Meeting Called to Order

The public meeting convened at 7:08 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 February 2, 2018 by the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Burden, Councilmember's Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo,

Eddy & Eulner

Also Present: Attorney Martin M. Barger, Borough Administrator Thomas Seaman,

Borough Engineer Dave Cranmer, Clerk Kathleen P. Krueger & Incoming

Clerk Maureen Muttie

Absent: Councilmember Meyer

Salute to Flag

Led by Mayor Burden.

Approval of Minutes: December 18, 2017

Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Eddy and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian,

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

Approval of Minutes: Reorganization Meeting January 2, 2018

Councilman Eddy motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

Approval of Minutes: Regular Meeting January 2, 2018

Councilman Anderson motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilman Eddy and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

Approval of Minutes: January 16, 2018

Councilman DeSalvo motioned to approve the minutes, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo & Eulner

NAYS: None

ABSTAIN: Anderson & Eddy

Consent Agenda

Resolution #2018-25 (Appoint Mr. Theodore Giannechini to the TRWRA)

Resolution #2018-26 (Shrewsbury Hose Co. 1 Canning Fundraiser on County Road)

Resolution #2018-27 (Appropriation Reserve Transfer #2)

Resolution #2018-28 (Monmouth County Mosquito to Conduct Aerial Mosquito Control Operations)

Resolution #2018-29 (Appoint Special Counsel, Labor/Employment Counsel Bruce Padula, Esq.)

Appoint Jill Conway to the Environmental Commission

Councilman Anderson requested that Resolution #2018-25 (Appoint Mr. Theodore Giannechini to the TRWRA) be removed from the consent agenda. Councilman DeSalvo motioned to approve the consent agenda with the exception of Resolution #2018-25, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2018-25 (Appoint Mr. Theodore Giannechini to the TRWRA)

Councilman Anderson explained that he would like to carry this Resolution to the next meeting as he would like to have the opportunity to review and digest the bio information on Mr. Giannechini that he had only recently received. Councilman Anderson motioned to table Resolution #2018-25 to the next meeting for consideration, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and approved by the following roll call vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

Administrator's Report

Mr. Seaman requested that review the draft of the Borough Directory for any necessary changes and let him know as it will be going to the printer by the end of the week. He stated that Borough Engineer Dave Cranmer was finishing up documents for the submittal of the reimbursement of the County Open Space Grant for the Manson Park project. Mr. Seaman stated that he had submitted the Borough's Annual Debt Statement and the Annual Financial Statement would be submitted by Monday.

Mr. Seaman shared the Code Enforcement Officer's report for the last three weeks. He noted that Mr. Wood has inspected vacant structures, removed portable signs throughout the entire town and focused on the jug handle by the Americana Diner where there were numerous signs. Mr. Seaman reported that Mr. Wood is working with Mr. Barger on the Aire B&B issues that have presented in the Borough. Mr. Wood has also issued violation notices for property maintenance to three different properties on Thomas Avenue.

Reports of Council

Councilman Anderson reported that in reference to the Aire B&B's we are looking at presenting an ordinance that would tighten up the Borough's existing ordinances regarding rental of residential units at homes in the community. He stated he would discuss the WAWA proposal at Newman Springs and Route 35 when Senator Gopal arrives. Mr. Anderson informed the Council that a traffic calming proposal for North Monroe Avenue has been submitted to the state. He noted specifically shutting down traffic coming off 35 through North Monroe and Monroe.

Mr. Anderson spoke about the consideration of using the "Hot Box" technique to patch pot holes in the Borough. He stated that currently we have been using cold patch to patch pot holes which does not have durability. Mr. Anderson explained how they had explored if it would be more efficient and cost effective to outsource this process to another entity or if sharing the cost of a Hot Box with Oceanport would be a better solution. He stated that the cost of the Hot Box is between \$30 to \$35,000 and the cost to Shrewsbury residents would be about \$17,000 to purchase the equipment. After exploring both possibilities it became clear it was more cost effective for the Borough to purchase its own Hot Box and have it handled by its own employees over calling somebody in to perform this function. Mr. Anderson stated that we would look to do a shared purchasing agreement with Oceanport provided they share the cost 50/50 with the Borough. He reported the DPW Committee would recommend this purchase using our recycling funds towards this purchase. Mr. Anderson stated that if Oceanport agreed to the shared purchase they would look to do a test run using the Hot Box to get a better indication of what this would involve.

Councilman Anderson shared the information on the application for a WAWA on Newman Springs Road and Rt. 35 for the public in attendance at the meeting. Mr. Anderson relayed concerns the Borough has due to the traffic congestion this could bring to the property owners in that area. Mr. Anderson spoke to the concerns they have to how people currently use Haddon, Laurel, Thomas, Henry, Frances and Trafford as a cut through and the additional concern this application before the Red Bank Planning Board would add to that situation. Councilman Anderson spoke of the great concern the Council has with the site plans which have a dedicated turn lane that would introduce traffic into those neighborhoods.

Discussion: Honorable Senator Vin Gopal arrived at the meeting

Senator Gopal stated that he looks forward to working with the Mayor and Council and the residents over the next four years. Mr. Gopal stated that he is hoping they will reach out to him with whatever issues they are dealing with so he can attempt to do whatever he can to alleviate those concerns. He asked everyone to feel welcomed to reach out to him and he will look to being as accessible as possible.

At the Council's request, Senator Gopal sat down and discussed their concerns. Councilwoman DerAsadourian thanked him for coming and welcomed him to the Borough she then deferred to Councilman Anderson who discussed the topic of Shrewsbury Borough School funding Mr. Anderson spoke to the 30 year issue the Borough has dealt with concerning the lack of funding by the state that goes to Shrewsbury Borough School. He noted that for the 500 students they have they only receive about \$250,000 in state aid. Mr. Anderson noted that to make up the difference the Borough has to go to its residents.

Mr. Anderson spoke about all the different issues the school is dealing with and listed them one by one. Mr. Anderson stated they feel they are being abandoned by Trenton. He spoke to the calculation that they estimate they send about 10 million dollars to the state and in return the Borough receives about a quarter of a million dollars in funding. He noted of that \$211,000 of that is dedicated to special education. Mr. Anderson stated that the cost per pupil is about \$15,000 at SBS where other schools are spending \$25,000 to \$30,000 a student. Councilman Anderson stated we need help, help from Trenton. He stated that we just are not getting a fair shake with things. He pointed out that out of 599 districts we rank 581 in school funding. He stated even if they funded Shrewsbury Borough at 100% we still would be grossly underfunded. Mr. Anderson advised Senator Gopal that the Borough needs your help.

Senator Gopal responded that obviously this has been a very important issue. He stated that he met with the Senate President that morning and Shrewsbury was discussed as was Neptune City, Red Bank and Freehold as some of the most underfunded districts in the state and that unfortunately there are going to be winners and losers. Senator Gopal shared districts that will be losing funding this year and districts that had previously been underfunded will be receiving money and that this will continue for the next couple of years. He noted they have examined the districts spending 30, 40 even \$50,000 per pupil and they have not seen the return on those investments. He stated that in some of these districts they are taking the money and putting it towards a new roof as an example and not putting it towards educating kids. Mr. Gopal stated that hopefully by the end of February when the senate releases the school funding numbers that he would fight to get Shrewsbury every dollar possible. Senator Gopal stated that he had been having conversations with Shrewsbury's superintendant who he feels is very committed to the school and it has been on his mind before tonight's meeting to get every bit of funding for Shrewsbury he can. Mr. Gopal cited other schools locally like Red Bank that are in need of more funding and he stated he was committed to doing everything he can for them. He stated there are other schools districts that will be losing money for the next 5 years and they have been warned that they need to prepare for that because they have been on the receiving end for so long. Councilman Anderson and Senator Gopal continued the discussion about how they plan to make things move in a more positive direction for towns like Shrewsbury. Mr. Gopal stated that legislature and senate are not planning on passing the millionaires tax and they are not planning on passing some of the initiatives that Governor Murphy is proposing. He added that they will be having conversations on funding to see where every dollar is going to be spent.

Councilman Anderson brought up that at the school funding meeting that was held recently, which Senator Gopal attended, Shrewsbury was never even mentioned until the end when a specific question was asked about Shrewsbury. Senator Gopal reassured Councilman Anderson that other underfunded districts feel they are experiencing the same thing. Senator Gopal stated he was here to do what he can to help and he acknowledged that Shrewsbury is doing a lot with the funding it is getting.

Councilman DeSalvo stated for the benefit of Senator Gopal that Shrewsbury is part of the regional system at RBR. He stated they all agree it is a great school but the problem they have is with the funding formula that is used. Mr. DeSalvo stated that we are not paying the same rate as Red Bank and Little Silver that Shrewsbury's is paying a higher rate. He then deferred to Councilman Eddy who stated that Shrewsbury is part of the ADP program and that all three

towns were a part of it as well. Mr. Eddy stated all three towns are assessed at 100% but then the state makes an adjustment and assigns more assessed value to Shrewsbury and that in turn raises how much the residents have to pay from a tax basis associated with RBR. Mr. Eddy stated that the tax rate per dollar is not the same for all three towns. He noted that Little Silver and Red Bank both pay 45 cents per 100 and Shrewsbury pays 49 cents per 100. Senator Gopal and Councilman Eddy discussed the state's funding formula and how the state is determining the funding formula that is being used. Senator Gopal questioned if it was the legislature or the Department of Education that determines this. Senator Gopal stated that he would put this issue on his list to look into. Councilman Eddy stated that when they have talked to the County Tax Assessor, Matt Clark in Monmouth County, he stated that they should not be adjusting the assessed value when they are doing the state school funding formula for the regional high school but Mr. Eddy pointed out that they are. Senator Gopal stated that he would look into it and get back to them. Mr. Eddy stated that Shrewsbury is paying almost \$500,000 dollars more from our small borough than our constituents who are sending their students to the same school.

Councilwoman DerAsadourian addressed the issue that Shrewsbury is unique in that we have a state highway and a county highway running through the town and that they cross but she noted we also have an elementary school with 500 kids and we do not have school busing. She stated essentially we have a lot of pedestrian traffic. Councilwoman DerAsadourian then deferred to Borough Engineer Dave Cranmer on some of the projects that are under way.

Mr. Cranmer discussed the unique situation of the Borough in more detail. He noted that it is a very tightly knit community with a state highway that runs north and south and additionally there are two major county roads that run east and west. Mr. Cranmer spoke about keeping up the infrastructure investment while dealing with the congestion this situation creates and the impact on local roadways, as well as, the issues created by cut through traffic in our neighborhoods. He noted the constant upkeep of fixing pot holes, maintaining and resurfacing roads with the additional concerns surrounding traffic calming. Mr. Cranmer spoke about the effort to keep the traffic which uses our local roads to bypass the intersections out of Borough neighborhoods.

Mr. Cranmer commented on the great job Council has done the past 17 years planning for these expenditures. He noted how they have aggressively pursued the Transportation Trust Fund program and been successful with their efforts. He noted that they plan 3 to 4 years ahead of the projects they are going to implement to seek grant funding for these projects. He stated that what he would ask is that they continue to receive help from Trenton as we move forward with these issues and he mentioned the neighborhoods of Monroe and North Monroe that have been decimated by the traffic. Mr. Cranmer stated they have requested an investigation from the Dept. of Engineering to help solve this problem. He spoke how the quality of life has been affected for these families and their children who have had to deal with cars constantly traveling down their streets day and night.

Mr. Cranmer shared that the Borough has done a grant every other year for the past 10 to 15 years and how that money is invested wisely. Senator Gopal requested a list of the streets that the Borough is applying for grants for. He spoke to the different programs and things that the state has available. Senator Gopal asked if we have any Shrewsbury residents who are interested in volunteering for the many different opportunities to serves and he began to list some of them.

He noted that anyone interested in volunteering can contact his office for information.

Open the Meeting to the Public

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

<u>Frank Neary, 30 Birch Drive</u> who is the elected representative to the Red Bank Regional Board of Education spoke of meeting Senator Gopal the previous week and discussing the allocation formula for Red Bank Regional. He referred the to previous discussion of the Council members related to this issue which significantly impacts Shrewsbury residents more than the other sending districts. He stated that he looks forward to working closely with Senator Gopal on this and stated that he would provide him his contact information before he leaves. He stated that he felt it was a relatively easy fix because the problem is legislative and it is legislative on a small scale, it is not a statewide issue. They agreed to discuss this issue further off line.

Councilman Anderson acknowledged Donald Sweeney and Jessica Groom who are members of the Shrewsbury Board of Education who were present. Mr. Anderson stated that they will also be glad to provide Senator Gopal with their contact information.

Close the Meeting to the Public

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Eddy motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Anderson, and approved by all Council present.

Senator Vin Gopal thanked the Mayor and Council and residents for inviting him and for the concerns they had shared with him. He stated that he would get back to them on these issues. The Mayor and Council thanked Senator Gopal for coming and for his anticipated help. The room broke into applause as the Senator made his exit.

Council Reports Continued

Councilman Anderson informed the public that in regard to the WAWA application before the Red Bank Zoning Board, the Borough Professionals have been instructed to draft a letter to the residents of Laurel, Henry, Haddon, Frances, Thomas and Trafford to inform them about the existence of this application as they were not in the 200ft notice sent out by the applicant. Councilman Anderson stated that the Borough will also issue a letter to the Monmouth County Planning Board as well as the Red Bank Zoning Board stating our concerns with the impact the application will have on our community and advising them that we are authorizing our professionals to engage to protect the interest of Shrewsbury residents. He stated that the Council is monitoring the situation and working to protect our interest. Councilman Eddy stated that the next Red Bank Zoning Board meeting is scheduled for March 1st at 6:30PM in the Red Bank meeting room and encouraged our residents to attend.

Councilman Anderson stated the Shop Rite application is moving forward and that there have been no appeals on the Quick Check application. He reported on the School Funding Meeting that he and other Council members attended last week with Senators Gopal, O' Scanlon, Assemblywomen Downey, Handlin and DiMaso and Assemblyman Houghtaling covering school

funding on the peninsula. Mr. Anderson stated that at the end of the month he will meet with the Superintendant and our assembly persons for a tour of Shrewsbury Borough School.

Councilman Anderson stated he had provided the responses to the RFP's and after review and discussion with the Borough Engineer he recommends accepting the RFP's from L&L and Fiore for "on call" asphalt services in the Borough for the year 2018, utilizing L&L (who was the lowest bidder) for "on call" asphalt services but if not available Fiore would be the provider of service as in the case of an emergency, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

<u>Councilwoman DerAsadourian</u> reported on attending the Red Bank Board of Education meeting which was the genesis for inviting Senator Gopal to attend the Council meeting. She reinforced the statement by Councilman Anderson that in an hour and a half of discussion at that meeting Shrewsbury was not mentioned once. She commented that she hopes with the information that has since been shared we are able to move forward on some of these issues.

Ms. DerAsadourain stated that Clerk Krueger would be leaving her position at the end of the month and deferred to Clerk Krueger to introduce the incoming clerk, Maureen Muttie.

Clerk Krueger introduced incoming Clerk, Maureen Muttie, to the attendees at the meeting and stated that Ms. Muttie would be joining our staff officially as of March 1st. Ms. Krueger stated that she felt the Council, staff and residents are going to love her as she is a highly regarded Clerk and she will be a great match for Shrewsbury. She welcomed her as did the rest of the Council.

Councilman DeSalvo reported on the monthly fire calls for January which totaled 16, with 10 being general alarms, 1 for motor vehicle, 1 for a gas leak at the Township, 2 mutual aid calls to Eatontown and 2 that were gas leaks. Mr. DeSalvo reported First Aid had 60 calls in January with 22 being mutual aid to another municipality. Councilman DeSalvo reported on the request from Shrewsbury Township to provide First Aid coverage at a rate of \$3,000 per year. Mr. DeSalvo stated that after speaking with our First Aid Squad that would not even come close to covering our cost so we will have our administrator relay that information back to them. Councilman DeSalvo stated that the Township have lost their contract with MONAC, their EMS provider, and are listing the Borough as the lead response so this will need to be addressed with their administrator. Councilman Eddy suggested that the Borough send a letter and copy Monmouth County Dispatch to let them know what is going on. Administrator Seaman and Attorney Barger stated they would address this right away.

<u>Councilman Eddy</u> reported that the Auditors are busy auditing our processes for the next couple of weeks. He informed the Council that Mr. Seaman has an initial draft budget which is with the Finance Committee and once they have reviewed it will be distributed to the rest of the Council and then we will start the process. After discussion it was decided that the Budget Workshop

would take place March 3rd at 9:00AM at which time Councilman Eddy will make a presentation and go through the budget with an open public question and answer session. Mr. Eddy invited all residents to attend so they can see what the Council has done from a budgeting perspective related to what the coming year will be. He stated that once the presentation is done it will go on the website where it can be viewed. Mr. Eddy stated previous year's budget information is also on the website. He noted that the budget is one of the components that is part of the tax rate. Mr. Eddy stated the Council is responsible for the Municipal Budget and are the tax collector for Shrewsbury Borough School, Red Bank Regional High School and the County. He pointed out that the tax bill will include these 4 components plus the library tax but he noted the Borough has no control over those budgets and encouraged residents to address any concerns with those budgets with SBS, RBR or the County. He encouraged all the residents to attend.

Councilman Eddy stated we are reviewing our health care plans in an effort to contain our health care costs. He stated that the Finance Committee has also been involved with the Technology piece and he advised the public that they have been directed by the MEL JIF to have a cyber security program in place, which the Council is working on. He noted this effort was started last year and the plan documentation, along with firewall protections in place, a backup system and a variety of other things guaranteeing protection from the cyber world, will be completed in the near future.

Councilman Eddy reported that in conversations with the Two River Water Reclamation Authority they agreed to come to our next Council meeting to give us a perspective on what is going on from a sewer perspective with the Fort Monmouth redevelopment. Mr. Eddy stated that as there is the potential for many issues to arise they are going to come in and give a report to the Council.

<u>Councilwoman Doran Eulner</u> reported she is starting her tours of the different parks to see what needs to be addressed. She noted she was appointed to the Planning Board by the Mayor and attended a Planning Board mandatory training session. She stated she had met with the gentleman who pretty much runs our Memorial Day observance and things were under way there as well.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported on different meetings he had attended recently which included attending the Planning Board Reorganizational meeting where the Lunch Break application was approved. He attended the Friends of Monmouth County Library meeting and the Monmouth County Historical Society meeting. The Mayor reported on attending the Shared Service meeting with Oceanport as well as the Peninsula School Funding formula meeting in Little Silver with other Council members, as well as, the Monmouth County Planning Board meeting regarding the WaWa application along with Chief Turner, Ptl. Cerminaro, Sqt. Calicari and Dave Cranmer. The Mayor stated that he had attended the PBA dinner and hosted the Two River of Council of Mayors meeting here at the Borough. Additionally, he attended the Shrewsbury Hose Company Annual Awards dinner and Scouts Annual Pinewood Derby, where he was a judge and then presented the Mayors Cup. The Mayor also reported on attending the JCP&L Emergency Training Seminar with Ron Neis, Brent McConnell, Chief Turner and Tom Seaman.

Mayor Burden informed the public that the Community Garden meeting scheduled for February 12th was cancelled and will be rescheduled. He concluded with accepting the resignation of Beth Kerekes from the Board of Health and requested if anyone on Council had suggestions for a possible replacement, he would welcome that.

Correspondence

Municipal Clerk Krueger stated just as a reminder, the dog and cat licensing period has been underway for the month of January and as of February 15th the grace period ends. She stated that after February 15th there would be an additional \$5 late fee added to the license fee.

Open the Meeting to the Public

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

Dan Levine, 5 Adams Way, stated that he listened to the commentary about the funding school problem. He stated that this is not a new problem it didn't come up just last year or the year before. It is an old problem and he stated not to take this as a disparaging comment that we have had a republican governor for 8 years who did more to decimate the school funding than any previous governor that he could recall. Mr. Levine stated you have a new senator of a different party just coming on board. He noted the object of getting the school funding changed needs to be a multiple communities endeavor where you lobby your representatives on both sides of the aisle. He stated that this is the only way this will occur, if it can occur. He stated his point is that it's not a new subject and there have been many opportunities to try to change it and obviously they haven't been successful because after a period of time they start to back off. Mr. Levine stated his only suggestion is that you have to lobby both sides of the aisle in order to get it done. Other than that, I thank you all for serving. I understand it is no easy task and people come here for a couple of reasons. One, they want something or two; they want to complain about something. However, everyone has the same interest, whether its accomplished or not, it's up to you to get it done. Thank you.

Councilman Eddy responded to Mr. Levine that last fall we had Senator's Jennifer Beck, Declan O'Scanlon, Assemblywoman Downey and Assemblyman Houghtaling all of them here and had this same discussion with them related to school funding formula. Mr. Eddy stated we will talk to whoever we can get in here. We keep trying.

Close the Meeting to the Public.

Seeing no one else wishing to speak, Councilman Anderson motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by all Councilmember's present.

Payment of the Bills

Councilman Eddy motioned to approve the bills list in the amount of \$2,095,242.93 seconded by Councilwoman Eulner, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: Anderson, DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy & Eulner

NAYS: None ABSTAIN: None

Councilman Eddy stated that a majority of the bills list \$1, 887,738 goes to RBR, SBS and County taxes.

Adjourn

Councilman Anderson motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:02PM, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo, and approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes. Councilman Eddy thanked the public for coming and asked them to come again.

Attest:	
	Kathleen P. Krueger, RMC – Municipal Clerk
Approve:	
	Donald Rurden – Mayor