

# *Town of Sharpsburg*



## *Town Crier*

**Volume 27**

**April 2018**

**Number 4**

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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 will be available at the Clerk's office after they are approved by the Mayor and Council at next month's council meeting.**

The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Mayor Hal Spielman. The minutes of the March meeting were approved as presented. There was no treasurer's report available. Mr. Weaver stated that in the work session, a month-to-date budget was presented. He wanted to make sure that those that attended the work session were comfortable with where the budget is at thus far. The budget worksheet that was presented at the workshop session was approved as presented.

### **Public Comment**

Meredith Moore was present on behalf of the Sharpsburg Merchant's and Community Association with questions that she did not get a chance to ask at the work session meeting. Mrs. Moore asked what the plans for Founder's Day were and what could the businesses, which are not part of the committee do to be promoted for the event. She also asked if the committee was open to some of the businesses being downtown and represented on the flier that is being made for the event. Ed stated that there was a mailing sent to all the businesses regarding how they could be a part of the Founder's Day.

Mrs. Moore also asked how playable the tennis courts at the park are. Her daughter would like to play tennis with school and would like to use the courts for practice. She was told that the court is too small, and not up to regulation size. She has a contact that is interested in possibly using the court to teach tennis to elementary and middle school students if the town would want to do that. Brandon stated that the tennis courts are operational and functional. He is unsure about regulation size. Mr. Weaver stated that unless something has changed since they were put in, they are regulation size. The Council was in agreement that they think it would great for someone to host tennis lessons.

Mrs. Moore also asked that someone from Town Council and Zoning Committee come to one of the Sharpsburg Merchant's Association meetings. This would allow the Town to be represented and the

zoning committee could also help explain to the Association what it takes to start a business. Mrs. Moore asked if Kim could come. Mayor Spielman will talk to Howard Long and ask him to attend. Meetings are held the last Monday of the month at 11:30am and again at 7pm. Mr. Weaver asked Mrs. Moore how many town businesses attend the meetings. She stated about four or five. Mr. Weaver stated that his main concern are the businesses that are in the town limits; tax paying businesses. Mr. Weaver stated that if a zoning person attended the meetings, any questions in regards to a particular business, or decisions that were made about a particular business would be off limits. Mrs. Moore stated that she simply would like someone to come to explain how to start a business in town.

Bernard Semler is running for office for Washington County State's Attorney. He has family in Boonsboro and has connections to Sharpsburg. He wanted to introduce himself to the Council and the community. He offered if he were elected, that he would have a State's Attorney at every meeting because he feels that we are already paying for that representation, via taxes. This would allow the town to be updated on safety issues, and allow us to be aware of what is going on.

### **Committee Reports**

**Parks and Railroad Station:** Brandon reported that 450 trout were placed in the pond today. We will need to get the roof of the pavilion taken care of. Brandon will get quotes on this.

**Building:** Michael showed Kimberly the layout of the decals for the front door. He is still working on the advertisement ideas for the front of the building. We are still waiting on a return call from the painter to get the outside of Town Hall painted this year.

**Streets:** Tamara passed out the pothole list. Mayor Spielman stated that we will get quotes on fixing them from various companies and decide on a company at that time. Mr. Weaver stated that as far as Capital Planning that we should start to consider some overlays. Over the next three to four years the council should consider planning on repaving of streets, etc. Brandon mentioned that last fall it was discussed to re-line stop sign areas on the back streets as well (white line at stop signs). Mayor Spielman stated as far as paving streets, to consider Antietam Street and Church Streets as a priority, as they have not been paved since the water and sewer was put in. Russ suggested perhaps re-doing a block a year until completed.

**Planning & Zoning:** The Commission met in regards to Zach Exline's request to subdivide his property on Hall Street. Later this month the commission is planning on meeting to discuss processes of subdivision.

**Battlefield Advisory Committee:** Meeting is next Wednesday April 11<sup>th</sup>. Russ asked Mr. Vincent if he could ask at the meeting if the park intends to purchase any further properties on the west side of 65 and remove them. It was clarified that the Civil War Trust purchases the properties.

**Public Safety:** Darryl was not present to report

**Town Archives & Historical Planning:** Ed stated that the Boy Scouts would like to work with the Town on fixing up the Big Spring and cleaning it up, such as clearing the water way and painting the wall. Ed would like to purchase a metal storage shelf for the museum to store the archives and to get them off the floor. Russ moved to purchase the shelf, one that matches what is there, and Tamara seconded the motion. The motion carried.

**Mayor's Report:** The Mayor had nothing to report

### **Old Business**

The new elementary school was discussed.

## **New Business**

Mr. Prenger of West Main St was present to ask questions regarding the noise ordinance of the Town. He was instructed that the ordinance is a “complaint driven” ordinance and that if he feels someone is violating the ordinance, than he should call the Sheriff’s Department. Since we have no police force, the County Sheriff’s office would be the correct people to call for resolution.

Mr. Prenger was also advised that if he, or any other town resident, would like to see changes in a particular ordinance, then they could petition the Council to make a change.

Memorial Day Commemoration activities will be held on Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup>. Lloyd “Pete” Waters will be the Grand Marshal. The wreath laying will be at 11am in the square, and the parade will begin at 1:30pm at the Sharpsburg Elementary School.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10pm.

## **Town News**

### **151<sup>st</sup> Memorial Day Commemoration Activities**



Save the date for the 151<sup>st</sup> Memorial Day Commemoration activities! Although it may seem far away, preparations for the annual event are already underway. These events will be held on Saturday May 26, 2018, beginning with the wreath laying ceremony at 11am in the square, followed by music in the square beginning at noon. The parade will begin at the Sharpsburg Elementary School at 1:30pm and will travel down Main Street to the Antietam National Cemetery.

If you, or an organization that you are affiliated with would like to participate, please contact Town Hall at 301-432-4428 or [townofsharpsburg@comcast.net](mailto:townofsharpsburg@comcast.net)

### **Parade Books and Sponsorships**

Parade memorials and sponsorships are available for \$2 per line (up to three lines). There are representatives at the Sharpsburg Brethren Church, United Church of Christ, St. Paul’s Episcopal Church and the Sharpsburg Bible Church. Entries may also be dropped off at the Sharpsburg Library and may be dropped off at Town Hall Monday-Thursday from 8:30am-2:00pm. You may also mail in your entries and payment to the Town Hall at PO Box 368 Sharpsburg MD 21782. Deadline for submission is May 1, 2018.

# Road Closures for Memorial Day Commemoration Activities on Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup>

On Saturday May 26<sup>th</sup>, Route 34 (Main Street) from the intersection of Rt 34 and Rt 65 down to the intersection of West Main and Hall Streets will be closed from 11am-11:45am for the wreath laying ceremony in the square. Antietam Streets, Chapline Streets and Potomac Streets will be accessible during this time.

At approximately 1:30pm, Rt 34 (Main Street) will be closed until approximately 3pm for the parade. There will be no access to Rt 34 during this time, so please plan accordingly.

## **Employment Opportunity Zoning Administrator**

The Town is currently seeking a qualified individual to fill a part time zoning administrator position. The position is approximately 10-12 hours per week, plus the possibility of additional hours if needed.

Resumes will be accepted until Wednesday May 23, 2018 and may be dropped off to the Town Clerk Monday-Thursday between the hours of 9am-2pm, emailed to the Town at [townofsharpsburg@comcast.net](mailto:townofsharpsburg@comcast.net), faxed to the Town at 301-432-8990 or mailed to the Town at PO Box 368 Sharpsburg, MD 21782.

Duties include:

- \* interacting with citizens
- \* maintaining a professional, working relationship with the Town Clerk, Mayor and Council
- \* reading and analyzing town ordinances, the town code, subdivision ordinance and building plans
- \* investigate and enforce the ordinances of the town, both by visual non-compliance and citizen complaints
- \* receive and respond to citizen questions, complaints and concerns. Issue letters of violation that require compliance with the ordinances and Code of the Town. Issue municipal citations when appropriate
- \* prepare letters and documents
- \* attend meetings of the Mayor and Council, Planning Commission and Board of Zoning Appeals as needed/as requested.
- \* complete Maryland Department of Planning on-line course within the first month of employment

Preference will be given to individuals that have experience with municipal government and/or have been involved with zoning previously.

## *Community News and Events*

### **Washington County Museum Ramble**

The Sharpsburg Heritage Museum, Tolson's Chapel and the Sharpsburg Historical Society will be taking part in the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Washington County Museum Ramble. The Ramble is a self-guided tour of 23 sites throughout Washington County for the month of May.

The Sharpsburg Heritage Museum will be open on Saturday May 5 from 9am-5pm. Additional hours are available by appointment by calling 301-800-6877. The Sharpsburg Historical Society will be at the Methodist Cemetery on North Hall Street on Saturday May 19 from 10am-1pm. Stop by and see what the Historical Society has in store for the cemetery. Tolson's Chapel will be open on Saturday May 19 from 10am-4pm for tours of the Chapel. Visitors can also arrange a tour of the Chapel by emailing [tolsons.chapel@gmail.com](mailto:tolsons.chapel@gmail.com).

For a complete list of participating sites, pick up a brochure in the vestibule of Town Hall, at the Sharpsburg Library or visit online at [museumramble.visithargerstown.com](http://museumramble.visithargerstown.com).

### **Come All Who Are Thirsty**

Come All Who Are Thirsty will be having their monthly meeting on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> at 9:30am at the Burnside Church of God, located at 3904 Mills Road. Breakfast is provided. Come All Who Are Thirsty is open to ALL veterans and their families. First responders and anyone who has an interest in supporting Veterans are also welcome to attend. For more information, visit their website at [www.comeallwhoarethirsty.org](http://www.comeallwhoarethirsty.org) or call 240-347-7590.

#### **ATTENTION ALL VIETNAM VETERANS**

The Come All Who Are Thirsty Veterans Group invites you to a MUCH overdue Welcome Home Commemoration. Please RSVP by May 1, 2018 by calling 240-347-7590 or stopping by Victory Garden Ranch 101 W. Main Street Sharpsburg  
OPEN Thursday – Saturday 12:00 pm-5:00 pm.

ALL Vietnam Veterans get in FREE! Food will be provided by MISSION BBQ and there will be live music from the J.O.B. (Jim O' Ferrell Band) and Voices for Vets.

PLEASE ALLOW US TO HONOR YOUR SERVICE AND SACRIFICE.

Adult tickets are \$12.00 (ALL TICKETS WILL BE ENTERED INTO A RAFFLE FOR A \$5,000 HOME A/C UPGRADE)

Children 8-12 Years old: \$6.00

Children under 8: FREE

There will be door prizes and Veteran friendly resources available. Event will be at 4040 Mills Rd. Sharpsburg, MD on **May 19, 2018**. Gates open at 10:00 am, starts at 11:00 am, goes until 5:00 pm.

## *Sharpsburg Merchant's and Community Association*

The Sharpsburg Merchant's and Community Association meet the last Monday of each month at 11:30am and again at 7:00pm. April's meeting will be held at the Antietam Overlook Farm, located on Porterstown Road in Keedysville. The Association is open to all businesses in the 21782 zip code.



### **Sharpsburg Founder's Day** **255<sup>th</sup> Anniversary 1763 - 2018** **July 6-8, 2018**



**Come Celebrate 255 Years of History!**

**Friday, July 6**

**6-9pm**

**The celebration kicks off with food, fun, and festive music at Antietam Creek Vineyard.**

**Saturday, July 7**

**9am-5pm**

**On Saturday, the day begins at 9am with a ceremony in the Mountain View Cemetery at the monument of Sharpsburg founder – Joseph Chapline.**

**Activities throughout the day include live music, craft and farmers market, living history demonstrations, historical displays, walking tours, lectures and of course great food and ice cream.**

**Sunday, July 8**

**10am**

**The event will wrap up on Sunday with a Homecoming Community Church Service held at the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church**

**The Founder's Day Weekend celebration is sponsored by the Town of Sharpsburg. Follow our Facebook page – [Founder's Day 2018 - Sharpsburg, MD](#)**

## Tolson's Chapel to host musical celebration

Tolson's Chapel will hold a musical celebration of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the American Union School (the Freedmen's Bureau school in Tolson's Chapel) for Saturday May 19, beginning at 2:00pm.

## Blessing Box Main Street Sharpsburg

A Blessing Box has been started in Sharpsburg! If you are in need, stop by and take some food/supplies, then if you wish at a better time, drop off a donation. The Blessing Box is located at 117 West Main Street in the alley, beside the Christ Reformed United Church of Christ, on the side porch. What a wonderful resource for our community! Thank you for your kindness and generosity!

# 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

PO Box 368

Sharpsburg, MD 21782

