

Town Of Sharpsburg

Minutes of the Town Council Meeting

December 1, 2014

A regular scheduled meeting of the Sharpsburg Town Council was held Monday, December 1, 2014, at 7:00pm, in the Town of Sharpsburg at the Sharpsburg Recreation Center.

Present were the following: Mayor Wendell Staley, Council Member Clay Cole, and Council Member Keith Rhodes. Town Clerk Donna Camp, Council Member Celene Davenport and Council Member Derrick McElwaney were absent.

Also in attendance were: several citizens, merchants, and representatives from Sharpsburg First Baptist Church.

Mayor Staley called the regular scheduled meeting to order and the Pledge of Allegiance was delivered.

The Mayor and Council verified there was a quorum present.

A Public Hearing to address a sign variance for Sharpsburg Baptist Church was held. Reverend Wallace addressed the council with details about the sign, the way it would be used, and the sign dimensions. The middle of the sign is electronic dot matrix, similar to the Jumbotron, and will be computer controlled for relevant events at church. It will not be used to scroll messages, and the brightness will be computer controlled, all to eliminate traffic diversions.

The public hearing also addressed the Building and Construction Code Amendment. Mr. Joe Bridges addressed the council with how the council notifies citizens when code amendments are made. Mayor Staley explained that is what the public hearing is for. Mr. Bridges said this was a travesty that Mayor and council did it this way. He continued about how the public is notified, until his allotted time of 10 minutes was up. He was asked to please take his seat so other citizens could speak. He refused. He was asked again, but continued to talk. Mr. Bridges sat after he finished.

Also included in the public hearing was the authorization to borrow funds, to pay on the property behind the rec center, for overflow parking. Mr. Joe Bridges addressed the council. He is against it. He said we have a lot of money on hand and we should pay the loan off. No reason why was offered. Mayor Staley explained that we rent the property for enough to pay the loan, freeing up funds for our park project.

The minutes of the November 3, 2014 Council Meeting were reviewed and approved by unanimous vote, and were filed in the minute book of the Town.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to accept the sign variance, Council Member Cole motioned to accept, Council Member Rhodes seconded. It was stated that the fee shall be \$350, instead of a percentage of the purchase price. Motion carried, unanimously.

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Mayor Staley called for a motion to accept authorization to borrow funds for the property behind Town Hall/Rec Center. Council Member Rhodes motioned to accept, Council Member Cole seconded. Motion carried, unanimously.

Mayor Staley called for a motion to accept the 2nd reading of the Building and Construction Code Amendment. Council Member Rhodes motioned to accept 2nd reading, Council Member Cole seconded. Mayor Staley called for a vote on the motion, Council Member Rhodes voted to accept, Council Member Cole abstained. Motion died for lack of majority vote.

Public comments:

☞ Polly Garlington

Does the town have an update on a start date for the park?
The welcome signs are beautiful, and are there plans for more?

☞ Joe Bridges

It is not an issue of "are we willing to open businesses", but an issue of grandfathering in a building that could be considered as historic.

Polling of the Council:

☞ Clay Cole - n/a

☞ Keith Rhodes - n/a

Clerks Comments: n/a

Mayor's Minutes:

☞ Received a complaint about the privacy fence between businesses along GA State 54 and the residential neighborhood. The fence is falling down, and doesn't provide a sufficient border for Williams Circle. The Mayor will discuss with Council Member Rhodes at a later date.

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

D. Keith Rhodes, Council Member