

SHARPSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
March 25, 2021

Honorable Mayor
Members of Council

The Regular Business Meeting of the Sharpsburg Council was held March 25, 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.

Citizen Comments (Agenda items Only):

Citizen Comments (Registered)

Sara Mariacher, Sharpsburg Library - Gave her monthly update on the library statistics and activities available to the children and adults.

Will Pickering & Rebecca Zito – PWSA presentation

Pickering gave a presentation and explanation on the lead lines that have been replaced, how the water is cleaned to make drinking water, and in working with EPA and DEP to ensure future compliance.

Chris Minnerly – R47 Development Update

Minnerly gave an update on the road development at 19th and Main Street.

Erin Angeli – HRC Commission

Angeli wanted to introduce herself as the chair of the HRC and Mike White as the vice-chair.

Angeli said the first meeting was to create their mission statement It will be: One is creating an education curriculum with learning goals for the enter community. Two is streamlining a reporting system for the residents in the community.

Angeli said their next meeting is April 20, 2021 at 7pm. They will be discussing the mission statement and workshopping that together.

Angeli's email address is erinangeli@gmail.com.

Committee Reports:

W. Rossey – Borough Manager

Rossey reviewed the consent agenda.

Rossey talked about the grant for the catch basins and ADA ramps. The contractor will start in the middle of April. Shultz Paving has been given the notice to proceed with the paving project starting April 15th. The Act 152 Grant through the county for demolition which helps us as the houses we choose can be in the flood zone. We are in the process of application for 1833 Main, 207 Altmeyer, 915-917 Clay, and 1527 N. Canal.

Simbari asked how you get these properties into the hands of other people. Rossey replied and said they can apply for the property through the Allegheny County Vacant Property Program. Rossey asked again for residents to apply for the vacant seats on the Planning Commission. We need 2 people, but we can seat up to 9 on the commission. Rossey explained that there are 3 requests next month, so it is very important to have the planning commission up and ready to go.

B. Truman – Zoning/Planning/Code
Nothing currently.

K. Portis – Personnel
Nothing currently.

Portis mentioned that the Sharpsburg Historical Commission is seeking volunteers to fill 2 seats for a 4-year term. Please feel free to reach out.

Reno said that the Environmental council is always looking for new members also. Please talk to any council member or borough manager. We want to get as many people involved as we can.

K. Pastor – Public Safety
Calls for March 19

Pastor mentioned the Fish Fry on April 12th from 11am-7pm. Pre-orders will be taken Thursday from 6pm-8pm.

Pastor said the new truck will be arriving Saturday at noon. The Chief will have a police escort. Pastor said the fire department will be at the Easter Egg Hunt 1pm-3:30pm.

Pastor mentioned that on August 9th it is the fire department's 150th anniversary of keeping our residents and the neighboring communities safe. The letters went out to the businesses asking them to advertise in the program that will be available at the banquet. Pastor thanked Rossey and council for donating a full-page advertisement.

Pastor thanked the DPW for hanging up the flags. They make the town look so nice.

J. Simbari – Public Works

Simbari said the utilities are being installed in the new building.

Simbari said people are asking why the Christmas decorations are still up and he responded they will be taken down soon to be stored at the new facility.

Simbari talked about the crosswalk study at the lower end of town at North Main and the gateway to Etna. Simbari studied the area and feels the safest spots to cross is at the little car lot and at from the new park at Fazio's.

Reno said SNO has a grant for improvements at that intersection but have been advised not to make an expenditure until other road work is complete.

Simbari said other council members should go down and try and cross the street.

Simbari talked about Fox Family Cares food boxes that were given away at Kennedy park. What a great experience with Officer Carb. They are a great organization and feel-good experience.

Simbari said there is a lot going on in this world. So many terrible things and so much hate and angry people. He asked for people just be nice and honest.

A. Laing – Health/Property

Laing said that Saturday, April 24th is Earth Day clean up with Etna. There is a volunteer signup sheet on the borough website with more information to follow.

Laing mentioned that Sharpsburg Environmental Advisory Council adopted James Sharp Landing in Honor of Snakeguy Robert Habegger. There is a sign at the landing.

Laing said that Sharpsburg is the 2021 Banner Community.

Laing congratulated the fire department on 150 years of service.
Laing said Second Harvest is a great addition to the community.

J. Jaso – Finance

Jaso asked Officer Sculli to remind the chief about the crosswalk enforcement.
Jaso asked Officer Sculli about monitoring cars making left turns off 10th Street onto Main Street. Sculli said there has been several citations given out this month.
Jaso – said he and his wife have been talking and said why not have a Lantern Festival here in Sharpsburg for the Celebration of Hope and Life, water, and air. He would like to have it in August during the full moon. There will be more details to come.

J. D'Ambrosio – Public Works Director

D'Ambrosio said they got a jump start on painting. James Sharp Landing and handicap spots are mostly complete.
D'Ambrosio said the snowflakes will be removed now that they will be able to be stored in the new building.

M. Rudzki – Mayor

Rudzki said we are a year into the pandemic thank you to the first responders and to all the non-profits that pulled together with Family Worship Center to give support and food to our community.
Rudzki thanked Fox Family Cares for the food box distribution today.
Rudzki congratulations to Second Harvest on their launch, it was amazing.
Rudzki also mentioned that Sharpsburg is the Banner Community again. We have come a long way as a community. It is the 8th year.
Rudzki thanked the library for the storybook walk, it is a great addition to the park. Rudzki is seeing many families using it. Rudzki also thanked the library for the food pantry that also helps the community.

B. Reno – President

Reno thanked the people who are keeping the little library stocked with books in the 16th Street park.
Reno talked about the LEAD resolution and joining Aspinwall and Etna who passed their ordinance last month. We will be building on what our department already does. We have one of the best departments Reno knows of.
Reno said it is a one-year pilot program that would give us access to a social worker. There is no cost to the borough.
Reno asked Pastor if she could give information on how the social worker program is working in Hampton.
Pastor said it is working very well. They do ride with an officer sometimes if it is a domestic or mental health call. They stand back and the officer handles the situation until it is calmed down then the officer asks if they would like to talk to one of our social workers. They can choose to turn it down, but most choose to speak with the social worker. The social worker speaks with them and then stays in contact for follow-up.
A discussion ensued.

T. Stelitano – Chief

Officer Sculli sat in for the Chief. He had nothing to report.
3 – Adult Arrests
6 – Traffic Citations

M. Witherel – Solicitor
Nothing currently.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Payment of bills due through April 22, 2021
- b. Minutes from the February 25, 2021 meeting.
- c. Motion to pass Ordinance 21-03 establishing the Sharpsburg Borough Adopt-A-Street Program.
- d. Motion to pass Ordinance 21-04 dealing with Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons and certain other Hazardous Substances.
- e. Motion to pass Resolution 21-02 regarding the pre-arrest law enforcement assisted diversion program (LEAD).
- f. Motion to pass Resolution 21-03 approving the participation in the 2020 Allegheny County Hazard Mitigation Plan.
- g. Motion to donate \$100.00 to Sharpsburg Family Worship Center for their 2021 Easter Egg Hunt and Carnival to be held on Saturday, March 27, 2021.
- h. Motion to donate \$100.00 to Sharpsburg Volunteer Fire Department for their 150th Anniversary Program.
- i. Motion to approve the request from Fox Families Cres to hold a food distribution event at Kennedy Park beginning Thursday, March 25th from 5:00-7:00 and to continue every other week on Tuesdays from 5:00-7:00.
- j. Motion to appoint David Rotenstein to the Sharpsburg Historical Commission.

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

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

Permits:

- a. Accessible Parking
 1. Roseann Praski – 213 10th Street

Motion by pastor
2nd by Simbari
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 8:06pm.
Motion by Jaso
2nd by Pastor

Respectfully Submitted,

William Rossey
Sharpsburg Borough Manager

WR:ck