

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

April 28, 2007

A work session of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Saturday, April 28, 2007, at 9:00am, at the A&O Bridges Recreation Center.

Present were the following: Wendell Staley, Mayor; Derrick McElwaney, Mayor Pro-Tem; Clay Cole, Council Member; Larry Hyde, Council Member; Robin Spradlin, Town Administrator and Donna Camp, Town Clerk; Bobby Sills, Nelsnick Enterprises. Council Member Parten was absent.

Mayor Staley called the session to order at 9:00am.

The Town Clerk verified there was a quorum present.

Administrator Spradlin went over the financial reports with the Mayor and Council. The handout will be attached to these minutes.

Bobby Sills of Nelsnick Enterprises discussed the potential need to amend the Town's current comprehensive plan. DCA's Minimum Planning Standards state if there is a change of 10% or greater in the population projections that the Plan is based on, the Plan must be amended within six months of a determination being made that projections have significantly changed so as to materially detract from the usefulness of the plan. The Short Term Work Program that guides staff activities will also need to be amended.

The Multi-Use Trail System Study had been put on hold due to the Pathway's annexation withdrawal. The study is being funded by a Local Assistance Grant from the state. If the Town decides to not complete the study the funding would be returned. To finish the study it is estimated to take 3 to 4 months to complete. The Mayor advised Nelsnick Enterprises to move ahead with the study now concentrating on the current town limits and to provide the Town with a proposal for updating the Comprehensive Plan.

Administrator Spradlin discussed amending the Town's charter. The Town Attorney is drawing up an ordinance for the Mayor and Council to review. The items that were discussed are listed below:

- Staggering the Terms of Office - Currently the offices are up for reelection in the same four years. Proposed is to stagger the elections by a one time adjustment of Mayor and two Council Members running for four years and the two remaining Council Members running for two years.
- Oath of Office - Replacing with a new oath of office
- Property Tax Levy - Change adoption by ordinance to resolution

The Council Meeting Procedure Ordinance was the next item up for discussion. Currently anyone wishing to speak at a Council Meeting needs to contact the Town office to be put on the

agenda three business days before the meeting. The Mayor and Council would like to see what other municipalities require for their public comment section of the meetings. Minutes of Public Comments should only reflect the name, address, topic of comment and whether it is a positive or negative comment.

Town Clerk Camp discussed the status of the Transportation Enhancement Project. The right-of-way acquisitions are completed and GDOT has accepted them. GDOT has submitted a contract to the Town for the project. The contract will be on the May 7, 2007 agenda for the Council's review and approval. After the contract is approved by Council and GDOT we will receive a notice to proceed with construction bids for the project. Included in these minutes is a project status handout.

The Town Clerk discussed the need to do some maintenance on the Tennis Courts and the Recreational Center. The tennis courts has been vandalized and several items need to be replaced and also some general maintenance. The Rec. Center interior needs to be repainted and the floors stripped and waxed. The Finance Committee will be discussing this matter at their next meeting.

Council Member Hyde discussed the excess traffic on Cole Street and the use of his driveway as a turnaround. Also the Church at the end of the street doesn't have enough parking for its members and they park along Cole Street to where any emergency vehicles could not enter the road if needed. It was suggested that the Town look into making a turnaround at the end of Cole Street.

The Spring Festival was this past weekend and there were several complaints from citizens regarding vendors setting up too close to the roads and people blocking exits from the streets. Council Member Hyde suggested that a committee of citizens, merchants, Council and staff be formed to oversee the upcoming Festivals. Eric Richards, President of the Sharpsburg Merchants Association oversaw the Spring Festival and did a wonderful job. The Mayor asked that a resolution be drawn up in recognition of Mr. Richards's contribution to the Sharpsburg Festivals.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to convene into executive session to discuss personnel. Council Member Cole motioned to go into Executive Session, Council Member McElwaney seconded. Motion carried with a show of hands, unanimously.

Council Member Hyde motion to close the executive session, Council Member Cole seconded. Motion carried with a show of hands, unanimously.

There were no decisions to be made resulting from the executive session.

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

Donna M. Camp
Town Clerk