

**SHARPSBURG MAYOR AND COUNCIL**  
**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 3, 2026**

The Mayor and Council of Sharpsburg, MD held their monthly meeting on Monday, August 3, 2026 at 6:00 PM 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 Anne Marie McCullough, Heather Waters and Robbie Waters. Councilmember Joe Kudla and Zoning Administrator Tim Lung were in attendance via Zoom. Town Administrator Debra Valentine-Smith was absent.

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE**

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA - MOTION** by Councilmember R. Waters, second by H. Waters to approve the agenda. Motion carried.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

- Gary Candelaria provided an update on the status of the museum stating that the Sharpsburg Museum of History and the Sharpsburg Historical Society have merged their efforts and are now known as the Sharpsburg Research Center and Museum. While becoming one organization, artifacts and documents will be held at 2 locations. The museum had two soft openings on July 4<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> and Acting Curator Sylvia Frye, will continue to work in the museum with volunteers on Thursday afternoons.
- Brandon Thompson of 205 S. Church Street stated that he had a concern regarding the town's security camera located on the storage building at the Memorial Park located at 206 S. Church Street, adding that it may be detecting or monitoring his assets. Vice-Mayor Martz stated that the camera operates on a closed circuit and re-records every 2-weeks.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Public Hearing Minutes – June 8, 2026. **MOTION** by Councilmember R. Waters, second by Vice Mayor Martz to approve. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting Minutes – June 8, 2026 **MOTION** by Councilmember R. Waters, second by Councilmember McCullough to approve. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL REPORTS FOR JUNE AND JULY 2026. MOTION** by Councilmember R. Waters, second by Councilmember H. Waters. Motion carried.

**ZONING ADMINISTRATORS REPORT – Tim Lung**

- Researched and responded to multiple inquiries and questions regarding zoning, permitting, and code requirements.
- Attended a field meeting with Wash. County Soil Conservation District to consider a stream restoration/ planting buffer project and possible grant funding options.
- Reviewed and processed Board of Zoning Appeals application for a Special Exception to establish a Short-Term Rental at 215 W. High St. Hearing scheduled for Aug 6 at 7 pm.
- Reviewed and issued a zoning permit for a fence on property at W. Main St.
- Reviewed and signed off on a building permit application for roof mounted solar panels at E. Main st.
- Reviewed and completed MDP survey/questionnaire regarding the Towns permitting processes.
- Attended follow-up zoom meeting with SCD, DNR and Catoctin Land Trust regarding possible grant funding for stream buffer tree planting project. Field meeting scheduled for Sept 2. Possible Mayor & Council action at September meeting.
- Reviewed agenda and coordinated meeting date for “Washington County & Town Listening Session” to be presented by Maryland Dept of Natural Resources, Watershed & Climate Service regarding, “challenges related to changing environmental conditions and extreme weather events”. Meeting to be held at Town Hall on Aug 6 at 1:30pm.

- Continue to monitor Board of County Commissioners meeting agendas for matters relevant to the Town.

**MAYORS COMMENT(S)** – Mayor Weaver thanked everyone who worked on the Founders Day event. Stated that he was approached by someone who questioned the towns focus on weed removal at the curbs. He stated Community Development is a priority and that means maintaining the towns appearance as well as community events.

**COUNCIL MEMBERS REPORTS**

**Council Member McCullough** -asked if the town has any restrictions on types of plantings; i.e. around the Big Spring. To be further discussed at the next meeting scheduled for September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 3:30 at the Historic Park.

**Council Member Kudla** – nothing to report

**Vice Mayor Martz**- Founders Day event and the firework were a great success.

**Council Member H. Waters**- preparing for Sharpsburg Day event to be held on Saturday, September 19<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Member R. Waters** – removed a downed tree at the pond. Russ asked Robbie to contact DNR to obtain guidance on the algae growth at the pond.

**COMMUNITY PARTNERS**

**Community Deputy** - *M. Deputy Watkins*

|                                 |                                       |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Antietam Station - 4 checks.    | Total WCSO events - 53.               |
| Park - 2 checks.                | Accidents - 1                         |
| Little league - 2 checks.       | Malicious destruction of property - 1 |
| 120 E Main St. - 2 checks.      | Disorderly - 1                        |
| Calls for Service - 4           | Noise complaint - 2                   |
| Traffic Enf. - 2.5 hrs.         |                                       |
| Special Events - 1 (Fireworks). |                                       |

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**Chapline Street Culvert and Retaining Wall Repair Update and Proposed Road Repairs**– FSA presented a survey and repair plan to address the issues requested for the culvert and retaining wall, but an estimated cost is still needed. The Huntzberry Brothers patch repair quote dated June 5, 2026 included 25 areas totaling \$109,492.00. Councilmember Kudla has asked Huntzberry Brothers to further prioritize the repair areas into 2-categories known as Tier1 and Tier 2 based on need. (*the priority listing was not available for the meeting*). Once the additional information is obtained, a request for bids will be obtained.

**Big Spring Restoration Project Update** – The MDE permit is due to expire at the end of September and an extension will be requested, Gruber-Latimer has stated that they will attempt to do this project prior to the end of September.

**Lutheran Cemetery Restoration Project** – the imaging work may me done in September but the stone repairs will not be able to be done until spring. Mayor Weaver asked Councilmembers R. Waters and McCullough to organize a clean up meeting in March or April with the Historical Society and volunteers.

**Historic Park Security Camera Installation Project Update** – Vice-Mayor Martz was unable to find a company to do an underground directional bore, therefore a trench will need to be dug for the wiring to the PE pole. The permit from PE has already been obtained.

**Stepping Stone/Slave Block Plan**- Once information is gathered on the history of the stone, Council agreed to have a descriptive plaque made and have it placed back in the Historic Park.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**Proposal for Comprehensive Plan Planning Services** – Brianna Candelaria clarified the scope, rate and purpose involved in her proposal to update the towns Comprehensive Plan. The total cost to update the plan is \$11,220.00 with a total of 561 hours at \$20/hr. and is being done in 3-phases with an anticipated completion date of May 2027. Discussion on state required updates compared to citizens stating keep Sharpsburg the way it is. **Motion** by Councilmember R. Water, second by Councilmember McCullough to approve the completion of the plan update. Motion carried. Mayor Weaver stated that the final draft of the plan is subject to the approval of the Mayor and Council.

## **CORRESPONDENCE/ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Thank you from the Sharpsburg Elementary School Destination Imagination Team for the donation from the Mayor and Council.

**MOTION** by Councilmember H. Waters, second by Councilmember R. Waters to adjourn at 7:34 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Debra A. Valentine-Smith

Town Administrator