

**TOWN OF SHARPSBURG  
MINUTES OF THE TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**January 9, 2012**

A regular scheduled meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, January 9, 2012, at 7:00pm, in the Town of Sharpsburg at the Sharpsburg Recreation Center.

Clerk Donna Camp called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was delivered.

Clerk Donna Camp administered the oaths of office to Mayor Wendell Staley and Council Members Celene Davenport and Derrick McElwaney.

Present were the following: Wendell Staley, Mayor; Celene Davenport, Council Member; Derrick McElwaney, Council Member and Donna Camp, Town Clerk. Council Members Anderson and Rhodes and were absent. Council Member Rhodes joined up by way of Skype. Council Member Rhodes will not vote on any item on the agenda.

Also in attendance were: Dylan Davenport and Polly Garlington.

The Mayor verified there was a quorum present.

Council Member McElwaney motioned to appoint Council Member Davenport to serve as Mayor Pro-Tem. Mayor Staley seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

The minutes of the December 5, 2011 Council Meetings were reviewed and approved as written by unanimous vote, and were filed in the minute book of the Town.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to approve a resolution to adopt the 2011 General and SPLOST fund budgets. Council Member McElwaney motioned to adopt the 2011 budgets as submitted. Council Member Davenport seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to approve a resolution to establish and adopt the 2010 Property Tax Millage Rate at 2.8 Mills. Council Member Davenport motioned, Council Member McElwaney seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to allow Sharpsburg Baptist Church to have their 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Easter Egg Hunt and Kids Day on April 7, 2012. The streets will need to be closed. Council Member Davenport motioned, Council Member McElwaney seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Sharpsburg Festival – Due to the lack of agreement with the land owner it appears we won't be having a Spring festival.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to allow the Quilting Ladies and Kay Stanley (Art Instructor) to have a quilt and art show at the recreation center and waive the rental fee. Council Member McElwaney motioned, Council Member Davenport seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Polly Garlington – Congratulated Council Member Davenport on the office of Mayor Pro-Tem. See the attached notes for further comments.

Public Comments –

- Dylan Davenport – His bus driver said they still couldn't drive down Sunset Drive to pick up students for school.

Polling of the Council –

- Celene Davenport – n/a
- Derrick McElwaney – n/a
- Keith Rhodes – Hopes to be back in Sharpsburg very soon. He has had a job offer from IBM.

Mayor's Minutes – The town will work on getting a neighborhood watch meeting organized in the near future.

There being no further business coming before the Council, the meeting was adjourned.

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Donna M. Camp  
Town Clerk

# Ethics

The purpose of these comments which was, originally, to congratulate the Mayor and Council for the designation "City of Ethics", and to encourage the Council to proceed with the implementation of the Process. In researching the requirements to attain the award, I discovered there are also requirements (or suggestions) to fully implement the Program

As it turns out, the awarding of the title, City of Ethics, based on qualification is just the beginning. (Let me apologize in advance if I have somehow missed information and this is already done.)

There should be an Ethics Ordinance which would include: Definitions, Prohibitions, Etc. As important, there should be a Board of Ethics comprised of residents so that complaints could be presented and a method of resolution should there be a complaint.

If this matter has not been addressed, I would like to request that the Town proceed with the Ordinance and the designating an Ethics Board.

BUT another issued has presented itself...absentee Council Members ...which I think falls under the "ethics" category.

*very defensible*

"All government, of right, originates with the people, is founded upon their will only, and is instituted solely for the good of the whole. Public officers are trustees and servants of the people and are at all times amenable to them."

These words in Article 1, Section 2, Paragraph 1 of the Georgia Constitution set the tone for ethical conduct for public officials at the state and local level..

" public officers are held to a higher level of conduct and accountability. Mere honesty is not enough. Public officials as trustees must act solely in the interest of the beneficiaries of that trust. The beneficiaries are the voters, taxpayers and public at large. (ADD HERE) It is their welfare that must be promoted by the actions of the public official. Also, as servants of the people, public officials are reminded that they have a duty to meet the needs of the people. RICHARD CAROTHERS

*minimum*

I, as a resident, request that the Code of Ethics, Charter would be preferable, state a policy/ requirement ~~regarding~~ <sup>regard</sup> attendance of any elected or appointed person at those meetings where Town business is conducted and this policy/requirement be adhered to and the Mayor and Council Members honor the policy/requirement.

One cannot attend to the Town's business if one is repeatedly ABSENT!

.....Especially for long periods of time!

	P.	A.
Jan 3	all present	
Feb 7		Rhodes
Feb 28		Rhodes Turner
Mar 21		Rhodes
Apr	no meet	
May 9		Rhodes
June 13		Anderson, D'pat
July 11		Rhodes
Aug 1		Rhodes
Aug 22		Anderson Rhodes
Aug 29		A'son Rhodes
Sep 19	All present	
Oct 24		
Nov 7		a'son Rhodes
Nov 28		A'son Rhodes
	2011	0
Jan 5	Wendell	
Rh 10	Turner	1.
	D'pat	1.
	Anderson	3.
	Rhodes.	8.