

SHARPSBURG BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING

September 22, 2022

Honorable Mayor
Members of Council

The Regular Business Meeting of the Sharpsburg Council was held September 22, 2022, at 6:30pm.

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

Citizens Comments (Agenda Items Only):

Citizens Comments (Registered):

Melanie Gutowski – Historical Commission
Gutowski gave an update on projects that the commission is working on.

Sara Mariacher – Sharpsburg Library
Mariacher gave her monthly updates on statistics and programs available.

Senator Williams Office – Marilyn
Their office hours are 9am-5pm Monday – Friday.
Mentioned that they are having a Senior Fair at the Ross Township Municipal Building on September 27th from 10am-12pm.
There will also be a Community Baby Shower in Larimar on October 11th from 4pm-6pm in Liberty Green Park.
Marilyn also mentioned if you have a license plate peeling you can apply for a replacement on October 13th in the Ross Township Office from 5pm-7pm.

Committee Reports:

P. Adams – Health/Property
Adams said the street opening permit ordinance was duly advertised and there have been no additional comments on the ordinance, therefore he is recommending approval of Ordinance 22-07. No discussion.

Adams moved to approve the Street Opening Permit Ordinance 22-07.

2nd by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Abstain

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Laing – Yes

Adams said the Borough dully advertised for a new wireless facilities that regulates the installation of such facilities including design standards and associated fees. There have been no further comments and he recommends approval of Ordinance 22-05. No discussion.

Adams moved to adopt Ordinance 22-05.

2nd by Jaso

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Laing – Yes

Adams mentioned that he is looking at the parking ordinance, that it is difficult to park here in the borough. Adams is looking into electronic payment at the meters, increasing fines, and possibility adding parking meters at James Sharp Landing.

Erin Angeli – Human Rights Commission

Angeli gave her report. Copies are available upon request.

K. Ballard – Parks and Recreation Commission

Ballard gave her report. Copies are available upon request.

C. Tongarm – Zoning/Planning/Code

Tongarm gave a brief introduction about the overlay for the riverfront.

AJ from EPD gave a presentation of the overlay.

Tongarm said the Borough has entered into arrangements to apply for the grants that further support the various aspects of the Allegheny Shores Development. The developer has requested support, through a resolution, to apply for \$5,000,000 grant through the Reconnecting Communities Program which will be for costs associated with the construction of the infrastructure throughout the development. There is no matching or administrative costs associated with the grant application and she recommends the approval for the necessary resolution as included for council to consider. No discussion.

Tongarm moved to adopt Resolution R-12-22 supporting the application for the Reconnecting Communities Program on the Borough's behalf.

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Laing – Yes

Tongarm said the Borough has duly advertised the changes to the Accessible Parking Ordinance and there have been no further comments received. Therefore, she recommends approval of Ordinance No. 22-06. No discussion.

Tongarm moved to adopt Ordinance 22-06.

2nd by Pastor

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Laing – Yes

Tongarm gave Roman Mason's (Junior Council) report that he is holding a public community meeting on October 11th 6:30-8pm at the Atithi Studios. It is called A Vision for Kennedy Park Community Meeting. Everyone is welcome.

K. Portis – Personnel

Portis read a retirement recognition of Ed Aurin of the public works department.

Portis also read a retirement recognition of Jack Dellert of the public works department.

Portis said the Borough Manager contract requires the Borough to adopt a 457 Plan for their retirement funds to be disbursed. This plan requires a resolution to define the plan. Portis is recommending at this time approval of this resolution. No discussion.

Portis moved to adopt Resolution R-13-22 adopting the 457 Retirement Plan for the Borough Manager.

2nd by Adams

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Laing – Yes

K. Pastor – Public Safety

64 Calls for August

Pastor said that Aspinwall allowed the fire department to use their structure for 48 hours of training.

Pastor said that Halloween will be on October 31st 6-8pm.

Pastor said the Fire Chief has concern about the cars that park on the right side of Roosevelt.

They impede the ability to get a fire truck or ambulance up the hill. Asked for the residents to be notified to move their cars.

Mary Bauer the social worker intern gave an overview of her time here in the borough. Bauer also gave a report on the potential grant application. Bauer also spoke in part on the Community Safety Awareness Event that will be held on Oct 7th from 11-5pm here at the borough building.

Chief Stelitano gave his monthly statistic report.

Stelitano also said the interns are doing a great job. They are getting to know the community and residents are starting to use their services.

S.Ishman – Public Works

Ishman said that she and DeRunk took a tour of the public works facility.

Ishman reviewed the engineers report.

Dellert reviewed the public works department report.

Ishman said the Borough advertised on Muncibid for the sale of the Public Works 2017 Ford Explorer. The auction was open from August 30 – September 19. Based upon the bids received and having met the minimum reserve of \$15,000, Ishman would like to recommend award to the highest bidder Edward Martone in the amount of \$15, 300 and to authorize the Manager to complete the sale. No discussion.

Ishman moved to award the sale of the 2017 Ford Explorer to Edward Martone in the amount of \$15,300 as recommended.

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Laing – Yes

Ishman said the Borough has been made aware of the availability of a CMU graduate intern to work on data analysis projects that could potentially save the Borough money, increase efficiencies and or allow for better enforcement of existing ordinances. She would also build out mapping capabilities for Borough assets. Graduate students are required to be paid at least \$15 / hr however, Federal work study will pay for 70% of the costs. The hourly wage rate to the Borough is \$4.50 / hour for a total of \$45 / week. Ishman would like to recommend to the Board to support this initiative. No discussion.

Ishman moved to approve the hiring of a graduate intern at a cost of \$45 / week for the purpose of data analysis.

2nd by Portis

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Laing – Yes

J. Jaso – Finance

Jaso said he has a question about a few line items. Will discuss later.

Jaso said that the 2023 budget workshop meeting schedule was advertised and the meetings are open to the public.

Jaso said the Council committee met with the LGA team on Tuesday, September 20th and they had some interesting numbers which were good and bad. We will be meeting again next month. No date set.

Jaso said the Borough is required to determine the annual obligation of the Borough for 2023. The W2 wages are estimated for the coming year, which is then determined to be the Borough's bill for the pension plans. The Non-Uniform Plan is currently overfunded and there is no obligation required. The uniform Plan does require a contribution to be made to cover the plan's obligation by the Borough. This was calculated to be \$80,291. This amount is funded by Act 205 pension distributions by the State, and any unfunded amounts are required to be covered by the Borough. Council is required to be presented with this MMO each year by the end of September. Jaso recommended approval of both the Non-Uniform and Uniform Pension Plans. No discussion.

Jaso moved to approve the 2023 Uniform and Non-Uniform MMO's as presented.

2nd by Tongarm

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Pastor – Yes

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes

Jaso – Yes

Laing – Yes

B. Reno – Mayor

Reno mentioned that there will be a Spooktacular weekend on October 14, 15 & 16th all around Main Street.

Reno also said that Camp Guyasuta is having "Haunted Guyasuta through the month of October.

Reno mentioned that the community yard sale was a success.

SNO, Roots of Faith, the police department, and the library got a grant from Allegheny County Health Department in the amount of \$9,999 for overdose prevention. There will be community events coming soon.

Trick or Treat will be on October 31st from 6-8pm.

M. Witherel – Solicitor

Nothing currently.

Consent Agenda:

- a. Payment of bills due through October 26, 2022.
- b. Minutes from August 25, 2022 Regular Meeting
- c. Social Worker Intern – Community Safety Awareness Event in Council Chambers, Friday October 7, 2022 11-4pm
- d. Halloween Trick or Treat date and time is Monday 10/31/22 6-8pm.

Motion by Jaso

2nd by Tongarm

All in Favor – Yes

Roll Call:

Tongarm – Yes

Ishman – Yes

Adams – Yes

Portis – Yes
Jaso – Yes
Pastor – Yes
Laing – Yes

Laing asked for a motion to adjourn at 8:38pm.
Motion by Jaso
2nd by Tongarm

Respectfully Submitted,

Christine DeRunk
Borough Manager

CD:ck