

## SHARON TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES June 9th, 2025, at 7:00 pm

**CALL TO ORDER and INVOCATION:** Mayor, Nicole Perkins presiding, Herschel Browne Jr (Mayor Pro-Tem) Council Members Present: Jay Gorley, Margarette Parrish, Brooke Glenn, Town Administrator Dawn Helms, Fire Chief Oliver Dowdle

1. **Mayor:** Nicole Perkins presiding.
2. **Moment of silence/prayer**
3. **Pledge of Allegiance**

**PERSONS WISHING TO SPEAK:** Doris Thomas, Audrey Gibson present, not wishing to speak.  
Nicole: Do you ladies care to speak or are you visitors?

Doris Thomas: Just visiting

Nicole: Thank you for being here.

**MINUTES:** Minutes of May 12th, 2025, Regular Council Meeting recorded, ready to sign for approval.

Nicole: They were a little late going out, I hope you all had a chance to read them.

### **OLD BUSINESS:**

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

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

Nicole: Do we have any more ARPA money, or did we spend all that? I think all of that has been spent. I believe all of that was accounted for when Charlie was here.

#### **2. State Grants - Dennis Moss - Town Upgrades -2022 meeting with Dennis Moss state grant. Applied Grants 02/15/2023.**

**Grants applied and approved-**

- a) **Park Equipment- Harmon Park –New Park Equipment-Complete**
- b) **New Well - \$66K open location search in process. Open**
- c) **Community Center Annex-HVAC/electrical-\$42k complete**
- d) **Burri Building HVAC & upgrades-\$71k-Review quotes -open**
- e) **Lawson Building HVAC & Upgrades-26k – Complete Flower Shop/Clothing Store.**
- f) **Sharon VFD Water Overflow \$60K- Water Overflow complete. Outside New Restrooms in process. Open**
- g) **Sharon VFD HVAC- \$30k HVAC Complete**

**h) Bank of York Loan community Center Roof -\$111k paid off loan. Complete.**

Nicole: State Grant funds, I changed this a little bit, the only thing that is still open is the new well and the Burri Building to put hvac in there. Also, the extra bathrooms outside of the fire department. They are still in process. We have quotes on those; we have not chosen the vendor to put those into service. Everything else is complete on our grants. We only have those three items highlighted in yellow that are still open.

**3. Town Tractors and Town Storage building cleanup.**

- A.** Backhoe County -at community center. Quotes for work needed
- B.** Massey tractor with 4 in 1 bucket- Quote Hydraulic Maintenance

Nicole: This is still old news, the town tractor. We have received the backhoe from the County. We need to get a quote for the repairs needed for the backhoe. There is also some work that needs to be done on the Massey tractor. We have a guy that's going to come out and look at both of those and give us a quote on them. We are waiting for him to make some time. Once he gives us a quote, who else do you recommend to give us some other quotes, just depending on what all is involved.

Brownie: What's the work needed to be done on the new backhoe?

Nicole: Joey said the hydraulics were leaking. The county hasn't completed any maintenance since they decided to donate it to the town. We need someone to give us a quote. We then will need to decide if the backhoe is worth doing the work and keeping it.

And then on the town tractor it was overheating and would take a while to cool down before it would restart. I called Comers. They haven't given us a date when they can come out.

**4. Town Maint-**

- a. Pump Station Maintenance-** McCall Brothers-pump replacements

Nicole: All right, this is still old the pump station. We've already have a quote for that. We talked to Matt, right now we don't want to replace them until we need to. But we do have a quote for them if we need to replace them. At this point in time, the pumps are still working. They came in and cleaned all the trash and everything out of the lines.

- b. Water Tank Maint Southern Corrosion. Invoice pd.** Washout not scheduled. Contact Mark. Per Matt, the tank is fine.

**c. Park Landscaping-** Elysian Flower Gardens on hold. Rainey/Harmon

Nicole: We had a Elysian Flower Gardens give us a quote for doing some work. They had a family issue with that. So that whole project will be on hold with them until they get some things situated.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

**1. Ordinance 9-No filling of pools is allowed on the Town Water system. Consider changing rates. Discuss fee & Increase fee structure?**

Nicole: Ordinance #9, this is new business ordinance #9. Our ordinance says no filling of pools is allowed on the town water system. So currently we have rates on when people use extra water, they are charged higher rates. The way these rates are structured, it's not causing anybody any difficulty. Based on the ordinance, if they use 20,000 gallons, they only have \$25 added to their bill, 25,000 is \$50 dollars, 30,000. The question is, how do we want to handle this issue to stop or lessen the amount of people from filling their pools? Do we want to fine them in addition to the extra water fee to make sure they don't fill up them up because it does put a tax on our water system.

Brownie: It does put a real strain on our system.

Nicole: Yes, and we've had at least 5 or more households in the town fill their pools. And they're using about 20,000 gallons. So, it's only costing them \$25 to fill their pools.

Brownie: So, that's an ordinance, so we'd have to do some readings and change that.

Nicole: Yes, this is currently what the ordinance is. If it's a business, this is the extra fees, no matter what they do. This is just like if your water breaks or you have a water line, if you use any extra water, this is what this does. But even when these people fill their pool, their water bills don't go up that much. The water usage rates should be reviewed and updated. At the moment, we don't have a fine/additional fee to add to residents bills for when people's pools are being filled.

Margarette: I think it needs to be a fine in addition because they are violating a town ordinance just by doing it. So, they need to be fined and not just that part, in my opinion, because if you have an ordinance, we have it there for a reason they are violating it.

Brownie: Let me look at that. So, if you pay for somebody to bring you 20,000 gallons of water, how much would that cost?

Nicole: Clover used to come out and it's been a while. A lot of the fire departments have stopped doing that, but Clover didn't. They used to charge \$100 or something.

Oliver: I don't remember exactly, roughly I believe it was \$250 for 5000 gallons.

Brownie: \$250 for 5000 and we charge \$25? That's a pretty good deal. That's a steal. Well, first, it's obvious if you have a swimming pool in the yard.

Nicole: They would need to produce a receipt to show us who was paid to fill up their pool. Other than that, they are still using our town water.

Dawn: Can I tell you the process? So, Brooke and Matthew go out and they gather the readings and then we go through the report of what they put in. The numbers are downloaded into the system and then we go through there and scan what an individual's average usage is. If it's above the average, then we always stop and look at anything over 5000 gallons and then we produce a work order and then Matthew goes back out and checks to see what the reason may be.

Brooke: Has it been 20,000? I can't remember putting that much in other it's high. It's just like where they're filling it up for this year, like they've had the pool and they just filled that rest of the way up. It isn't like they're using 20,000, from what I've seen.

Dawn: I can go grab the report, one of the accounts was 19,000 gallons and I don't think that was a pool. I think that was someone with water leak.

Margarette: That was Jackson.

Dawn: There is a person that runs a business out of their home, washing clothes.

Brooke: Yeah.

Nicole: We need to decide on changing the rate scale for water usage. Should we make it less than 20,000. Should we have additional fees in increments less than that?

Brooke: Because it's not been that that much like you could go down to 5000 and charge on the fee because I hadn't seen it that high even to charge on that fee. Really. So, we can bump it down to 5000.

Nicole: The clothes guy, how much is his normally?

Brooke: 16 something like that? Yeah, because I put them in every month.

Dawn: They claim that they go to Gastonia to do their laundry.

Brooke: Someone is using a lot of water across from them.

Nicole: Its Tasha, she is watering ducks.

Brooke: So if you got 5000 and charge on this or 25 that might help with the excess of water usage, more than 25. Because I don't see anybody using that much at all. Yeah. So, the best thing might be to lower the gallons.

Nicole: Yeah, start at start at 50 and then go from there.

Brooke: I'm just going from what I see every month.

Nicole: Currently it starts at 20,000 gallons you get charged an extra \$25, 25,000 you get charged an extra \$50. And then businesses would be the same. Should we go down to less usage to start ?

Brooke: We go to five and charge \$100 and that'll stop it. Or \$75.

Nicole: Because, I mean, \$25 is not hurting anybody.

Brooke: Then they will keep on doing that. It is not phasing them. We are just trying to get them to lower their usage in the summer if that's what we're trying to do.

Nicole: As we said, it is not just the pools, it is also washing cars, people water their grass, flowers and gardens. I understand everybody wants pretty lawns, but it is still putting a tax on the town especially during the hot summer months.

Brooke: We read and reread the meters and people tell us we've been watering our garden; we've been filling our pool. We've been watering this and that, you know. If we did \$50.00 that might stop them more.

Nicole: Right, so currently it is 20, 25, 30. So y'all want to lower it or start at 10,000 or start at 5000 gallons to start?

Brownie: Start at 5000

Brooke: Then do it at 50,000 and then 10,000. Or even \$25 for each 5000 gallons used. And that way we can slow it down.

Margarette: Is it indicated on the bill what it's for? Like do they know they're getting charged \$50.00 because they've used excessive amounts of water?

Brooke: Can we put in that on the billing?

Brownie: I think it says excess usage fee or something.

Nicole: OK, so we'll update the rates to increase in \$5000 increments to change all those. We'll work on drawing that up as an update or as a new ordinance. We'll get that together for the next meeting.

**2. PMC/Tenet EMT Rental-** Any feedback from Corey Glasscock

Nicole: The new lease is due in August, so we'll know something. So hopefully we won't have any issues with that.

**3. Events: Save the Date**

**A. Sharon Farmers and Artisan Market & Cars for Coffee Combined event-** Contact Dave Ladish at Sharon Grill. Produce and Craft Vendors needed.

Nicole: This name change may attract other vendors and visitors. We talked to the guy on Hwy 49 with the produce and invited him to come to our market.

**B. Senior Luncheon Sharon Methodist** -Fri-Jun 19th 11am -12:30 pm-free meal and entertainment.

**C. Community Center-Rentals**

**\*June – Rosie McClure (for family reunion)**

**\*July – Hattie Mae Williams (for family reunion)**

Nicole: We have had two big events at the community center. Ms. Betty had her graduation this month for her students. They had a great turnout. Unfortunately, our air conditioner got knocked out by that storm, but it was cool enough that morning and we got some extra fans for her. One of our local churches had a Family Day and they had a big turnout of people for that too. The Community Center is being used and everybody's happy with the way it looks and the improvements that we're making. We also moved the stove and the refrigerator into that kitchen area, which makes it a lot more convenient for people.

**D. Keep Sharon Beautiful (#KSB!) Best yard – Kim Stevenson June. \$25 Lowes**  
Nicole: Kim Stephenson won for the yard of the month. Norma's already called me putting in a vote for next month. If you all see a yard you like to nominate, let us know.

**E. 4<sup>th</sup> of July Celebration Sat Jun 28<sup>th</sup>-looking for food vendors**

Nicole: We are looking for food vendors for our July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. If you know anyone, please have them reach out to us. We've already got the popcorn vendor, the snow cone lady, and funnel cake.

Dawn: Dave has committed BBQ. We talked to a gentleman out of York, Jeffrey Williams. He has a food truck and he's doing fish, chicken strips, wings, okra and fries.

Brooke: Is that the one that came here after Hurricane Helene?

Dawn: He says he has a lemonade person. But when he brought it up, I was thinking that maybe we should invite the little fellow from here in town.

Nicole: We can check with Tara and see if they will be in town. But yeah, I was thinking about Blaze also because he is doing the farmers market now as well.

Dawn: We don't have a hot dog and burger vendor yet. Dave has offered to do it but Dave's going to be out of town. So, I'm not sure who he's sending to do all this? I have tried to reach out to Judy Turrill's people, but we can't get through to them.

Nicole: I know her family was interested in being a vendor but we haven't heard back.

Brooke: You got the Checkered Nine as well in Clover. Marsha Pursley, she came to one of our events we had at the golf course. So, you may could call her. She does like the hot dogs, hamburgers, you know, whatever. That would be good.

Dawn: Right there on 321 near the turkey farm?

Brooke: Yes

Audrey Gibson: There's a guy that has a BBQ trailer. He's right over here on Edgefield Rd.

Brooke: Smokey Beard.

Audrey Gibson: His food is delicious. And you get a lot for your money.

Oliver: He lives on Hord Rd and Old Pinkney.

Dawn: Do we want to have multiple vendors selling the same thing?

Nicole: Does he do more than bbq?

Audrey Gibson: I know he does ribs

Nicole: We can check him out and see. We had someone else that wanted to do Ices, but we already have an icy vendor and a popcorn vendor. We would prefer not to have two of the same kind of snack+ vendors. We'll see if we can find him on Facebook and ask him if he is available? Thank you.

George secured The Finally Friday Band for us.

#### **F. Sharon Grill Blood Drive – June 14<sup>th</sup> 9am – 12pm**

Sharon Blood Drive is June 14th from 9:00 to 12:00 at Sharon Grill.

#### **4. Christmas Decorations-**

##### **A. Feedback on Vendor list of Christmas Decorations**

Nicole: Christmas decorations an email was sent out, so if you haven't had a chance to look through that please do. It is a list of different decorations. Let us know if there's some things that you may be interested in us looking at. We need to start looking at the Christmas decorations because right now is when they're on sale. We would like to start slow with at least 5 or 10 to put on the main strip for this year.

##### **B. Contract with Duke**

Nicole: Have we signed the contract with Duke?

Dawn: No, Duke said they were revising it and would send it back to us.

#### **5. Sharon Farmer & Artisan Market added to the Visit York County**

website: <https://www.visitorkcounty.com/things-to-do/farms-farmers-markets/>

**Nicole:** Has this been added to this webpage?

Dawn: Yes. It's Visit York County and it goes out in an e-mail. I was going through the e-mail here and they send out a reminder each weekend about events. This past weekend, our farmers market was on this page along with all the other farmers markets around



the area. Visit York County has a static page with local events and they send out emails letting people know what's going.

Nicole: Well, that is helpful.

REPORTS/COMMITTEES: **2025 Think of area below you would be best to serve.** Council to discuss any issues concerning the following: Which area? List of responsibilities.

1. **Ball field**: Condition field, new poles and light Installation, Electrical wiring from lights. Tree removal/cutbacks quote. Vandalism on fields and basketball courts-dirt bikes?

Nicole: Last month, we had some vandals on the ball field with dirt bikes and at the tennis court. We had Mizon gave us a quote for putting up additional cameras at the ballfield and additional cameras at the park. It's \$1200 to get those two cameras installed over at the ballfield. Anybody have any questions or are you interested with us looking at getting the additional cameras?

Margarette: I think they are definitely needed.

Nicole: Mizon is doing a good job. He has tested everything and said that everything's running. With Mizon's system, he can download the app on your phone, and you can look at the cameras at any point in time. If anyone would like access on your phone, we can give him your contact information to set up time with you. The cameras are in real time. You can view the cameras at that point in time and see current activity. It will also record, but you can't see recordings on your phone. If we are concerned about something at a certain point in time, we can login from town and look at the camera activity history. Do we want to go ahead and order those last two cameras at the ballfield to put on there? If so, he will order those and get those installed for us out there.

Brownie: Do we need to make a motion to do that?

Nicole: Yes, someone needs to make a motion.

Brownie: I'll make a motion that we so there's two separate things, right?

Nicole: He's already fixed the current cameras at Rainey Park. That was not an additional purchase for new cameras. He fixed the cameras we had. All cameras at Rainey Park are working. The repair work he completed at Rainey was under \$1000.

Brownie: OK.

Nicole: He had to repair 2 old cameras and install 2 smaller cameras. The cost was mainly labor and installation. Everything's already wired and installed. We have full view of both Harmon-Harris and Rainey Parks.

Brownie: All the cameras and all the new cameras from picnic area too? And so the courts have coverage now and the other backside of the new playground equipment?

Nicole: Yes, both parks have better coverage. One faces Rainey Park towards the walkway on Rainey to see the gazebo and then the other one faces towards Harmon Harris to view the Basketball area and the park equipment.

Jay: I'm guessing they record on motion, is that correct? Or do they record all the time?

Brownie: I think they record all the time but to see the recording you must come to town hall.

Nicole: Yes, they constantly record but, you must be in the Town Hall to see the recordings.

Jay: If you get it on your phone and get the app, it gives you real time and that's it.

Brownie: Yes, if somebody called you at your shop and said, "Jay, somebody's at the park causing trouble." You could look on your phone if you have the app and see what is currently going on.

Jay: Yeah, I'd like that.

Margarette: We made a motion, but we did not do anything after that.

Brownie: I make the motion that we install two new cameras at the ball field.

Margarette: I second.

Nicole: All in favor?

All: Aye.

Nicole: All right. OK, we're proceeding with the quotes for the ballfield.

Nicole: Continuing with reports and committees. The ballfield looks good. Currently, the only teams practicing for the summer are the girls' teams. Next update, Al just finished

having his surgery and is recovering. We still have two lights that need to be installed at the ballfield and the wiring finished on those. These are two lights that were damaged, and the vendor is replacing them. Otherwise, all the lights are installed at the Ballfield and are working except for the last two poles which is delayed due to the lights being damaged.

We had kids roaming Sharon and riding on the courts and in the ballfields. We put locks on the gates at Harmon Park and the ballfield. Scott goes out there and puts the locks on every night after dusk and then he takes them off in the morning. Which means, no one should be able to get into the park at night or on the ball field. Our park signage clearly states no one should be in the park after dusk.

We already had locks for Harmon Park. Now we have locks in Harmon Park and at the ballfield. At the ball field, there are two walk-in gates that don't have locks on them or a way to lock them. The girls team used the walk-in gates to access the fields for practice on Sunday. We are not concerned about kids and parents on the fields for practice or playing ball. It was the dirt bikes that were running around town causing havoc. Dirt bikes are currently our main concern with vandalism. Teams and families are welcome to use the fields for practice or games, but they need to request usage of our fields from Town Hall. We will schedule time for them to be out there.

2. **Community Center and Annex:**

Nicole: The Community center is currently scheduled for two family events in July. We had an issue with the air conditioner, but they came out and fixed it.

Dawn: The bill was less than \$400.00. It was hit by electricity.

3. **Fire Department: (Oliver Dowdle)-update.**

Nicole: Oliver, do you have anything?

Oliver: A couple of quick questions for you, you mentioned it earlier on the bathrooms finishing up. You had quotes on it and I am just curious where we stand on that.

Nicole: We haven't chosen a vendor yet. We have three quotes, each one of them were different. Some of them wanted to go in the backside of it and dig everything out which would be very costly. One said, if we pull the bathrooms out, it'd be easier for them to get in there. I talked to Adam about the wood trim around the bathrooms. He said the trim could be taken off easily and they could just pull the units out to dig the lines. All of the vendors have access to equipment to pull out the bathrooms for easier access to dig the lines. The quotes are cheaper to pull the units out than to dig the lines in that small space.

Oliver: I was just curious about where we stood, if we were going to get it done before the 4<sup>th</sup> of July event or if you're getting porta-john's or what you're planning on for that.

Nicole: We normally always order porta-johns for large events because it's a lot easier. We don't have to worry about cleaning them. We will continue to use Porta-johns for large events and daily park usage. Even with these new bathrooms, we do not want to leave them open all the time because of what happened in the past with the bathrooms. Our goal is to only use the new bathrooms when they are closely monitored during special paid events. We would open the bathrooms and close them during the special privately paid event. We plan to continue using the porta-johns at Harmon Harris all the time for people to use. The vendor maintains the Porta-john. They set them up, they clean them, they take care of any issues when we call.

Oliver: So, no timeline on getting that done and then getting the framing done and getting the rest of the wrap around that area?

Nicole: They've been busy. Brownie, where are you on your building? Jerry Lee said he was going to have Adam help put the siding on the bathrooms. Last I heard Shane was donating the siding but that has been a while.

Brownie: Oh, Jerry Lee. Well, this week would have been a good week to do it because he is not working.

Nicole: Adam said Jerry Lee's been sick.

Oliver: I didn't know, I had some others who would consider doing it, but I said let me talk to Nicole.

Nicole: Who, like plumbers, or just hanging up the siding?

Oliver: The siding, I didn't know who you had planned to finish any of that. The fellow who did our bathrooms and stuff he said he would look at it if we wanted him to.

Browne: I think you should.

Nicole: I think we should get the bathrooms done before then. I'll check with Adam and Jerry Lee and see what they're doing there.

Jay: Why don't you check with your guy and see what he says.

Oliver: I didn't want him to give me a price on it and then you say we were going to use Jerry Lee.

Nicole: Jerry Lee wasn't ever involved with the siding stuff; Shane was donating the siding and then we would still have to find someone to put it up. Jerry Lee has been doing some work for Brownie, so we were going to check with him. It doesn't matter though if you have someone that can give us a quote for the siding.

Oliver: Just for the siding? I just want to be clear. If someone is taking the bathrooms out that will have to be fixed too.

Nicole: We've got three different quotes on plumbers. Is your guy plumber that will fix it?

Oliver: No, but are the plumbers going to put the trim back up?

Nicole: Adam's going to take the siding off that he's already put up so they can get to the bathrooms. Then he'll put that back on there because that's already been paid for. Whatever's been put up there has already been paid for.

Brownie: The siding on the street side your guy can take care of that?

Oliver: Yeah, but if you want to put the siding back on around the bathroom and he puts that trim back up, somebody's got to do that too. Just trying to figure out who is doing what.

Nicole: Just have him give us a total quote for doing the whole thing.

Margarette: We are still getting the porta-johns right?

Nicole: Yes, even if bathrooms are complete, we're not opening those bathrooms for the event.

Brownie: We don't want to have a whole bunch of work going on over there either.

Nicole: I don't think we're even going to start doing the work before that. I mean, we only have 2 weeks. Shane hasn't even given us the siding yet, but he said he will provide it to us.

Oliver: Along with that, since it's pouring down rain again, the drain line has been working fine but I'd be willing to bet you we go out there in the morning and it's going to be a problem.

Brownie: So water's running back in the septic tank?

Oliver: Somehow, it's running back in there and it's backing it up. I went out this morning, the clean out had no water in it. But I bet I can go back in the morning since we're having this monsoon and it will be backing up again. Why, I can't answer that, but this morning it was fine. Everything works fine, it worked. You let it rain? Give it two or three days and it goes back working fine.

Brownie: Every time it rain and the groundwater is running back into the into the drain?

Oliver: I guess it's the drain field and it's running backwards somehow. I don't know how that works, I'm not a septic person. But it still causes some challenges and that's one reason what that up too is if you put in these other bathrooms in, you know, looking down the road, we got to figure out some balance there to either when we get ready to have a big event or after a big event, pump it out or do something in addition to the drain field.

Nicole: The only time the bathrooms would be used is when there is a small private special event that is monitored. We would continue to keep portajohns for daily usage and large events.

Oliver: After the Hillcrest event everybody came in. Nobody ever used it before that, which I understand most people don't like to use porta-johns anyway. But you know, we had a problem right after that, because everybody came in there and used our bathrooms. And then you give it a few days, and it went away. The problem went away, and then it rained again the problem came back. Quit raining problem goes away, so I don't know the answer but we've got we've got a challenge. I did ask for some more gravel be put back there because all the water was running down at a low spot. You put that additional gravel in there, so I'm hoping that might help some.

Jay: I doubt it's got anything to do with the septic tank itself it is probably the drain field.

Brownie: The groundwater is backing up into the drain field, which is backing up into the septic tank. Its not running out on the floor in the bathroom is it?

Oliver: Not yet. I'd be willing to tell you tomorrow morning I can go over there and flush it.

It'll still flush, but it'll be very slow. But like I said this morning, it will suck your hand down in there. I don't know the answer but we have an ongoing challenge there that we need to figure out what.

Jay: And it depends on the type of ground as far as how much the ground will absorb the

Oliver: Where something been dug up that's naturally where water is going to run. The soil is loose and then you got the lean-to and water running off that. That's right straight to where that new drain field is.

Nicole: I thought we put gutters up around that.

Oliver: Not on the lean-to.

Brownie: Where is the drain field?

Oliver: Right back beside the water line where the water line comes through right there.

Jay: Where is the water line?

Oliver: About two foot off of the that brick where that block is. The block on the side of the building with a new roof. Where the new bathrooms are the main water line is about two to three feet off that concrete block wall. Based on memory which I think I did take a picture of the drain field. The drain field is just to the other side of that. Because I know they hit some water lines.

Jay: I would think any service water that you could divert away from the where the drain fields are.

Oliver: Like I said, they did do a good job with getting that for the most part harnessed for those catch basins. But it's undoubtedly not all going there.

Nicole: This is the first year that we've had this amount of rain really, really hit fast. I mean, even the roads when you get on the roads, it's just a downpour.

Oliver: It just makes it frustrating because dealing with EMS people over there. They don't like walking upstairs; they don't like exercise. The July event can I ask that about something about that real quick? I know y'all moved the date back. I didn't know it until George told me. I told all of our folks it was going to be the 12<sup>th</sup> so we are still scrambling around trying

to get to make sure we got enough people to light fireworks. If you all want to help light fireworks, that would be wonderful as well.

Margarette: how many people do you usually have?

Oliver: It takes about 8 or 10 people to do it up right. So right now, I don't know that I've got that. I may but when you changed the date that kind of threw us for a loop.

Nicole: Sorry about that. We weren't aware that the last weekend in June was a recurring date for our July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. It makes it easier for Danny and the vendors to note their calendars. All the vendors and Danny already knew that. Now, we are trying to coincide with everybody else. Our event for the 4<sup>th</sup> is always supposed to be the last Saturday in June.

Dawn: Does Danny bring people with him?

Oliver: Probably could if you want to pay for them.

Nicole: I don't know if he charges a fee or not, but it wouldn't hurt to ask him that way it is not just on the fire department.

Dawn: What is enough people?

Oliver: About 10 people.

Nicole: Are we having as many fireworks as we have in the past?

Dawn: As much as in the past, Danny said that we could slow it down a little bit and the show could be at least 40 minutes.

Nicole: Everybody loves fireworks, and they do go through them very rapidly. My concern is the more fireworks, the more mess that we have to clean up over there.

Oliver: Yes, that's the next challenge is they don't get magically cleaned up.

Nicole: It took us hours to clean that up. It was all by hand with brooms, shovels, and leaf blowers. Yeah, it's a lot. It was a whole Saturday morning cleaning up.



Can I ask a quick question on that? Are they?

Yes.

Going to use those parking spots

4. **Rental Buildings:** (Herschel Brown) Tenant Grand Opening-Flower Shop/Clothing Store

Nicole: Rental buildings.. I have not talked to the flower lady, Adrian. I'm not sure if she's there, but I know Kim is there. I have not had a chance to visit and chat with Adrian since last month. Adrian hasn't been there.

Oliver: Can I ask a quick question on that? Are they going to use those 2 parking spaces around the back or not? I've been preaching and scolding EMS for making sure that they don't use them.

Nicole: Scott has signs, and yes those are designated for the flower shop. I don't want EMS to use them. Instead of saying employees only. They should be noted as Flower shop only. That area will also have a dumpster. We don't want a lot of vehicles over there. We're looking at another way to specify the parking spots as flower shop only or make the spots perpendicular so there'll be a little bit more space than just the 2 spots.

Oliver: I am constantly trying to tell them not to park there, but they said nobody else is parking there.

Brownie: Want me to start giving out tickets

5. **Parks:** (Jay Gourley) Basketball Backboard has been installed, Baby swings added, Request for Mommy and Me swing/additional swings/poles

**Nicole:** Nothing going on at the parks. You got anything about parks, Jay?

Jay: No I don't.

Dawn: They sure are getting used a lot.

Nicole: We have had at least 2 events over there every weekend, so the trash must be taken off has been a lot more than normal. Lately, we are averaging at least 2 events a day at each shelter and that is both days, Saturday and Sunday. Scott is constantly having to pick up the trash at Harmon Park and take off the trash. Shelter rentals are required to take their trash when they leave but some people don't. We need to start by requiring a deposit to be included with the rental of the shelters. The deposit will be returned if the

shelter area is clean and the trash has been removed. A big issue is balloons, confetti, and sidewalk chalk. If they clean everything up and take off their trash, then they can get back the deposit.

Brownie: I think that's a good idea. We don't need to have an ordinance for that.

Nicole: Yes, we can just add it to the form. They must fill out a form and sign it. So put at least \$25 or \$50.00 deposit.

Dawn: What would you do for the Community Center if you're going to do that for the park?

Nicole: We normally do not have problems at the Community Center just the parks. Most people that reserve the Community Center (\$300) do a great job cleaning up the kitchen, sitting areas, and taking off the trash.

Brownie: Personally, I think \$25 deposit for the parks. That will cover the maintenance man or anybody that has to clean up.

Nicole: All right, so we'll go ahead and redo the forms and add that \$25 deposit to park rentals.

6. **Scout Hut, Concession Stand (see Parks):**

Nicole: Nothing at the Scout Hut

7. **Streets (Margarette Parrish?):**

Nicole: Anything going on with the streets?

Margarette: No, they are perfect.

Nicole: There is a lot of water right before your house and on the corner of Woodlawn and Warmoth.

Oliver: Did something happen with the drain there at the Fire Department and the Park? It looks nice but the water is backing up again. All the rain we have been having, we had a car flood out right there.

Nicole: We noticed that last time, it has been fine. We don't see that anything has changed. The rocks are still there. Scott checked the drain. Nothing is clogging it up. We don't know if it was due to so much rain so fast.

Oliver: But it hadn't been doing it and suddenly it just started again. Something changed.

Nicole: I will double check with Scott. I can also see if our state guy can come out and look at the drains again to make sure there's nothing going on.

8. **Sidewalks (Brooke Glenn?): Keep Sharon Beautiful KSB //KYCB Dirt Bikes on Streets**

Nicole: Brooke are you good with sidewalks?

Brooke: Yes

Nicole: We had had a lot of people on Facebook about the kids being on the sidewalks on dirt bikes, but I think that's kind of slowed down. We haven't had any real issues, knock on wood. Let us know if you see dirt bike out on the sidewalks. A Sheriffs Officer went to the families houses and spoke to the parents of the kids that were on the dirt bikes. They were told if anybody reports them again, they will come back to visit them. If you see them causing issues, please report them, take a picture, and send it to us at Town Hall. The police will go back out there and then it will be on the parents.

I know that one kid is not riding anymore. The other kid lives off Ramsey Rd and he is the one who's flipping off everybody and tearing up stuff. We know who his parents are. He got a new dirt bike. He is now riding a green dirt bike but he also has a white and black dirt bike..

9. **Town Hall: Safety Ideas.** Update-paint inside walls, storm door

Nicole: Anything for town hall?

Dawn: No.

10. **Water: (Matt Glenn)** Update status of water system.

Nicole: Water?

Brooke: Good.

Dawn: Did Matt hear back about the water tank?

Brooke: Oh yes. He came last week, or the week before last. But he has done it. I think he came and said it didn't need to be cleaned.

Nicole: The vendor said that it didn't need cleaning that there was a little bit of sediment, but we still pay a fee for them to do the inspection.

Brooke: But I don't think he's heard from him yet, but I think it was fine. I must ask him.

Nicole: All right. Anybody else got anything?

Margarette: I have two things. So, I've had our constituents complain about two different things in the town. One of them is and it is not me, the piles of dirt that were left over by Miss Beckys parking lot. I've had people ask if they are going to move this dirt? I don't know if that's something that we can even address. Do we address dirt in a place?

Nicole: Yes, if that's Becky's and they did the parking lot, they should move the dirt. It's theirs to clean up. We can talk with her and see what they're planning on doing with the dirt. They need to clean it up.

Brownie: We can't take care of it that. That's for them to do.

Margarette: I just didn't know, I've had people ask me what's going on with it?

Brooke: I know Alan Faulkner was supposed to get it. That's her brother-in-law.

Margarette: That's who did it and she told me that he was supposed to get it.

Brooke: Maybe he has not been able to get it because of the weather.

Nicole: He is probably waiting until it is dry.

Brooke: I know Alan was supposed to get it and then my father-in-law said he would get it.

Brownie: They're fighting over the dirt.

Nicole: I have Alans number so we can just check with him and just let him know people are asking about it being moved. If anyone else says something, tell them it's probably due to the weather. It needs to dry out before they start trying to load it.

Brownie: Also, you don't want to mess up the yard.

Margarette: I didn't remember what the Bradley special ordinance or whatever we did for them stated. Everybody knows Charles passed and Rebecca is leaving to go back to Virginia on Friday. Where does that leave us?

Nicole: I talked to their nephew. They have a buyer that's interested in buying the property. He was going to tear everything down and take it off if he bought the property. I believe it was Tony Smith?

Brooke: That's the one I told you about. He'd probably come buy it in a minute.

Nicole: They did call Tony; he is interested in getting it. He just wanted to see what they wanted. He had questions about what he could do. I told him that it must be removed. I said this is our ordinance, this is what they can do based on the ordinance. I don't remember how much land they had.

Margarette: He has 4 acres, I think.

Nicole: I told him it must have 100 foot of road frontage. It would also depend on what he's wanting to do with the property and whether it's going to fit in with the ordinance and I haven't heard anything else, but I can call him.

Margarette: I just didn't know if there was a timeline, I couldn't remember how it was.

Dawn: It says six months.

Margarette: OK.

Oliver: We were wondering now that you bring that up? They asked if we could burn it. We told them no.

Nicole: Well, I figured Tony would move the trailer. He moves trailers all the time.

Margarette: But he's talking about the old house.

Oliver: He wanted us to burn it, I said no we wouldn't do that.

Brooke: He'll probably get Alan to come in with the truck hoe or something and do that.

Nicole: I'll check with them and see if they have a timeline on it. People are asking questions, and we knew we had the ordinance about a timeline, but we have six months.

Margarette: I didn't remember what the timeframe was on that.

Nicole: I was shocked that he called so soon. He was just letting us know, this is what we're planning on doing. So, they are taking care of it, I just didn't remember the six months.

Nicole: OK, does anybody have anything else?

Dawn: We received the annual drinking Water Quality Report for 2024. We e-mailed that out to 87 people; we will mail out the rest with next month's water bills. It's posted at the front on the window of town hall; we will post it at the post office tomorrow. Forms have been sent into DHEC.

Dawn: You also have an issue that was brought up this morning about Sexton Rd. somebody called about buying property.

Nicole: To make sure everyone is aware. There is property on Sexton Road that is landlocked. A lady was wanting to buy the property. We informed her the property is landlocked and she would need to talk to the property owners in front of the property. She would need to request access to the property by having them give her an easement to the property. The town is not involved in that process. We said it is best for her to verify with the owners regarding access before she buys the property. The town does not grant access to property. Property access must be granted by the property owners not the town. Is that right Jay?

Jay: Yes

Nicole: She was just checking because the man told her that she has full access to it. We told her the property is landlocked. There's no access way to get to the property unless you get the homeowner/the property owner to give you access/right-of-way.

Brownie: Unless an easement has already been granted in the deed somewhere along the lines.

Nicole: But that would be for them to prove to her, not us.

Brownie: They must discover that themselves.

Jay: She needs to get a real estate attorney and let him sort through and research the titles.

Nicole: Yes, that is not our area. We don't handle all that. I mean, we can tell you we look at the plot and see how much road frontage it has and the acreage. But that is not something we determine who has the right-of-way.

Nicole: Any other items that we need to discuss?

Dawn: Lastly, I did check with the Town of Clover in regard to their hiring and firing processes and I've printed that ordinance as well as their financial ordinance and I'll share that with you.

Nicole: We will put that on the agenda for next time and then we'll try to find ours. I mean, we have ours, there's several different ones that's been updated and changed.

Nicole: We usually get money twice a year from York County for Parks and Rec. York County went through and changed their process for recreation funds. We will soon receive more details about what funds the county will be giving us and the new process. Just be aware that we may be losing the funding that we get to use at our parks. I was told by the Council members that this new program is better for us. We are part of a parks and rec group that meets monthly to discuss our parks and recreation funding that we receive from the county. Representatives are normally the Mayor and Town administrator. Currently, there is a lot of confusion about the funds that we have received in the past. As of right now, we are not sure how much funds we will receive from the county or if we will continue to receive funding for our parks from the County. We know that most of our group of people are not happy with the County Council.

Brooke: They are wanting you to give them a detailed list of what you're spending the money on and not just hand over the money. They want a detailed list of where it's going from Clover, Rock Hill, all of them.

Nicole: We already give them a yearly report/count of how many people use our facilities and items/events that we have at our parks every year. But we've never had to give them a breakdown of everything that we are using it on. It's not a big deal for us. Small towns like Sharon, Smyrna, Hickory Grove and McConnells only receive \$10,000. That helps us cut our grass at the parks and maintain our fields. The larger towns receive a lot more funds than towns like us.

Brooke: Think about Clover, Rock Hill. I mean, look at all the parks they've put in and you know, they keep bringing them in and then they say Rock Hills in debt. They want to know where the money is actually going?

Nicole: I know. It is all about accountability.

Brooke: That is just what I heard in the meeting I listened to last Monday.

Nicole: For instance. Rock Hill receives about \$500,000 Clover/Lake Wylie gets like what is it?

Dawn: Clover gets \$185,000, Tega Cay \$167,000

Jay: The new park Tega Cay built is almost as big as Cherry Park. You wouldn't think it, but with it going on the river.

Dawn : I have PowerPoint that they sent out if you are interested.

Nicole: What was our number that we used to get?

Brooke: It was 10 I thought.

Nicole: I think it was 5 million of parks and rec money that we split between all the municipalities. This doesn't show us what the old money was. I have a file that we receive from the county every year.

Brownie: Don't worry though, it's going to be OK. It'll be even better.

Nicole: That's what they tell us.

Brooke: It might help to tell them exactly what you're doing. It may help them to distribute out even more.

Margarette: I don't disagree with that, they knowing where it goes.

Nicole: We do submit a form each year to the City of York showing how we use our recreational funds. York then submits the report for York and all the Small Towns in Western York County. The previous funds were \$500,000 that was split between all the municipalities for everyone. Now they're saying it's going to be for all the youth served in York County. It could be about \$770,000 worth of funds that they're going to break out to all the municipalities. The amount that Sharon "may" be getting is 25,000. These funds are normally distributed in two separate amounts. I don't have a problem with figure because



in the past we would receive about \$10,000. The difference is how they are distributing the funds to the large municipalities.

Jay: That's based on how many people use the facility?

Dawn: The number of people participating in programs and in the past we would also collect the numbers from our shelter rentals and the community center. On our forms the residents note how many people will be at their event. We have included those numbers that we've provided to York since they are using our park or a town facility. York gathers the numbers for Sharon, Smyrna, Hickory Grove, and McConnells.

Nicole: York gathers for all of us.

Dawn: This year York only used the numbers based on the people registered to play sports. So, I'm not sure.

Brownie: They didn't use the park numbers?

Dawn: No.

Nicole: And that's where we get shafted because we don't get credit for kids playing on our field. They register in York not Sharon. That is what we would like to change. Scott said in the past, we had our own softball scheduling system here. People came and paid us to use our fields. We had our own teams as well. Then, the City of York started submitting everything for the smaller towns. We incur the expense of them using our fields, our playgrounds, and park resources i.e. sand for the fields, upkeep of the bathrooms, field setup and maintenance. The \$10,000 would barely help cut the grass for the ballfield much less the playgrounds or the power bills at all 3 of our parks. .

Browne: To keep the lights on.

Nicole: That's why we would like to go back to the way it was, where we have our own teams and events.

Brooke: I had to sit there with the scout hunt several Saturdays and do registration for that. It will mean a lot of work on this side, but if it helps us. You know, it just depends.

Nicole: All our park and community event usages is grouped together under York. Everything goes through York and then we only receive a small stipend that does not cover our expenses. In the past, parents would volunteer to help run the concession stands or

help maintain the ballfields. Now very few people volunteer to help. Everyone is busy with life. Luckily, we have a local maintenance person that can help with tasks around town and help maintain the ballfields. He is familiar with the town residents and experienced in maintaining the ballfields.

Nicole: Anybody else got anything?

Oliver: Just curious since I missed last month budget y'all didn't get that did you?

Nicole: Thank you, budget that in here. We're going to start working on budgets. We received a notice that we could increase our millage by a limit of 3.38%. There is a calculation that must be used to show what our new millage rate increase can be. We cannot increase our millage to reach the total of 3.38. Where are we at now? We're currently at 45.5. Do we want to stay at 45.5 or do we want to increase that?

Brooke: We just increased it, didn't we last year?

Nicole: We did increase it last year but we had not increased in over 6 years.

Brooke: If you do increase it, just do like 1.1 don't do the whole 3.8 since we just increased it last year.

Nicole: We're currently at 45.5. We used to be at 37, so we did a big jump.

Brooke: It was a big jump last year.

Nicole: Yes, because we haven't increased it in over 6 years.

Jay: I think we ought to increase it a little bit, that way it won't be a big jump again, like we could do later.

Brooke: One to One and a half.

Nicole: Currently it's at 45.5.

Brooke: So go to maybe 47.

Nicole: So do y'all want to maybe do 1.5% increase? That will get us to 47.

Brooke: That is half of what you could do.

Nicole: Our rate is currently at 45, do you want to move up to 46.5. That way we have more room if we need to increase it next year since we had a big jump last year from 37 to 45.

Brownie: It's at what now, 30?

Nicole: It is currently 45. It used to be 37 and we haven't increased it in like 6 years. So last year we took the whole amount that we could to get us whole.

Brooke: So now we can increase it to get us caught up. Kind of split it down the middle.

Brownie: 3.38 divided by 2 is what?

Brooke: 1.9, we were doing 1.5 or do 2 and do 47.

Nicole: The we still have 1.38 on there? Who's going to make the motion?

Brooke: I make a motion to go up point two mils.

Nicole: Leave it at 2 and go to 47.?

Browne: Second

Nicole: All in favor?

All: Aye

Nicole: All right, so we're increasing the mils 2 points to go to 47. Brownie you're good with that?

Brownie: Oh yeah. I will pay my part.

Nicole: All right, so what else?

Margarette: About the budget, anything else?

Nicole: No, because now we must go through and run all the reports and see where our budget \$'s will be with that increase. Then, we can see what line items we want to increase in that budget and where we want to budget those items. Basically, we have to figure out

how much money this is going to add to our budget then, we can determine how it should be spent.

Oliver: Can I ask something real quick while you're talking budget? You and I have briefly discussed it here a while back, but giving George and I, maybe some phone reimbursement. Like I know the Council gets a phone check.

Nicole: We do get a phone reimbursement.

Jay: It would be something to consider. How much do you want? The same thing what we get?

Oliver: Whatever the council is getting is more than fair.

Nicole: It's \$250 or 300. The salaries nor the phone reimbursement has been raised since I have been on council.

Oliver: That's like our salaries you know, it's been that way.

Brooke: Do we get \$500 a year?

Nicole: I think our salaries are 600 and then 250, so it's \$850.

Oliver: We were getting the same salary as Council. We were only getting \$500 if y'all are getting \$600.00. That was the agreement that was years ago.

Nicole: Thanks ladies. Sorry. (Speaking to people in attendance)

Oliver: We were going to get the same thing as council.

Nicole: We only get paid once a year, so I don't remember what we are paid. It will be in the budget when we start looking at it.

Brownie: I'm pretty sure we get \$600 because that's how much you can pay somebody without taking taxes.

Brooke: It \$600 and then \$250 phone is not counted toward taxes.

Margarette: Is that something we are going to consider?

Nicole: We can look at it but we must figure out the new budget amounts first. Then, we figure which budget areas to change and/or reallocate the budget.

Brownie: It does make sense that they would be making what we make.

Dawn: Your salary is \$500 and your cell phone is \$360.

Nicole: Thank you. Anything else? Margarett?

Margarett: I make a motion to adjourn.

Nicole: Who Seconds?

Brooke: I second.

Nicole: All in favor say I. Meeting is adjourned. Thank you for your time. Have a blessed night.

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.

DOCUMENTS AND REPORTS:

1. **Meeting Minutes:** Recorded

SCHEDULE FOR UPCOMING MEETINGS:

1. **Next Council Meeting:** Regular Town Council Meeting Monday Jul 14th, 2025, at 7:00 pm

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

Motion: Margarett Parrish

Second: Brooke Glenn

Time: 8:21 pm