

**TOWN OF SHARPSBURG
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL WORK SESSION**

July 14, 2008

A work session of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, July 14, 2008, at 12:00pm, at the A&O Bridges Recreation Center.

Present were the following: Derrick McElwaney, Mayor; Polly Garlington, Council Member; Keith Rhodes, Council Member; Council Member Connie Turner; Donna Camp, Town Clerk; Council Member Anderson were absent.

Also present: Herb Bridges.

Mayor McElwaney called the session to order at 12:00pm.

The Town Clerk verified there was a quorum present.

Mayor McElwaney added Clerks Comments to the agenda.

September Festival – Merchants have not approached the Town with interest in having the September Festival. The streetscapes construction has raised some issues as to whether the construction would be complete for festival.

Sharpsburg Football Association – The SFA has contacted the Town with interest in having a parade and spirit day on August 23, 2008. The SFA need to contact Mr. Bridges to inquire about renting his lots for the activities. Town Clerk will notify the SFA with Mr. Bridges telephone information.

Building Renovations – The Town has received two bids to construct a new Town Hall Office. The bids are from Latimer & Hughes for \$19,261.23 and Hyde Properties for \$16,500.00. Mayor McElwaney is contacting more construction companies to get additional bids. The Mayor has met with a security company about putting up security cameras for the tennis courts and parking lot. There would be two cameras, one facing the tennis courts and the other doing a panoramic view of the parking lot. We are currently waiting on the bid from the Security Company.

Streetscapes Update – Construction is continuing on the streetscapes. Construction should be complete by the end of August in time for the parade and spirit day for the Sharpsburg Football Association. The lights, railing and landscape will not be completed by then. The lights normally take 6-8 months to be ordered and arrive on site. The lights have been ordered and should be in by September. Landscaping has been put on hold by the Governor. All transportation projects have been notified not to plant any landscaping due to the state being in a drought. No timeline as to when that will be lifted. Mulch will be installed until the order from the Governor has been lifted.

Highway 54 Property – The loan for the property is up for renewal. Until it is decided what to do with the property it should be left on an interest only payment and include additional principal payment.

Mileage - Currently the only person who gets mileage is the Clerk when she is attending Clerk Training in Athens. Council Members are requesting they be reimbursed for their mileage to training and some meetings. Mileage can be approved on a case by case basis. Currently the standard mileage rate is set at 50.5 cents per mile. The mileage rate is set by the IRS every year.

Right of Way Cutting - The Town is currently using Whitman Landscaping for the right of way cutting. The right of way is cut March thru October twice a month. Cost per month is \$480.00 made payable in twelve monthly payments of \$320.00. There have been some complaints about where and how much of the right of way should actually be cut. Mayor McElwaney asked Council Member Garlington to decide where/how much of the right of way should be cut and to get new bids, The Finance Committee and Council can review the bids.

Clerks Comments - The items below were given to the Clerk to be discussed and to explain.

Quilters - The Quilting Group requested the use of the Recreation Center on Aug. 21 & 22 to have Sharon Schamber a Master Quilter to give instructional classes on those days. The Mayor previously approved the dates.

Post Cards - Mailing post cards to all the citizens of the Town showing the website and e-mail addresses. The estimated cost for the one time send would be about \$100.00 +/-.

Council Meeting Signs - It has been requested that the Town put up signs before each Council Meeting to notify the public. The signs are about \$50.00 each.

Tree Maintenance - Several of the trees on Main Street still are in need on trimming. On the 2008 budget, \$2000.00 was allocated to Tree Maintenance. \$1350.00 has been spent on removal of a tree. New bids should be taken for the remaining trees and included in the new 2009 budget.

Education & Training - The current budget amount for 2008 included two clerk trainings in Athens and the four newly elected officials to go to training.

Library - The line item for the Library budget is for \$2250.00. The budgeted amount covers all utilities for the Library.

Elections - The primary elections will be held on Tuesday, July 15, 2008. The office will be closed.

Council Meeting - There will be a public hearing on July 24, 2008 at 12:00pm to set the 2008 millage rate.

There being no further business before the Council, the work session was adjourned.

Donna M. Camp
Town Clerk