

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

**OCTOBER 19, 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  
Councilwoman Kim Doran Eulner  
Councilman Brendan Gilmartin  
Councilman Jason Sena

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

Absent: Councilman Jeff DeSalvo  
Councilman Don Eddy

**Salute to Flag**

Led by Mayor Erik Anderson

**Approval of Minutes – September 8, 2020**

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

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

**Resolutions**

Councilman Sena motioned to approve Resolution 2020-128 seconded by Councilwoman Eulner, and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

**RESOLUTION 2020-128 - RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR  
THE IMPROVEMENTS TO SAMARA DRIVE & BIRCH DRIVE TO  
BLACK ROCK ENTERPRISES, LLC**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Shrewsbury advertised for bids for Roadway Improvements to Samara Drive & Birch Drive of Shrewsbury, including roadway base repair, HMA milling, curb replacement, sidewalk replacement, HMA resurfacing, drainage improvements, turf restoration, installation of signage and pavement markings; and

**WHEREAS**, eight (8) bids were received, and were publicly opened and read aloud on Wednesday, September 30, 2020 at 3:00pm as follows:

<b><u>BIDDER</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT BID</u></b>
Black Rock Enterprises, LLC	\$394,807.47
Fiore Paving	\$422,293.71
Lima Charlie Construction	\$438,400.00
Earle Asphalt	\$445,813.13
Esposito Construction	\$466,415.75
Seacoast Construction, Inc	\$466,968.61
Z. Brothers Concrete	\$474,356.30
L&L Paving Company	\$503,546.50

**WHEREAS**, the proposal submitted by the apparent lowest responsible bidder embodied all the bid specifications as outlined by Black Rock Enterprises, LLC in submitting their bid; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Borough of Shrewsbury, acting on the advice of the Borough Engineer and Borough Attorney, does hereby make a finding that the lowest bid submitted by Black Rock Enterprises, LLC, does hereby best serve the interest of the municipality.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the Borough of Shrewsbury does hereby award a construction contract known as FY 2020 NJDOT Municipal Aid Program Improvements to Samara Drive & Birch Drive to Black Rock Enterprises, LLC, in the amount of \$394,807.47, subject to the approval of the Department; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the presiding officer of this body be and is hereby directed to sign for on its behalf the contract in the prescribed form for said procurement and that the Clerk of this body be and is hereby directed to sign and seal said contract with the corporate seal of this body and attest to same.

Councilwoman Eulner motioned to approve Resolution 2020-129 seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

**RESOLUTION 2020-129 - RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR  
THE IMPROVEMENTS TO DORCHESTER WAY & REGENT DRIVE TO  
FIORE PAVING**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Shrewsbury advertised for bids for Roadway Improvements to Dorchester Way and Regent Drive of Shrewsbury, including roadway base repair, HMA milling, curb replacement, sidewalk replacement, HMA resurfacing, drainage improvements, turf restoration, installation of signage and pavement markings; and

**WHEREAS**, ten (10) bids were received, and were publicly opened and read aloud on Thursday, October 15, 2020 at 3:00pm as follows:

<b><u>BIDDER</u></b>	<b><u>AMOUNT BID</u></b>
Esposito Construction	\$374,600.41 (Withdrawn by Bidder)
Shore Top Construction	\$424,752.50 (Withdrawn by Bidder)
Fiore Paving	\$443,679.26
Black Rock Enterprises, LLC	\$459,036.81
Lima Charlie Construction	\$469,469.00
Earle Asphalt	\$481,013.13
Capital Paving & Contracting	\$529,202.05
Z. Brothers Concrete	\$537,897.30
Seacoast Construction, Inc.	\$567,872.15
L&L Paving	\$572,152.50

**WHEREAS**, written correspondence was received from the two (2) lowest bidders withdrawing their bids due to pricing errors; and

**WHEREAS**, the proposal submitted by the lowest responsible bidder embodied all the bid specifications as outlined by Fiore Paving in submitting their bid; and

**WHEREAS**, the Governing Body of the Borough of Shrewsbury, acting on the advice of the Borough Engineer and Borough Attorney, does hereby make a finding that the lowest bid submitted by Fiore Paving, does hereby best serve the interest of the municipality.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Governing Body of the Borough of Shrewsbury does hereby award a construction contract known as 2020 Roadway Improvement Program - Improvements to Dorchester Way & Regent Drive to Fiore Paving, in the amount of \$443,679.26, subject to the approval of the Department; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the presiding officer of this body be and is hereby directed to sign for on its behalf the contract in the prescribed form for said procurement and that the Clerk of this body be and is hereby directed to sign and seal said contract with the corporate seal of this body and attest to same.

Councilwoman Eulner motioned to approve Resolution 2020-130 seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian, and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

**RESOLUTION 2020-130 - RESOLUTION TO PERMIT THE  
GOVERNING BODY TO REQUEST THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT  
OF TRANSPORTATION TO EXTEND THE SCHOOL SPEED LIMIT  
ZONE WITHIN THE BOROUGH**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:1-1, a School Zone is defined as “that portion of a highway which is either contiguous to territory occupied by a school building or is where school crossings are established in the vicinity of a school, upon which are maintained appropriate ‘school signs’ in accordance with specifications adopted by the chief administrator and in accordance with law.”; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Department of Transportation (“NJDOT”) has adopted, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 3:4-183.27, the federal Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for rules and regulations concerning the placing, specification, location and maintenance of highway and traffic signs and markings; and

**WHEREAS**, the NJDOT established a School Speed Limit Zone within the Borough which encompasses portions of New Jersey State Highway Route 35; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough has adopted an official school route map; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough determined that in furtherance of the official school route map, and to further support public health and safety of residents and students of the Borough, an extension of the NJDOT School Speed Limit Zone is warranted; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough is formally requesting the NJDOT extend the existing School Speed Limit Zone; and

**WHEREAS**, the Borough is requesting the NJDOT amend the existing School Speed Limit Zone designation as follows:

The School Speed Limit Zone designation shall be extended in a southerly direction along Broad Street (NJSH Route 35) from its present limit at M.P. 32.24; to a point 200 feet south of the intersection of Broad Street (NJSH Route 35) and Sycamore Avenue (CR 13A) at M.P. 31.87.

**WHEREAS**, the Borough supports approving the extension of the existing School Speed Limit Zone designation.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the governing body of the Borough of Shrewsbury, that the Borough has elected to formally request that the New Jersey Department of Transportation extend the existing School Speed Limit Zone designation in a southerly direction along Broad Street (NJSH Route 35) from its present limit at M.P. 32.24; to a point 200 feet south of the intersection of Broad Street (NJSH Route 35) and Sycamore Avenue (CR 13A) at M.P. 31.87.

**Consent Agenda**

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

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

**RESOLUTION 2020-131 - RESOLUTION APPROVING THE BILL LIST FOR  
OCTOBER 19, 2020 AND AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Shrewsbury received certain claims against it by way of voucher in the amount of \$2,162,890.74 for the period ending October 19, 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.

**Discussion and Action**

Best Practices Inventory – Councilman Sena

Councilman Sena explained this a self-assessment of municipal operations – how we operate and do things internally. Mayor Anderson added this is an annual requirement and it is required to be discussed in public. No deficiencies were noted in the Borough's operations. The Borough meets the established percentage of the check list items in order to qualify for state aid payment.

Request for Use of Facilities – Councilman Gilmartin

Councilman Gilmartin reported there are no requests at this time.

Halloween – Councilwoman DerAsadourian

Councilwoman DerAsadourian commented a few residents are looking for a little guidance as far as trick or treating this year. She asked the Mayor and Council for their thoughts. Mayor Anderson reported he has had continuing conversations with Superintendent McConnell, the Chief of Police and the OEM Director regarding Halloween. Mayor Anderson has also spoken with Mayors in the area about what they are doing. He reported that the towns around us are

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having Halloween. The consensus is that we recommend to our residents that they adhere to the State recommendations regarding Halloween, trick or treat within your neighborhood and wear a mask. Mayor Anderson also suggested a time window in which to do the trick or treating. Possibly between 3pm to 7pm. Mayor Anderson commented we are trying to find the balance between children having fun and the current health issue facing the country. Mayor Anderson also recommended that residents who choose not to participate can leave lights off and those who are participating can leave lights on. After further discussion, the consensus was a form can be printed out and posted on homes stating whether the resident is participating in Halloween, ask residents to follow all guidelines of the CDC and observe all the executive orders and guidelines of our Civic Leaders. Families should use their best judgment and don't shame other people who choose not to participate.

Temporary File Clerk – Councilwoman Eulner

Councilwoman Eulner requested Council approve hiring a temporary file clerk to assist with the filing of construction files. All the cabinets have been capped and more cabinets were brought in.

Councilwoman Eulner motioned to approve the hiring of a temporary file clerk at minimum wage not to exceed \$2,500 over the span of eight weeks, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian and approved by the following roll call vote:

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

**Reports of Council**

Councilwoman DerAsadourian

- Councilwoman DerAsadourian reported Safe Routes to School is in the process of looking at how to expand the school zone up past Manson and looking at different ideas.
- In terms of health benefits, open enrollment is currently underway. Ms. Muttie reported all employees are in the process now of completing their paperwork to enroll into Direct 15. Mayor Anderson added he thinks it's important to note that the employees as well as the two unions are enrolling into Direct 15 which is resulting in a tax savings for the residents. This is the State Plan. It is still a very, very good plan, but it is a lower tier and it is a benefit for the taxpayers of the Borough and the employees have less contribution into the plan itself.

Councilman Eddy – (Councilwoman DerAsadourian on Behalf of Councilman Eddy)

- Brush at the compost site collected from the last major storm has been grinded and all the mulch has been removed per the Department of Environmental Protection. Approximately 200 yards of the mulch was delivered to the Esther Hymer Park where a project is being undertaken by the Boy Scouts. In addition, DPW helped with the cleaning and removing of over 80 bags of debris from the Esther Hymer Park.
- Repairs to playground swings and equipment were completed.
- Brush removal is still in full swing and brush removal ends at the end of this month and leaf pickup starts.
- Tennis courts were repaired, and new nets were installed.

- The baseball fields are now being dragged twice a week.
- The military dump truck and the Humvees were sold on GovDeals and sold for approximately \$34,000.
- Speed signs were installed on Patterson Avenue.

Councilman DeSalvo (Councilman Sena on Behalf of Councilman DeSalvo)

- In September, there were 439 motor vehicle stops. The Police responded to 27 motor vehicle accidents, 33 First Aid calls and responded to 69 complaints. Eleven active investigations are ongoing.
- There will be a virtual Red Bank Regional High School Board of Ed meeting on October 21<sup>st</sup>. On October 22<sup>nd</sup>, there will be a virtual Open House for the eighth graders. Councilman Sena is happy to report that the funding for the Source has been restored. The Source is a student counseling program to help support mental health. Everyone is delighted to see that funding for this vital program was restored. Mayor Anderson thanked the Council for passing a resolution urging for funding of the Source.

Councilwoman Doran Eulner

- Councilwoman Eulner reported the Shade Tree Commission met on October 10<sup>th</sup> as well as volunteers to help with clearing out vines and weeds at Manson Park. The Shade Tree Commission will continue this work this Saturday. Anyone interested should join the group at 9:00am at the gazebo. Please wear gloves, masks and bring some tools such as rakes and tarps.
- Four members of the Shade Tree Commission will be attending a virtual Shade Tree Federation Annual Conference this week. Councilwoman Eulner will report back any good findings about how the Shade Tree Commission can help our trees in town.
- The next Community Garden Meeting is next Monday at 11:00am.

Councilman Gilmartin

- Councilman Gilmartin reported it has been a quiet month for calls for the Fire Department. He has no formal report from the First Aid. Councilman Gilmartin noted the First Aid is always looking for new members.
- The second Monday of every month, there is free CPR training offered. Councilman Gilmartin encourages everyone to take advantage of this opportunity.
- In terms of recreation, intramural soccer continues to go well, and recreation is getting ready to plan for the flag football season which is outdoors for grades three through eight. It is unclear at this point whether there will be indoor winter basketball season.

Councilman Sena

- Councilman Sena had no report this evening.

**Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Anderson commented that there has been a petition that's being circulated within town concerning traffic, speeding, truck volume and car volume on Route 35. The Borough has been involved with the residents since May 8th working on these issues. The Mayor noted, that recently, the narrative has changed from the discussion on the section of Route 35, south of Sycamore, to now, the Council isn't addressing all the

traffic safety within the Borough. Mayor Anderson commented that this is just inaccurate and not correct. Mayor Anderson asked Councilwoman DerAsadourian, who has been very involved with Safe Routes to School, to reach out to our town engineer for the projects the Council has completed or is in the process in the last two years and Mayor Anderson commented on how proud he is with what the Council has done:

- Lowered the speed limits on White Street, Silverbrook and Samara.
- Second pedestrian crosswalk to be installed on Sycamore Avenue.
- Met with officials from Middlesex County regarding projects and grants for pedestrian safety in Shrewsbury.
- Built a safe passage from the Constitution Heritage Area to Sickles Park.
- Re-designed Obre for traffic calming and drop off.
- Traffic calming on Patterson Avenue which has reduced speed. Crosswalks installed as well.
- Installed digital speed signs on Patterson, Samara, White and utilizing a mobile one as well.
- Closed off access from Route 35 onto Monroe and North Monroe.
- Put a four-way stop sign on White Street, which was discussed for 20 years. This was the Council that got it accomplished
- New signage was put up and repaired old signs for lowering speed limits.
- Reached out to the State to lower the speed limit on Route 35.
- Passed a resolution to ask the State to investigate redirecting traffic off Route 35 onto adjoining roads.
- Asking the State to consider weight limits for trucks who travel Route 35.
- The police have increased their enforcement on Patterson Avenue, White Street, White Road and Route 35.
- Spoken to the car dealers in town about the manner in which they test drive their cars.
- Shut down the Grove's cars event.
- Increased the salary of crossing guards to make sure we have adequate coverage.

Mayor Anderson commented that the petition is great, and he wants our residents to be involved and wants them to be engaged with Mayor and Council. But it was disingenuous. The information put out on Facebook did not comport with reality. This Council has been working extremely hard for the past two years, not just the last five months, to deal with traffic issues and will continue to do so. Mayor Anderson commented he would love nothing more than Route 35 to be one lane in each direction and 25 miles an hour. But the fact of the matter is, the State of New Jersey just spent millions of dollars to pave a four lane State Highway through the town. Mayor Anderson noted this is a battle that probably should have occurred 40 years ago, to stop this from occurring. We are now dealing with what we've been dealt. Mayor Anderson would love the people who signed the petition to come and speak with Council. The suggestion that this Council is not attempting to work towards bettering these issues, is just flat out a lie. It is disingenuous and it is false. Mayor Anderson finds it difficult that the people who challenge the Council don't even show up in chambers in person.



**Clerk/Administrator's Report**

Ms. Muttie had no report.

**Open the Floor to the Public**

Mayor Anderson opened the floor to the public.

Stu Minis, 35 Thomas Avenue

- Mr. Minis commented that there are usually two polling locations and for this election there is only one. He noted on the website it states that Borough Hall will be the polling location for the upcoming general election, and he wanted to confirm that. Ms. Muttie confirmed that Borough Hall will be the only polling location. This is posted on the website, Facebook and a civic ready message will be sent out as well.
- Mr. Minis applaud the Council for passing resolution 2020-130 and to please continue to do something about school zones.
- Mr. Minis asked the Mayor what his main sticking point was about the letter sent to the editor? Mayor Anderson responded that the author alleges there's a lack of transparency by the governing body. The author fails to be transparent by not acknowledging that she is the president of the Shrewsbury Democratic Organization.
- Mr. Minis commented he was concerned the Mayor was directing his comments towards him. Mayor Anderson replied it was not towards Mr. Minis at all. Mayor Anderson continued by saying when someone makes a representation and challenges the transparency of this Council and can't find it in themselves to attend one meeting all year, let alone the meeting where she writes a letter about the transparency of this Council, it's disingenuous. Mayor Anderson explained the Council goes above and beyond is to get information out. Mayor Anderson explained further that there is a problem when someone questions the integrity of the volunteers on the board and can't even find the decency to spend an hour in the chambers to listen to what the council is doing. Mayor Anderson commend Mr. Minis because he is an active, engaged citizen. Mayor Anderson further commended Ms. Clark who is also an active, engaged citizen. Mayor Anderson finds it fantastic that Mr. Minis and Mrs. Clark attends every meeting. Mayor Anderson feels it's a problem when someone impugns the Council and isn't even in the room when they write the letter as if they were in the chambers.
- Mr. Minis commented that had he not requested resolution 2020-105 be pulled from the consent agenda, there would have been no discussion. Councilman Sena replied he would have pulled it to discuss the merits of the resolution. Mayor Anderson replied to Mr. Minis, regardless, you asked for it to be pulled and we pulled it. We had a discussion. Mr. Minis expressed his views regarding the vote-by-mail process and the Mayor expressed his views. Mayor Anderson commented that he and Mr. Minis have the same goal – to enfranchise voters. Mayor Anderson further commented we can have different views which is fine and that's the beauty of this. Mayor Anderson added there is a problem when someone authors a piece, who wasn't in the meeting and didn't have the same conversation he and Mr. Minis had. The person who wrote it , who wasn't here and doesn't reveal who she is - that's kind of disingenuous.

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Marge Clark, 213 Garden Road


- Mrs. Clark asked if there was something that can either be printed out at home or pick up at Borough Hall that you can post on your mailbox on Halloween that indicates if you are participating. Mayor Anderson replied yes, we will have something available.


**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 8:03pm.

**Attest:**   
Maureen L. Muttie, RMC, CMC  
Municipal Clerk

**Approve:**   
Erik Anderson  
Mayor