

SHARON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ~MINUTES ~ September 09, 2024, at 7:00pm

CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION:

Mayor, Nicole Perkins presiding, Council Members Present: Jay Gorley, Margarett Parrish, Brooke Glenn, Town Administrator, Tina Davis. Also, in attendance Oliver Dowdle (Fire Chief) George Ward (Asst Fire Chief)

1. Mayor, Nicole Perkins presiding
2. Moment of silence/prayer - Tina

PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK: Don Kropp is concerned about the golf carts running around town. Are any of them insured, there are a couple of them that are not insured. To be able to drive a golf cart on the road you must have a silver sticker which means you are insured. If Don had had an accident and did not have insurance, he would be in trouble big time. Don suggested asking the Sheriffs Office for extra patrol. Also, there is a kid riding around town riding a dirt-bike and a 4-wheeler (possibly from Sherer Rd). Don advised Mike Bradham knows who the kids are. Nicole advised she knows who two of the kids are. One of the boys broke the mirror at the Hill Building and he did get in trouble for that, but the boys are back with their mom on Sherer Rd. Don is concerned they may get hit by a car. Brooke said they are going so fast you cannot tell they have helmets on. Nicole said has also had problems with kids that live behind the Scout Hut. Nicole has asked law enforcement for extra patrol. Jay said he has not seen law enforcement in town at all. He sits out on porch and has never seen them. Nicole said if they come through town they just drive through. Nicole would like to meet with the new Sheriff and work on some community watch programs.

MINUTES: **Minutes** of August 12, 2024, Regular Council Meeting recorded, ready to sign for approval. Passed around for signing. Minutes have been approved.

OLD BUSINESS:

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

A. ARPA – funding - Funds must be allocated by December 2024 and spent by EOY 2026

1. Town/Building Improvements in progress

a. Community Center Annex - Electrical, Fire Doors, Drainage, Walls
Bathrooms - in process

b. Parking Area - Bell Avenue & Ball Park

c. Parking stops need to be ordered for the Community Center, Fire Department and Park - We are looking at getting some parking stops at the community center and for the area behind the fire department. Also, some

more for the park. Just giving indications to where people should park. People going to Nicki's parking all over the place.

2. State Grants - Dennis Moss – Town Upgrades

(List of Grants applied and approved) – need to apply for new grants for the water lines

- a) Park Equipment - Options for mulch beds: Kids Cushion/Rubber, in process
 - 1. Harmon Park – Bathrooms, New Park Equipment, Electrical
- b) New Well - Contacts Sharon ARP Church email for interest/help David Duncan/Gil Martin
- c) Burri Building HVAC

Still working through those, Nicole stated she was trying to decide on park equipment. It is not an easy process, but looking to get things ordered so it can be installed before spring of next year. Also, still working through some stuff at the community center. All heat and air work is done, now we need to start working on the Burri Building.

3. New Website - [Home | Town of Sharon \(municipalimpact.com\)](#) - Live as of Aug 1st

A. Town Domain - www.sharonsc.gov Residents can Subscribe to Receive Email & Text Alerts from the Town of Sharon, SC and we have a Customer Service Submission Form. A resident can let us know about issues, concerns or questions from our website.

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

C. gWorks (Water Billing System) - "Pay on-line" option – postponed - New billing system going live December - Gworks, has not been decided on yet.

Tina created a subscriber and news form, so that when people may come in town hall, we can offer them to be signed up with their permission. Not everyone that comes in is asked but we are adding people to our webpage subscribers. Jay asked if they were automatically added? Tina said no that they would need to sign up themselves. Nicole told everyone about the link, and it will take you straight to webpage. Nicole still needs to do her bio. Oliver turned his in today per Tina.

4. Blocked Drainage areas - State Maintenance in process: Town Roads, Culverts, Ditch lines. **Contacts** Todd Cook District Maintenance Eng, Jason Johnston, Michael Sandifer. The town has requested assistance from SC DOT for our drainage issues. Many of the town culverts, ditches and drain lines are completely or nearly completely stopped up, not allowing the water to flow from the streets. **Reminder residents:** Please keep your yard debris picked up, so it does not enter the roadway hence entering the drainage system causing blockage. If your property has a ditched area that allows the water to flow to a drainage area, please do not barricade or block for any reason with tree limbs, construction debris, rocks, etc. The water must be allowed to flow from the streets and properties to enter the drainage system.

SCDOT is working in town, they are scheduled to be here about a month in a half. The work started at Old Depot, Warmoth and the park. If you see them one day and not the next it is because they have been called away to work on other issues. Again, trying to work on building a relationship. Due to previous administration SCDOT has been a little apprehensive about coming here.

Most drainage is supposed to go to the pond behind Nicole and Margarett's house. It has been said that there is construction debris put in the ditches to keep from flowing. When cutting your grass and the dirt flows into the culverts it is causing problems.

NEW BUSINESS

1. A. Ordinance 0008-17-0 - An Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 2021-3 An Ordinance establishing a Town of Sharon Planning Commission and Initiating Development of a Comprehensive Plan as authorized in South Carolina Code of Laws section 6-29-780.

Tina advised we need to make a motion and a second for the second and final reading to repeal these ordinances. Nicole there are two ordinances that we would like to have motions on tonight.

B. Ordinance 0008-18-0 - An Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance 2021-4 An Ordinance establishing the Town of Sharon a Board of Zoning Appeals as authorized in South Carolina Code of Laws section 6-29-780.

As a small town, it is difficult to acquire enough people to fill these positions. Margarett made the motion to repeal, Brooke made the second motion, all agreed.

2. Events: Save the Date

A. Cars for Coffee - 1st Saturday of Month - next day October 5th

B. Patriot Day - Wednesday, Sep 11th - Solemn Observance in United States. Event held annually on September 11th to honor the memory of the nearly 3,000 victims who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001. The day also recognizes the courage and sacrifice of the first responders, as well as the resilience of the American people in the face of such a tragedy. Patriot Day is a time for reflection, remembrance, and unity, as the nation comes together to remember those who were lost and to honor those who continue to serve and protect.

Nicole thanked Oliver for all that the fire department does for the town and community.

C. Sharon Farmers Market - 2nd Saturday of Month - Sep 14th from 8am - 12noon

Tina advised that the market will be changing location to the grassy area near the Masonic Lodge for the next two months. Tina has ordered signs they have not arrived yet. The plan next year is to move the market to the park.

D. Senior Luncheon Sharon Methodist - Fri, Sep 20th 11am -12:30 pm-free meal and entertainment, not sure who the entertainment will be.

E. Community Meeting - October 8th Kelly Coxe YSD#1 - Western York County Event November Referendum. She wants to have a community event; she is thinking at the Community Center and maybe more town folk will come rather than just administrators. Nicole said if we advertise then we may get people to attend. Tina said can go in the newsletter if she gets information to us soon. Jay asked is the referendum just for the building or more.

Margarette advised that it is three buildings and perhaps the arena. Tina will have more information soon and will share it with everyone.

F. Christmas in Olde Sharon - 2nd Saturday in December, December 14th

3. Auto Break-ins Tues, Sep 3rd, 2024 - York County Sheriff's Office investigating - Occurred estimated time 10pm until early Wednesday morning. Remind neighbors and family to stay aware. Keep vehicles and buildings locked. Nicole said just stay aware.

4. Keep Sharon Beautiful (#KSB) - Yard of the month: Ms. Nancy Scronce, 3136 Warmoth Av. Nicole said the hummingbirds come from all around to go to Ms. Sconces house.

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

- 1. Ball field:** Sign Cable still needs to be buried. Cable in front of stands. Al, town electrician scheduling.
- 2. Community Center and Annex:** Electrical and brick work to separate areas for renters. Parking issues-designate parking. Electrical room, Plan to reroute water. In July, Jimmy Gregory reviewed roof. Still leaking in August. Nicole called Jimmy several times in August and September, no response. **Previously** noted roof leaking around screws in roof. Current roof screws have guards. Recommended to replace screws in roof. Start with one bag-250 screws per bag. Nicole shared that a sub-metering system has been ordered and will be installed to distinguish who is spending how much on electricity each month.
- 3. Fire Department: (Oliver Dowdle)** cleanup Fire Area at community center-take out what they need to keep. Nicole advised that some of the stuff in the fire room is still being looked at and deciding if they will get rid of it. There are some items in there we are going to keep. Oliver did submit information for the webpage. Oliver thanked Council for all the work that has been done. He did ask for assistance with paying an electrician's bill for the remodel. More work was done than anticipated. Nicole advised that she needed to look at the budget. Jay asked if we would look at the budget to assist the fire department. Nicole advised that we do not have that much grant money left, and we have already spent a lot

of money at the FD. We have other projects to work on and not that much money left. (Town did pay \$5,000.00 on the electrical payment). FD has had an increase in calls and the way it is going, they are looking at record number for service calls this year.

4. **Rental Buildings:** Lawson Bldg. – Adrian Bryant, Flower Shop coming to Sharon, opening December 2024. We did have another vendor interested but backed out.
5. **Parks:** Mulch samples - wood chips/rubber - Selection of new Park equipment. Part of Dennis Moss, State Grant Funds.
6. **Scout Hut, Concession Stand:** Scout Hut - Trim, paint door, new roof. Need to check on Internet and Cameras. Internet has been established at the community center with Spectrum because Comporium was charging way too much. The internet is needed for the sub-metering system that monitors the electricity for the tenants. Comporium will be in the area in the future but not sure when. Other cameras will be installed throughout town but will need a new computer for that.
7. **Streets:** Spray Overgrowth - Trouble St, Green St, Old Depot, Shannon Street, Bolin Rd, Ball field
8. **Sidewalks:** Edging - include letters to residents. **Keep Sharon Beautiful #KSB // #KYCB**
9. **Town Hall:** Update - paint inside walls, storm door
10. **Water: (Matt Glenn)** Update status of water system

Matt asked Tina where the Annual Inspection is for 2024? DHEC is going to be here, and it is not in the notebook. It needs to be printed off and put in the notebook. Tina advised she felt like she put in the book if not will print it again. The other thing is the tractor. Matthew said, “I got thinking about this. What am I supposed to do when I get a call at 2 o’clock in the morning? There is no backhoe on this tractor. Do we still have the old backhoe? Does the new tractor have attachments?” Matthew is concerned about a water main break, and he has no equipment and must use shovel. Jay agreed if we are going to keep both tractors it needs to be in shape when we go to it. If we got to get a battery in the middle of the night that is not good. Jay thinks we just need one tractor not two. Nicole advised that was the plan. Jay explained the working of tractor/backhoe. Matthew advised we need something to dig a hole. Nicole said we will investigate it. We need both pieces of equipment. Matthew has seen on the .gov site deals for low prices. Nicole stated, Brad has been looking. Oliver made suggestions of places to look. Matthew said he may be able to get one from the county. Matthew said he will take care of it. Nicole, we are trying to build our network. Jay advised if Matthew finds some equipment, then maybe we can sell the two pieces of equipment we have.

Matthew wanted to remind everyone that the pipe going down Shannon St and Rainey Av is 61 years old. The break down period is 70 years. We have 9 more years. Those are the last two streets we got that have ac pipe. It may be 65 years before it breaks down. Nicole will

check with Dennis Moss to see if there is anything else out there for grant fund. Everything we know about is for matching funds.

Matthew asked how did we pay for the painting of the tower? Tina advised we pay over \$10,000 a year for maintenance to Southern Corrosion. (Note: It was Leary Construction on the previous contract). Matthew asked how we paid for that. Tina advised I was not here for that. Matthew stated, "I know water is where we make our money. Do we need to start putting money away for streets? Do we have 25% to pay for a grant? If there is money in an account, we should take care of at least one street." Discussion of quotes from Cookie regarding the work took place. Nicole advised we needed to get new quotes and get them back out here. Jay asked which street is in the worst shape. Matthew advised that Shannon St is in worst shape. Matthew has talked to Propst Construction and State Utilities. Jay asked can we get quotes from all of them, then the council will decide. Jay said we need to act on this now. Matthew said 95% of the town pipes are good. Nicole stated that the Rural Water Assoc is denying work from three years ago when the previous administration was here. We are just now hearing about this. Matthew advised after getting done with girls' golf he will get on this. That should be in October.

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.

Brooke asked how much money was received from the grant we got from Dennis Moss? Tina advised that grant was for \$500,000.00. We could not use that money for the fire department. Brooke asked does the Council not need to sign off on the money spent? Tina advised that we did a list of projects therefore the money needs to be spent on those things. Brooke asked, "do we have to get bids? Tina advised we did get lots of bids and talked to lots of people and had to have bids to submit with grant request. Brooke asked did that not need to go through council, she does not recall seeing anything. Tina advised she has all documentation and would be glad to share it. Nicole advised the stuff that was grants no, but if it is part of the town budget than yes, we do share it. Brooke advised that York County Council approves everything. Tina advised that the Council did approve the projects listed. Brooke stated no amounts were included. Tina and Nicole both stated that yes, the amounts would have been included with documentation shared. None of that has changed, we do not go above and beyond what is allotted for a project. Matthew asked about the number of grants. Tina advised that it was one grant and then ARPA money which is COVID money. We have not spent all the COVID money, we have until next year to do that. Nicole advised originally, we could only do infrastructure items with COVID money, but that has changed since 2020. That's why the Dennis Moss money

was spent on specific projects that we looked at throughout the town that we wanted to do. Every building in town has been upgraded. The Lawson Bldg., the Burri Bldg., and the FD with heating and air. Matthew asked if the ARPA was for water. Matthew asked how much ARPA money is there? Nicole advised \$88,125.00 for one and \$88,125.00 for the other. Total of \$176,250.00. Matthew advised that it is not enough, however it may be enough to fix one street. Matthew asked what was Cookies quote? Tina advised over \$600,000.00. None of the money we have will be enough to do any water projects. Nicole advised that she went to a meeting in Columbia where they were talking about water grants. So, any grant received would need to be matched by the town. There are grants out there. The lowest was like 25% to match. Jay asked for the budget that we are operating under now.

DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS:

1. **Meeting Minutes:** Recorded

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. **Next Council Meeting:** Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, Oct 14th, 2024, at 7:00 pm

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

Motion: Margarett Parrish

Second: Brooke Glenn

Time: 8:08 pm