

Town of Sharpsburg



Town Crier

Volume 27

May 2018

Number 5

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.

Mayor Hal Spielman called the meeting to order at 7pm. The April minutes and the March and April treasurer's reports were all approved as presented.

Ms. Ava Gift thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing them to kick off the poppy campaign. Miss Addy Williams was introduced and pinned a poppy on the Mayor.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dwayne Harris with the Veterans group Come All Who Are Thirsty, presented a proposal to the Mayor and Council in regards to the group taking care of the Mark A Smith Park. Changes will include adding a mural to the side of the town building, removing the basketball net, removing the picnic tables and prepping the area for use.

Mr. Harris also wanted to share that his business has been fraudulently targeted by the Health Department and he offered for anyone that wishes, could come see the store and the books. He is also concerned about traffic being blocked near his store and about other businesses in town operating questionably. He was instructed to contact the Zoning Administrator, as the Council cannot get involved in those matters.

Greg Yost was present in regards to a parade being held on Main Street on August 4th with the Cumberland Valley Fire Convention. The convention is August 1-4 with a parade on August 4th. There will be a few walking units as well. The parade will begin at noon and they will request the use of the Sharpsburg Elementary School. They will also use Fire Police to assist them with the parade. Apparatus' can choose to go up cemetery hill or turn onto Rt 34. They will also be having a picnic and get together at Captain Benders. Mayor Spielman stated that they will need to get permission from the State Highway. Darryl suggested to include in the permitting that they may want to request permission to line

up on Rt34 and onto General Lee Drive and that will get some of the apparatus off of Rt 34. Russ asked if they would be demonstrating the apparatus or allowing kids to see the apparatus. He stated that they really do not have a time for that. Darryl moved to allow the parade to happen. Tamara seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Carl Witmer with Tactical Solutions and Integration was present to answer any questions in regards to adding cameras to the outside of the building. Mr. Witmer will get a quote together and send it over. The Council also asked him to provide a quote to place cameras at the park.

Meredith Poffenberger has a letter to submit from the Sharpsburg Merchant's Association. They have four questions to ask, but she is willing to table those until the Workshop meeting. Mayor Spielman asked her what her questions were. She asked about the town election and what were the requirements for someone to run for office. The Mayor stated that the person has to be 25 years of age, have lived in the town limits for one year immediately prior to the election, be a registered voter and be a US Citizen. Meredith also stated that for the record she received a fraudulent call from the Health Department as well and was found to be in the clear. She also wanted to state that for the record, she had a yard sale and someone that was selling items at the yard sale broke down in front of Victory Garden Ranch and that her husband helped her load her items in a truck and take it up to her yard sale.

She stated that the next meeting of the Merchant's Association will be 11:30am and 7:00pm at Jefferson Security Bank in the lobby on May 21st.

Committee Reports

Parks and Railroad – A new pavilion roof was put on the park pavilion. The Fishing Rodeo was a success. Nutter's gave everyone a free kiddie cone and everyone got a prize.

Building – Front door will be completed by Memorial Day.

Streets – Nothing new to report

Planning and Zoning – The Planning Commission looked at Planning documents and felt the subdivision ordinance was sufficient. The only question is how it links to the County?

Battlefield Advisory Committee – Visitor Center Plan is out for comment until May 23rd. Russ felt that the Town should respond to the Plan. Mr. Vincent will draft up a letter and submit it to the town for review.

The NPS also feels that the crosswalk at the Antietam National Cemetery is very dangerous and they want to work with State Highway to get something done. It was suggested that perhaps the Town and the NPS could work together to get their crosswalk issue and the town square issue taken care of together.

Public Safety – Open house for the EMS facility is May 26th at 4pm

Town Archives and Historical Planning – Over 20 people visited the Museum during the Museum Ramble. The museum received monetary donations and artifacts to add to the museum.

Mayor's Report – The Mayor spoke with Pete Resh in regards to the Eagle Scout clearing out the spring. He is able to do that but he cannot use a backhoe or other mechanical device to remove rock or grass. Other than that, he can remove the grass from the spring.

Old Business

Parade – 4 members of the Council will ride in the parade

New Business

Tax Rate for FY 2019 leave as is or raise? It was moved to keep taxes at the same rate. The motion carried.

Board of Education – Hal and Russ met with the Board of Education. The Board of Ed. apologized for sloppy clerical work. No decisions have been made at this time.

Russ moved to go into closed session at 8:05pm for legal advice and Ed seconded the motion. The motion carried. The meeting was moved back into regular session at 9:15pm and was moved for adjournment at 9:16pm by Tamara and seconded by Ed.

Town News

151st Memorial Day Commemoration Activities



The 151st Memorial Day Commemoration activities are this weekend! 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. The Commemoration activities will take place rain or shine.

Parade participants are asked to check in with the Parade Marshal in front of the Sharpsburg Elementary School by 1pm.

Road Closures for Memorial Day Commemoration Activities on Saturday May 26th

On Saturday May 26th, 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.

Town Office Closures

The Town Office will be closed Monday May 28-Friday June 1. The Office will reopen Monday June 4 at 8:30am. If you have an emergency during this time, please contact Mayor Hal Spielman at 301-432-6854. Otherwise, phone messages and emails will be returned beginning Monday June 4.

Community News and Events

Antietam Unit 236 Begins Poppy Campaign



Miss Poppy 2018 Adalyn 'Addie' Williams pinning Mayor Spielman

Miss Poppy Adalyn Williams, 7 year old daughter of Steven and Chasity Williams of Sharpsburg, Maryland, presented Sharpsburg Mayor Hal Spielman with a poppy before the May 7 town council meeting.

The presentation was planned to coincide with the upcoming Memorial Day holiday and officially opened the annual poppy campaign of Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary.

Adalyn is the granddaughter of Lori Williams, who is a member of the auxiliary and also had

been Miss Poppy in her younger years, also the great granddaughter of unit member Shirley Phillips.

The wearing of the little red crepe poppy flower is a powerful reminder of the cost of our freedom and a call to honor living veterans and those who lost their lives. The custom can be traced back to 1918 when Moina Michael popularized the idea of wearing a poppy flower in memory of the lives lost in WWI. She drew her inspiration from the poem In Flanders Fields, written by WWI Col. John McCrae.

- Ava Gift

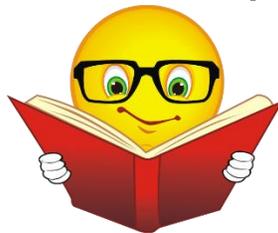
Come All Who Are Thirsty

Come All Who Are Thirsty will be having their monthly meeting on Saturday June 2nd 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 or call 240-347-7590.

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. The June meeting will be held on June 25, place to be determined. Contact Meredith Poffenberger Moore for more information 301-991-0265

Happenings at the Sharpsburg Library



Lego Club

June 2 10am – Create something you would find in an amusement park. Try the building challenge or come up with your own design

Science in the Library

June 26 & 27 2-4pm for children entering grades 3-6

Learn about Issac Newton and perform experiments about motion. Learn about gears and

pulleys and do hands on learning to explore these useful tools. The program is free and materials will be supplied.

Classes are small, so register early! Registration begins May 22, stop by the library or call 301-432-8825.

Adult Book Share

June 6 10am-11:30am – We will share current favorites

Tree ID Walk

June 2 10am – Join Larry Stritch, retired National Botanist from the US Forest Service for a walk at Washington Monument State Park. We will meet at the Sharpsburg Library at 9:30am for doughnuts and a map.

Battlefield Advisory Committee

The park has begun making improvements to the paved walkway from the McKinley Monument to Burnside Bridge. This project will include installing handrails along the route to make the walkway safer. The walkway from the William McKinley Monument to the Burnside Bridge will be closed for construction from April through early fall 2018. Visitors wishing to walk on the iconic bridge will be able to use a pedestrian walkway delineated by Jersey barriers that will lead from the Stop 9 parking area to the disabled parking entrance. These barriers will create a traffic pattern where cars from the bottom and top of the hill will yield to each other. Please be on the lookout for construction signage concerning this project.

Other projects that are being conducted at the park include: preservation work on the New York State Monument near the Visitor Center by the Historical Preservation Training Center; exterior work at the Newcomer House; replacement of the historic 6-rail fence along the Hagerstown Pike and the completion of the walkway at the Antietam National Cemetery.

As part of the Park's deer management plan, 4,856 lbs. of venison was donated to the Maryland Food Bank.

- Chris Vincent

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

