

TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE

MAY 9, 2024--5:30 P.M.

TOWN HALL

MEMBERS PRESENT: ROBERT RUPE, TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT
LORI HOOD, TOWN COUNCIL
STEVE MCNALLY, TOWN COUNCIL
FELIX RIPPY, ATTORNEY

CALL TO ORDER 5:30 PM
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

HIRING CERTIFIED OFFICER RESPONSIBLE IN CHARGE (CORC): Councilman McNally said he contacted Tipton and they were too busy to send someone here to help. Greentown is interested in helping, but might be out of the Town's price range. Utility Manager Sparling is going to reach out to Whitestown and Russiaville. Utility Manager Sparling is working on his WT2 certification and has been in contact with Scott Hamm. He will give an estimation on when he believes he can get sit for the exam at Ivy Tech.

ANIMAL ORDINANCE: Councilman McNally made the motion to pass the animal ordinance and Council President Rupe seconded the motion. Approved 3-0. No copy of the ordinance was signed by the Council. Will need to be signed during the June 13, 2024 Meeting.

HUMANE SOCIETY LETTER: Councilman McNally was unable to make contact with the Humane Society. Marshal Sheppard mentioned that an email has been sent out or will be sent out soon with contract information. Town Attorney Rippy said he would look over the contract.

REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE: Council President Rupe and Town Attorney Rippy had a meeting to discuss organizing a redevelopment committee for the Town of Sharpsville to help clean the town up and get more tax dollars coming in. Town Attorney Mike Farrer, partner of Graham, Farrer & Wilson, PC, the retained attorney office for the Town of Sharpsville, came to the podium to discuss the benefits of a redevelopment committee as well as some potential ideas. Some of the ideas: Rails to Trails, the Cheese Factory area, and the Davis Property. This is the only way for municipalities to increase their tax base without increase taxes. This can help fund streets, sidewalks, parks, police cars, equipment, etc.

TOWN WEBSITE: The Clerk-Treasurer discussed the progress of the website. It will be \$100 per month and will allow for residents to pay online. She is hoping the website will be up and running before the June 15th water bill payment is due.

NEW FUND NUMBERS: It was brought to the attention of the Clerk-Treasurer that the State Board of Accounts require 4 digit fund numbers. The fund numbers have been updated and provided to the Councilmembers and residents for transparency. The new fund numbers appeared as of 5/1/24 on all documentation.

PICKLEBALL COURT: The Clerk-Treasurer and Utility Manager Sparling were told to convert the tennis court into a pickleball court outside of a Town Board Meeting. Both did research and brought different bids to the board, as well as fundraising ideas so the Town would not have to pay for the court. Mrs. Fernung wanted to put tape in the gym and that be the pickleball court instead of fundraising. The Councilmembers tabled discussion on the pickleball court.

EMPLOYEE REPORT: UTILITY MANAGER:

1. Installed "No Trespassing" signs at the Ables property.
2. The Utility Department has been patching potholes around town. They are aware of the S. Washington St pothole but it will need additional material in order to fill it.
3. The lift station pump at the park went out and was replaced.
4. He has been unsuccessful at getting through to Norfolk Southern to clear the tracks. As of now the Utility Department will plan on clearing the tracks until they can get Norfolk down here.
5. He has taken a webinar with American Waterworks that will help with the license exam.
6. A door was replaced at the gym by the men's restroom.
7. After talking with the Greentown Utility Manager, the chlorine level was raised higher.
8. The locates for Vine St were done today, so they are hoping to get in and fix the drain tile that is broken.
9. Omni quoted \$1500 to vacuum the sink hole. Every hour after 2 hours will be \$275.

EMPLOYEE REPORT: MARSHAL:

1. Provided CAD Reports for April.
2. The baseball and softball parade was a success. More parking and sitting was allowed and was much safer for everyone. The Tipton Co. Sheriff Department and EMA helped with blocking and leading the parade.
3. The wrestling event at the Sharpsville Gym had additional police presence. No major issues to report.
4. The gas station was robbed at gunpoint. The Sheriff Department took the call and are investigating.
5. The Ford Taurus sold 4/10/24. Check was given to the Clerk-Treasurer for \$5,000.

TOWN ATTORNEY:

1. The reinstatement timeframe for the Davis property is May 14th. After this, it will be put back on the list for the September sale.

LESTER ROOD – UNSAFE BUILDING ORDINANCE: Mr. Rood brought up Ordinance 16-005 Unsafe Buildings to the Councilmembers. In the discussion several addresses, including Brown St, High St, Walnut St, and Main St, were mentioned as being unsafe per the ordinance. Mr. Rood believed it was the duty of the Marshal and Councilmembers to enforce the ordinance. Mr. Cox, from the audience, brought up the Utility Department citing the house and the Marshal enforce it. Town Attorneys Farrer and Rippy both agreed that the enforcer should be the Marshal. Marshal Sheppard mentioned that he could write tickets but would need the Councilmembers and Town Attorney to take the next step. Town Attorney Farrer mentioned putting a lien on the property or getting back taxes if the Town of Sharpsville has a deal with the County as part of the next steps after a ticket is issued. Marshal Sheppard asked what action does the Councilmembers want to take moving forward? It was agreed that Town Attorney Rippy would read the ordinances and get back with the Councilmembers and Marshal Sheppard on the proper procedure per the ordinances.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

1. Council President wants to have a card that will notify residents that a building or fence will be installed. The card would need to be signed by all neighbors and brought to the board meeting for approval. Town Attorney Rippy agreed that this would be a good idea in the future.

OPEN DISCUSSION:

1. The stop sign at Elm and Washington needs additional police presence. There are a few people in town that blow through the stop sign entirely, or come to a "rolling" stop.

2. Feral cats are a problem in Sharpsville. Per Town Attorney Farrer, it is illegal to remove a feral cat from an established colony. One way around getting established colonies of feral cats is to create an ordinance that would make feeding feral cats illegal.
3. Mrs. Fernung brought up trash and couches in yards, and what ordinances can be used to enforce that. She asked for clarification. She wondered what other small towns that are beautiful do to enforce ordinances that Sharpsville can adopt because Sharpsville is no longer as beautiful as it once was. She mentioned that sidewalks are part of what makes a town beautiful and most residences no longer have sidewalks. It was believed that the Town would pay for 50% and the resident would pay for 50% of the maintenance of the sidewalks.
4. The bench for Syd Cox will be placed in the lot of the Cheese Factory, most likely, at some point. However, Linda Cox would like it if the Utility Department would bring it to her house for a little while so she can sit on it and enjoy it since it is not getting used currently.
5. Mr. Barber came with a drawing for a fence to be put up. Councilwoman Hood made a motion and McNally seconded the motion. Approved 3-0. Building permit was given to Mr. Barber.
6. Mr. Dowden came with a drawing for a fence to be put up. Councilwoman Hood made a motion and McNally seconded the motion. Approved 3-0. Building permit was given to Mr. Dowden.

APPROVED AND SIGNED CLAIMS

ADJOURNED: 7:36 P.M.

CLAIMS:

16128	SHARPSVILLE MUNICIPLE UTILITIES	UTILITIES	\$ 219.70
16129	ELWOOD FIRE EQUIPMENT	FIRE ALARM MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,145.85
16130	HP AUTO	POLICE VEHICLE REPAIR	\$ 310.11
16131	NOAH PYKE	DEPUTY	\$ 519.60
16132	NATE SAYERS	DEPUTY	\$ 539.89
16133	BENJI SPARLING	UTILITY MANAGER	\$ 1,984.77
16134	CRAIG RUSSELL	ASSISTANT MANAGER	\$ 1,098.72
16135	SHANE CONNER	TOWN MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,046.20
16136	RAY SHEPARD	MARSHAL	\$ 889.28
16137	BERNIECE FARRIS	DEPUTY CLK-TREAS	\$ 211.45
16138	KATELYN MORGAN	CLERK-TREASURER	\$ 1,085.72
16139	SHANE CONNER	TOWN MAINTENANCE	\$ 110.70
AD	INPRS	RETIREMENT	\$ 381.21
AD	INDOR	TAXES	\$ 1,171.91
AD	EFTPS	TAXES	\$ 4,709.98
AD	EFTPS	TAXES (QTR 2)	\$ 4,709.98
16140	HP AUTO	POLICE VEHICLE REPAIR	\$ 277.95
16141	INPEP	INSURANCE	\$ 2,492.75
16142	NIPSCO	UTILITIES	\$ 907.01
16143	LOWE'S	SUPPLIES	\$ 1,705.03
16144	ECONO SIGNS	RECYCLE/NO VEH SIGNS	\$ 298.05
16145	KATELYN MORGAN	CLERK-TREASURER	\$ 1,085.72
16146	BERNIECE FARRIS	DEPUTY CLK-TREAS	\$ 58.88
16147	RAY SHEPARD	MARSHAL	\$ 751.41
16148	NOAH PYKE	DEPUTY	\$ 519.60
16149	NATE SAYERS	DEPUTY	\$ 499.60

16150	BENJI SPARLING	UTILITY MANAGER	\$ 2,054.30
16151	CRAIG RUSSELL	ASSISTANT MANAGER	\$ 1,306.54
16152	SHANE CONNER	TOWN MAINTENANCE	\$ 1,025.88
	AD INPRS	RETIREMENT	\$ 395.04
16153	VERIZON	TELEPHONE	\$ 217.20
16154	TIPTON AUTOMOTIVE SUPPLY	AUTO SUPPLY	\$ 13.39
16155	GRAHAM FARRER & WILSON PC	ATTORNEY FEE	\$ 850.00
16156	DUKE ENERGY	ELECTRICITY	\$ 745.23
16157	SMITHVILLE	TELEPHONE	\$ 217.60
16158	WASTE MANAGEMENT	TRASH PICKUP	\$ 4,074.90
16159	COMCAST	INTERNET	\$ 127.95
16160	CHERRY ROAD MEDIA	BUDGET IN PAPER	\$ 300.00

6134	PEERLESS MIDWEST	WELL REPAIRS	\$ 9,528.00
6135	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	PAYROLL	\$ 1,793.68
6136	FERGUSON WATERWORKS	MARKERS	\$ 106.06
6137	SMITHVILLE	TELEPHONE	\$ 86.17
6138	SHARPSVILLE WASTEWATER	LOAN	\$ 2,500.00
6139	SHARPSVILLE WASTEWATER	MAR '24 RECEIPTS	\$ 18,485.19
6140	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	MAR '24 RECEIPTS	\$ 3,915.51
	AD INDOR	SALES TAX	\$ 986.45
6141	BANK OF NEW YORK	LOAN	\$ 4,516.20
6142	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	PAYROLL	\$ 2,201.57
6143	UTILITY SUPPLY CO	SUPPLIES	\$ 405.37
6144	DUKE ENERGY	UTILITIES	\$ 529.27
6145	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	REIMB FOR LOWE'S PYMT	\$ 312.19
6146	UTILITY SERVICE CO	WATER TOWER CONTRACT	\$ 1,206.83
6147	UTILITY SUPPLY CO	SUPPLIES	\$ 148.20

6015	SHARPSVILLE MUNICIPLE UTILITIES	UTILITIES	\$ 130.39
6016	NIPSCO	UTILITIES	\$ 166.07
6017	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	PAYROLL	\$ 1,698.94
6018	TIPTON MUNICIPLE UTILITIES	UTILITIES	\$ 4,945.51
6019	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	PAYROLL	\$ 1,522.71
6020	DUKE ENERGY	UTILITIES	\$ 869.95
6021	TOWN OF SHARPSVILLE	REIMB FOR LOWE'S PYMT	\$ 22.68
6022	SMITHVILLE	TELEPHONE	\$ 170.02




 ROBERT RUPE, TOWN COUNCIL



 STEVE MCNALLY, TOWN COUNCIL



 LORI HOOD, TOWN COUNCIL



 KATELYN MORGAN, CLERK-TREASURER