

December 21, 2009

Mayor Cooperhouse called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. Mayor Cooperhouse read the Presiding Officer's Statement. Present were Council Members DeNofa, Dodge, Keegan, Menapace and Murphy. Council Member Burden was absent. Also present were Borough Administrator Thomas Seaman and Borough Attorney Martin Barger.

RESOLUTION #2009-129 (Executive Session)

Mayor Cooperhouse read Resolution #2009-129 to enter into executive session.

Reconvene Public Meeting

Mayor Cooperhouse reconvened the regular meeting at 8:00 PM. Mayor Cooperhouse read the Presiding Officer's Statement. Present were Council Members DeNofa, Dodge, Keegan, Menapace and Murphy. Council Member Burden was absent. Also present were Borough Administrator Thomas Seaman and Borough Attorney Martin Barger.

Salute to Flag

Mayor Cooperhouse led the Salute to the Flag.

RESOLUTION # 2009-130 (Authorization to award Solid Waste Collection & Recycling Contract to M & S Waste Services, Inc.)

A motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilman Murphy to approve Resolution #2009-130 authorizing the award of solid waste and recycling collection for a period of three years to M & S Waste Services Inc. for a total of \$485,225.00. Mr. Menapace noted that the Borough will realize a savings over the life of the contract of \$309,950.78. He noted that the savings would be realized by a reduction in the DPW workforce of two positions which had already occurred. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes. In answer to the Mayor's question of how the residents would be informed of this change in the garbage and recycling, Councilman Menapace responded that a flyer had been prepared that would be mailed out to all residents, that a notice would be placed on the bulletin board in front of the Firehouse and that there would be a notice placed on the Borough website as well as a Reverse 911 phone call placed to all residents. Mr. Menapace reviewed the single stream recycling criteria for the public as well as the decision to move to a quarterly bulk trash pickup schedule.

RESOLUTION # 2009-131 (Authorization for the Resolution Enabling the State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program)

A motion was made by Councilman Murphy, seconded by Councilman DeNofa to approve Resolution #2009-131 authorizing the Borough of Shrewsbury to make application for a grant of \$314,395.00 from the State to fund the Recreation and Open Space Plan. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

RESOLUTION # 2009-132 (Authorization to participate in the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program, Chapter 48 for Retirees)

A motion was made by Councilman Dodge, seconded by Councilman Keegan to approve Resolution #2009-132 authorizing the Borough of Shrewsbury to participate in the special

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requirement of the New Jersey State Health Benefits Program Chapter 48 which deals with coverage of certain retirees. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Resolution #2009-133 (Appropriation Transfer No. 2)

A motion was made by Councilman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Menapace to approve Resolution #2009-133 authorizing Appropriation Transfer No. 2 for a total of \$28,000. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Seaman stated that he needed a motion for the Mayor and the Borough Attorney to sign the amendment to the Green Acres Project Agreement as well as a declaration of encumbrance. *Councilman Keegan made a motion for the Mayor and the Borough Attorney to sign the amendment to the Green Acres Project Agreement as well as a declaration of encumbrance, seconded by Councilman Dodge. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.*

Mr. Seaman reported that the Borough conducted a fire drill on December 7, 2009 at 10:00 AM. He stated that the new Safety Coordinator, Karen Lloyd has been very proactive in meeting all the Borough's requirements for the JIF Safety Program.

Administrator Seaman stated that Performance Appraisals went out to all department heads and they are due back on January 15, 2010.

Reports of Council

Councilman Dodge stated that on December 17th, he represented the Insurance Committee and met with the Department of Public Works and the Police to review the State Benefits Plan and that the meeting was well attended.

Councilman DeNofa reported that the Shrewsbury First Aid Squad has 6 new members and because of this they would need 6 new radios and pagers. Mr. DeNofa stated that they had obtained 3 quotes and that the vender selected was AR Communications. Councilman Murphy explained how this situation was a line item transfer because this was not anticipated at the beginning of the year but that this is a good thing as there is a need for membership on the First Aid Squad. He explained that the Finance Committee will be paying close attention to these line item transfers especially when they sit down with the Department heads to do next year's budget. *Councilman DeNofa motioned to approve the expenditure for 6 new radios and pagers from AR Communications in the amount of \$5,880.75, seconded by Councilman Murphy. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.*

Councilman Keegan had no report.

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Councilman Menapace reported on behalf of Councilman Burden who was absent that on December 8th Mr. Burden attended the Local Assistance Board meeting to review cases which are of a confidential nature. Councilman Burden also wanted to report that Barbara Miceli is very willing and able to accept reappointment to the Local Assistance Board. Additionally he attended the Shade Tree Commission Meeting on December 12th and heard a presentation by **Gary LaVallo, who is head of the County Shade Tree Commission.**

Councilman Menapace reported that regarding the recent snow storm plowing commenced late in the afternoon on Saturday, 12/19/09 and continued to mid day on Sunday, 12/20/09. He informed the Council that eight to ten trucks plus two wheel loaders were utilized. Mr. Menapace stated that DPW employees came in an hour early this day, 12/21/09, to clear parking lots and plow as needed so that Shrewsbury Elementary School could open on a delayed basis. Councilman Menapace thanked all the DPW employees as well as the Shrewsbury Hose Company #1, who provided food and coffee to the DPW employees and other support volunteers who worked the storm.

The Mayor questioned Administrator Seaman as to the overtime budget to which Mr. Seaman replied that was the reason for the transfer on this night's agenda to cover the cost of the storm which was not anticipated. He noted that you usually don't have 21 inches in December.

Councilman Menapace continued that per input from the Borough Engineer, Dave Cranmer, in reference to the planned structural repairs to the DPW garage that a preconstruction meeting occurred on Monday, 12/14/09, with Rocon Construction. He noted that construction would commence on 1/4/10 and last for about four to five weeks. Mr. Menapace stated that KSI Construction, working as a subcontractor to the Borough engineer would handle the inspections. He noted that the subcontractor relationship with KSI was established because Mr. Cranmer is a civil engineer and these repairs required the expertise of a structural engineer which KSI supplied.

Councilman Murphy reported that the Finance Committee had a meeting to take a look at some preliminary numbers and the conclusion they arrived at is that it looks difficult going forward considering the economy and how construction has been effected. He shared that the Borough is not expecting many new ratables. He explained that the Finance Committee had made a couple of changes for example switching some bank accounts around in an attempt to gain more interest going into the new year. Mr. Murphy explained that considering all the factors revenue is not going to be near at all to where we would like it to be so the plan is to sit with the Department Heads and to make some major cuts from the Operating aspect of the budget and that he would keep the Council posted on their work. The Council continued to discuss different aspects of current attempts being made to balance the budget.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor requested Mr. Seaman to contact the State Division of Wildlife and Game in regard to the deer situation in town by the second meeting in January. Mr. Seaman responded that he and Lt. Ferraro had already started that process. Mr. Seaman noted that he had been in contact with the person at the State in reference to a meeting they would be having on the subject matter.

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Correspondence

There was no correspondence to report.

Open Meeting to Public

Councilman Murphy motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman DeNofa. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Herman Allen 54 Thornbrooke Drive commented that the Environmental Commission is very much in favor of the idea of comingling of the recyclables and the information provided by Councilman Menapace to the Thornbrooke community seems simple and direct. Mr. Allen noted that there shouldn't be any great problem except for the fact that when you comingle all the recyclables including newspapers that it seems that will be a rather heavy load for some people to bring out to the curb. He noted that in the Thornbrooke Condominium Complex there are 89 households and that of those 33 are occupied by widows or single ladies that would certainly have difficulty getting those cans to the curb. Mr. Allen stated that recognizing this, the President of the Association Dr. Thompson, has researched and found that he is able to get a large container with wheels for \$25 apiece.

Mr. Allen noted that the Thornbrooke Association had provided 30 gallon black containers for all residents previously and in addition they are planning to provide out of the condominium funds these new containers of a larger capacity with wheels for this new recycling program. He noted that the Borough may find other members of the community who will find that their comingle containers are going to be very heavy and burdensome and he felt the handling of this situation may need to be considered.

Mr. Allen also pointed out that when there was a fifth week it may present a bit of a problem as you will have 4 weeks of accumulated recyclables which may be a problem. The Council noted that the DPW is always open to the public 6 days a week.

Close Meeting to the Public

A motion was made by Councilman Keegan, seconded by Councilman DeNofa, to close the meeting to the public. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Payment of Bills

A motion was made by Councilman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Menapace to authorize payment of all bills as submitted by the Chief Financial Officer. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

ADJOURNMENT

**BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY
MUNICIPAL CENTER
MAYOR AND COUNCIL**

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A motion to adjourn at 8:30 PM was made by Councilman Murphy, seconded by Councilman Menapace and approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

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

Approve: _____
Terel Cooperhouse, Mayor