

SHARON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ~MINUTES ~ April 8, 2024, 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, Jay Gourley, Margarett Parrish, Town Administrator; Tina Davis, Fire Chief; Oliver Dowdle, Asst Chief; George Ward.

Guests included: Kathy Broom

INVOCATION:

Mayor: Tina began with a moment of silence and prayer.

PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK: No one wishes to speak at tonight's meeting.

MINUTES: **Minutes** of March 11, 2024, Regular Council Meeting recorded, ready to sign for approval. Those were passed around for signatures.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

A. ARPA - funding. Funds must be spent by EOY 2026

1. Town/Building Improvements in progress

- a. Community Center Annex - Electrical, Fire Doors, Bathrooms - in process
- b. Town Equipment - use for town upkeep /maintenance
- c. Pump Station/Sewer System behind town hall - protection of Sewer System from water overflow, Retaining wall/regrading.

Nicole advised, we are still working on the community center and the search continues for some equipment. The pump station is being worked on and should be done this week; it is ready for some rock to be put in the retaining area then hopefully concrete will be delivered on Friday. Hopefully everything will be done this week. Nicole advised that there are 3 tanks, and the square tank is unbalanced and needs to be leveled, which is the goal. She talked to Joey Bolin, and he said it was not really an issue the way it is but would prefer that it is lifted and be level.

2. State Grants - Dennis Moss – Town Upgrades - 2nd quarterly report Due by April 15th

List of Grants applied and approved: Per Nicole we currently must have our 2nd quarterly report done by April 15th. There are lots of forms that we are getting used to. Tina advised that she worked on it some today.

- a) **Paid** off the Bank of York Loan for the Community Center roof
- b) Community Center Annex - Building Upgrades/ HVAC
- c) Fire Department – HVAC Quote in process
- d) Fire Department – EMS Bay HVAC

e) Fire Department - Harmon Park Rerouting - rain delays – possibly EOM Collaboration-w/ Joey Bolin and Jerry Lee Benfield - already said they would help.

1. Grading Fire Dept - Culverts, redirect water, Sewage lines/catch basin.

2. Harmon Park – Bathrooms, New Park Equipment, Electrical

Nicole apologized to the fire department for the delays getting started on their projects but with the rain and other projects going on it cannot be helped. Nicole advised that help has already been established.

f) Park Equipment - Options for mulch beds: Kids Cushion/Rubber - Selection 1st Park item. We have been checking on the different types of mulch that can be used in the park before we decide on new park equipment. Nicole said Don Rhodes suggested getting the rubber. It is a little pricey but lasts about 8 years.

The wood mulch available is a little cheaper but must be replaced every 3 years.

g) New Well - Contacts for Sharon ARP Church: email for interest/help David Duncan/Gil Martin. Nicole reported that she and Tina went to the Sharon ARP Church and looked at the land out there. We will be reaching out to them about possible putting a well there. That way there is a well at each end of the line. The church would still own the property we would just have a well there. Oliver asked if that property belonged to Mr. Chason, his property is on the opposite side of the road, but if it does not work out with the church then possible put on the other side, would need to contact Mr Chason. Jay brought up that if the church was ever to cease existing that the property would go back to the General Senate (the governing body). Which raises the general question about being able to maintain permanent access to the well. Sharon would not own the property, just the well. Nicole advised that if the church property does not work out that we will have to have another location.

h) Lawson Building HVAC – Adkins has gas-pack unit in stock, YC Natural Gas application

i) Burri Building HVAC

Browne advised we need a new line on Shannon St.

3. **Processed SAM.gov (Systems Award Management)** - renewed Apr 2, for 2024-2025, this allows us access to receive and apply for all grants. Per Tina the reason we had to do SAMs is that it puts our information into the government database.

4. **New Website** - [Home | Town of Sharon \(municipalimpact.com\)](http://municipalimpact.com) Under construction

A. Welcome page ideas - Photo Head shot/Bio's of Council Members and Fire Dept

B. Waiting on gWorks for the “Pay on-line” option – will have to update software to stay with gWorks

C. Town Domain – The get.gov site, we submitted **sharonsc.gov** as our domain - submitted request Mar 15th, waiting to hear back.

Nicole asked for ideas for the home page on the website. Tina asked if council members wanted their personal information like email and/or cell phone number on our webpage? Nicole advised not to put personal information for the reason once someone leaves the council, they do not want their phone numbers still available. Tina asked for photos if they would like to share for webpage. Browne asked if each council person could have their own mailbox, Tina would check with Impact. Tina told everyone that pages are being created and it is very time consuming.

5. Ordinance 0001-7-1, 2nd Reading – An Ordinance providing for the Salary of the Mayor, Councilpersons, Fire Chef and Assistant Fire Chief, and Repayment for their Expenses. Ordinance 12 Missing. A copy of the original ordinance dated 1977, then updated in 2003, and again updated in 2011 is on the pc, no signed copy in existence in the office. Ordinance 0001-7-1 was to be presented to the council on **Jun 2022**. Due to administrative turnover, did not happen. The second reading is tonight, April 8, 2024. Ordinance 0001-7-1 will replace Ordinance 12.

Motion made by Margarett Parrish and seconded by Herschel Brown, Jr.

6. Ordinance 0008-16-0, 2nd Reading - An Ordinance to REPEAL ORDINANCE 12 - An Ordinance providing for the Salary of the Mayor, Councilpersons, Fire Chef and Assistant Fire Chief, and Repayment for their Expenses, second reading is tonight, April 8, 2024.

Motion made by Herschel Brown, Jr and seconded by Margarett Parrish.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A PROCLAMATION TO RECOGNIZE THE VITAL ROLE OF FIRST RESPONDERS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY AND TO RAISE AWARENESS AND APPRECIATION FOR THE MEN AND WOMEN WHO STAND IN THE GAP EVERY DAY PROVIDING CIVILITY AND SAFETY TO OUR COMMUNITIES. Proclaim the week of May 6th through May 12th to be YORK COUNTY FIRST RESPONDER APPRECIATION WEEK in the Town of Sharon.

We will have snacks for EMS and the fire department at the next council meeting. We will need a headcount. Nicole would like to let the first responders know we appreciate them. Tina will put something in the newsletter as well.

2. Sharon 4th of July event - Saturday June 29th - Planning

Budget/Food Vendors/Activities-Amusement/Fireworks/Bands – Nicole asked for a planning committee for this year’s event, we would love to have the help. Nicole shared that she reached out to Blacksburg about things they do, and they have a council person that owns an amusement company, and she will be getting in touch with them for prices. We thought about

instead of doing just fireworks maybe having a little amusement thing for the kids. We are throwing different ideas out for feedback. We had inflatables for kids, but they were not supervised. There is so much going on during this event it is hard when we do not have help. Thinking about food trucks. Tina asked how many we should look in to? Tina shared information about TC's Amusements and their prices. Tina advised we need to get going on our event plans.

Oliver suggested ABT in Filbert for inflatables. Jay suggested Chris Clarkson on Smith Valley Rd for inflatables.

Nicole advised we have a list of several different bands to decide on. Aftershock \$300, Chip Anders Duo, Shotyme \$700, DT Trio \$375 – Browne recommends them. Carolina Roads Band. Tina looked for all the above to get a sample of their music.

Browne recommends Blue Grass Band for \$1500. George recommends Tractor Shed Band, now known as The Finally Friday Band for \$500 – country and rock music.

Nicole is going to ask Autens for a low boy trailer.

b. Swag items for sales - Sharon hats/cups/mugs

Nicole would like to promote some Sharon pride at this event. If you have some items, you would like to see us sell please look at some websites for ideas. We would like to get some quality stuff.

3. Sharon Pride Initiative - Best Yards to help promote sidewalk edging's/Cleaning/Yards
Nicole said this idea came to her when she and Tina were out checking some roads and found some holes in the asphalt. Nicole talked to the state, but we are down on the list. Tina took pictures and will report it on the SCDOT website. While out and about noticed the Martin house looks immaculate. The sidewalks are cleaned and edged; power washed their sidewalks. It just looks so pretty. We are going to start recognizing folks for their efforts. We will put a sign in their yard and maybe it will encourage others to do the same. Tina advised we will include it in the next newsletter and put on the town sign. We already have our April 2024 winner – Gil and Betty Martin.

4. Audit in Process - Budget reviews in process 2024/2025

5. Events:

A. **Hillcrest Baptist Church** – Block Party - Sat, May 18 – Time 5pm – 8pm at Harmon Harris Park 3334 York St. Contact is Adam Nestlehutt 404-583-9670

B. **Second Harvest Food Truck** – in Sharon May 10, 2024, per Margarete

C. **Hickory Grove Sharon Elementary** - Ag Arena Meeting Wed, Apr 10 5:30 pm, they have requested Town support – Tina provided everyone with information about this meeting. They are looking for support.

D. **Senior Birthday List** - Collecting Birthday data on our seniors in town. April 25, 2024, Mr. Herschel Brown will be 99 years old. Nicole said we will add it to the newsletter and recognize them. Browne asked for the age criteria. Nicole would like to share this on Facebook as well.

E. **H.O.P.E - Helping Others Progress through Education** - establish partnership-grant funds to provide fresh fruits and vegetables. \$5 EBT \$20 Others. Nicole asked for clarification, Tina advised that the program person needs a contact on the western side of the county. They are looking for a head count for residents that may be interested in participating. Fruits and vegetables that are in season, strawberries, cantaloupes, kiwi. It is a non-profit group that gets matching funds from the state. They would deliver it to one central location and then participants would come pick up. There is a survey to promote the program and those that do the survey get their first box for free. Margarete said that her church, the Methodist church would be interested in this. Boxes must be paid for in advance.

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

1. **Ball field**: Working on electrical issues, spring games in process, - Scott Stone help with field prep and maintenance. Al is working on the electrical panel in the concession stand.
2. **Community Center and Annex**: Electrical and brick work to separate areas for renters, Otis Neely is the brick guy. Electrical room issue-re-route water away from back of building-remove grass, gutters reworked, install drain lines, and gravel. Nicole advised there are several different drain lines that appear to be empty but may be clogged up.
3. **Fire Department: (Oliver Dowdle)** They need to purchase some tires for Engine 4 (town truck), two on front was replaced last year, need four on back. Nicole would like to figure out a way to get all the tires replaced at one time rather than two at a time. Reaching out to Donnie Melton for prices. Sharon VFD is participating the town Fire Truck in a Fire Truck Show on June 22nd. Lastly, Oliver reported that they have a little bit of grant money to re-do the kitchen and bathrooms at the fire station.
4. **Rental Buildings: (Herschel Brown, Jr)** Lawson Bldg New Address: 3340 York St. Clean-up, Heating and Air. Browne asked about any other potential renters for Annex and / or Lawson Building, Nicole advised would like to be sure the areas are completed and ready for rental. Need to designate areas to rent at the Annex , we do not want any more issues there. Each section/room will have their own suite number at the Annex.
5. **Parks: (Jay Gourley)** - Mulch samples, wood chips/rubber. Selection of new park equipment. Tina said we need to nail down the decision for mulch. Nicole suggested Little Tikes website for commercial grade playground equipment.

6. **Scout Hut, Concession Stand:** Scout Hut - Trim, paint door, new roof. Check on Internet. Electrical is underway (Sun, Mon, Tues this week)
7. **Streets: (Margarette Parrish)** – Updates: overgrowth in ditch lines in gulleys. Grading. Potholes EZ Street? a. Dr Saye Lane: backfill roadside, waddles, Pine tree b. Trouble St and Pratt St c. 3247 York St: SCDOT Michael Sandifer. Nicole and Tina did go around and look at the streets. The ditches and trees have caused problems over the years. A solution may be in the works for the potholes. Dre is going to clean out the ditches and trees that are overgrown.
8. **Sidewalks: (Brooke Glenn)** –
9. **Town Hall:** new lock front door/back screen door lock sticking. May get Mr. Kenny to come take a look at it. Browne suggested WD40.
10. **Water: (Matt Glenn)** Update status of water system. SC Rural Water Assoc - grants Shannon St & Rainey Av

DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS:

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

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. **Next Council Meeting:** Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, May 13, 2024, at 7:00 pm

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

Motion: Margarette Parrish

Second: Herschel Brown, Jr

Time: 8:20 pm