

# *Town of Sharpsburg*



## *Town Crier*

**Volume 25**

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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.**

The monthly meeting of the Mayor and Council was held on November 7, 2016 at 7pm. The meeting was called to order at 7pm by Mayor Hal Spielman. All members were present.

The minutes of the October meeting and the October treasurer's report were both approved as presented.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Erin Clark from Smith, Elliott, Kerns & Co was present to discuss and review the audit that was performed. She stated that the Town received a "clean opinion", which is the best that can be given.

The final reading of the Comprehensive Plan was reviewed. Meredith Poffenberger stated that previously she thought that "small town charm" should be defined, but after consideration, she feels that maybe it is best to keep it vague. There were no other comments presented. Russ Weaver moved to accept the final reading and Ed Beeler seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Dwayne Harris from the Veterans group, Come All Who Are Thirsty approached the council out of respect for them to discuss the possibility of placing their logo with an arrow pointing to where their meetings are held on the old BP Station sign. Mr. Harris has spoken with the owner's agent of the BP Station property and they have agreed to allow Come All Who Are Thirsty (C.A.W.A.T.) to do this. Mr. Weaver stated that the Town would need something in writing from the property owner stating that this permission has been granted and that we should allow the public to voice their opinion on this at the December meeting. Kimberly will place this in the Crier, so that interested parties can come and be heard.

Mr. Harris also stated that he and his wife, Beth, have entered an agreement with the bank to rent the property at 101 W. Main Street. Their hope is to place a store in this property that would sell 90%

veteran owned or created products. There would be about 15 products and 5 vendors total. The profits would be put back into the Come All Who Are Thirsty organization. Eventually they would like to have counseling for veterans on the second floor and host movie nights, paint classes and craft classes. The business would be called Victory Garden Ranch. They wanted to let the Town know what their plans were out of respect, and to inquire about what else would be needed. They were instructed to talk to Mr. Long, Zoning Administrator, for the proper paperwork.

Meredith Poffenberger invited everyone to The Marketplace of Sharpsburg's open house on December 3, 2016 from 10am-10pm. The Marketplace will also be participating in Caroling for Cans and luminaries for loved ones, with the profits going to Come All Who Are Thirsty.

### **Committee Reports**

**Parks & Railroad Station:** Brandon reported that the Department of Land Management gave him a crash course of how the pond is generated, etc. They stated that four bales of barley straw would be helpful to place in the pond. It needs some dirt placed around the drain and the pipe that feeds the pond is in need of a filter. The water is flowing well and the aerator appears to be working, but the aerator needs further evaluation to assure that it is doing its job. We do need to check the levels and the health of the pond. Brandon reported that Zetts in WV will not come out and check the levels. We will look into having these done, possibly by an Outdoor School student.

**Building:** We have still only received one estimate for painting the building. We will await another one or two and discuss this in December, as painting will not be completed until at least the spring. Heidler Roofing began work on the roof today.

**Streets:** Jeter has completed the intersection of South Church and East Antietam Street to correct the drainage issue. They also replaced a speed bump at the pond that was damaged last winter and they have patched the potholes throughout the town and alleys.

**Planning and Zoning:** We will begin re-staffing these committees in December. Current members and members that wish to join should let Kimberly know of their intentions before the December meeting.

**Battlefield Advisory Committee:** Mr. Jamieson reported that the meetings for the committee will now be quarterly instead on 10 months out of the year. The Superintendent does not feel meetings are needed monthly.

**Public Safety:** Darryl reported that the Fire Company will be having an open house in December for the community to come and tour the new facility. When a date has been established, he will let Kimberly know so that it can be placed in the newspaper.

### **Old Business**

1. BP Sign: this was discussed during public comment and will be discussed, along with citizen input at the December meeting
2. Trees on Main Street: After much discussion, it was decided that Kimberly would need to do some research as to the street scape project from the 90's, which trees were placed where, what the Town responsibility is and how to decrease the amount of problems with trees in town.

### **New Business**

**Snow Plowing Contract:** This is up the end of the year. It was decided to have bidders obtain references and the bids would be open prior to the meeting, so that Kimberly has time to contact references.

Kimberly will decide when to open the bids and will advertise in the paper, in the Crier and with fliers around town. The contract will then be awarded at the December meeting.

The next meeting will be held December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40pm.

## *Town News*

**TOWN OF SHARPSBURG, MD  
ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS  
SNOW PLOWING, SALT/ICE MELT APPLICATION, SNOW REMOVAL FOR THE 2017 SEASON**

Separate sealed bids for snow plowing, salt/ice melt application; snow removal for the 2017 season will be received.

Location: Within the town limits of Sharpsburg, Maryland

Bids: Sealed Bids must be received by the Town of Sharpsburg, either by mail or hand delivery, no later than 12 noon local time on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 in a Sealed Envelope marked "Snow Plowing, Salt/Ice Melt Application and Snow Removal" at the following address:

Town of Sharpsburg  
ATTN: Town Clerk  
P.O. Box 368, 106 E. Main St.  
Sharpsburg, Maryland 21782

Any Bids received after the above time will not be accepted under any circumstances. Any uncertainty regarding the time a Bid is received will be resolved against the Bidder.

Opening and Reading: The Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud at 12:15pm on Wednesday, December 7, 2016 in the Town Hall located at 106 E. Main St, Sharpsburg, Maryland.

Contract Documents: The Contract Documents, including specifications and drawings, can be obtained at Town Hall.

Bid Contents: To be considered, bids must contain: Bid Proposal, required insurance and three (3) references.

Award, Waiver and Rejection of Bids: The contract will be awarded pursuant to the requirements of applicable local, State and Federal laws and regulations. To the extent permitted by such laws and regulations, the Town reserves the right:

- a. To reject any or all Bids.
- b. To waive any informality or irregularity in any Bid received.
- c. To accept the Bid deemed by the Town of Sharpsburg to be the most advantageous to its interests.

By: Town of Sharpsburg  
Kimberly L. Fulk, Town Clerk

## **Town Election**

The election for the town was held on Tuesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. The unofficial results are as follows: Mayor – Hal Spielman; Councilpersons – Tamara White and Michael Carr. The election results will be entered into the record at the December 12<sup>th</sup> Council meeting. New members will be sworn in at the January town meeting. Congratulations to these individuals.

## **Town Office Closures**

The Town Office will be closed on Thursday, November 24 and Friday, November 25. The office will also be closed on Thursday, December 1 and Thursday, December 22-Monday, December 26<sup>th</sup>. We will re-open at 8:30am on Tuesday, December 27<sup>th</sup>.

## *Town Christmas Gathering*



The Town of Sharpsburg will ring in the Christmas holiday on Friday, December 9, 2016 at 7pm in the square. Santa will be arriving to see all the children, so make sure you bring your camera. Santa has agreed to answer the children's letters, so make sure they bring them along! Hot chocolate, tea and cookies will be available in the council chambers of town hall. Bring an ornament to place on the tree. The 2016 Town ornament, featuring Tolson's Chapel, will be available for purchase for \$10. Come out and enjoy fellowship with your friends and neighbors.

## **Town Council Meeting – December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7pm**

The Veterans group Come All Who Are Thirsty would like to use the old sign at the BP Station as a directional sign with an arrow, pointing to where interested parties would go to attend their meetings. Their logo would be placed at the top, and underneath would be painted white or another neutral color. If the public would like to provide comments on this proposal, please attend this meeting.

## **TOWN PLANNING AND ZONING BOARDS**

If you would be interested on serving on the Planning and Zoning Board, or if you are currently on the board and wish to continue serving, please let Kimberly know via phone at 301-432-4428 or email at [townofsharpsburg@comcast.net](mailto:townofsharpsburg@comcast.net)

## Community News

### Sharpsburg Holds Veterans Day Ceremony



**Boonsboro Resident James Bowers, WWII Battle of the Bulge Veteran**

Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary held a Veterans Day ceremony November 11 in Sharpsburg Town Square. The program began with the presentation of colors by Clopper Michael Post 10 American Legion Honor Guard.

Fourth and fifth-grade students from Sharpsburg Elementary School led those gathered in the pledge of allegiance. Boonsboro High School chorus under the direction of Micah Socks sang the national anthem a cappella. A moment of silence followed in memory of the dead. Unit Chaplain Debra Crampton gave the invocation. Retired U.S. Army Reserve Lt. Col. Park Ranger Mike Gamble of the Antietam National Battlefield spoke on the subject of Veterans Day.

Ava Gift, who emceed the ceremony, explained the origin of the combat term "I've Got Your Six", which means soldier to soldier "I've Got Your Back". As a token of appreciation each of the veterans in attendance received a backscratcher embellished with red, white and blue beads and ribbon.

The names and location of 12 local soldiers were given and the audience was asked to keep all military personnel in their thoughts and prayers.

The 80 veterans in attendance, including veterans from Somerford Place and Broadmore Senior Living homes, lined up and stepped forward as their service song was sung during the singing of the Armed Forces Salute by the Boonsboro High School Chorus. Each veteran introduced themselves and told what branch of military served and during which conflict. Some shared enlightening and heartwarming information.

The Boonsboro Chorus sang patriotic selections followed by the presentation of memorial wreaths.

Park Ranger Mike Gamble laid a wreath on behalf of Antietam National Battlefield. Joe Eichelberger, Judge of the Orphans Court Laid a wreath on behalf of the citizens of Washington County, Mayor Hal Spielman laid a wreath on behalf of the town of Sharpsburg, Danny Brown and Howard Williams laid a wreath on behalf of the Disabled American Veterans, Ralph Tag Chapter 14, Leonard Higdon and Jared Rohr laid a wreath on behalf of Antietam Lodge 197, Gary Shank laid a wreath on behalf of Clopper

Michael Post 10 American Legion, Bill Knight laid a wreath on behalf of 40 & 8 Washington County Voiture 651, Ernie Wetterer laid a wreath on behalf of Antietam Post 236 American Legion, Eugene Rowe on behalf of Squadron 236 Sons of the American Legion and Darlene Eichelberger on behalf of Antietam Unit 236 American Legion Auxiliary along with 2016 Unit 236 Miss Poppy Madison Smith.

Clopper Michael Post 10 Honor Guard presented the rifle salute followed by the playing of taps. The Unit chaplain than offered the benediction.

The program concluded with Gift thanking all those who participated and to all who attended. Everyone was invited, as guests of the unit auxiliary, for soup and sandwiches at the Sharpsburg Bible Church social hall.

- Ava Gift

## Community Events

### Sharpsburg Historical Society to host Author Ed Maliskas

The Sharpsburg Historical Society hosts Ed Maliskas on Thursday, December 1 at 7pm in the Sharpsburg Town Hall, where he will present selections from his book John Brown to James Brown – The Little Farm Where Liberty Budded, Blossomed and Boogied.

The Kennedy Farmhouse on Chestnut Grove Road, is best known as the headquarters of John Brown's raid on the federal arsenal at nearby Harpers Ferry in 1859. A lesser known use of the house will also be discussed at the meeting.

The meeting is free and open to all. Light refreshments will be served. For additional information, contact 301-992-9767.

### *Annual Battlefield Illumination*



The memorial illumination at the Antietam National Battlefield will take place on Saturday, December 3, 2016. The illumination includes 23,000 luminaries over the battlefield; one for each soldier killed, wounded or missing at the Battle of Antietam.

The event begins at 6pm and the entrance is located on Richardson Avenue, which is located off of MD 34.

If there is inclement weather, the event will be held on Saturday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

### *The Marketplace of Sharpsburg to hold Open House*

The Marketplace of Sharpsburg will have an Open House on Saturday, December 3, 2016 from 10am-10pm. They will also be selling luminaries to place around The Marketplace that evening. The sales from the luminaries will benefit the local Veterans group, Come All Who Are Thirsty. The Marketplace will also be Caroling for Cans, with donated canned goods being given to the South County Food Pantry. Canned goods can also be dropped off at The Marketplace throughout the month until December 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

Veterans group Come All Who Are Thirsty will hold their meeting on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 9:30am-11:30am at the Burnside First Church of God, located at 3904 Mills Road, Sharpsburg. Breakfast is free and is provided by the Burnside First Church of God. The group is open to all Veterans, their families, First Responders and anyone who has an interest in supporting Veterans. For additional information, contact 240-347-7590 or via email at [cawatveterans@gmail.com](mailto:cawatveterans@gmail.com).

### **Annual Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company Santa Run**



Santa will be visiting the Sharpsburg and South Keedysville areas on the fire truck on Wednesday, December 7<sup>th</sup> beginning at 5pm. The rain date for the run will be Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup>. Be listening for the siren to alert you that Santa is on your street.

### **Open House at the Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company**

Come out and visit the Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Company's new facility on Saturday, December 10, 2016 from 1pm-4pm. The Fire Company has worked very hard to make this new facility a reality. Come out and show your support and see the new building.

*Happy Thanksgiving!*



# 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  
Sharpsburg, MD 21782

