

SHARPSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
February 27, 2020

Honorable Mayor
Members of Council

The Regular Business Meeting of the Sharpsburg Council was held February 27, 2020 at 6:30pm.

President Reno called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll Call found the following members present; Greg Domian, Jonathan Jaso, Karen Pastor, Joe Simbari, Brad Truman, Adrienne Laing, Brittany Reno, Mayor Rudzki, Chief Stelitano, Aiden Mack (Junior Council Member)

Citizen Comments (Agenda items Only): None

Citizen Comments (Registered)

Vince Cozza – Sharpsburg resident

Mr. Cozza asked for and was granted permission to plant a tree in his sidewalk in memory of his daughter. He will maintain the tree.

Leadership Development Institute

Two members gave their presentation on the Sharps Barrel project at Kennedy Park. This is an attempt at storm water management. There are 3 key elements: elevation, education and awareness. They want to try and mitigate the water issues around the pavilion by installing a rain barrel and the water from the rain barrel would transfer to a small rain garden with native plants. They are looking for council's approval to move forward with the project.

Tom Heilman – Parkview EMS

Simbari said he was absent at the December meeting and at the December meeting the Borough Manager referred to a conversation about payment. When he reported back to us on your meeting, depending on the insurance and circumstances there may be a bill which does not coincide with our proposal which says there will be a \$10,000 stipend and everyone would be subscribers and no expense to them. Why is there a conflict between those two statements? Heilman responded that their statement in the proposal is correct for this year. However, there are Medicare laws that must be followed. We must track the call volume vs how we are writing off vs how much revenue we bring in. As of right now, there is no change. However, next year there may be changes. And even if we do make changes, they would be minimal and would probably be for transport billing. He explained that if you are a subscriber and you have insurance, they will accept that payment. If you are not a subscriber, they would have to look at all the options available. If you do not have insurance, it may be a reduction of 50% but this would have to go before his board for approval. Simbari asked if this is a possibility for next year not this year? Heilman said yes, this year it is as the proposal states.

The Solicitor stated that if there are changes in the future, he must come to council for approval. Heilman said yes.

Rosa Settino – Sharpsburg resident

Settino expressed her concerns about parking and access to her property with her large vehicles and the cars parked on the street.

The Chief responded to her continuing concerns about the parking and said he did not have a problem getting his police car through the area. Reno told her if she cannot get in her driveway, she needs to call the police.

Sara Mariacher – Sharpsburg Library

Mariacher gave her monthly report on the library statistics.

Committee Reports

W. Rossey – Manager

Rossey explained each consent agenda item.

B. Truman – Zoning/Planning/Code

Lou Deluca gave me a report on last year's property rentals in town. From 2014 through 2019 the amount of rental inspections has tripled.

G. Domian – Personnel

No, not currently. However, for Open Streets, I have all the entertainment tents, tables, chairs and stage all rented. We have 12 food trucks.

The Linden gym is to get a new floor. We applied for a GTRP Grant to help pay for the floor and replace some of the bleachers.

K. Pastor – Public Safety

15 fire calls in February

1 house fire in O'Hara

200 hours of training

Thank you to Riverfront 47 for allowing the Sharpsburg and Aspinwall Fire Departments to place junk cars on their property for Basic Vehicle Rescue Training.

April 10, 2020 is the Fish Fry from 11 am – 7 pm.

Simbari mentioned that he and Rossey met with the movie crew personnel that had the gasoline spill a few months back. He said that we did not receive what we asked for, but we did get a check for \$2,500 that is ear marked for a new roof on the borough building.

Simbari also said that the gentleman from the movie company complimented Mike Daniher for professionalism during the call and cleanup.

A. Laing – Health/Property

Laing talked about the Sharpsburg Environmental Advisory Council meeting to plan the Earth Day Cleanup on April 4, 2020 9 am – 12 pm. It will be our second competition with Etna called the Etna/Sharpsburg Earth Day Challenge.

Laing called the Kerr Elementary Principal about getting a crossing guard at Linden and Clay. He reached out to the proper people and they indicated it would not be approved.

Laing thanked the DPW department for patching all the potholes and of course the other work they do.

Laing mentioned the Environmental Advisory Council is looking for new members.

J. Jaso – Finance
Nothing currently.

A. Mack – Junior Council
Nothing currently.

J. D'Ambrosio – Public Works

D'Ambrosio said he got together with Chief Stelitano about posting more "No Passing" signs along Main Street. They picked certain spots along Main Street and installed six new signs. Pastor mentioned again to the Chief about Dancing Gnome and the food trucks on the street and causing traffic issues. Asked that he please talk to the owner. Rossey mentioned D'Ambrosio attended a playground safety and maintenance seminar.

M. Rudzki – Mayor

Rudzki talked about the Etna/Sharpsburg Earth Day Challenge 2020 on April 18, 2020 from 9 am – 12 pm.

Rudzki mentioned the Sustainable Pittsburgh Certification for Businesses. It's about small retailers that help invest in their local neighborhoods. So far, outside the City of Pittsburgh, Sharpsburg leads the way with the most certifications. Thank you to: Concept Uniform Co., Dancing Gnome, Just Right Spice, Ketchup City Creative, Mossy Lane Products, Sharpsburg Laundromat, and ZYNKA Gallery for taking steps to keep their businesses environmentally responsible and sustainable.

Rudzki also mentioned the Swanson School of Engineering at Pitt. He met with the students who must complete a senior design project with emphasis on water resources. After the team learned that ALCOSAN identified Kennedy Park as a potential location for green infrastructure and storm water management, they decided to focus their senior project efforts on developing a green infrastructure plan for Kennedy park to mitigate flooding in Sharpsburg.

B. Reno – President

Reno asked Rossey if he heard anything from the Army Corp about the proposals submitted. Rossey responded no I haven't heard anything yet.

Reno thanked the fire department for cross training with the other local fire departments. She stressed the importance of that.

Reno also thanked the VFD for attending sign language class to learn the basics to be able to communicate with someone who is deaf.

Reno mentioned the Sharpsburg Eco-District project is pursuing certification that includes doing research about the town. Who's in the town and who can be part of the community planning and civic life in general.

Reno also talked about getting proposals from companies that have translation services for our residents who do not speak English, so they are able to reach the resources that we have available here for them.

Reno mentioned that the Sharpsburg Neighborhood Organization (SNO) and the Tri-Boro Eco-Districts have funding to do a public art project with the Children of Sharpsburg and a local artist to work on a collage made up of cut up cans that would be displayed here in the borough.

Reno talked about Allegheny Together and its working with local businesses. Local businesses are looking for support in marketing and different resources for the business owners. One of the recommendations from the study that has been done was about parking. Back on Clay Street, there are several parking lots with large curb cuts. If we make the cuts smaller, it's possible we can add up to 20 parking spaces for businesses and residents. We will have documents coming shortly for everyone to review.

T. Stelitano – Chief of Police

The Chief thanked the DPW for putting in a new bathroom floor in the police department. Stelitano also brought up the issue of posting “no passing” signs along Main Street. He also contacted Fox Chapel School District about getting signs for the school bus stop at 19th Street for the high school students. The stop is very dark and signage is needed to make people aware of the stop.

209 Police Calls
0 Juvenile Arrest
3 Adult Arrest
7 Traffic Stops

M. Witherel – Solicitor
Nothing currently

G. Domian – Wanted to mention that the Linden Gym outside sandstone block is deteriorating quickly. He acquired a proposal and the quote was \$5,200.00. He also contacted Dale Bobeck about the block and his quote was zero – he will do it for us at no cost.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Payment of bills due through March 26, 2020
- B. Minutes from the January 23, 2020 meeting.
- C. Motion to pass Resolution 20-02 approving the acquisition and subsequent disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property known as Block & Lot 168-K-33 (1413 Main Street) would be in accord with the comprehensive plan of the municipality.
- D. Motion to pass Resolution 20-03 approving the acquisition and subsequent disposition of numerous parcels of vacant property know as Block & Lot 167-M-301-A (621 Clay Street) would be in accord with the comprehensive plan of the municipality.
- E. Motion to advertise Ordinance 20-03 amending Chapter 15 of the Borough of Sharpsburg Code (Motor Vehicles and Traffic) specifically Section 208 (turning at certain intersections prohibited or restricted) to add No Left Turn onto Main Street from 10th Street and No Right Turn onto North Canal Street from Main Street.
- F. Motion to purchase a 2020 Ford Explorer Police Vehicle from Shults Ford at a price of \$39,657.47.
- G. Motion to purchase a 2019 Ford F-750 Dump Truck from Shults Ford at a price of \$84,087.15.
- H. Motion to grant Sharpsburg Family Worship Center permission to use Kennedy Park on Saturday, April 4, 2020 to hold the 21st Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival and to close North Canal Street from 12:00 Noon to 4:00 pm during this event.
- I. Motion to contribute \$100.00 to the Sharpsburg Family Worship Center for their Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival.
- J. Motion to approve the tree planting by Vince Cozza at 1406 N. Canal Street.

Motion by Jaso
2nd by Domian
All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Domian – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Simbari – Yes

Truman – Yes

Laing – Yes

Reno – Yes

Permits:

A. Handicap Parking

1. William Killmeyer Sr. – 1860 Main Street

2. Evelyn Chapple – 300 Linden Ave, Apt. B2

Motion by Simbari

2nd by Laing

Use Permits (None)

Zoning/Building (None)

Refunds

Executive Session

Reno Asked for a Motion to Adjourn at 8:06 pm

Motion by Pastor

2nd by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Respectfully Submitted,

William Rossey

Sharpsburg Borough Manager