

SHARPSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

October 28, 2021

Honorable Mayor
Members of Council

The Regular Business Meeting of the Sharpsburg Council was held October 28, 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 arrived at 6:48pm, Brad Truman, Adrienne Laing, Brittany Reno, Mayor Rudzki and Chief Stelitano.

Citizen Comments (Agenda items Only):

Citizen Comments (Registered):

Sara Mariacher – Sharpsburg Library

Mariacher gave her monthly update of the statistics of the library use and what programs are available at this time.

Carol Whaley – Animal Protection Resolution

Whaley spoke about the process of declawing of a cat and how it can change the cat's demeanor. Whaley is asking the borough to pass an ordinance banning declawing (deknuckling) of cats. A discussion took place and no decision at this time.

Kelly Strain – Decriminalizing Marijuana

Strain stressed her concerns about the proposed ordinance that will decriminalize lesser amounts of marijuana in the borough. A discussion ensued about the proposed ordinance.

Committee Reports:

W. Rossey – Manager

Rossey said the Streetscape continues and they are doing an excellent job. Rossey has had very few complaints.

Rossey mentioned that Ali Street has always been in question of who owns it. We have investigated this with the Solicitor and the borough owns part and Wayne Thompson owns part. Thompson has offered to take over the road and maintain it. Thompson would like us to vacate the borough's part so he can maintain it. A discussion ensued.

B. Truman – Zoning/Planning/Code

Nothing currently.

K. Portis – Personnel

Nothing currently.

K. Pastor – Public Safety

27 Calls – September

Pastor said the fire department assisted in the body recovery at James Sharp Landing with the two men who fell from the canoe. Neither person had a life jacket on but there were life jackets in the canoe.

Pastor asked about the portable dumpster procedure because there was a dumpster on Middle Street that was wide for the street. A discussion proceeded and a decision was made to revise the application with pertinent information from the ordinance and adding the Fire Chief in the approval process.

Pastor thanked the borough for their donation for Halloween candy for the kids and thanked all the businesses who donated as well. They were able to make 400 bags to give out on Halloween.

Pastor mentioned their new firefighter, Jean Daniher. She turned 18 and was able to take her Module 4 class which is 88 hours and includes a live burn. Congratulations to Jeannie.

Pastor thanked Greg Domian on the success of the fall festival. Pastor believes that is the most people we've ever seen in Sharpsburg for an event.

Reno wanted to talk about a social worker here in the borough. She and Pastor met with Hampton Township's social worker, Angela, to talk about how social work could benefit the police department. A discussion was had.

Pastor made a motion to send a letter to Slippery Rock University asking to be part of their intern program.

2nd by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Reno mentioned again the Main Street manager position. How do we want to proceed with it? Allegheny Together suggested that we should team up with Etna and Millvale due to financial feasibility. We need to talk to the other boroughs to get their thoughts. A discussion ensued and no decision was made.

J. Simbari – Public Works

Simbari mentioned the dedication placard is done and will be installed. Simbari said he hopes that the new council of 2022 will allow him to have an unveiling to honor Carl Ferraro sometime in April.

Simbari said the new dump truck is at the body shop and is getting the cab and chassis installed and hopefully will be ready before Christmas.

Simbari mentioned that he took 3 of the Ford Explorers into service due to a recall. Ford also services the Aspinwall and City of Pittsburgh cars. The Tech's commented on how clean the Sharpsburg interiors were compared to the others. Simbari said hats off to everyone for maintaining the vehicles.

A. Laing – Health/Property

Nothing currently.

Laing thanked Pastor and Reno for bringing up the social worker. Laing feels it is important to have a social worker.

Laing said that October is Domestic Violence Awareness month and thanked all that came and participated in the event at the library.

Laing thanked the planning committee for an awesome Fall Festival and understands that there is planning right now for an event for the holidays.

Laing asked Rossey to clarify item F on the agenda. This is the grant application for the pickleball courts, can the funds be flexible? Rossey responded and said, we're just applying for

the grant as of right now. However, we can go back and ask them if we decide to change the scope of work.

J. Jaso – Finance

Nothing currently.

Jaso asked about where we are at with Junior Council? Reno said that it is open and anyone that is interested can apply.

J. D'Ambrosio – Director Public Works

D'Ambrosio mentioned the project that is happening on Noble Street to eliminate water ponding and ice in the winter. D'Ambrosio said the residents on that street were incredibly happy.

M. Rudzki – Mayor

Rudzki thanked everyone that came out for the Domestic Violence Awareness event at the library.

Rudzki thanked Pastor and Reno for reaching out to Angela at Hampton for a social worker. A social worker as an investment to the community because we know that some people struggle and need a social worker to guide them through the process or help them getting meds.

Rudzki said Happy Halloween!

B. Reno – President

Reno said that the results of the core drilling in Kennedy Park indicated the soil is fine which is great news.

Reno thanked everyone that participated in the workshop she had with the CMU engineering students.

T. Stelitano – Chief

Stelitano said he will have two extra officers out for Halloween and he will be at the fire house giving out candy.

Stelitano said he will have two officers along with the Mayor at the Lauri Ann West Community Center for the trunk-or-treat event with a decorated vehicle and they will give out candy.

Calls 359

Traffic stops 88

Citations 79

Arrests 12

9 Adult arrest

3 juvenile arrest

2 – dui arrest

M. Witherel – Solicitor

Absent

Consent Agenda:

- a. Payment of bills due through November 18, 2021.
- b. Minutes from the September 26, 2021, meeting.
- c. Motion to pass Resolution 21-11 approving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application in the amount of \$460,000.00 for Phase 4 of the Main Street Streetscape Revitalization.

- d. Motion to pass Resolution 21-12 approving the Community Development block Grant (CDBG) application in the amount of \$49,600.00 for the installation of new ADA curb Ramps throughout the borough.
- e. Motion to pass Resolution 21-13 approving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application in the amount of \$54,111.00 for the replacement of catch basins throughout the borough.
- f. Motion to pass Resolution 21-14 approving the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) application in the amount of \$58,000.00 for the installation of 2 Pickle Ball Courts next to Heinz Baseball Fields.
- g. Motion to pass Resolution 21-15 honoring Etna Council President Peter Ramage for decades of distinguished public service.
- h. Motion to purchase a 2022 Elgin Street Sweeper from A&H Equipment through the COSTARS Purchasing Program at a price of \$225,584.00.
- i. Motion to approve the block and lot consolidation and subdivisions plan submitted by the Dancing Gnome at 1025 Main Street.

j.

Motion by Jaso

2nd by Laing

Pastor – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Portis – Yes

Simbari – Yes

Truman – Yes

Laing – Yes

Reno – Yes

Permits:

- a. Accessible Parking – None
- b. Use Permits – None
- c. Zoning/building – None

Refunds – None

Executive Session – None

Reno asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:39pm.

Motion by Pastor

2nd by Jaso

Respectfully Submitted,

William Rossey

Sharpsburg Borough Manager

WR:ck