

**SHARPSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING**  
**June 24, 2021**

Honorable Mayor  
Members of Council

The Regular Business Meeting of the Sharpsburg Council was held June 24, 2021, 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: Jonathan Jaso, Karen Pastor, Joe Simbari, Brad Truman, Adrienne Laing, Brittany Reno, Mayor Rudzki and Chief Stelitano (excused).

Citizen Comments (Agenda items Only):

Citizen Comments (Registered):

John Arch – Sharpsburg/Aspinwall Rotary Club

Arch would like to use Kennedy Park every Friday in the month of July to have a fundraiser for the rotary club.

Sara Mariacher – Mariacher gave her monthly update of the statistics of the library use and what summer programs are available to all age groups.

Natalia Rudiak – Reimagine Appalachia

Rudiak gave a short presentation on the program set out to help people in the regions of PA, KY, WV, and OH.

Joe Simbari arrived at 6:43pm

Reno made a motion to pass Resolution 21-09 to Reimagine Appalachia and Support a Federal Appalachian Climate Infrastructure Plan.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Steve Mosites – R47 Update

Mosites gave an update on the progress of development of the 19<sup>th</sup> Street parcels. Mosites introduced two new companies that will be part of the design and development of the parcels into a different direction which will include housing, retail, parks, and trails. One group is Live Work Play and the other is the Working Group. Both company representatives spoke about what they can bring to the table in the development.

Sara Innamorato Office

Sam from Innamorato's office spoke about the Community Conservation and Sustainability Event that is going to be held on July 11<sup>th</sup> from 9am – 1pm. There is a shredding event from 9 – 11 and recycling of those items that are hard to recycle (tv's, computers, etc.). The event will be held at 160 52<sup>nd</sup> Street in Lawrenceville.

#### Richard Mauro – Accessible Parking & Road Signs

Mauro spoke about his concern of cars speeding now that some of the roads around his home at 912 Penn Street have been paved. Mauro asked if stop signs can be put in at the intersection of Penn and Church Streets. Mauro also said that his daughter has autism and would like an autism awareness sign also. A discussion ensued about the stop signs and the autism awareness sign.

#### Latoya Gaston Henderson – Parking on Penn Street

Henderson expressed her concern about a recently placed accessible parking space on Penn Street that she feels was not necessary because the neighbor who was granted the space has a garage and a driveway that she could park the accessible van in and not take up valuable parking spaces on the street. A discussion ensued about the issue between Henderson and council. Council decided to revoke the accessible parking space.

Jaso made a motion to revoke the accessible parking space and sign for 1106 Penn Street.

2<sup>nd</sup> by Truman

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Pastor – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Portis – Yes

Simbari – Yes

Truman – Yes

Laing – Yes

Reno – Yes

Motion Carried

#### W. Rossey – Borough Manager

Rossey reviewed the consent agenda.

Rossey spoke about the American Rescue Funds. Rossey thanked Roxane and Carleen for the help getting the application submitted. Rossey said the borough will receive \$347,000 that will be split in half. The borough will receive half this year and half next year. Rossey said the DPW is in need of a new 1ton dump truck, the current truck will not pass inspection. Rossey said the street sweeper also needs to be replaced. It has become a money pit. Rossey said the riding mower also needs to be replaced. Rossey is looking for permission to get proposals for replacement of the dump truck, street sweeper, and riding mower. Rossey said all the new equipment will last at least 15 years.

Rossey mentioned the Street Scape project set to start July 12<sup>th</sup>. Rossey explained the process of where they will begin work and finish. The work will be done in sections. Sidewalks will be closed as well as parking spaces will be coned off as the work is done in a particular section. Rossey said a letter will be distributed to the businesses in that area that will be affected. Rossey also said there will be 2 to 3 electric car charging stations near Red Hawk Café.

#### B. Truman – Zoning/Planning/Code

Nothing Currently.

#### K. Portis – Personnel

Nothing Currently.

Portis thanked everyone who participated in the Juneteenth event. It was very successful. Portis is looking forward to organizing more community events in the future.

K. Pastor – Public Safety

15 Fire Calls in May

Pastor mentioned that the Fire Chief was asked to accompany the Fire Inspector on the fire alarm testing at the new Dancing Gnome location. Pastor said it is nice to have the Chief there because now he can let everyone know what the buildings layout is instead of going into a building not knowing what the layout is.

Pastor said that the department is training with Aspinwall on basic road rescue.

Pastor mentioned again that the fire department is always looking for new members from the community. You can be a member starting at the age of 14. If you join you can go to community college free for 2 years.

Pastor welcomed Dominic Magnelli the newest member to our DPW crew.

Pastor thanked Portis on the success of the Juneteenth event.

Pastor attended for one day the Allegheny League of Municipalities. Pastor said there many meetings that you could have attended. Pastor gave a few examples of the events that took place. One being the Woman's Leadership Breakfast. Women spoke about the challenges in advancement in their careers. Another event was a panel of Attorneys that spoke about what politicians should and not do on social media, talking to reporters, and the public.

J. Simbari – Public Works

Nothing Currently.

Simbari talked about the recent intense rainstorm that came through the area and took down trees throughout the borough.

A. Laing – Health/Property

Nothing Currently.

Laing asked where we are in the hiring process of the new fulltime police officer. Rossey responded and said the tests have just arrived. The Chief needs to set up a test date at the county police training center. The applicants will receive a letter after the date is set for the testing.

Laing asked how does the permitting work for Kennedy Park? Rossey responded and said there is a permit application for the use of the pavilion and concession stand. However, Rossey receives requests via email/phone to use the park for dance classes and other various programs. This is when he puts these requests on the agenda for your approval and knowledge of who is using the park, but anyone can use the park for a picnic or small party. Rudzki mentioned that some events must get special approval for alcohol from council because of the ordinance that prohibits open alcohol containers in the public parks.

J. Jaso – Finance

Nothing Currently.

A. Mack – Junior Council Member

Absent.

J. D'Ambrosio – Public Works Director

D'Ambrosio gave a brief update on grass cutting, weed removal, and painting of lines in town.

D'Ambrosio said they are close to being moved in into the new public works building.

M. Rudzki – Mayor

Rudzki welcomed Dominic Magnelli to the DPW crew. Magnelli comes from a long line of public servants in the community. His aunt is the current treasurer, his father was a sergeant on the police force, grandfather was a borough manager and council person. He has some big shoes to fill. Rudzki knows he will do a great job. Rudzki said D'Ambrosio is grateful to now have 5 fulltime guys including himself.

Rudzki said Aiden Mack graduated this year and is off to bigger and greater things.

Rudzki thanked all the organizers and attendees of the Juneteenth event that made it very successful.

Rudzki mentioned that the DPW has some students this year helping the DPW department with grass cutting, weed whacking, and cleanup around town.

Rudzki said the traffic from the closure of the northbound on ramp to the Highland Park Bridge has not materialized yet but if it does, please use caution.

Rudzki also spoke about the storm on June 13<sup>th</sup> that caused some minor flooding in town. Roots of Faith was ready with flood buckets for the residents. Dennis Lane, emergency management coordinator said there were only 5 residents who reported flooding. Rudzki thanked the DPW for cleaning up all the downed trees from the storm.

Rudzki mentioned that Roots of Faith will be holding the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination clinic in July.

Rudzki said that the borough is working with the Army Corp of Engineers to have them do a study of Seitz Run. We are on the top of the list for funding to do the study. The study is 6 months, and he is hoping that the study go through the flood season next year.

Rudzki said he has heard from Conor Lamb's office. O'Hara Township and PennDOT applied for a 2.2-million-dollar grant to do culvert reconstruction along Kittanning Pike and to create a 3.20-million-gallon pond on Kirkwood to help mitigate flooding. The good news is this this project is in the final bill in the house infrastructure bill in Congress.

B. Reno – Council President

Reno mentioned that SNO has a stipend available for the trade program at the National Training Institute for masonry and carpentry. The stipend is \$100 per week. The training program will help find you a job with a pay starting around \$15 an hour. You must be 18 but a diploma is not necessary. There are 5 spots open.

Reno talked about the LEAD program Case management services to help support our police officers in the work they do to help navigate issues with people they are assisting. They are looking to create a community advisory team to help set up guidelines. If you would like to part of the discussion, please reach out to her. She has spoke with Officer Hoebel to keep him informed along with the Chief.

Reno mentioned the Squonk Opera is coming August 7<sup>th</sup> which is a free concert in Kennedy Park. If there is rain, she has spoken to Greg Domian and the concert will be moved to the Linden Gym.

T. Stelitano – Chief

Absent.

M. Witherel – Solicitor

Nothing Currently.

Consent Agenda:

- A. Payment of bills due through July 22, 2021
- B. Minutes from the May 27, 2021 meeting.

- C. Motion to pass Resolution 21-08 recognizing the contributions of Richard C. Panza to the Borough of Sharpsburg.
- D. Motion to grant Autumn Haskins permission to use the pavilion at Kennedy Park on Saturday, August 7, 2021 from 12:00pm to 4:00pm for a baby shower. (NO, Squonk Concert that day)
- E. Motion to give Jamie Kozlowski permission to close Union Alley from Penn Street to Altmeyer Street on Sunday, July 4<sup>th</sup> from 3:00pm to 9:00pm for a block party.

Motion by Laing  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Truman  
All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Pastor – Yes  
Simbari – Yes  
Truman – Yes  
Laing – Yes  
Portis – Yes  
Reno – Yes

Motion carried.

Permits:

- A. Accessible Parking
  - i. Dustin J. Mowrey – 227 8<sup>th</sup> Street
  - ii. John Malley – 1716 Middle Street

Motion by Reno  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Truman  
All in Favor - Yes

- B. Use Permits (None)
- C. Zoning/Building (None)

Refunds – None

Executive Session – No

Reno asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:25pm.

Motion by Simbari  
2<sup>nd</sup> by Laing

Respectfully Submitted,

William Rossey  
Sharpsburg Borough Manager

WR:ck