

RESOLUTION #2011-57

A RESOLUTION TO ESTABLISH SHREWSBURY BOROUGH AS A “NO IDLING” ZONE

WHEREAS, emission from gasoline and diesel powered vehicles contribute significantly to air pollution, including greenhouse gases, ozone formation, fine particulates, and a multitude of potentially harmful pollutants that can trigger an asthma attack and other ailments; and

WHEREAS, asthma is a significant public health concern in NJ, especially among children (up to 25% of NJ’s school age children are asthmatic) and the elderly; and

WHEREAS, for every gallon of gasoline used, the average car produces about 20 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO₂), the largest contributor to greenhouse climate change, with one-third of greenhouse gas emissions coming from the transportation sector; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Argonne National Laboratory estimates that about 20 million barrels of diesel fuel are consumed each year by idling long-haul trucks (estimated truck emissions total about 10 million tons of CO₂, 50,000 tons of nitrogen oxides, and 2,000 tons of particulates); and

WHEREAS, we can avoid producing unnecessary greenhouse gas emissions and exposure to air toxics by reducing or eliminating wasteful vehicle idling; and

WHEREAS, petroleum based gasoline and diesel fuel are nonrenewable fuels and should be used wisely and not wasted; and

WHEREAS, idling is not generally beneficial to a vehicle’s engine because it wears engine parts; and

WHEREAS, the only exception to this resolution would be for emergency service vehicles; and

WHEREAS, idling more than 10 seconds use more fuel and emits more pollutants than turning a warm engine off and on again; and

WHEREAS, moving beyond New Jersey’s existing no-idling codes of 3 minutes would significantly improve public health, air quality, reduce costs and greenhouse gas emissions;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough of Shrewsbury supports the adoption of “Idle Free Zones” by government agencies, schools, businesses, and other organizations by:

- Encouraging any gasoline or diesel powered motor vehicle to turn off their engines after 10 seconds if they plan to remain at that location for more than 30 seconds.
- Ensuring idling does not occur at idle-frequent locations such as school drop-off and pick up, drive through windows, gas stations, parking lots, business centers, etc.
- Maintaining municipal vehicles to eliminate any visible exhaust.
- Enforcing existing violations and penalties under NJ's existing no-idling code.
- Supporting broad education of the public about the health, environmental and economic impacts of idling and ways to reduce idling

I, Kathleen P. Krueger, Municipal Clerk of the Borough of Shrewsbury, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of a resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at a meeting held on June 20, 2011.

Date _____

Kathleen P. Krueger, RMC
Municipal Clerk