

# Sharpsburg News

NOT OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF TOWN OF SHARPSBURG

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FEBRUARY 2009

## Budget 2009 Passed 3-2 Vote

### *Sharpsburg Town 2009 Budget Passed.*

The called meeting for the Town of Sharpsburg was held Monday, January 12, 2009. See Agenda in the right-hand column.

The main topics on the Agenda were Resolution implementing the 2009 Budget after the Public Hearing held on January 5, 2009. Because most of the funds from Capital Projects remain from last year, Polly Garlington suggested that this line item needed reduction and these funds used elsewhere.

Mayor McElwanney responded with his explanation of the amount in the Capital Projects. No comment was made about the Employee Expense.

Discussion of the property on Highway 54 owned by the Town was discussed but no decisions were made regarding the property during this meeting.

Lt. LaChance, Coweta County Sheriff's Office, addressed resident's concern about speeding on Terrentine St. Since the meeting on Monday, cameras have been placed at several location on Terrentine and a request will be made to include this street in Police radar detection.

There was good attendance at this meeting and, as usual, the Mayor invited comments and question from those attending.

### Editorial

Polly Garlington



Several favorable changes were made to the Proposed Budget before it was passed on Monday night with voting being 3-2.

Though brought up in the work session on December 11, 2009 and comments questioning the amount, the Employee Expense remained unchanged on the 2009 Budget.

According to statistics available online and to the public, showing 29 towns in Georgia reporting, showed Sharpsburg Town Clerk is paid more than all but one town. (Population 499 or less) The average salary for Town Clerks in Georgia is \$19,760; Sharpsburg Town Clerk's salary is \$37,253. This information is available at [www.dcs.state.ga.us](http://www.dcs.state.ga.us).

Personally, I can see no reason the Town should continue paying this excessive salary, consequently, I voted against passing the Proposed Budget for 2009.

Mayor McElwanney, Councilman Gordy Anderson, and Keith Rhodes voted "Yes". Connie Turner and I voted "No", thereby, the Budget was adopted for Budget for 2009, 3-2.

Email me if you would like a copy of Minutes of Meetings, the Council Meeting Agenda or other information

At: [pollyg@mindspring.com](mailto:pollyg@mindspring.com)

### Council Meeting January 12, 2009 Agenda

Call to Order

Pledge of Allegiance

Establish Quorum

Review/Approval Minutes

Resolution –2009-General Fund & SPLOST Fund Budget

Resolution 2009 Millage Rate Set Qualifying Fees for Elected Offices (\$25)

Highway 54 Property

Public Comments

Eric Richards-Suggested additional financial information be provided to public at the Budget Hearing or earlier.

Eric Olson-Problem with speeders on Terrentine St.

Herb Bridges-"During these cost-cutting economic times, a tighter (less wasteful) budget should be adopted for 2009."

Polling of Council

Clerk's Comments

Mayor's Minutes

Public Comments

Adjournment

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Because I choose NOT to be censored, this Newsletter is no longer the official publication of the Town of Sharpsburg.

## Old Town Sharpsburg Festival

Plans are underway for the Old Town Sharpsburg Festival held the third full week-end in April. The Sharpsburg Merchants Association (SMA) met at Richards Studio of Photography with Eric Richard, President, presiding.

Since most of the merchants are new and have no experience conducting festivals, Richards gave a detail list of things to be done in order to have a successful event and stressed the fact that all must get involved and share responsibilities to make this Festival the best one yet!

There will be a follow-up lunch meeting to begin formalizing plans.

The SMA will be inviting the merchants along Highway 54, McIntosh Trail and other merchants within the Town limits to take part in the event. Owners of The Consignment Shop, The Pottery Patio, Head Games, Little Yellow Knick Knack Shack, Richard's Studio of Photography attended the meeting. Other merchants that will participate were unable to attend.

Sharpsburg's Second Arbor Day will be celebrated during the Festival.

## Councilmember Garlington Attends Mayors' Day Conference

*"Community and Media Relations"* was the subject of the one-day training session held at the Atlanta Hilton on January 23, 2009 which was attended by Polly Garlington, Town of Sharpsburg Councilmember.

The purpose of this session was to emphasize the importance of building effective working relations with the media and with the community and the role the media plays in informing the public and shaping their opinion of their local government.

Equally important, methods were suggested to keep the public informed of local government decisions, policies, and activities; suggested were newsletters, websites, radio, along with the press releases, and in larger markets, television. Over 700 were in attendance representing towns and cities from all over Georgia.

As a part of their ongoing disbursement of information and training for municipal officials, Georgia Municipal Association (GMA) sponsored the Mayors' Day 2009 Conference. The purpose of GMA is to anticipate and influence the forces shaping Georgia's communities and to provide leadership, tools and services that assist local governments in becoming more innovative, effective and responsive. GMA's membership currently totals more than 502 municipal governments, representing 99% of Georgia's population

## TOWN TALK

### *Reserved for Merchants and Residents*

to share opinions, make suggestions, or voice your thoughts in anyway you like.

(signed submissions receive preference if space is limited)

I noticed in the paper that Sharpsburg got their tree commission organized! Glad the Town is involved, so... Congrats!

Cindy M

Sure hope there's a Festival this year, I have missed it 'cause I always went and sometimes was a vendor. My family was originally from Sharpsburg. (the Town)

Martha

We're moving our business into a Old Town Sharpsburg store. We sell quality children clothing. The opening date has not been set.

Ashley's Attic

Thanks for helping to solve the speeding traffic problem on Terrentine St.

Eric O

Let me know when the Festival is back, I miss it.

Sherion

The Main Street street sign is back, thank you Ms. Garlington.

Eric R

**This Space  
is for  
YOU**

Call in or email your comments.

There is a BLOG on  
[www.sharpsburgga.net](http://www.sharpsburgga.net)

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