

TOWN OF SHARPSBURG

TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION
A & O Bridges Community Center
105 Main Street, Sharpsburg GA
April 17, 2023

WORK SESSION MINUTES

Council Meeting was called to Order:

Mayor Cole called the April 19, 2023 Council Meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Cole led all in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Establish Quorum

Town Administrator Jones stated a quorum of Council was present.

Those Present: Blue Cole- Mayor Tom Teagle- Post 3 and Elizabeth Good- Post 4

Those Not Present: Standley D. Parten – Post 1 Alexander Edge- Post 2

Guests: April Yarbrough, Owner Sharpsburg Pizza and Pub; Shep Harris- Owner of Sharpsburg Pizza and Pub; and Polly Garlington-homeowner.

Presentations:

There were no Presentations.

Review/Approval of Minutes:

1. GFL Update:

Three representatives from GFL came to the Town of Sharpsburg on Monday, April 17 to meet with Mayor Pro-Tem Elizabeth Good, Administrator Jones, and Town Attorney Brad Sears to discuss proposed price increases for garbage services. GFL presented a rate hike to \$22.00/ can from \$11.00/can. Brad Sears outlined the discrepancies in what they presented and what is in the contract. The meeting ended with GFL having to defer the matter to their attorney. Town Hall and Attorney Brad Sears are awaiting their response. The matter is not resolved. The Council did not vote or provide directions on this matter.

2. Library Functions

Dena Ray has been hired and started working at the library. Discussion was held about the opportunities that exist for events at the library. Mayor Cole feels the aim is to get as many people as possible to use the library. The mayor's view is to also use it as a meeting place for small groups, study groups, non-profits, and small classes. Council member Teagle feels it should remain a place to check out books. Nothing was resolved from the discussion, and it will be continued. April Yarbrough, owner of Sharpsburg Pizza and Pub said that she had been in the library and what stood out to her is that she noticed was that there are no computers available for use in the library. However, there are two laptops that could be used but there is no place to secure them after hours. A solution is needed for the storage of the laptops, possibly a cabinet with a lock that could be put into the bathroom. There was discussion about raising community center rental fees to keep up with rising costs to the town. The Council did not vote or provide direction on this matter.

3. Pending RFP's:

Administrator Jones reported that there are several that need to be addressed: Fencing, Pest Control, Demolition of 39 Main Street, Security Cameras, Cleaning, Playground, Sidewalks: Main Street for Park and two telephone pole areas that are in the middle of the sidewalk. It is a big hurdle to get bids from contractors. Mayor is taking Dena Ray off of Library to use her expertise in RFP's to put a formalized bid process into place. We can then post RFP's on our webpage and Facebook page. April Yarbrough, Owner of Sharpsburg Pizza and Pub and Shep Harris, Owner of Sharpsburg Pizza and Pub spoke up about knowing many contractors in the area and will submit names to Administrator Jones.

Old Business: No old business was discussed.

Polling of the Council:

1. Zoning & Planning

Council Member Tom Teagle is working with the Town Council on comparing other towns and he has files. He is trying to keep it very basic and less complicated. It was suggested that a meeting be held with the large landowners. Mayor asked if the council wanted to form a Zoning Committee. No action or vote was taken on this matter.

2. Formation of DDA

Council Member Elizabeth Good asked that a DDA (Downtown Development Authority) discussion be put on the agenda for the May 1st Council Meeting. She has an idea ready for our next project involving residents and business owners. As requested, a DDA discussion will be on the May 1, 2023 Agenda.

3. Update on Sewer

Mayor Cole said that there are no congressional monies available to install a sewer system in town; however, there is a possibility of getting a low-cost loan from Georgia Intended Use. Council Member Tom Teagle mentioned that he had a meeting with Council Member Alex Edge, and Turin Council Member Clarence Bolden on joining together with Turin and Senoia to build a project together thus keeping costs down.

Administrator's Report:

Safebuilt and Playground: Administrator Jones reported that SafeBuilt has completed the work on their templates in the effort to begin active Code Enforcement in the Town. He stated that he was setting up a meeting with them to iron out any remaining matters before the active code enforcement begins. Administrator Jones returned to the discussion about the Library stating that earlier in the day he had two potential renters not rent the facility since the playground was unable to be used. Discussion followed about how to bring the playground back to order and whether a committee should be formed to address the matter. The Council did not vote on the matter.

Mayor's Updates:

Mayor Cole state that Georgia Power has an easement program where they can remove trees in easement and an additional 10' that pose a threat to powerlines. He said he is working to obtain additional information on the matter. Mayor Cole also spoke about the Georgia Downtown Development Authority (GDDA) and the services they offer by providing consulting, training, and resources.

Public Comments:

April Yarbrough, Owner of Sharpsburg Pizza and Pub, announced that she and her husband purchased the property at 225 Terrentine. They will be knocking down the old house. They do not know what they will rebuild.

Adjournment

All discussions being concluded, Mayor Cole adjourned the April 17, 2023, Work Session Meeting at 7:41 P.M.

Julie Stroud, Deputy Town Administrator

Blue Cole, Mayor

The foregoing minutes were duly approved at an official meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council, in Sharpsburg, Georgia on the 1st day of May 2023.

Julie Stroud, Deputy Town Administrator

