

**BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY
MUNICIPAL COMPLEX
MAYOR & COUNCIL**

DECEMBER 7, 2020

Meeting Called to Order

Mayor Erik Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm and read the Presiding Officer's Statement.

Sunshine Statement

The Notice Requirements provided for in the Open Public Meetings Act have been satisfied. Notice of this meeting was properly given by transmission to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times and by posting on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on January 8, 2020 by the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Councilwoman Deidre DerAsadourian
Councilman Jeff DeSalvo
Councilman Don Eddy
Councilwoman Kim Doran Eulner
Councilman Brendan Gilmartin
Councilman Jason Sena

Also Present: Mayor Erik Anderson
Bruce Padula, Borough Attorney
Maureen L. Muttie, Clerk/Administrator
Kerry Quinn, Deputy Municipal Clerk

Absent: None

Salute to Flag

Led by Mayor Erik Anderson

Approval of Minutes – October 19, 2020

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

Ayes: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Eulner, Gilmartin and Sena
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Resolutions

Councilman DeSalvo motioned to approve Resolution 2020-142 seconded by Councilman Gilmartin, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Eulner, Gilmartin and Sena
Nays: None
Abstain: None

**RESOLUTION 2020-142 - PROMOTING JOSEPH BARNICLE TO THE
RANK OF SERGEANT IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POLICE**

WHEREAS, the Police Committee has reviewed and recommended to the Mayor and Council and the Chief of Police, that Patrol Officer Joseph Barnicle be promoted to the rank of Sergeant, Grade 5; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has concurred with the recommendation of the Police Committee.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor, with the advice and consent of the Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury, does hereby appoint Joseph Barnicle to the rank of Sergeant; and

BE IT RESOLVED that this appointment shall be effective on January 1, 2021, with an annual base salary of \$129,411; and

BE IT RESOLVED that the Office of the Municipal Clerk shall forward a certified copy of this resolution to the Chief of Police and the Chief Financial Officer/Administrator.

Consent Agenda

Councilman Sena motioned to approve the Consent Agenda seconded by Councilman DeSalvo, and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Eulner, Gilmartin and Sena
Nays: None
Abstain: None

RESOLUTION 2020-143 - DESIGNATING 2021 BOROUGH HOLIDAYS

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury, that the following holidays for the year 2021 shall be observed by the Borough of Shrewsbury, in accordance with the Personnel Policy:

New Year's Day	Friday	January 1, 2021
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day	Monday	January 18, 2021
Presidents' Day	Monday	February 15, 2021
Good Friday	Friday	April 2, 2021
Memorial Day	Monday	May 31, 2021
Independence Day	Monday	July 5, 2021 (in lieu)
Labor Day	Monday	September 6, 2021
Columbus Day	Monday	October 11, 2021
Veterans' Day	Thursday	November 11, 2021
Thanksgiving Day	Thursday	November 25, 2021
(Day After)	Friday	November 26, 2021
Christmas Day	Friday	December 24, 2021 (in lieu)

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**RESOLUTION 2020-144 – RESOLUTION TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAM
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY ASSISTANCE EMAA
ADMINISTERED BY THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Shrewsbury applied for the 2020 Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Emergency Management Agency Assistance (EMAA) subaward supported by the FY20 EMPG Emergency Management Performance Grant No. FY20-EMPG-EMAA-1344; and

WHEREAS, Shrewsbury Borough, Office of Emergency Management has been awarded grant under the Federal Award Identification No. EMN-2020-EP-00003, Award # FY20-EMPG-EMAA-1344 from the New Jersey State Police Office of Emergency Management. The Subgrant, consisting of a total amount of \$10,000 for the purpose of enhancing Shrewsbury Borough Office of Emergency Management functions including the ability to prevent, protect against, respond to and recover from acts of terrorism, natural disasters and other catastrophic events and emergencies will be used for salary, wages and fringe benefits. The period of performance being stipulated as July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2021; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and the Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury hereby, is authorized to accept the specific grant funds from the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the emergency preparedness as administered by the State of New Jersey, department of Law & Public Safety.

**RESOLUTION 2020-145 - APPROVING THE CONTRACT OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS MANAGER**

WHEREAS, Ron Neis was appointed Public Works Manager for the Borough of Shrewsbury on April 1, 2019; and

WHEREAS, at that time, the Borough and Ron Neis entered into an employment agreement, which expired on March 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, the Borough and Ron Neis have agreed to the terms of a new employment agreement.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the governing body of the Borough of Shrewsbury approves the attached employment agreement effective and retroactive to January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2021, incorporated herein by reference, and authorizes the Mayor to execute the agreement on behalf of the Borough.

**RESOLUTION 2020-146 APPROVING THE BILL LIST FOR DECEMBER 7, 2020
AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Shrewsbury received certain claims against it by way of voucher in the amount of \$1,506,011.87 for the period ending December 7, 2020; and

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WHEREAS, the Borough Council has reviewed the aforementioned claims .

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Shrewsbury that the attached claims are hereby approved for payment.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution be given to the Chief Financial Officer

**RESOLUTION 2020-147 - AUTHORIZING CHIEF FINANCIAL OFFICER TO PAY
COVID-19 RELATED EXPENSES PRIOR TO NEXT BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING
TO QUALIFY FOR CARES ACT REIMBURSEMENT**

WHEREAS, the next meeting of the Borough Council is not being held until December 21, 2020; and

WHEREAS, in order to receive qualified Cares Act reimbursements in 2020, all Covid-19 related expenses must be paid by December 18, 2020.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the governing body of the Borough of Shrewsbury in the County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey that the Borough's Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to make any qualifying Covid-19 related expense payments prior to the deadline required for submission for Cares Act reimbursements from the County of Monmouth.

Ordinances – Second Reading/Public Hearing:

Ordinance No. 2020-1071: An Ordinance Amending Chapter 94, "Land Use and Development Regulation," to Assign the Duties, Powers, and Functions of the Zoning Board of Adjustment to the Planning Board which Shall be Known as the Shrewsbury Land Use Board

Mayor Anderson noted a question came in earlier today through the Clerk's Office and the question is whether the Planning and Zoning Boards were consulted about the change.

Mayor Anderson responded yes, the Chairperson for the Zoning and Planning Boards was consulted as well as Lorraine Kelleher, Secretary for both Boards, as were the Attorneys for both Boards, Kevin Kennedy and Kevin Asadi and the Borough Engineer, Dave Cranmer. Mayor Anderson further explained that they all felt this was a good idea to unify the Boards especially since there were only two Planning Board meetings last year. Other towns have unified their Boards: Little Silver, Sea Bright, Allenhurst, Loch Arbor, Deal, Neptune City and Monmouth Beach. Mayor Anderson explained the way it works is the Planning Board, under the Municipal Land Use Law, assumes the powers of the Zoning Board. Borough Attorney, Bruce Padula, added the Municipal Land Use Law lets the Planning Board perform the functions of the Zoning Board if an ordinance is adopted. Mayor Anderson added the only difference is regarding use variance; any member of council and himself would have to step down.

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Floor Open to the Public:

Robin Blair, 69 Thornbrooke Drive – Ms. Blair asked what would happen to all the previous testimonies/public hearings on the Martelli application. Mr. Padula explained it would stay with the Planning Board which will become the Land Use Board. If the testimony had been taken by the Zoning Board, then the Zoning Board will remain in existence to complete that application.

Stu Minis, 35 Thomas Avenue – Mr. Minis asked how the new board will be composed and will positions be eliminated. Mayor Anderson responded not everyone on the Zoning Board will be placed on the Planning Board. There are only two vacancies currently on the Planning Board. Mr. Minis asked how those vacancies will be filled. Mayor Anderson responded they are filled by Mayoral appointment with approval of the Council.

Judith Kramer, 10 Willow Court – Ms. Kramer apologized for coming to meeting late but asked if the rationale for the unification of the two Boards was discussed already. Mayor Anderson reiterated that he has spoken with Judy Martinelli, Chairperson for both Boards to get her feedback on the idea and concept as well as Lorraine Kelleher, Board Secretary, the Board Attorneys and they all agreed that it would be in the best interests of the Borough to unify the Boards. It will allow for streamlining of services to eliminate at least one paid position.

Carolyn Barber, 132 Dorchester Way – Ms. Barber asked since most applications are before the Zoning Board, why not have those members on the unified Land Use Board. Mayor Anderson explained that the Municipal Land Use Law says the Planning Board usurps the Zoning Board. Mr. Padula added that there isn't an option to combine one or the other into the other one. Municipal Land Use Law specifically provides that the Planning Board will perform the functions of the Zoning Board.

Close the Floor to the Public

With no one else wishing to speak, Mayor Anderson closed the floor to the public.

Motion to Adopt

Councilman Sena motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 2020-1077, seconded by Councilman Gilmartin and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Eulner, Gilmartin, Sena
Nays: None
Abstain: None

Discussion and Action

Local Health Services

(Bruce Padula excuses himself)

Mayor Anderson explained that last year the Borough was approached by the Monmouth County Health Department to see if the Borough would be interested in joining their Health Department. Currently we work with the Monmouth County Regional Health Commission (MCRHC). Mayor Anderson added that while the MCRHC is working very, very hard, it was his experience in handling and dealing with Covid-19 that the Borough was dealing more and more with the

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Monmouth County Health Department. The Monmouth County Health Department has a larger staff and more robust services that are available. Mayor Anderson asked the Council to review and discuss whether the Borough should move from the MCRHC to the Monmouth County Health Department. The Monmouth County Health Department does cost a little more. The Borough has relied on the County Health Department during the pandemic and the Borough was never charged. The Mayor asked Council to look at the documents, do a comparison of services provided and see if it is prudent to move to the Monmouth County Health Department.

(Bruce Padula returns to meeting)

Shrewsbury Hose Company – New Member Application Oliver Fetter

Councilman Gilmartin explained Oliver Fetter applied to be a member of the Shrewsbury Hose Company. Councilman Gilmartin commented Mr. Fetter was a member of the Shrewsbury Hose Company back in 2005 but he moved out of the area and fortunately he has since returned to the area and is now looking for reinstatement as a member to the Shrewsbury Hose Company.

Councilman Gilmartin motioned to approve Mr. Fetter’s application, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian with ayes by all members present.

Cares Act Reimbursement

Councilman Eddy explained instead of trying to fit in a special meeting before the next regular meeting scheduled for December 18th, he would like to make a motion to approve Resolution 2020-147 which will allow the CFO to pay certain Covid-19 related expenses prior to next meeting so we can submit the bills under the Cares Act and get reimbursed for them.

Councilman Eddy motioned to approve Resolution 2020-147, seconded by Councilman DeSalvo and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes: DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Eulner, Gilmartin, Sena
Nays: None
Abstain: None

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Reports of Council

Councilwoman DerAsadourian

- Councilwoman DerAsadourian reported since last Council meeting there was a Safe Route to School meeting and some great ideas and input were received from residents. Councilwoman DerAsadourian spoke with the Borough Engineer and the Borough was approved for a grant, approximately \$270,000, for work on White Street. Right now, the White Street Project is in the scoping phase.

Councilman DeSalvo

- Councilman DeSalvo reported that the Police was in the process of interviewing for the police sergeant position and several officers expressed an interest. Ultimately Patrolman Barnicle was selected and Councilman DeSalvo thanked all the officers who applied.
- Councilman DeSalvo reported RBR's schedule is a fluid situation as many parents know and information is given out as quickly as possible. The Borough's representative Randy Mendelson does reach out to the Mayor from time to time with updates.

Councilman Eddy

- Councilman Eddy reported DPW is doing a good job of picking up the leaves having done three sweeps over the town.
- The Borough did get a surprise inspection from the County related to the Compost Facility. There were just a few comments made for improvement which will be straighten out but overall, the compost site is in good shape. Councilman Eddy commented that the Borough is one of the few towns that have its own facility and it does save the taxpayers quite a bit of money every year.
- There are some residents putting out brush and brush is not picked up in November or December. These residents will be notified to remove their brush. There will be a brush pickup in January along with the Christmas trees.
- There are currently three road projects taking place right now: Dorchester/Regent, Silverbrook and Samara/Birch. There was a request from Earle Paving who is handling Silverbrook to pave next spring. On behalf of the Council, Councilman Eddy said no, and they had to finish this year, particularly since asphalt pricing is so low right now.
- DPW is working on stormwater management at Azalea Farms cleaning up the conservation easement.
- The Borough will be going out for bids for lawn mowing soon.
- Installation of video systems will be installed soon which will enable the Borough to hold hybrid meetings. This video system is being reimbursed under the Cares Act.
- A UV sanitizer will be arriving soon which can be rolled into rooms for sanitizing. This expense will be reimbursed under the Cares Act as well.

Councilwoman Doran Eulner

- The Shade Tree Commission will meet virtually next Saturday, the 12th.
- The Community Garden will meet Monday, December 14th.

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Councilman Gilmartin

- The Shrewsbury Hose Company had nine general alarms in the month of November. Three mutual aid calls went to Eatontown. Total man hours including meetings and training was 85.75.
- Councilman Gilmartin took a moment to recognize Chief Merris who will be completing his term as Chief. Chief Merris has given over 40 years of service to the Hose Company and we are grateful for his decades of service to the Borough. Peter Gibson will take on the role of Chief starting at the beginning of the year.
- Peter Meyer was elected to another two-year term as president of the Hose Company. Congratulations to Pete!
- Santa will be riding around town on December 20th at 1:00pm. Unfortunately, it will be different from years past as Santa will not be getting off the truck and approach homes to meet children due to Covid-19. But Santa will make his rounds through the Borough.
- First Aid had 18 calls in the month of November. Twelve of those calls were during the day and six were in the evening.
- Councilman Gilmartin thanked Jeannie Lamberti on her recent term as Captain as well as her commitment to the Borough. Jeannie will be replaced by Paul Drazen. The Borough also recognizes the outstanding leadership of Gigi Blair as president of the First Aid Squad. Gig is succeeded by George Richdale. Ms. Blair will remain as Vice President of the Squad.
- A reminder that the Shrewsbury Hanukah Menorah Lighting is slated for December 14th at 6:00pm. As more details emerge, they will be posted on the website and Facebook.

Councilman Sena

- Budget worksheets have been forwarded to all Department Heads and Councilman Sena hopes to schedule all Department Heads budget meetings the month of December.
- Regarding Shrewsbury Borough School, it is Councilman Sena's understanding that the students are back in school in person.
- The Shrewsbury Hose Company is running a Holiday Light Contest and to enter you must register by December 14th.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Anderson reported the Board of Health meeting was cancelled last week.
- Mayor Anderson had the opportunity to participate in a drive-by celebrating the 100th birthday of Frances Iacona, a Thornbrooke resident. Mayor Anderson read a proclamation recognizing Ms. Iacona's birthday and she thoroughly enjoyed it. Her relatives were very appreciative of everyone's involvement to make this day special.
- The Christmas Tree Lighting was a great success. Residents connected virtually to watch the lighting. Mayor Anderson thanked all involved to put this together and he thanked DPW for the awesome job in decorating the tree.
- Mayor Anderson along with Councilwoman Eulner and Ms. Muttie, met with a few residents to continue discussions concerning traffic issues on Highway 35.

Clerk/Administrator's Report

Ms. Quinn reported dog and cat licenses are due by January 31, 2021. Every dog needs to be vaccinated through November 2021. Unfortunately, the Borough's rabies clinic didn't take place this year due to Covid-19 restrictions, but every effort is being made to try to get one up and running.

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Open the Floor to the Public

Mayor Anderson opened the floor to the public.

Carolyn Barber, 132 Dorchester Way – Ms. Barber noted that from March until November there was only 100 cases of Covid-19. But from November through December there was an additional 73 cases. That is almost double, and she asked if we knew where these cases are coming from.

Mayor Anderson noted that the number being reported are not exactly reliable in that there is a trail. If you test positive, you will stay on that list for upwards of thirty days and some people don't get removed from the list. But there has been an uptick in the number of cases.

Ms. Barber reported that she lives on Parker's Creek and she noticed a lot of construction on the Oceanport side. She is worried about the giant drainage that was created and the potential runoff into Parker's Creek. Ms. Barber asked who the appropriate authority is to call regarding this matter. Mayor Anderson responded he believes it would be the NJDEP. Councilman Eddy added the Oceanport Borough Engineer can be contacted as well. Mr. Padula, Borough Attorney, suggested contacting FEMERA as they own the property.

Stu Minis, 35 Thomas Avenue – Mr. Minis asked if a message could again be posted on the website and Facebook reminding residents to wear masks, stay six feet apart and wash their hands. Mr. Minis asked if the Shadowbrook was opened yet. Ms. Quinn responded they were expected to reopen end of November early December. Mr. Minis commented if the _____ property deal doesn't work out; he would like to see it become open space and suggested using green acres funding. He added that it is his opinion that residents would pay more taxes to keep that property open space. Mr. Minis asked if the discussion of a pathway through the Bonnano's property be looked at again. Mayor Anderson explained the pathway suggested has many complications to it being feasible and one of the concerns is security. Mr. Minis asked if there is any ordinance regarding leaf blowers. Mayor Anderson responded the Council adopted an ordinance last spring that addresses this issue both residential and commercial use of leaf blowers.

Robin Blair, 69 Thornbrooke – Ms. Blair commented on the number of people not wearing their mask when at sporting events at Manson Park. People have let their guard down and she agrees with Mr. Minis that a reminder needs to be posted.

Judith Kramer, 10 Willow Court – Ms. Kramer agrees with Mr. Minis and Ms. Blair and recommends posting a "thank you" to residents for wearing masks and practicing social distancing and to keep it up. She also agrees with Mr. Minis that residents would pay more in taxes to keep the property on Highway 35 open space. Ms. Kramer suggested a survey be conducted to get an overall opinion. Ms. Kramer asked if they Council is looking into the speed on Highway 35. Mayor Anderson explained there have been discussions at a number of Council meetings. He explained many ideas are being explored and our Borough Engineer is tasked with realistic solutions that might be able to be done to maintain the historic qualities of the four corners.

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Close the Floor to the Public

With no one else from the public wishing to speak, the floor was closed to the public.

Adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 8:08pm.

Attest: 

Maureen L. Muttie, RMC, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Approve: 

Erik Anderson
Mayor