

TOWN OF SHARPSBURG
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

November 9, 2020

A regularly scheduled meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, November 9, 2020, at 6:00 pm at the A & O Bridges Community Center.

Present were the following: Mayor Blue Cole, Mayor Pro-Tem Elizabeth Good, Council Member Stan Parten, Council Member Tom Teagle, Town Clerk Deannia Roberson, Deputy Town Clerk Julie Stroud, Town Attorney Brad Sears, Videographer Allen Nolan, Captain Smith and Major Fenninger of the Coweta County Sheriff's Department, Resident Polly Garlington, and Beverly Thomas of Bank OZK.

Absent were: Council Member Cynthia Puckett-Pike. She called in but had to leave.

The Pledge of Allegiance was delivered.

The Town Clerk verified there was a quorum present.

Work Session on Comprehensive Plan 2016-2036

Mayor Cole announced the kick-off of the first public hearing will be 12/7/2020. The Steering Committee will be Tony Brown, Business Owner, Alessandra & Alex Scarcia, homeowners in Wellsburg Station, Beverly Thomas, Branch Manager Bank OZK, Mayor Blue Cole, Joe Bridges, Downtown Property Owner. We have a good plan now, however, we need to make improvements by updating goals & policies. The plan is almost a wish list and not a working document. Three Rivers will be part of the kick-off on December 7th. We will look at long range plans, utilities, commercial improvement, and downtown development. At the back of the document is the Community Work Plan in which in the last couple of years many items have been accomplished. The first work session will be advertised, and no action will be taken at this meeting. There will be two public hearings back to back.

Budget as of October 2020

Town Clerk, Deannia Roberson presented the budget up and through October 31, 2020. The second reading of the 2021 Budget will be approved at January's Town Council meeting or before. A 4.5% increase will be applied to the budget across the board. We moved \$1000 from building inspections to code enforcement. The town bought updated computers, conference tables and chairs. Priorities for 2021 is fund and update code enforcement.

Tom Teagle discussed landlords in town owning multiple properties. There are eight landlords total that own rental properties. We are looking at changing our ordinances to reflect that landlords owning more than four multiple units would be required to get an Occupational Tax License. The landlords will have their properties inspected for public safety, electrical, smoke alarms and plumbing, asbestos, and lead. We also will put in place an unsafe structure ordinance making it on a complaint basis and shifting the cost to the landlord. We will send out letters to

all renters asking them what their complaints are. Future work will be how we will get there and what we will do next on the town ordinances. Goal is to treat everyone the same.

Representatives, Captain Smith and Major Fenninger, of the Coweta County Sheriff's Department came to discuss availability and costs of the town hiring deputies for the purposes of enforcing speed limits within town and from preventing tractor trailers short-cutting through our main streets. The Sheriff's Department now has 100 deputies and a total of 274 members. Zone cars operate 24 hours a day with two cars between the Town of Sharpsburg and Senoia. The department has two precincts, with one slated for the future. Costs are high for a contract \$185K a year or \$50 per deputy and \$10 a car per hour with a minimum of four hours. Starting in January 2021 they will do six months free of charge and based on that they will see what they can do for us. It was suggested that we write letters to known companies that are violating our speed and other limits within town. If an officer is required for an event, i.e., Sharpsburg Market it must be approved through the Sheriff's Department. County County's growth has generated 31,000 calls through EMS (911). Both officers offered their assistance to us anytime. Contact Paul Poole, County Commissioner can be reached by phone or email. Council Member Stan Parten indicated to them that there is a lot of speeding on Hwy 154. Since that is a state highway, the Georgia State Patrol has a department that does that, reach out to MCCD Motor Carrier Compliance Division. Resident Polly Garlington thanked Mayor Blue Cole and Council Member Stan Parten for fixing the corner of Hwy 54 and Main Street by her house. The posts are slowing traffic down. Also discussed, was putting up the radar sign again in another location. No further comments or questions. The work session portion of the meeting ended.

The Council Meeting was called to order.

The minutes of the October 5, 2020 meeting were reviewed. Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good made a motion to accept the minutes as written. Council Member Tom Teagle seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

New Business

Mayor Cole discussed the 1st Reading of the Caterer's Licenses and fees which is an amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance. Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good made a motion to approve the 1st reading of the amendment to the Alcohol Ordinance to include a caterer's license. Council Member Stan Parten seconded the motion. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Budget as of October 31, 2020 was reviewed. No action taken.

Holiday Banners for the Town of Sharpsburg - three vendors were found. One company could not beat price, one company was very expensive, the third company, Display Sales gave us a price of \$62.05 each. We need nine banners. We already have the pole sets. Total invoice is \$638.25, with a two week turn around. Need Council Members approve to purchase. Council Member Stan Parten made motion to approve the purchase of Christmas banners. Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good seconded. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Old Business

Mayor Cole explained that Frigid Frog/Toasty Toad had to amend their site plan to get the distances correct in the rear of the lot. Council Member Stan Parten made motion to approve the amended site plan. Mayor Pro-Tem Elizabeth Good seconded the motion. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Polling of Council

Council Member Stan Parten – Recycling wasn't picked up. He suggested that we put the contract out for bid to see if we can get a better deal. Mayor Cole to review contract for expiration dates.

Council Member Tom Teagle – N/A

Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good stated that someone approached her about having a Trick or Treat in Sharpsburg next year. Allen Nolan stated that Sharpsburg Baptist Church had over 300 kids at their Trunk or Treat this year. Mayor asked for staff to take three events next year.

Clerk's Minutes

The Boy Scouts are going to clean up the Library Courtyard and the Eagle Scouts maybe able to build tables to put in the courtyard. Town Hall will be sending out Alcohol license renewals and Occupational Tax packets to businesses in December.

Mayor's Minutes

Update minutes of 10/5/2020 to read: Third sentence: The County's Department of Public Health, the Town of Sharpsburg, and Dollar General will work together on a long-range solution.

Very good turnout at the first Sharpsburg Market on October 17th. Did well on the Book Sale. Team Hungry is doing nine 9 events in 2021 and Jeff Flavin will come before council to ask for another waiver of fees. In looking at rental revenue this past year, we earned \$3,250.00 in rentals on the dates he is asking for. He continues to work with the Bridges on the property renovation and addition of bathrooms.

Septic Study will be back in the next couple of weeks. Council Member Tom Teagle suggested that our outside bathrooms be used for Joe Bridge's customers/tenants. Town Clerk Deannia Roberson countered his suggestion with that doing that presents several issues including liability and cleaning and that these restrooms are for the Community Center renters. Homeowner, Polly Garlington, added that while she served on Council the restrooms had to be added for the Pavilion and Gazebo. Downtown projects are slow moving but moving in a positive direction.

Mayor Blue Cole asked for a motion to go into Executive Session on personnel matters. Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good made a motion to go into Executive Session. Council Member Stan Parten seconded. Motion was carried by unanimous vote.

Council Member Stan Parten made a motion to close the Executive Meeting and Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good seconded it. All were in favor. No action taken

Council Member Tom Teagle wants a letter sent to building supply contractors. Council Member Tom Teagle and Mayor Blue Cole to follow-up.

Mayor Blue Cole asked for a motion to adjourn meeting. Council Member Stan Parten made motion and Mayor Pro Tem Elizabeth Good seconded it. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.



Julie Stroud
Deputy Clerk

