Sharpsburg Borough Council Meeting Minutes
November 21, 2024
6:30pm
Borough Council Chambers

1. President Laing welcomed the audience and called the meeting to order

2. Pledge of Allegiance and Roll Call: Karen Pastor, Sara Ishman, Roman Mason, Corey Ochai, Jonathan Jaso, Adrianne Laing, Dave Breingan, Mayor Portis, Chief Stelitano

3. Christine DeRunk explained the Consent Agenda Items

4. Public Comments on agenda-related items
    a. There were no public comments

5. Registered Public Comments (3-minute limit)
    a. Sara Mariacher re: Sharpsburg Library Update
    b. Penny Paich-Caraway re: Animal Friends programming. Discussed which programs would be most valuable to neighborhood such as microchipping, vaccinations, spay/neuter, and dog safety.
    c. Kelly Strain re: Opportunities in Sharpsburg. Shared concerns about whether Sharpsburg should have a community center.

6. Reports
    a. Reports from Commissions
        i. Donna Bishop gave the Parks and Recreation update entailing the holiday kick-off: light up night, crafters, pets can get picture taken with Santa.

    b. Adrianne Laing gave the President's Report
    Laing reminded the community about the public meeting regarding plans for Upstreet & 19th Street. Meeting will be held December 3rd at 6:30 pm at Roots of Faith.

    c. Kayla Portis gave the Mayor's Report
        i. Historic Commission Sports Hall of Fame Induction will take place during the next business meeting on December 19th. Mayor Portis congratulated the inductees form Guyasuta Football & Cheer – Dean Lavia and Mike Gallo
        ii. Mayor Portis thanked the Veterans for all their services

    d. Public Safety report - Karen Pastor and Jonathan Jaso
        i. Chief Stelitano gave the Police Report – 385 calls for service in October; 16 arrests, 14 traffic stops, 19 citations, 0 DUI
        ii. Mary Bauer's Social Worker Report was included in the packet; 947 interactions YTD, 101 total interactions (35% were 911 dispatched services, 65% were non-911 services)
        iii. Pastor gave the Fire Department Report – 68 total calls (18 for Sharpsburg)

Cash Bash will be held January 25th at Cherry City Firehall - $50.00 per ticket

iv. Jaso gave the EMS Report – 69 calls in Sharpsburg, response time 7.5 minutes which is within the acceptable time limit

e. Communications Committee – Corey Ochai and Roman Mason
The Borough's Facebook page is built and able to be utilized; great resource for residents to get updated and current information.

f. David Breingan and Sarah Ishman provided the Zoning/Planning/Code Report
   i. Ishman addressed the Pollinator Garden and Trailer Storage Ordinances that are on the Consent Agenda for this meeting.
   ii. Breingan thanked Roots of Faith and Volunteers of America for helping to make the November 2nd Tree Planting Day a success and West Penn Conservancy for providing the trees. Borough needs applications by spring for residents interested in having a tree planted in front of their house.

g. Asset Management – Jonathan Jaso and Karen Pastor
   i. Dominic Magnelli gave the Public Works Report -Peoples Gas started milling and paving today; however, the Borough will paint the parking lines. The new holiday decorations have been hung up in the business district.
   ii. Engineer's Report – LSSE report included in packet

h. Sarah Ishman and David Breingan gave the Finance Report
   i. Revenue and expenditures are on target for the year; Jordan Tax is doing well with collection at 98% compared to 88% last year. Breingan thanked Christine DeRunk and staff for keeping the Borough within the budget.
   ii. Treasurer's Report from Carleen Kusar is included in the packet
   iii. Resolution 24-14 Adopting 2025 budget and holding total millage at 9.75 – Ishman 1st, Jaso 2nd, unanimously passed

i. Solicitor's Report – Matt Kalina
   i. Nothing for public comment

j. Manager's Report – Christine DeRunk
   i. GEDTF update -did not receive funding
   ii. Public meeting regarding Verizon Franchise Renewal on December 12th at 7:00 pm at the COG office in Shaler Township building or can attend via hybrid
   iii. Clean Air Fund update – Allegheny County recommended to the Borough to request the full amount, One Million Dollars, for the project; residents can write words of support to help build the resiliency microgrid
   iv. Harrisburg conference update – federal funds still available, Governor's office is aware of the major projects in the Borough
   v. Ms. DeRunk thanked the DPW for all their excellent work to get ready for the winter and upcoming holidays.

7. Consent Agenda – motion
    a. Motion to approve the following business:
        i. Payment of bills through October 31, 2024
        ii. Adopt minutes from October 24 and November 14
        iii. Ratify purchase of free parking bags in the amount of $235 plus shipping.
        iv. Resolution 24-15 for CDBG51 ADA Ramps
        v. Resolution 24-16 for CDBG51 Catch Basins
        vi. Resolution 24-17 for Local Share Account Streetscape on 13th Street
        vii. Motion to advertise for Ordinance 24-10 to allow for pollinator gardens
        viii. Motion to advertise for Ordinance 24-11 related to parking trailers and storage units on streets

        Motion to approve the above listed business items – Jaso 1st, Mason 2nd, unanimously passed

8. Other Reports
        i. Zoning/Building – see monthly BIU report
        ii. Inspection Report – included in the packet

9. Adjourn – 7:28

Respectfully submitted,

Christine DeRunk
Borough Manager

The next Council workshop meeting scheduled for Dec 12 has been canceled.
The next Council business meeting will at 6:30pm on December 19, 2024, which is one week earlier that typical due to the holidays.