, we received
- Two notebooks, one with references for Civil War Guns & Ammo and documents of soldiers from Joanne Wolford.
- Mark is continuing scanning and Max Gregg one of our Student Interns is working here this summer with the Western Maryland Consortium, this is our 5<sup>th</sup> year having a summer worker through them... Max is a very hard worker.
- We are continuing to fine space to store or display artifacts.

##### **Vice Mayor Martz:**

- Attended Revolutionary War event at Hager House in Hagerstown to solicit reenacting groups for participation in Memorial Day parade.
- Attended Bee Line March commemoration at Morgan's Grove to recruit reenactors for Memorial Day parade
- Attended Maryland Municipal League educational conference in OC. Took classes on topics such as the 1st Amendment, Social Media use by municipalities and Cybersecurity.
- Attended the 75th Anniversary commemoration of the Korean War hosted by Korean War Veterans Association Antietam Chapter 312 at the Korean War monument in Hagerstown
- Met with Atlantic security regarding repairs to security system in town shed. Defective UPS was replaced, new hard drive ordered.

**Councilmember Waters:**

- Nothing to report

**Councilmember Kudla:**

- MD 35/65 Intersection discussions with MDOT
- Signs for garrison springs ongoing

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**

**M. Deputy Watkins:**

Antietam Station - 3 checks.	Total WCSO events in June - 77.	
Park - 6 checks.	Trespass - 1	
Little League - 4 checks.	Disorderly - 1	
120 E Main St. - 3 checks.	Accidents - 2	
Traffic Enf. - 3 hrs.	Suspicious - 1	Calls for Service - 3.

**Antietam Battlefield Advisory Committee:** The last meeting was held June 11 and the next meeting will be Sept. 11.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Town Administrator Debra Valentine-Smith stated that a public hearing was held at 6pm prior to the regular meeting regarding two-(2) proposed charter amendments and a code amendment of which no comments were received. The following Resolutions are proposed for passage;

**Charter Amendment Resolution 25-001; A Resolution to Amend Article 6 Entitled “Finance”, Section 622 Entitled “Purchasing and Contracts” of the Charter of the Town of Sharpsburg for the Purpose of Increasing the Minimum Expenditure Amount Requiring Submission of a written contract and sealed bids to expenditures involving more than \$20,000** which amends the Charter by increasing the threshold amount of purchases and contracts which must be made in writing and upon competitive bidding from \$10,000 to \$20,000. **Motion** by Councilmember Kudla, second by Councilmember Waters to approve the passage of Resolution 25-001. Motion carried 4-0.

**Charter Amendment Resolution 25-002; A Resolution to Amend Article 12 Entitled “General Provisions”, Section 1203 Entitled “Conflicts of Interests” of the Charter of the Town of Sharpsburg for the Purpose of Providing for Exemption from the Conflict-of-Interest Provisions of the Charter by permitting exemption from the conflicts of interest provisions of the Charter by a resolution of disinterested members of the council made upon certain findings.** **Motion** by Councilmember Waters, second by Vice-Mayor Martz to approve the passage of Resolution 25-002. Motion carried 4-0.

A fair summary of the Charter Amendment Resolutions will be placed in the Herald Mail newspaper for 4 weekly intervals within 40 days after the adoption. Unless a petition is received on or before the 40<sup>th</sup> day, (8/22/25), the amendments shall become effective on the 50<sup>th</sup> day. (9/2/25)

**Ordinance 25-002 repeals Section 1. Chapter 9 – Code of Ethics/Financial Disclosure in its entirety without reenactment.** The Town is exempt from the ethics law as determined by the MD State Ethics Commission and the Council has determined that there is no need for a local ethics ordinance which would significantly reduce the availability of qualified persons for public service, particularly in light of Charter Amendment Resolution 25-002. **Motion** by Councilmember Beeler, second by Councilmember Kudla to approve the passage of Ordinance 25-002. Motion carried 4-0. The Code Amendment will become effective in twenty-20 days following its passage. (8/4/25)

**ADJOURNMENT - Motion** by Councilmember Waters, second by Councilmember Kudla to adjourn the meeting at 7:40 p.m. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Valentine-Smith  
Town Administrator