

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

March 4, 2019

A regular meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, March 4, 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; Deannia Roberson, Town Clerk.

The Pledge of Allegiance was delivered.

The Town Clerk verified there was a quorum present.

Council Member Stan Parten made a motion to amend the agenda due to Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good having to depart early. Council Member Tom Teagle seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Blue Cole stated the Library property lease is going to be discussed by Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good which must leave early. Mayor Cole stated because of the property being owned by his family, he will recuse himself from this item on the agenda. Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good stated that the Library property was discussed at the February meeting. Attorney Brad Sears prepared the lease agreement which was discussed and is attached for everyone's review. The Cole's have donated use of this property to the Town of Sharpsburg for parties, wedding venues or other events at the Library or Town Hall. Once the lease agreement is signed, the library property will be protected under GIRMA (Georgia Interlocal Risk Management Agency), which is our liability insurer. The Library's Men's Club will help with the initial clean up and mulch needs to be put down to make it more attractive. Council Member Stan Parten made a motion to accept the lease as presented. Council Member Tom Teagle seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

The minutes of the February 4, 2019 Council Meeting were reviewed. Council Member Stan Parten made a motion to approve the minutes as written. Council Member Cynthia Puckett-Pike seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Blue Cole stated we have found a Civil Engineer that can help with various projects around town. Brennen Jones also does engineering services in Coweta County and across the state to include Turin, Grantville, Garden City, McIntosh and he comes very highly recommended. He can prepare an agreement for the Town of Sharpsburg that is hourly for any projects we need. To start, we have the Metro North Georgia Annual Water Audit. This is a water study that we need to have completed with the Georgia Department of Natural Resources. In order to get future grants, this audit must be completed. The actual audit was completed back last May when Donna and Wendell both resigned. The DNR sent it back to us with some findings we must fix. Mainly getting information from Turin, updating ordinances and providing a water management plan. We've all looked at this audit and it seems to be beyond our experience. When

we contacted DNR, they suggested reaching out to an engineer. I talked to other Towns and found Mr. Brennen completed Turin's report. He's got experience, he's local and he's got good references. Mr. Brennen will be able to help us with other things like the traffic study on Terrentine. We need civil planning for the parking lot here. Brad Sears, Attorney has reviewed the agreement with one recommendation. Under Article XI, we need to add, "To the extent permitted by law". We will also have a Zoning expert as he will handle our zoning administration as well. Mayor Cole said that the projects he undertakes will be brought back to Council simply because of the dollar amounts. Council Member Tom Teagle made a motion to accept the Brennen Jones Engineering Associates agreement as presented. Council Member Stan Parten seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Mayor Cole discussed the quote from Watchdog Security for surveillance equipment and upgrade. He advised Council and public that we have had some vandalism at the playground. Siding was pulled, shingles were taken down and put under the swings and the slide is laying on the ground. We pulled the footage and found the DVR not recording. It is an older piece of equipment that is not up to date. We've had Watchdog out here multiple times. It's time to upgrade the equipment. This quote presented is for a 16-channel recorder which includes 3 new cameras, power supply connectors, labor and most importantly a license plate camera for \$1,630.00. We will use the Building maintenance budget for pay for it. We are also going to get some signs to put up stating that they are being recorded to maybe deter some of the vandalism and bad behavior. Council Member Stan Parten made a motion to accept the quote as presented to upgrade the surveillance equipment. Council Member Cynthia Puckett-Pike seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Public Comments –

- Brennen Jones introduced himself as a Civil Engineer. He previously met with Mayor Cole and Town Clerk about the Town's compliance with North Georgia Water Planning District. It is some regulatory stuff the City must do. He provides Civil Engineering services to several small communities in Coweta County including Grantville and Turin. He stated that he has thirty years' experience as a Civil Engineer in Georgia and several other states. His main expertise is in public sector in Engineering services which deal with roads, water, sewer, storm water, site development, zoning administration, mapping and GIS work as well. He has offered a professional services agreement to the Town of Sharpsburg to assist in whatever needs you may have as an on-call basis.
- Polly Garlington stated that she had sent an email about the traffic on Hwy 54 and Main Street. She asked Council to please consider putting a radar sign up to slow traffic down on Main Street.
- Ted Shumake stated he has been in business here for 28 ½ years. He would love to see the Old Town of Sharpsburg come back. He would like to get Mr. Joe Bridges to work with the Town Council. Sewer seems to be a big problem. Would love to see the arts/crafts festivals come back. They made the little Town of Sharpsburg unique. Parking was a problem. He has 3 or 4 buildings with 9 businesses or so in them, so he has a lot of interest in the town. He asked if he could do anything to get Joe and Council working together, he would love to do that.
- Bobby Vaillancourt, Artist would like to see the festival come back in town.

- Artist, Michael Sebacher started a nonprofit four years ago on a Community Education Development Program. He stated that initially they were doing classes and their membership include local accomplished artisans that are also interested in instructing. Our classes include stain glass, weavers, potters, calligraphy and jewelry. We have an event every year called Makers Day. The last one was held at the Train Station in Newnan. 500 people came the first day and over 200 came the second day. The purpose of doing events is to get the community interested in arts and crafts enough to attend classes. I talked with Joe Bridges about a year and a half ago about a strip here in town. I would like to bring an art education incentive here. Art education is traffic. People are coming for different classes and students eventually become artist, artist become teachers and its just a big productive cycle. Just wanted to come and introduce myself.
- Mayor Cole introduced Professor Chuck Welsko and Intern Arron Rowell. Professor Welsko introduced himself and stated he was a Professor at the University of West Georgia in Carrollton and said he was guiding Arron and working with Mayor Cole on a public History internship where we are trying to preserve history for a 150th Anniversary of Sharpsburg coming up. Arron is working on digitizing, helping preserve the memories, the stories, looking through newspapers working with Mayor Cole to gather documents and digitizing them. Mayor Cole told everyone that Arron has been researching digital archives for the last month. Arron notated the big thing he's looking for is West Georgia Historical Newspaper article including he Newnan Herald and that has been a great resource and has found several articles that were related to East Coweta High School. During the 20th century, July 4th was a big celebration. He found several advertisements with a bass band, BBQ and other events going on in Sharpsburg. A new train depot in 1913. Main Street use to be called Depot Street that's because before they built Hwy 16, it dead ended into a depot at the end of Main Street. In 1907, another depot caught fire. Sharpsburg was a cotton town and used the trains to transport to textile mills and one caught fire. An amber came off the train and landed in a bale of cotton and caught the depot on fire. The founding of the first Bank of Sharpsburg was in 1911. Arron will be digitizing the timeline using a program where you can click on a date and it will give you pictures and the articles. Something we will be able to share the history for future generations.

Clerks Comments –

Deannia Roberson, Town Clerk stated that she has collected 32 business licenses and is working on a few more. CrossFit Coweta, John Wayne's Mechanical Service and The Slipcover Lady. We sent out the occupations tax renewal letters in December of 2018 with February 15, 2019 as the deadline. We did extend the deadline to Tuesday, February 19th, due to the holiday. She has also been working on verbal warnings with Corbin's Corner and Tony Brown to remove broken down vehicles and containers which are against our ordinances. Corbin's Corner has removed one van and a container and Tony Brown has removed a van and is cleaning up around the business. I will check next week as to see where we stand. I am holding their current business license until these properties are clear of any violations. We also received a formal complaint at 24 Williams Circle and again, I have called and given a verbal warning to have the residence cleaned up within 30 days. If these businesses and homes do not comply, the code enforcement officer will site them and then they will appear in front of Chief Magistrate Judge Jim Stripling of Coweta County.

Erin McFadden, Intern has finished with the map organization. She has indexed all maps and correspondence, we have new map racks which enables to identify what we have.

Mayor's Minutes –

Mayor Cole stated that he is still working with the Sheriff's office on speeding downtown. We sent a letter with largest speeding dates and times. The data from February was 33-37 violations down to 18-20 violations. We need to go ahead with traffic study, look at doing the speed humps on Terrentine and/or maybe Main Street. Speed humps will be the answer, not the easiest but there are some risks because of property and car damage but we must slow them down. The Sheriff's Office is just a temporary fix. Council Member Tom Teagle stated that the intersection at Terrentine and Hwy 154 back to Hwy 54 needs to be our top priority as far as traffic goes because when construction starts down on McIntosh, they are going to have 400-500 - cars driving through here to get to Newnan. It must be fixed now. Mayor Cole will go ahead and send Attorney Brad Sears information on right of way acquisition for that property at the end of Terrentine.

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

Deannia L. Roberson

Deannia L. Roberson, Town Clerk

