

SHARPSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING August 25, 2022

Honorable Mayor
Members of Council

The Regular Business Meeting of the Sharpsburg Council was held August 25, 2022, at 6:30pm.

President's Welcome: Council met after the last regular council meeting to discuss personnel matters including manager interviews on August 9th and 10th and held additional executive sessions for personnel matters on August 14th, 18th, and 19th.

Laing asked for a motion to amend agenda item 6B2 demolition resolution approval of VPRP.

Motion by Tongarm

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Laing - Yes

President Laing called the meeting to order and led in the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.

Roll call found the following members present: Jonathan Jaso, Kayla Portis, Karen Pastor, Carrie Tongarm, Sarah Ishman, Adrienne Laing, Peter Adams, Mayor Reno, Chief Stelitano

Mayor Reno presented a proclamation to the North Hills Special Response Team which we are a part of. These members are highly trained and skilled individuals that respond to high intensity and danger situations across 17 communities. The FBI holds an event to test the crisis negotiations of the teams to see who does the best job in crisis negotiations. In 2022 the North Hills Response Team which our own Officer Kimmel is highly involved in.

Citizens Comments (Agenda Items Only):

Citizens Comments (Registered):

Sara Mariacher – Sharpsburg Library

Mariacher gave her monthly updates on statistics and programs available.

Mayor Reno swore in two more members of the Parks and Recreation Commission. Kaitlyn Ballard and Donna Bishop.

Committee Reports:

P. Adams – Health/Property
Erin Angeli – HRC – Absent

Gregory Domian – Parks and Recreation Commission – Absent
Ballard spoke in place of Domian and said in their first meeting they were working on their bylaws.

Adams gave a brief statement on the Street Opening Permit Ordinance revisions.
Adams made a motion to approve the advertisement for the updated Street Opening Permit ordinance.

2nd Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Abstain

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Laing – Yes

Tongarm abstained from the motion due to a conflict of interest with her employment with a utility company.

Adams said the borough has applied for the demolition of two structures located at 1409 and 1411 Main Street.

Adams made a motion to adopt resolution 22-11 for the demolition of 1409 and 1411 Main Street.

2nd by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

C. Tongarm – Zoning/Planning/Code

Tongarm gave an update on the Riverfront Overlay. Tongarm said they are working with R47 team in drafting the riverfront overlay and should have the draft ready to present and ask for advertisement at next month's meeting.

Tongarm said the Accessible Parking Ordinance language and form has been updated to reflect the current needs of the borough with limited parking available.

Tongarm made a motion to advertise the proposed accessible parking ordinance for consideration of adoption at the September council meeting.

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Laing – Yes

K. Portis – Personnel

Portis said the personnel committee reviewed all applicants and interviewed qualified candidates. The committee is recommending at this time to hire Joel Carmody at a rate of \$22.50 / hour including benefits with the expectation Mr. Carmody will be the Working Foreman to replace Jack Dellert upon his retirement on October 21, 2022. Mr. Carmody's effective date of hire will be Monday August 29, 2022.

Portis made a motion to approve the hiring of Joel Carmody at a starting rate of \$22.50 effective August 29, 2022.

2nd by Pastor

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Laing – Yes

Portis said the borough received nine applications for its borough manager position and conducted interviews with council this past month. The personnel committee is please to recommend Christine DeRunk as the next Borough Manager. A Manager Agreement with Christine is further recommended defining her salary at \$85,000 through December 31, 2023, effective September 19, 2022.

Portis made a motion to appoint Christine DeRunk as Borough Manager and the Manager Agreement through December 31, 2023, with an effective date of September 19, 2022.

2nd by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Laing – Yes

K. Pastor – Public Safety

Pastor introduced the new social worker interns, Mary Bauer and Kirsten Giovengo.

Bauer and Giovengo gave brief statements on their initiatives and resources they have to offer to the borough.

Pastor said the borough has received a resignation letter from Officer Brian Hoebel effective September 1, 2022.

Pastor made a motion to accept Officer Hoebel's resignation as received.

2nd by Tongarm

All in Favor – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Laing Yes

Pastor said K9 Officer Jango to retire.

Pastor said since being sworn in on May 1st, 2018, K9 Jango has served the Borough of Sharpsburg by his handler's side. The K9 team has handled 72 calls for service to assist other departments with narcotic searches, building searches, and missing and runaway children. The team has recently assisted Hampton and O'Hara PD on the apprehension of a felony warrant suspect, assisted state police with the apprehension of a homicide suspect from Butler County. K9 Jango and the K9 unit have been a great crime deterrent but also Jango has been a great Community ambassador, Jango has visited many of the local schools along with schools in Shaler and the North Hills. Many kids and teachers have gotten to meet and enjoy his loving personality. Jango has also enjoyed patrolling community events and being a part of the Borough of Sharpsburg. K9 Jango was the first fully trained working dog for the Borough of Sharpsburg, and he will be greatly missed. He was a great asset to the Department.

Pastor made a motion to accept K9 Officer Jango's Retirement effective September 1, 2022.

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Laing – Yes

Chief Stelitano talked about Jango in what a great asset to the community and department. Stelitano read his monthly police report.

S. Ishman – Public Works

Dellert read his monthly DPW report.

Ishman reviewed the engineers report.

Ishman said that the DPW department was using an older SUV that is no longer needed by the department. Ishman is recommending that the borough approve Resolution 22-10 authorizing the advertisement and electronic auctioning on Municibid.com of this vehicle. The auction shall be advertised for 10 days, run through September 16 and be awarded at the council meeting on September 22nd.

Ishman made a motion to approve Resolution 22-10 approving the advertisement and electronic auctioning as recommended.

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Laing – Yes

J. Jaso – Finance

Jaso said the budget reports are in your binder for review.

Jaso said the borough has begun preparing the 2023 budget. There will be a need for Council Budget Workshop meetings to be scheduled to review the work of the borough staff in preparation of the 2023 budget which council will ultimately adopt at its meeting in December. Therefore, Jaso would like to propose the attached budget workshop schedule and the workshop meetings of council to be advertised.

A discussion ensued over the schedule.

Adams made a motion to approve the 2023 budget workshop schedule for the dates to be advertised as presented for a 7pm start time.

2nd by Pastor

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Laing – Yes

Jaso mentioned that there will be a Gun Violence Awareness seminar here at the borough on Wednesday, August 31st at 6:30pm.

Ishman mentioned that on September 24th at 10am line painting of the basketball courts at Kennedy Park will take place. Ishman is seeking volunteers to help with the painting.

B. Reno – Mayor

Reno thanked Officer Hoebel and Office K9 Jango for their service to the community.

Reno mentioned the townwide Yard Sale which is September 10th from 8am-2pm. Reno asked council for permission to hang a banner that SNO purchased to advertise the yard sale. Reno also asked for permission to allow people to set up in Kennedy Park for the yard sale. Both requests are on the consent agenda.

Reno asked for permission from council to send a letter of support to Solsmart.

Reno said that SNO is hosting a nature walk with a naturalist in the borough on September 10th at 10am. This a great event for all.

Reno gave a FEMA update. Lou Deluca is attempting to get elevation certificates from property owners that had done substantial improvements to meet the requirements.

Reno said that herself and Tongarm are working with a FEMA representative in amending our flood plain ordinance.

M. Witherel – Solicitor

Nothing currently.

R. Mason – Junior Council

Mason said the Kennedy Park mural is in progress.

Mason mentioned that the meeting he had with PennDot did not go as well as he anticipated on the skate park.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Payment of bills due through September 2, 2022
- b. Minutes from July 28, 2022, Regular Meeting
- c. HRS Reimbursement request of \$333.20 from PRIDE event

- d. Road closure request of N. Main Street from 10th to Bonaventura Way from 9am to 1pm for the Spooktakular event October 15th.
- e. Tree Tender Certification fee for Shade Tree and P&R Commission members for \$15 ea.
- f. Use of stage by Etna Borough for September 24 for the Art Tour Event.
- g. Kennedy Park use for Community Yard Sale September 10th w/restrooms.
- h. Banner hanging over Main Street for Community Yard Sale – banner provided by SNO
- i. Sending letter of support to SolSmart.

Motion by Jaso

2nd by Pastor

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Laing – Yes

Permits:

a. Use Permits (None)

b. Zoning/Building – See Monthly BIU Report

Laing asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:41pm.

Motion by Jaso

2nd by Portis

Respectfully Submitted,

Jason Dailey
Interim Manager

JD:ck