

**TOWN OF SHARPSBURG
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

January 7, 2019

A regular meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, January 7, 2019, at 6:00 pm, at the Sharpsburg Recreation Center.

Present were the following members: Blue Cole, Mayor; Tom Teagle, Council Member; Cynthia Puckett-Pike, Council Member; Stan Parten, Council Member; Elizabeth Good, Mayor Pro Tem; Brad Sears, Attorney; Deannia Roberson, Town Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was delivered.

The Clerk verified there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the December 17, 2018 Council Meeting were reviewed. Council Member Stan Parten motioned, Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good seconded. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Blue Cole asked the Council and public if there were any questions about the 2019 Budget before the 2nd reading and the resolution was adopted. There being no questions, Mayor Cole asked for a motion to accept the 2nd reading and to adopt the 2019 Budget. Elizabeth Good, Mayor Pro Tem made a motion to accept the 2nd reading and to adopt the Resolution for the 2019 Budget. Council member Tom Teagle seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Cole discussed Arbor Valley cutting the triangle area between Highway 54 and Terrentine Road. Mayor Cole asked this item to be tabled. He informed Council he had just received an email from Coweta County stating this maybe an option they can help with after they discuss the issue with the Board of Commissioners. He will bring this item back to the table once he receives more information. No action taken.

Mayor Cole discussed the Resolution setting the qualifying fees for the General Election in November 2019. He asked Attorney Brad Sears to discuss the resolution. Mr. Sears discussed the history setting qualifying fees and stated prior to February 1st of each year in which there is a municipal election you must publish the fees in the newspaper. We will set your fees tonight as Fifty Dollars (\$50.00) for Mayor for a four-year term and Twenty-Five (\$25.00) for Council Member four-year term. We will publish this in the newspaper and will run on the last Thursday of the month. Mayor Cole asked for a motion to accept the qualifying fees. Stan Parten, Council Member made a motion to accept the Resolution adopting the 2019 General Election qualifying fees. Elizabeth Good, Mayor Pro Tem seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Comments -

- Joy Brown Barnes, Realtor also representing the Chamber of Commerce along with Bob Coggin spoke about reaching out to the Cities and was very excited about the e-SPLOST and wanted everyone to be aware of what this will do for their communities. Bob Coggin explained how he became involved with the Chamber

after he rotated off City Council six years ago. He was invited to become a legislative rep where he traveled and visited and attended many Municipal and County meetings to reach out to the Communities. Mayor Cole stated that the Town has already reached out to other members of The Chamber and were very excited to work with all of you.

- Bobby Vaillancourt, resident of Sharpsburg asked if the storm drain on his street could be cleaned out and Mayor Cole advised him that his street was already on the list to get cleaned.

Clerks Comments -

The Town Clerk stated that she contacted Cynthia Bennett with Leadership Coweta on the beautification ideas they met with Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good about. Cynthia will be contacting the group to verify the design they chose for Sharpsburg which was adding signage to welcome cyclers to stop and take a selfie or use as a rest area. Also, Eric Knox with Department of Revenue called and stated that he cited Sharpsburg Take Out for not maintaining her local alcohol license and has scheduled a hearing for April 3, 2019. He also ordered her to remove all alcohol from the premises and he would contact us with the results from the hearing.

Polling of the Council -

- Tom Teagle - stated that the series of storms over the holidays have enabled us to identify four more plugged drains. Town resident, Bobby Vaillancourt asked how they would know if the drain was stopped up, he felt like it is a grading issue. Mayor Cole stated that we have a couple of different options. They would first contract out for someone to come clean the culvert and if that doesn't work then they would have to call DOT. Council Member Teagle stated that two culverts could possibly involve the Railroad. Mayor Cole told everyone that he has contacted the Railroad but can't promising anything.
- Cynthia Puckett Pike - N/A
- Stan Parten - stated that he brought up the speed limit on 154 at the last meeting and wanted to see where it stands. He said since Colonel Lenn Wood from Coweta County Sheriff's Office is attending tonight's meeting, let's ask him what we can do to decrease the speed limit. Colonel Wood stated that with any State highway we must go thru DOT (Department of Transportation) to get any changes to the speed limit and they normally will not drop it to down to 35 miles per hour. After discussion on where the speed limit signs were, the Mayor stated they were discussing getting a portable radar trailer for that area. Colonel Wood stated that Mayor Cole has been in contact with Major Mark Fenninger in the Patrol Division and he has updated the patrolmen in this area about the issues you're having. You will be seeing more presence of patrol cars in the area and I've talked with Mayor Pro Tem on an area where we could possibly sit and park and watch the stop signs and speeders going down Terrentine. We have a plan and will work with you all any way we can. The question was asked what was a reasonable expectation for patrolmen on Terrentine and Main Street. Colonel Wood stated the problem your going to run into is to run radar, first you must be approved by DOT. When the speed limit is below 25, they won't set a speed and it becomes congested which gives us the right then to monitor the speed. We can use or radar units to clock

them, stop them and talk to them but can't charge them. Council Member Partin asked if they could charge them for speeding on Hwy 54. Colonel Wood stated that the State highway was on the list and will check to confirm that Terrentine is on that list. They talked about the speed exceeding 80 miles an hour on Terrentine. Colonel Wood discussed a new program where they are assigning officers to specific areas. That way they can meet people; stop and talk to them and when people get comfortable, they will talk to you. That's what we need, to build relationships. This program started about a year ago and it shows to be working out for all the areas they are assigned to.

- o Elizabeth Good - N/A

Mayor's Minutes -

Mayor Cole stated he will put out a document for citizen committees. We are about ready to go with the volunteer form to ask for help because obviously this being part time or volunteer positions for all of us, we need as much help as we can get. Right now, we are working on our IT infrastructure and right now our infrastructure consists of a computer. That doesn't quite work in 2019 and we are looking at building that out either through Georgia Municipal Association's IT in a Box or through Google or somebody else. We are looking at some lighting options. One of the concerns we heard through the election cycle was street lights. Wellsburg Station is pitch dark at night and apparently, they have no street lights over there. I have reached out to Georgia Power just to see what the options are. We are hoping to get a couple of interns. It will help us build relationships with the school system and it will give Deannia a break off the phones and off the front desk. We may also be able to use interns for our 150th Anniversary. Sharpsburg was founded in 1871 and 2021 we will be celebrating 150 years. I'd like to be putting together a historical exhibit for just a review of the Town's 150 years. Hopefully we can use some interns for that. The Local Mileage Improvement Grant (LMIG) was submitted by January 1, 2019. That is where some of the culvert money is coming from. We are going to use the money from culverts improving ditches and possibly for some planning engineering for future roads. We now have an address list for Deannia to use for all the Town's residents to use the Bridges Recreation Center at resident prices. It will also help with the trash pick up where we often have questions about that. Council Member Tom Teagle asked to talk about the back-parking lot. Mayor Cole stated that we have already been talking to the County to see what they can do for the planning and engineering side of it and doing the site work. Once we get the quote for the materials, we can package that up. What Tom was talking about is we want to pave and improve the back lot back here. I'm hoping this will be a single year SPLOST project but depending on the cost, we may have to make it a multiyear project which will be planning and engineering, materials purchase and then the next year do the grading and installation. As soon as we can get those figures, we will bring it back to Council. This will make this facility nicer and better and more of an attraction is one of the first things on our list. We have a wonderful facility and we will make the playground bigger when we redo the parking lot. Polly Garlington had a question and stated when they were building the park, a lot of the residents were upset because they had no where to walk. The park would make a really nice place to walk. Mayor Cole agreed. Council Member Teagle stated we had 30,000 square feet and when you come in 10-15 feet for a trail you still have a tremendous area to park. Polly stated that was one of the biggest complaints she heard was not having anywhere to walk. Mayor Cole agreed to look at adding that to the plans.

There being no further business coming before the Council, Council Member Stan Parten made a motion to adjourn, Council Member Tom Teagle seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Deannia L. Roberson, Town Clerk