

SHARON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ~MINUTES~ for November 13th, 2023, at 7:00 pm

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Nicole Perkins; Council Members present were Mayor Pro-tem Herschel Brown, Jr, Skylar Grant, Margarett Parrish, Brooke Glenn, Town Administrator, Tina Davis, Fire Chief Oliver Dowdle, Asst Chief George Ward, Councilmember, Elect, Jay Gourley, and Doug Cunningham

INVOCATION:

Mayor: Nicole began with a moment of silence. Nicole said a prayer as well. Recognized the loss of Tina's mother.

PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK:

MINUTES:

1. **Minutes:** Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of October 9, 2023, recorded and ready to sign for approval. If anyone needs a copy of the minutes, just let us know.
2. **Financial Reports:** Available for review.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. **Town Funding - Local, State, and Federal and Grant Opportunities**

- a. **ARPA-funding.** Funds must be spent by EOY 2026 – Nicole stated that we have filed for our grants and are waiting to get that money.
 1. Town/Building Improvements in progress
 - a. Community Center Annex - Electrical, Fire Doors, Bathrooms – Nicole advised that the heating and air guys (Adkins Heating and Air) will be coming in two weeks to install the units in the community center. Grady is still working on hooking up the bathrooms, but Nikki is ready to move in January. She will be our first tenant. Tina let Nicole know that there was a toilet set outside of the community center. Per Nicole, Grady set the toilet outside because someone was coming to pick it up. Tina asked about the status of the plumbing. Nicole advised that the community center side should be done it is the annex area that needs to be completed.
 - b. Last month we had a company come and vacuum the leaves and debris in the storm drains. That was a little expensive, but we wanted to have the streets cleaned up for Halloween. We are going to try to figure out other ways to get that to happen more often. We have called the county and the state, and they are not doing that anymore or won't do it. If we could get our own equipment to take care of clearing the debris that would be good. We have looked at used equipment, but it is not just a matter of purchasing it, we would still have to have the equipment brought here. There are some options, but it would require a lot.
 - c. Fire Department - Harmon Park Bathroom - start after Dec 9th

- i. Grading Fire Dept/Parking lot, Culverts/redirect water, Sewage lines/catch basin.
 - ii. Harmon Park – Bathrooms, New Park Equipment, Electrical
 - d. Town upkeep – Sidewalks, Storm Drains-cleaned for Halloween
 - i. Old Depot brush/trees
 - ii. Dr Saye Lane - Roadside dirt filled back in and restructure Waddles, remove two pine trees.
 - e. Pump Station/Sewer System behind town hall - protection of Sewer System from water overflow, Retaining wall/regrading
 - f. Heating and Air Town buildings - contacted vendors updated quotes/work soon to Community Center 2 weeks.
2. **State Grants - Dennis Moss – Nicole** advised that the forms have been submitted. Need verification #. Rcpt 4th Qtr. We really hope to have that money by the end of the year but if not, we will move some money around so we can start work on the fire department after the Christmas event. That is our next project.
3. **Christmas in Sharon Saturday Dec 9th** - Working on agenda and contacting vendors. Reached out to local churches. Woodlawn Presbyterian Preacher Max will officiate this year. Nicole let everyone know that there was a scam Facebook page asking people to pay \$75 for our event. Someone caught it and notified us. Nicole did a counter post letting vendors know that we are not charging \$75 but just \$20 and they can pay in person or mail it in. Margarette asked what the schedule is for our event. Nicole advised we are still getting that together. The children from Sharon Elementary will be singing. Browne asked if they would have their own sound equipment. Tina advised probably not that they have a new music teacher. The lady from last year retired. Browne asked for contact information for the music teacher so that he can coordinate with her on the sound. Nicole sent out emails and either called or texted all the churches in town. She just wanted to touch base with each of them to see what if anything they wanted to do for this event. Some said they wanted to help, others said they just want to do the tours of the church. Woodlawn Presbyterian, Preacher Max wants to do the opening prayer, a song and then the Christmas story. They are decorating their church as well for the tours. Nicole was asked if we were going to do the luminary bags but thinks perhaps maybe one of the churches may want to do that. If we could get everyone together as a group to do the bags, then we could but it is a lot to put on Tina and us to do all the decorating.
 - a. **Christmas Light Installation**
 - i. **Day to test Lights** – Nicole reported that Tina and others have been working on testing the lights and getting that done before they are ready to be hung. Tina advised while working on checking lights we ran out of the smaller bulbs. She went to Lowes, and they are not getting them anymore. Tina placed an order with Amazon for new bulbs and she will go back on Wednesday to finish up. Nicole said that the goal is to replace the decorations. The lanterns are done but the wreaths and the swag still need to be finished. Olive asked about the electrical boxes, Tina is getting together everything needed. Oliver advised an industrial GFI would be better to put up so that we are not replacing these electrical boxes every year.
 - ii. **Installation Christmas lights** – Oliver advised the lights are going up this Saturday, the 18th. The fire department will finish next Saturday if for some reason they are not done this Saturday. Oliver asked where the lights for the fence are located, Tina advised at the community center.
 - iii. **Electrical at Harmon Park** – Trenching in the park is still needed. Mr. Bell will still need to work on and trench for receptacles #7 to 8 and 14 to 15. This work is to be

coordinated with work needed at the ballfield due to equipment rental. Brad and Mr. Bell will be in touch with each other.

4. Shannon Street

- a. **Lead and Copper Rural Revision analysis** - Truepani (Scott Rebman) due by Oct 2024
- b. **New Water lines** – We have received a quote to replace the water lines of \$500 to \$750K. This will have to be a water grant.
- c. **Sidewalks** – Per Nicole a lot of cleaning has been done down there. The grass that grows up in the cement has been sprayed and killed but still needs to be shoveled up and removed. It did look good but now with all the leaves falling it is getting cluttered up again.

5. **Website** – Rural Water Impact/Municipal Impact v/s Revize. We still have not had a chance to decide on what group we are going with.

6. **Duke Energy** – We have talked about this previously but if you need to report a problem you can go to a website to report. Nicole will forward the email address to everyone and that way they can share with others.

- a. Discussed removal of old poles- Most poles have cable and internet, need to contact Comporium, Spectrum, AT&T to move lines to new poles
- b. [Vegetation Management - Duke Energy \(duke-energy.com\)](http://duke-energy.com)

Nicole asked if there were any comments on old business? None asked.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Town News-

- a. **PBS Show** – Small Towns – Trail of History
Nicole said we now have a few stars in town, that the program was good. Browne had positive comments as well. All the other towns that were featured were also good also. Nicole will send the link out to everyone so that they can see and share if they like. Nicole believes Nikki from the pottery store put it on Facebook. Browne said it can be found on YouTube.
- b. **Election Results** – Skylar is leaving council, Jay Gourley was a write in and accepted the position. Mr. Gourley is looking forward to working with the council. Welcome was extended to Mr. Gourley. He will begin in January.
- c. **Veterans Parade York** – Nicole attended the parade in York this year and got to see Sharons very own John Ervin Chason. He was the Grand Marshal for the parade. Nicole acquired a flyer for the parade and read the information regarding Mr. Chason’s military career. She said it was awesome to see people coming up to him and thanking him for his service and taking pictures with him. Nicole posted this on Facebook. The speaker this year spoke about Pearl Harbor.
- d. Nicole reported on the situation with SCDOT, she emailed them about what she wanted as far as stop signs go. They did not want to do what we want; they want to do what they want. They want to put in a 3 way stop. Which would stop traffic coming up Hwy 49, stop traffic on Woodlawn St and York St. Nicole told them this was not going to work. SCDOT did not think we have a lot of big trucks coming through. Nicole advised them that we certainly do. Nicole asked for a flashing light, and they said no. They are going to make the signs bigger and move them. They will add a stop sign. Nicole also asked SCDOT about Highway 211, with people coming in and out of the store. He suggested the store put

curbs in and they would incur the cost not the town. Doug suggested reflective materials be used by SCDOT.

REPORTS/COMMITTEES: Council to discuss any issues concerning the following:

1. **Ball field:** Fall ball done, working on electrical issues getting scheduled. Ashely said they are not going to have a tournament. They are going to be opening their age groups and will have a lot more team members and they are excited about that. They are also working on running a lot of training camps throughout the county.
2. **Community Center:** We are continuing to upfit this building. Possible tenant. Electrician quote - 2 breakers for 60 amp equip 240 volts,
 - a. Doors open outward/Fire Doors/Emergency Exit Signage – these items will be purchased soon and getting those installed. Oliver, Electrician review electrical (new heating/air units), Plumbing to change out urinals almost done. The Veterans area looks great!
3. **Fire Department:** Per Olive Annual Dinner will be held on January 27th. Council members and guests are to be invited. Chicken and steak to be served. This may be the last one due to politics and the Chiefs Association. Some people are trying to hold money hostage. Regarding the Christmas event and vendors, the fire department will hold 8 and EMS bay will hold 8. Tina has advised the vendors the fee will be \$20, donations are still encouraged to the VFD, each vendor will have a 10x10 spot, spots will be assigned. Thinking about doing a little earlier for the vendors, just trying to get them more time to sell. George has asked that we keep them up to date on the schedule for work at the fire department. EMS will have to be notified. George advised that they were asked if we will provide heaters for EMS.
4. **Rental Buildings: (Herschel Brown, Jr)** Lawson Bldg.- Austin Lee exit day Dec 2nd, we will need to advertise this building available for rent. The building looks good.
5. **Parks: (Skylar Grant)** Historical markers (Dollar General, Ballfield). Rainey Park - edging/clean light post, Dog stations, sidewalk. Nicole talked to the Manager at Dollar General and she is going to reach out to the corporate office to find out who the landscaping business is for them and have them cut all that overflow and clean up around the historical marker.
6. **Scout Hut, Concession Stand:** Scout Hut - Trim, paint door, new roof we will save that for next year.
7. **Streets: (Margarette Parrish)** – Vendor will be back quarterly, if possible, we cannot afford to have that done more often.
8. **Sidewalks- (Brooke Glenn)** – Sidewalks resident responsibility/need edging. Parking lot Burri Building grass/Corners of Rainey/211 Grass/Shannon Street
9. **Town Hall:** Per Nicole Completed concrete step, Handrail, New flowers. Change out light and door lock. Nicole would like to have newer windows installed. Nicole found a vendor that can help us with that.
10. **Water: (Matt Glenn)** Update status of water system. Water is good.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:

1. **Citizen Concerns/FYI:** Anyone from the Mayor, Council, Staff or Public can bring an issue to the Council that was not on the agenda. Please limit your comment to 5 minutes or less.

DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS:

1. **Meeting Minutes:** Recorded
2. **Financial Reports:**

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. **Next Council Meeting:**
 - a. Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, November 13, 2023, at 7:00 pm

ADJOURN: **Adjourn**: Council to vote on adjournment

Motion: Margarete made 1st motion, Second: Brooke Time: 7:42 pm.