

March 20, 2017

Meeting Called to Order

The public meeting convened at 7:00 PM.

Presiding Officer's Statement

In accordance with the requirements of Section 4(a) of C.231, P.L. 1975, the required 48 hour advance notice of this meeting was given by mailing/faxing a copy of the agenda to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times, in addition, to posting on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on March 17, 2017 by the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Burden, Councilmembers Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo
Eddy, Meyer & Moran

Also Present: Borough Attorney Martin Barger, Borough Administrator Thomas
Seaman, Clerk Kathleen P. Krueger & Borough Engineer Dave Cranmer

Salute to Flag

Led by Mayor Burden.

Mayor Burden stated that he would like to acknowledge the passing of Dr. Carl W. Gardiner who served on Borough Council for twelve years. He noted that Dr. Gardiner was the Council President for five of those years and either served on, or chaired, every Council Committee. Mayor Burden expressed the Borough's gratitude for his years of service.

Consent Agenda

Proclamation in Recognition of National Poison Prevention Week

**Resolution #2017-36 (Application for Hazardous Materials Emergency
Preparedness Grant)**

Resolution #2017-37 (Hire Part-Time Police Dispatcher: Thomas M. Krise)

~~Resolution #2017-39 (Temporary Budget Appropriations)~~

**Paint the Town Pink Request: Banner Across Patterson Avenue & Bows on
Patterson Avenue & the Municipal Complex for the month of May**

Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the consent agenda, seconded by
Councilmen Eddy and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Meyer & Moran

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2017-39 (Temporary Budget Appropriations)

Councilwoman DerAsadourian questioned which budget this was impacting. Mr. Seaman explained that this was for the second quarter of 2017 and listed a few items that this resolution was intended to help including salary and pension. Councilman Anderson motioned to approve Resolution #2017-39, seconded by Councilman Moran and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Meyer & Moran

NAYS: None

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ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2017-35 (Authorize Entitlements for Chief Louis G. Ferraro's Retirement)

Councilman Meyer stated that Chief Ferraro's would be retiring effective June 30th 2017. He reviewed the entitlements included within the Resolution. Councilman Anderson informed the public that everything included in this Resolution is a legal or contractual obligation and it amounts to significantly less than the amount it could have been without the new regulations. Councilman Meyer motioned to approve Resolution #2017-35, seconded by Councilman Moran and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Moran
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2017-38 (Introduce 2017 Municipal Budget)

Councilman Eddy noted that the Budget Workshop was on March 4th and that the hearing and possible approval will be scheduled for April 17th. He briefly reviewed the budget numbers. Councilman Eddy motioned to approve Resolution #2017-38, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo, and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Meyer & Moran
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Monroe and North Monroe Avenues Sidewalk Discussion

Councilwoman DerAsadourian explained that this discussion arose from the Safe Routes to School survey response which found that many were concerned over pedestrian safety on those roads. Councilman Eddy explained the Borough's Road Improvement Plan. He cautioned that Monroe and North Monroe Avenues were nearing the top of the list but improvements will not happen today or tomorrow.

Open the Meeting to the Public

Councilwoman DerAsadourian motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and approved by all Councilmembers present.

John McNee 85 Spruce Drive, Shrewsbury stated that he and his wife have a property on Monroe Avenue that they use commercially as an adoption agency. He stated that the north side of Monroe Avenue and the West side of North Monroe Avenue have utilities poles and explained how sidewalks would reduce the driveway space and increase street parking on a small road where he has already lost two rearview mirrors. Mr. Cranmer stated that it was a reasonable concern and explained that from the curb there is only about 7.5 feet in which the Borough would be able to do anything. He explained that for sidewalks, that there is normally a two foot separation between the sidewalk and the road, with the sidewalk itself being an additional five feet, this would result in resident losing 7 feet of their yard.

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Mr. McNee stated that many of Monroe and North Monroe Avenues' resident's water meters are in their driveways and asked whose responsibility it would be to move them. Mr. Cranmer stated that the cost would be part of the contract which the Borough would cover. Mr. McNee stated that sidewalks would require many trees to be removed and replanting would not be an option with the sidewalks. He stated that he is not opposed to the sidewalks if it is a safety issue. He added that the concern comes from the frequency and the speed that cars travel down the streets using it as a cut through. Mr. McNee stated that he thinks the best course of action is enforcing the speed limit and the 'Local Traffic Only' signs at the end of the street. He suggested adding an additional 'No Left' or 'No Right' signs to assist in controlling traffic. Mr. McNee said another option is making the streets one way or adding speed humps. He explained that a huge contributing factor is the light at the railroad tracks and the fact that traffic going north on Route 35 is the last to go in the light pattern. Mr. Cranmer explained that the Borough met with the NJ DOT in 2002 to discuss this issue and the result of those discussions was they felt that Newman Springs Road has the least capacity to stack cars. Councilman Meyer asked Mr. Cranmer to reach out to the NJDOT to discuss this further. Councilman Eddy suggested splitting the road in two, making it two dead ends.

Danielle Convery, 114 North Monroe, Shrewsbury stated that on North Monroe Avenue there are twelve children under the age of 13 and that there are no sidewalks. She stated that when Safe Routes to School organized the Walk to School Day and provided maps of safe passage ways, there were no safe passages from her street. She stated that Monroe is a death zone and explained how they would have to cross the road. Ms. Convery stated that they need sidewalks on one side of the road even though she is not a fan of losing the space. She explained that the residents have discussed various options to solve the problem. She noted that her children cannot play in the front yard because it is too dangerous. Ms. Convery informed the Council that if her children wanted to walk to school, the only safe route would be cutting through private property in the Heritage Green development, into Sickles Park, and walking down White Street. She explained that walking on Route 35 is not an option because the sidewalk is right on the highway and is a very dangerous situation. Ms. Convery discussed with the Council the various options suggested. Councilman Moran asked if it was possible for a crosswalk to be placed on Monroe Avenue. Mr. Cranmer stated that he would be hesitate to install a crosswalk because there would be nowhere for the pedestrians to go once they cross.

Mr. Cranmer, the Council, and the public continued to weigh some of the options. Mr. Cranmer explained the process to be followed with the NJDOT to implement any improvements to Monroe and North Monroe Avenues. He also informed the Council and the public of the pros and the cons of each type of traffic calming measure. Mr. Cranmer noted that Monroe and North Monroe will be repaved in the next few years and the Borough is trying to obtain grants to help with the rest.

Ms. Convery stated that she thought it would help to have a police officer sit on their street for a week issuing tickets for speeding. Councilman Meyer said he would discuss it with the Police Chief.

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Rich Sanders, 52 Monroe Avenue, Shrewsbury inquired if when the road was repaved, would there be new storm drains installed. He informed the Council that every time it rains his property becomes a lake. Mr. Cranmer stated that they would be replaced but noted that it would not completely solve the flooding issue.

Anita Rowe, 112 North Monroe Avenue, Shrewsbury stated that she has no issue with installing sidewalks. She pointed out that the biggest issue is the number of cars that cut through the street; 90% are not residents. She added that many residents on White Road use North Monroe Avenue as a personal parking lot. She noted that she didn't know what the perfect solution would be but she is not opposed to closing the street, making it two streets.

Mr. Cranmer stated that it was very unlikely that the NJ DOT would approve making the streets dead ends. He did promise that he would do anything possible to help the residents. Councilman Eddy stated that it seemed to him that the biggest issues on Monroe and North Monroe Avenues were not sidewalks, but the cars cutting through the street and their speed. Mr. Cranmer explained that there are various ways to look at this issue through infrastructure or legislation. He noted that the NJ DOT needs to have a recent traffic study to look at before they will approve anything. Councilman Meyer stated that the Traffic Safety Officer will look at the situation in the morning. Mr. Cranmer stated that he would work with the Code Enforcement Officer to notify White Road businesses that they cannot have their trucks unload on North Monroe Avenue.

Marjorie Clark, 213 Garden Road, Shrewsbury inquired what constitutes 'Local Traffic'. Mr. Cranmer stated that it means residents only. Ms. Clark stated that she does cut through that road to get to the DPW yard when Route 35 is backed up to Monroe Avenue. Mr. Cranmer stated that a proper sign would be 'No Cut Through'.

Councilwoman DerAsadourian stated that the next step would be meeting with Mr. Cranmer and Mr. Huresky to review the information. Mr. Cranmer asked the public if anyone present was opposed to sidewalks and they all agreed that they were not opposed to sidewalks on one side of the streets but felt that the Borough needed to spread the word more among residents. Councilwoman DerAsadourian stated that all the residents of Monroe and North Monroe were notified via letter.

Ms. Clark, stated that Garden Road is a cut through for White Street.

Ms. Rowe stated that Monroe and North Monroe Avenues have a more unique problem than Garden Road because of the size of the properties, the limited parking, and the narrowness of the road which makes it more dangerous.

Councilman Anderson asked the public if sidewalks were placed on the east side of North Monroe Avenue, how many of the people in attendance would be impacted. No residents present were located on the east side.

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Ms. Convery questioned if the Sycamore Avenue, Newman Springs Road, and White Road lights were timed quicker, would that help the traffic flow and reduce the backup on Route 35 and White Road? Mr. Cranmer explained how that system worked, the high cost, and the difficulty with it due to the Borough controlling the traffic light at White Street and Route 35 for school crossing. Mr. Cranmer explained that within the next two years the Borough will be getting new traffic lights when they repave Route 35 but it will not be a 'smart' system due to that being reserved for longer stretches of road.

Stuart Minis, 35 Thomas Avenue, Shrewsbury told the public that they should come to more Council meetings and pointed out that the Council is interested in their opinions.

Mayor Burden thanked the public for coming to the meeting and told them that the Council was listening to their concerns.

Close the Meeting to the Public

Councilman DeSalvo motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by all Councilmembers present.

Administrator's Report

Mr. Seaman reported that the Elected Officials training is now available online and provides the Borough with an insurance credit. He informed the Council that the Borough is still waiting for the additional FEMA reimbursement. Additionally, he updated the Council on the Borough's tax appeals. Mr. Seaman stated that the Borough's cleaning lady was out due to injury for six weeks and a service was hired for the interim. He summarized the Tax Collector's Report which was distributed to Council.

Reports of Council

Councilman Anderson reported that he would be attending the Shrewsbury Borough School Board of Education meeting the following night. He reported that a decision on the location of Memorial Day needed to be decided.

Councilwoman DerAsadourian reported that the Sickles basketball courts were repaired. She stated that the tennis courts need to be refinished and Mr. Cranmer has already received two quotes. *Councilwoman DerAsadourian motioned to set aside \$22,000 from the Open Space Fund to refinished the tennis courts.* Councilman Eddy inquired if it had to be done at this moment or after the budget is passed. The Council discussed the needs for the court. *The motion was seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and was approved by the following roll call vote:*

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Meyer & Moran

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: None

Mr. Cranmer stated that he would work with Councilwoman DerAsadourian to find a contractor and get a contract to be presented at the May meeting. Mr. Cranmer updated the Council on the repairs to the Sickles Park basketball court.

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Councilman DeSalvo stated that the Recreation Committee would like to change online registration companies from Community Pass to MyRec.com. He stated that the price difference is only about \$1 per registration. *Councilman DeSalvo motioned to approve a contract with MyRec.com for \$1755, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by the following roll call vote:*

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Meyer & Moran
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Councilman Eddy reported the date for the next insurance committee meeting.

Councilman Meyer had nothing to report.

Councilman Moran reported on the brush collection and noted that DPW would be looking at a street sweeper model with Oceanport. The Council discussed the street sweeper potential agreement with Oceanport.

Councilman Moran explained that there is a code enforcement issue on a street where, after the DPW cleaned the street, residents put snow back into the street, causing the road to ice over. Mr. Seaman stated that the Code Enforcement Officer issued warnings and there would be a notice in a future newsletter. Councilman DeSalvo asked that this information be noted in the Two River Alert for the next storm.

Councilman Moran stated that the Borough needs to purchase a SandPro for a cost of \$28,000 to maintain the fields. Mr. Seaman stated that it can be purchased under the bid threshold through a state contract. Councilman Moran stated that this unit will save time and money on labor. The Council debated if it was cheaper to outsource this work. Mr. Cranmer explained all the things the machine can do and its benefits. The Council discussed the need for this piece of equipment. Mr. Seaman explained that there is no funding for this item at this moment and informed the Council of their options. The Council decided to discuss this item further at the next meeting.

Councilman Moran informed the Council that the Light Bridge Academy was approved by the Planning Board for Shrewsbury Avenue.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Burden reported on the Homesteader's meeting and noted that he performed a wedding in the past week. He stated that he attended the Monmouth County Library Commission meeting where a canopy was approved for the entrance of the Eastern Monmouth County Branch in Shrewsbury.

Correspondence

Municipal Clerk Krueger stated that she had no additional correspondence but asked Councilman DeSalvo if a new field coordinator was hired. Councilman DeSalvo stated that Jenni Keatts was the new coordinator and would be paid \$500 a quarter. Attorney Barger stated that a resolution would have to be written for her employment.

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Open the Meeting to the Public

Councilman DeSalvo motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Anderson, and approved by all Council present.

Marjorie Clark, 213 Garden Road, informed the Council that many years ago, with a different Council, there was a great debate over the tennis courts. She noted that during this discussion it was said that the courts were supposed to last for several years and asked Mr. Cranmer to refresh her memory. Mr. Cranmer gave a brief history of the tennis courts and explained that a new coat of epoxy was just for maintenance purposes.

Stuart Minis, 35 Thomas Avenue, thanked Councilman Eddy and the Finance Committee for the great job at the Budget Workshop and noted how well attended it was. He also asked the Council to continue shared services.

Mayor Burden stated that there were four members of the public present.

Close the Meeting to the Public.

Councilman Anderson motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Eddy, and approved by all Council present.

Payment of the Bills

Councilman Eddy motioned to approve the bills list in the amount of \$57,210.37, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo, and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DeSalvo, DerAsadourian, Eddy, Meyer & Moran
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Councilman DeSalvo motioned to approve Jenni Keatts as the Field Coordinator at a rate of \$500 per quarter, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by the following roll call vote:

*AYES: Anderson, DeSalvo, DerAsadourian, Eddy, Meyer & Moran
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None*

Adjourn to Executive Session

Mayor Burden stated that the Council needed to enter into Executive Session. Councilman Meyer motioned to enter into Executive Session, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by all Councilmember present. The Council entered into Executive Session at 8:50 PM.

Public Meeting Reconvened

The public meeting reconvened at 9:25PM.

Adjourn

Councilman Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 9:26PM, seconded by Councilman Moran, and approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

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Attest: _____
Kathleen P. Krueger, RMC – Municipal Clerk

Approve: _____
Donald Burden – Mayor