

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

August 3, 2009

A regular meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, August 3, 2009, at 7:00pm, in the Town of Sharpsburg at the Bridges Recreation Center.

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

Also in attendance were: Debbie May, Wendell and Margaret Staley, Roy Matthews, Gwen Lyons and Herb Bridges.

Mayor McElwaney called the meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was delivered.

The Town Clerk verified there was a quorum present.

The minutes of the July 6, 2009 Council Meeting were reviewed and approved as written by unanimous vote, and were filed in the minute book of the Town.

Roy Matthews, Coweta County Arborist, addressed the Mayor and Council about the reorganization of the Tree Committee. The tree committee would like to change the name of the committee to Sharpsburg Tree Commission. The committee has sought new members and the placement of new officers which if approved by the Mayor and Council will be:

Chairman - Roy Matthews
Vice-Chairman - Debbie May
Secretary - Ann Hardy
Treasurer - Polly Garlington
Arbor Day Chairman - Ann Terry
Memorial Tree Program - Herb Bridges

The responsibilities of the Committee will be to give recommendations to the Mayor and Council on the following items:

- Enforcement of the Tree Ordinance for new development
- Arbor Day Ceremonies
- Tree City Status (yearly designation)
- Heritage Tree Program
- Memorial/Celebration Tree Garden

Mr. Matthews is requesting the support of the Mayor and Council on the reorganization of the Tree Committee.

Debbie May addressed the Mayor and Council about recommendations she was asked to provide, by the Mayor and Council, for decorating downtown for holidays. Ms. May feels that Sharpsburg's decorations should be traditional and "old fashioned" to fit the character of the town. Ms. May recommend lighting the cedar tree in front of Town Hall this year as the first priority. In years following, wreaths, banners and garland could all be used to maintain the character of the town. Ms. May's recommendations are attached to these minutes.

Mayor McElwaney asked Mr. Matthews about trimming the cedar tree, in front of Town Hall. Mr. Matthews suggested to cut the bottom limbs, opposed to crowning, about 1 to 2 feet off the ground and no more than that. Mr. Matthews said he would be glad to trim the tree for the Town.

Mr. Richards of the Merchants Association could not be in attendance and asked that the following items be submitted before the Mayor and Council for their consideration for the Fall Festival:

- Application for festival
- Close roads
- Portable toilets
- Garbage Dumpster

Mayor McElwaney called for a motion to accept the application and the requests of the Merchants. Council Member Garlington motioned to accept the variance for the Fall Festival application, Council Member Anderson seconded. Motion carried, unanimously. Council Member Anderson motioned to approve the request for road closure, portable toilets and a garbage dumpster, Council Member Turner seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Mayor McElwaney called for a motion to accept the resolution to authorize the execution of a contract for the services of grass cutting in the Town. Kings Landscaping came in as lowest bidder on the proposals. A copy of the proposal is attached to these minutes. Council Member Garlington motioned to accept the resolution and authorize the execution of the contract. Council Member Turner seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Mayor McElwaney called for a motion to authorize the execution of a loan renewal contract for the Highway 54 property. The loan is a variable rate loan in the amount of \$83,543.92. It will draw 5% interest during the length of the contract and it is secured by the deed to the property. Council Member Anderson motioned to authorize the execution of the contract, Council Member Turner seconded. Motion carried. Council Member Garlington abstained.

Mayor McElwaney called for a motion to call a special election and set qualifying fees for the unexpired term of Mayor. Council Member Anderson motioned to hold a Special Election in conjunction with the November 3rd General Election to fill the unexpired term of two years of Mayor. Council Member Turner seconded. Motion carried, unanimously. Council Member Anderson motioned to set the qualifying fee for the unexpired term of Mayor, at \$50.00 as when he (Mayor) qualified in 2007. Council Member Garlington seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Public Comments

- Gwen Lyons
 - Are the camera's going to be placed in the town for speeding? No, that was just for the traffic study.
 - Church Street sign needs straightening
 - When will the grass cutting begin? Within 30 days per contract
 - Need more speed limit signs in Town
- Herb Bridges -
 - Please repair the entrance to the north lot (section A) of the festival area.
- Roy Matthews -
 - The gator bags that are on the trees out front need to be filled with water.
 - Some trees are more drought tolerant - these are not.
 - With the money that the Town spent on the project they should be taken better care of.
 - His department has a budget and can spend it on anything the Town needs.

Council Member Anderson asked Mr. Matthews if any of the trees were in distress. Mr. Matthews stated that he had not noticed any of the trees in distress.

Polling of the Council -

- Gordy Anderson - n/a
- Connie Turner - n/a
- Keith Rhodes - n/a
- Polly Garlington -
 - Status of Williams Circle repair. County has approved work and waiting on Public Works Department to schedule and contact the Town.

Clerk's Comments - The Town Clerk read the resignation of the Mayor.

Mayor's Minutes - To be able to have an election this year for the position of Mayor, the resignation date has been changed to December 31, 2009.

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

Donna M. Camp
Town Clerk