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

MARCH 2, 2020

## **Meeting Called to Order**

Mayor Erik Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and read the Presiding Officer's Statement.

## **Presiding Officer's 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 Kerry Quinn, Deputy Clerk

#### **Executive Session**

Councilman Eddy motioned to approve Resolution 2020-040, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian with ayes by all council members present.

Council moved into executive session at 6:30pm and was back on the record at 7:00pm.

#### Salute to Flag

Led by Mayor Anderson.

#### Consent Agenda

Councilwoman Eulner pulled Resolution 2020-042 from the Consent Agenda.

Councilwoman Eulner informed the Council that JCP&L wanted to implement an 8.5% rate hike to improve some of the infrastructure. Councilwoman Eulner felt that JCP&L should be looking for funding of these improvements in other places rather than initiating a rate hike for their customers. Councilman Sena agreed with Councilwoman Eulner's opinion. Other members of the Council expressed an interest in identifying specific information about the improvements.

Councilwoman Eulner motioned to approve Resolution 2020-042 which opposes JCP&L rate hike, seconded by Councilman Sena and approved by the following roll call vote:

Ayes:

DerAsadourian, DeSalvo, Eddy, Eulner, Gilmartin and Sena

Nays:

None

Abstain:

None

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#### RESOLUTION 2020-042 - OPPOSING PROPOSED JCP&L RATE HIKE

WHEREAS, Jersey Central Power & Light ("JCP&L") is an electric utility provider which services the Borough of Shrewsbury (the "Borough"); and

WHEREAS, in February 2020, JCP&L submitted a Verified Petition to the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities ("BPU") which seeks, among other things, an increase in its rates and charges for electrical service to its customers, which include residents of the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the Verified Petition filed by JCP&L seeks the BPU's approval of an overall rate increase of 8.5%, which, according to JCP&L, would be used to "help support service reliability enhancements made by the utility in recent years as well as recover costs incurred to restore power to customers following severe storms[;]" and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council believes that the proposed rate increase would have a detrimental effect on Borough residents if approved by the BPU and that JCP&L should first look to other sources to obtain the funds necessary to accomplish its stated goals before seeking to assign those costs to the ratepayers.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury oppose the February 2020 Verified Petition filed by JCP&L and any rate increase sought at the present time and request that the BPU and Division of the Rate Counsel closely scrutinize the Verified Petition filed by JCP&L and the proposed rate increase sought.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury request that JCP&L examine any and all possible alternative funding sources for the proposed infrastructure projects, including but not limited to utilizing funds received from ratepayers in the Borough and surrounding areas to repair and upgrade the infrastructure in the Borough and surrounding areas.

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 2020-041 - DESIGNATING A PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.2 et. seq., each public agency shall annually designate an officer of employee to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer (P.A.C.O.); and

WHEREAS, the individual designated as the Public Agency Compliance Officer will be the point of contact for all matters concerning implementation and administration of the legal requirements of the Equal Employment Opportunity Monitoring Program; and

WHEREAS, the Public Agency Compliance Officer is also responsible for administering contracting procedures pertaining to equal employment regarding both the public agency and its service providers; and

heading in the budget as adopted; and

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**WHEREAS,** in accordance with N.J.A.C. 17:27-3.3, each public agency shall notify the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Division of Purchase & Property, Contract Compliance Audit Unit, EEO Monitoring Program of its designation; and

WHEREAS, the Borough wishes to designate Maureen Muttie, Clerk/Administrator, to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer for the calendar year 2020; and

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** by the Governing Body of the Borough of Shrewsbury that NAME, TITLE is hereby designated to serve as its Public Agency Compliance Officer for the calendar year 2020, effective January 1, 2020, <u>nunc pro tunc</u>.

# RESOLUTION 2020-43A - INCREASING YEAR 2020 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS

WHEREAS N.J.S.A.40A: 4-20 states that in addition to the temporary appropriations necessary for the period prior to the adoption of the budget and regular appropriations, the governing body may, by resolution adopted by a 2/3 vote of the full membership thereof, make emergency temporary appropriations for any purpose for which appropriations may lawfully be made for the period between the beginning of the fiscal year and the adoption of the budget for said year; and WHEREAS the amount of such emergency appropriation shall be included under the correct

WHEREAS there is a need to provide additional funds for Borough operations; and, WHEREAS adequate provision for such funding was not made in the temporary budget; and WHEREAS the total emergency temporary resolutions adopted in the year 2020 pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A40A:4-20) including the increase represented by this resolution total \$2,305,192.74, in addition to the temporary budgets adopted January 6, 2020 in the

amount of \$3,403,972.74 for a total Year to Date Temporary Budget of \$5,709,165.50

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury (not less than 2/3 affirmatively concurring) that the items of appropriation appearing on the list be included in the temporary budget for the Borough for the year 2020, and that in accordance with the Statute such item of appropriation will be included in the 2020 budget as finally adopted.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that two certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that two certified copies of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

# RESOLUTION 2020-044A - APPROVING THE BILL LIST FOR MARCH 2, 2020 AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS, the Borough of Shrewsbury received certain claims against it by way of voucher in the amount of \$1,210,404.90 for the period ending March 2, 2020; and 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

## **Reports of Council**

# Councilwoman DerAsadourian

- Councilwoman DerAsadourian stated Brown & Brown, the Borough's new insurance consultants, will be coming in for a meeting with the Borough staff.
- She also mentioned than an upcoming Safe Routes to School meeting will be held later this week and she is hopeful that the new committee members will stimulate new ideas for the group. An update will be available at the next council meeting.

#### Councilman DeSalvo

- Councilman DeSalvo stated the Police Department announced a vacancy for a crossing guard, as one recently retired. He added that the Council approved the hiring of a retired police officer to fill the vacancy.

#### Councilwoman Eddy

- Councilman Eddy stated that DPW will be using a new tracking system called SDL. The server has been installed by our IT company and training will begin next week in Somerset, NJ.
- He stated that DPW has begun spring cleaning and power washing the front area of Borough Hall. In addition, DPW is working on the compost pile; rotating it, as well as putting up barriers to aid safety measures and prevent resident access.
- He mentioned that the Emergency Planning Committee had a meeting recently. He added that more information regarding the meeting is forthcoming.

### Councilwoman Eulner

- Councilwoman Eulner stated the Shade Tree Commission will be meeting with scout leaders to discuss how they can assist scout troops earn badges. She also mentioned the Shade Tree Commission may engage in community outreach projects, such as tree trimming and pruning procedures.
- She announced that the Community Garden has plots available for the season. Their meeting is on Monday, March 9, 2020 for anyone interested in joining.

### Councilman Gilmartin

- Councilman Gilmartin stated that the Recreation Committee is preparing for the upcoming sports season and that DPW has begun prepping the fields.
- He also stated that there will be a coaches' meeting on March 10, 2020 at 7:00pm.
- He added reminder that lacrosse registration ends this week.
- Councilman Gilmartin attended the First Aid Brunch. He said he was honored to be included and commended all the volunteers, especially the "Top Responders."

#### Councilman Sena

- Councilman Sena stated that the Environmental Commission has a meeting next week. He added that during their attendance at a Council Meeting last month, the Council recommended they consider implementing an "Environmental Day," similar to Little Silver's configuration.

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- He mentioned the PTO has their upcoming Spring Gala coming up on March 21, 2020. As a reminder, he also mentioned not to park in the business lots by the school. It has come to his attention that this request has not been adhered to.
- He also stated that the proposed budget was ongoing in its development. Councilman Eddy concurred with Councilman Sena and added that the Council is working to maintain the budget to avoid raising taxes.

# Mayor's Report

- Mayor Anderson attended the highly successful "Read Across America" program at Shrewsbury Borough School.
- He stated that an Emergency Management Meeting was held that discussed the needs of the Borough as it pertains to Covid-19.
- He added that The Regional Health Commission has assured the Borough that there are plans set in place should anything arise with the current issues that are facing the nation.

# Clerk/Administrator's Report

No report

## Open the Floor to the Public

Marjorie Clark, 213 Garden Road – Ms. Clark asked for a Safe Route to School update: Councilwoman DerAsadourian explained that an upcoming meeting has been scheduled with newly added members of the Safe Routes to School Committee. She reiterated that new ideas would be presented to the Council for approval.

Ms. Clark inquired whether the Council had received any positive or negative feedback from the residents of Monroe and North Monroe Avenue. Councilwoman DerAsadourian stated that residents have commented positively about the road closure. She added that residents have mentioned they are walking their dogs on the new sidewalks and noticeably more children are playing in their front yards. Councilwoman DerAsadourian also stated that they have not seen increased traffic on White Road.

Ms. Clark also inquired about the new stop signs placed on White Street. She stated that the verbiage on the signs appeared to be unclear in determining where the 20mph and 25mph speed limits were divided on the road. Mayor Anderson and members of the Council explained the road is 25mph, unless children are present. It was suggested that using caution and driving 20mph on that road would be prudent.

Ms. Clark mentioned she had an update about the traffic light on White Street. She stated she sent an email, with Council consent, to Senator Vin Gopal about adding a green arrow to the stop light. She said the Senator's office informed her that they did not have any new updates for her at that time.

#### Close the Floor to the Public

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

#### Move into Executive Session - No Action Will be Taken After

Council returned to Executive Session at 7:25pm. No action will be taken after.

# BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY MUNICIPAL COMPLEX MAYOR & COUNCIL

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# Adjourn

Council returned to regular session and meeting adjourned at 8:02.

Attest:

Maureen L. Muttie, RMC, CMC

Municipal Clerk

Approve:

Erik Anderson

Mayor