



Town of Sharpsburg
Mayor
Blue Cole and Polly A. Garlington

Election: November 6, 2018

Chamber Mission: Champion increased economic prosperity for our members

Candidate	Blue Cole	Polly A. Garlington
Age	41	87
# Years in Sharpsburg	38	22
Education	East Coweta High School. B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies (Public Administration), Georgia Southern University	Graduate degree from Georgia State University in Leadership and Supervision. Degree in Vocational Education and Elementary Education.
Work Experience	2000-Present: Entrepreneur (Ansley's Attic, Mobile Paramedical, EC DUI School) 2008-Present: Author 2009-Present: Georgia Department of Human Services	20 years in the Coweta County School System. Retired from East Coweta High School in 1998. Also taught at Newnan High School (9 years) and Evans Middle School (3 years). Operated a small business in Sharpsburg for 4 years.
Community Experience	Community Welcome House Habitat for Humanity Southern Soccer Academy	Volunteers at Poplar Road Elementary. Involved with several local and national political campaigns, most recently in the 2017 Town Council elections.
Personal Information	Married for 17 years to Rhonda Terrell Cole. Four children: Erica, Ethan, Ansley, Isabelle	Four adult children, and my great granddaughter lives with me. Since retirement, I have created several websites, published a newsletter, and dabbled with new electronics.
Political Experience	None	Sharpsburg Town Council – elected for a term several years ago and again for a four-year term 2 ½ years ago.
Question 1 Describe what you believe makes Sharpsburg most appealing to both	Situated atop Highways 16, 54, and 154, Sharpsburg is the perfect distance between Newnan and Peachtree City. We are minutes away from amenities but retain a small-town atmosphere with great schools. We want to welcome	Lifestyle and location. We are adjacent to East Coweta High School, very close to East Coweta Middle School, and close to two nearby elementary schools.

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current and future residents.	families and design our growth for all generations, where we can live, work, and play.	
Question 2 What top 3 assets does Sharpsburg possess which attract new business and stimulate growth of existing businesses?	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Involved and cooperative Town Council 2. Partnership minded 3. Community and solution orientated 	Location to three major highways: Hwy 16, Hwy 54, Hwy 154 and proximity to I-85. Location because Sharpsburg is close to so many attractions, sporting and cultural events, not to mention the airport. And it still manages to maintain its rural feel. Sharpsburg is a friendly place. We have three churches within our town limits welcoming newcomers. We have two centers of business: the Hwy 54 group of stores and the Old Town Sharpsburg group. While there are several successful businesses in the Old Town Sharpsburg now, there is hope that the remainder of the buildings will be restored and reoccupied.
Question 3 Describe how you would use your elected position to help business growth in Sharpsburg?	I will build relationships with residents, businesses, county officials, developers, and others to identify the needs of the residents, solicit businesses to fill those needs, and work with both to create leisure and recreation activities; things to attract families our businesses will depend on. I want to identify and recruit businesses that will strengthen Sharpsburg and provide a benefit beyond the balance sheet.	I would contact the sources available to municipalities, large and small, and use them. I have ideas but don't pretend to have all the answers. The Department of Community Affairs is a huge source of information and experts available and more than willing to assist in almost any endeavor.
Question 4 List the greatest need(s) in Sharpsburg to continue its prosperity.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Sewer 2. Appearance 3. Capital planning 	A sewer system has long been on the list as necessary for growth which will remain to be an issue until its resolved. A small restaurant or café (not fast food) would be high on the list of needs. More cooperation on the town's part with the county and small towns surrounding us would be a benefit to all, especially Sharpsburg.
Question 5 If elected, what do you want your greatest accomplishment to be during your term of office?	I want to set us up for success over the next 25 years. There will be a lot of planning, organization, and preparation from both an administrative and development perspective. If we can put the foundation in place, the town's charm, residents, and opportunity will do the rest.	Total town/resident involvement in leadership positions as the rule, not the exception, as in the past. Community involvement leading to the town's business growth and expansion. Community involvement would create an environment where residents are happy, merchants are happy and prospering, which would certainly be appealing to new businesses and residents.