

SHARON TOWN COUNCIL MEETING ~MINUTES~ for January 22, 2024,
Swearing in Council at 6:30 pm, Regular Council Meeting at 7:00 pm

Swearing in of Council – 6.30pm

Mayor and Council Members were individually sworn in, each taking the following oath:

I do solemnly swear that I am duly qualified, according to the constitution of this state, to exercise the duties of the office to which I have been elected, and that I will, to the best of my ability, discharge the duties thereof, and preserve, protect, and defend the constitution of this state and of the United States. As a **Mayor / Councilperson** of the municipality of the Town of Sharon I will equally, fairly, and impartially, to the best of my ability and skill, exercise the trust reposed in me, and I will use my best endeavors to preserve the peace and carry into effect according to law the purposes for which I have been elected, so help me God.

Regular Council Meeting – 7pm

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, Brooke Glenn, Town Administrator, Tina Davis, Fire Chief Oliver Dowdle, Asst Chief George Ward

INVOCATION:

Mayor: Nicole began with a prayer.

PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK:

Doug Cunningham, Don Kropp, Matt Auten, Steve Auten

Don Kropp – In town we have very young kids that like to play in the front yards. Cars do not slow down; most cars travel 35 – 40 mph. We are asking if the Town would consider speed limit signs and watch for children signs. Nicole stated that she has spoken with Sheriff Tolson and asked about signs already. Until we can get more officers to come through here. I do have a meeting set up with them and maybe get a place where they can be. Dr Saye Ln, Rainey Av and Old Depot Rd were the road names mentioned with the problem areas.

Doug Cunningham brought up the hole in the road at Pratt St near Sharon Grill, frame for the cap is broken and will need to have fixed. Browne stated the frame for the cap is broken and will need to be dug up and replaced. Doug said it is in a walking path and has been that way for some time. Browne said that our maintenance department is aware of it.

Also, per Doug there is a sinkhole at Scoops, does town take care of that or Shane?

Also, Doug is curious about the yard sale signs and other advertising signs around town. Do we have an ordinance for signs? Nicole advised that she knows that candidates are supposed to take up their signs in a timely manner and that the county has ordinances for signs.

Doug is curious about the status of the landfill, what is going on with it? Is it still going to be just construction debris? Nicole stated that we have not heard any further from the developer, Ira Colthrop. Browne stated that he imagined that the county council person for our area is aware of it and that certainly permits had to be obtained. Tommy Adkins has not relayed anything to us regarding the landfill. Per Nicole, we can approach him and speak with him about guidelines. Until we find out exactly what is going on there is not much we can do.

Steve Auten and his son Matt asked about the Norfolk-Southern Railway ROW – they want to put up a fence to block the view from the property on Old Depot Rd. Nicole told Steve she would check the status of who owned the property and see if the town had anything to say in the matter.

MINUTES:

1. **Minutes:** Minutes for Regular Council Meeting of November 13, 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

1. Town/Building Improvements in progress

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

b. Fire Department - Harmon Park - start spring.

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

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

iii. Town Equipment - use for town upkeep projects

1. Old Depot brush/trees

2. Dr Saye Lane - Roadside dirt filled back in and restructure Waddles, remove two pine trees.

iv. Pump Station/Sewer System behind town hall - protection of Sewer System from water overflow, Retaining wall/grading.

2. State Grants - Dennis Moss – Funds Received December 15, 2023. (List of Grants applied and approved)

- a) **Paid** off the Bank of York Loan for the Community Center roof
- a. Community Center Annex - HVAC partial payment to Adkins, three more areas in the community center annex we need to HVAC done in. Nicole explained the difference between the community center and the community center annex. The building is being improved so that tenants can rent areas out to generate more money for the town.
- b. Fire Department – HVAC Quote received
- c. Fire Department – EMS Bay HVAC in progress
- d. Fire Department - Harmon Park Rerouting water start in spring.
- e. Park Equipment - scheduling Safety Inspection/Requirements, after an inspection is completed, we will begin to look at equipment to purchase.
- f. New Well-Checking with Chason family, we want to get a well that is at the end of the line, and we talked about having a well in the center of town. Browne has mentioned perhaps donating some land. Old Meeting House Rd at the ARP Church.
- g. Lawson Building HVAC
- h. Burri Building HVAC

Nicole stated we are working on revitalizing the town and working on some much-needed projects that have been overlooked for some time.

3. Christmas in Olde Sharon 2023 - Huge Success-modifications made due to weather.

- Vendors were all happy to be a part of the event
- Bruce Canupp and the Sharon VFD hung and removed (on Sunday 1/ 7/2024) the wreaths and lanterns through-out town
- Park Electrical issues will be resolved just as soon as the ground is dry enough to dig and replace electrical wire

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Swearing in for 2024 – 2026 Elected Mayor and Town Council
2. Updates from 2023
 - A. Notice of increase in fuel rates – Duke Energy
 - B. State has moved the STOP Signs at Woodlawn St and York St (SC Hwy 49 & State Road 40). Hopefully it will help with those running through the intersection, they were moved a little further back than we thought. So, people are pretty much slowing to stop at Scott Stones driveway.
 - C. Ordinance #9 Update– Water Rules and Regulations – Contractor, Sandifer Well – rental of equipment to install taps. Will obtain additional quotes for town records.

1. Meter Tap (same side of the road \$2500) that will be effective February but per Tina we will need to change the ordinance and do first and second reading.
2. Meter Tap and Bore (opposite side of road \$3500). The bore that Sandifer has is currently out of service, so he is having to rent equipment for \$789 from a company in Fort Mill. Margarete asked if there is anyone else, we could get a quote from? Tina advised that per Matthew this is still a good price that anyone else would be over \$5000.

D. Proposing to increase Town Single Use Rental fees for Harmon-Harris Park from \$25 to \$40, Rainey Park from \$25 to \$40, Scout Hut from \$25 to \$50, Community Center from \$250 to \$350. We did have a lot of rentals last year and good feedback. Tina let everyone know that when she pulled the ordinance for each of the locations that are rented. There are rules, but no fees mentioned so, to increase the fees, we just need to vote for the fee change and not update the ordinance. Jay asked how long do you get the park for when you rent it? Tina explained that if there is not a stack of people waiting to use a facility then there is no time limit but if someone else wants to use a facility then we do give a time limit. Jay asked if the park is being rented or the shelter? It is only the shelter being used. Browne made the motion for approval, Margarete second the motion.

E. Received State Grant Funds - Quarterly reports must be filed with the state for these funds.

1. Paid off the Bank of York – Community Center Roof Loan \$104,049.07
2. Paid Adkins HVAC Community Center Annex-mini-splits installed \$24,615
- F. Adkins Heating & Air quotes in process are the Annex-Hallways, Restrooms,

Kitchen area and the Fire Department

3. Town Lease-Leases

A. Community Center Annex - Nicki Degeneffe with Spinning Out Pottery Studio - As of Jan 1, 2024. The Lawson Building is now open, it has been renovated for office space and painted. The premises have been vacated by Austin Lee, we need to get the space cleaned and advertised.

4. Playground Guardian - Scheduling a safety inspection before looking at purchase of new park equipment. There is a \$500 fee for this inspection. The inspection will include how much space there is between each piece of equipment (6 feet is the recommendation). We will then see what if any equipment we can keep prior to purchasing anything else.

5. Resident update - Brittany Dover – 3869 Woodlawn St - Driveway was disturbed when Sandifer Well connected the water line at the new Biggers/McLean home-asking the town to replace gravel. The ROW and a portion of her driveway was dug up to allow for work. Jay asked for clarification of where this is located. Tina explained the location and the scenario. After discussion, agreed the town should fix the driveway.

6. W-2 and 1099's for 2023

A. Ken Adams, CPA will do our W-2 and 1099's plus our last quarter reports to the IRS.

B. New Payroll Vendor - Brittany Ayers, CPA in Rock Hill-2024 payroll setup and ready.

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

A. Lots of work to get ready to go live with the public - welcome page ideas from the council.

B. Waiting on gWorks for the "Pay on-line" option.

8. Audit for 2022 – 2023 - The Brittingham Group, LLP – Picked up on Tuesday, Jan 16, 2024
9. Town of Smyrna has a new clerk – Carla Yoder, we can start working together like we do with Hickory Grove.
10. Christmas Yard Decorating Contest
 - First Place, Sean Mode & Tara Rhoton - \$100.00 Lowes Gift Card
 - Second Place, Judith & Christopher Middleton - \$50.00 Lowes Gift Card
 - Third Place, Joe & Jennie Wix - \$25.00 Lowes Gift Card
 - Honorable Mention, Abigail Lanier

Next year, we can advertise the contest on our website and display pictures as well. We did have over 50 houses that were decorated so Sharon really had the Christmas spirit.

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

1. **Ball field:** Working on electrical issues. A trench still needs to be dug so the electrical can be finished up, this will be done the same time the fire department work is done.
2. **Community Center: Annex** - Tenant Spinning out Pottery - Nicki Degeneffe.
 - a. Doors open outward/Fire Doors/Emergency Exit Signage
 - b. Electrical is in process. Plumbing is almost complete. 1 new bathroom still in process. Revamp Stalls in old restroom area. Per Browne there is water leaking into the electrical room, there will need some grading done. We need to find the floor drain since the room is empty.
 - c. A birthday party is scheduled for Saturday, January 27th at 6 pm
 - d. A Celebration of Life for Nancy Robinson is scheduled for Saturday, February 3, 2024, from 1pm - 3pm.

Tina had Wayne look at the doors in the annex – new doors will not work, they will have to use the doors in the metal frames. This is in the area where Nikki is, the only door they thought could be used is the storage room door.
3. **Fire Department:** EMS bay door needs a new motor, etc. MKM Garage Doors. Per Oliver EMS is currently just parking around the back of the station. Dinner and Awards will be held Saturday, February 10th at 6pm at Sharon Baptist Church (let Tina know if you will be attending)
4. **Rental Buildings: (Herschel Brown, Jr)** Lawson Bldg - Lease with Austin Lee has been terminated. Clean-up and Renovations needed before renting again - Heating and Air needs to be checked.
5. **Parks: (Jay Gourley)** Historical markers (Dollar General, Ballfield). Rainey Park - edging/clean light post, Dog stations, sidewalk. Nicole advised that we did get some quotes from O'Neill Paving. We have lots of problems with parking during ball season. Tenant issues remain as well.

6. **Scout Hut, Concession Stand:** Scout Hut - Trim, paint door, new roof.
7. **Streets: (Margarette Parrish)** – Nicole stated our streets looked really good for about a day for Halloween, then the wind started blowing so the drains are all clogged up again. Still looking to purchase some equipment so we can hire that job out. It is very expensive to hire this out. Nicole checked with the county to see what they were doing. They do not clean the streets but know they have recently cleaned the Lake Wylie area roads.
8. **Sidewalks: (Brooke Glenn)** –
9. **Town Hall:** A new hot water heater was installed on Friday, January 19th
10. **Water: (Matt Glenn)** Update status of water system.
Two new meters have been installed – Biggers, 3894 Woodlawn St,
and Rental (Ramsey) 4161 Woodlawn Acres. Sharon Grills water froze on Sunday morning.

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.

Don Kropp asked about the Sharon paid fire members, has seen them in multiple places. We explained they work for York County Fire Safety, and they float locations. Oliver stated they are at the fire training center every Wednesday for a half day in Sharon the other half and all day on Fridays. County just purchased them York County trucks and they should not be driving Sharon truck much longer.

DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS:

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

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. **Next Council Meeting:**
 - a. Regular Town Council Meeting Monday, February 12th, 2024, at 7:00 pm

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

Motion: Margarette

Second: Browne

Time: 8:03 pm