

FEBRUARY 16, 2010

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

Salute to Flag

Mayor Cooperhouse led the Salute to the Flag.

Approval of Minutes of January 19, 2010

A motion was made by Councilman Burden, seconded by Councilman Menapace to approve the meeting minutes of January 19, 2010. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Approval of Special Meeting Minutes of January 25, 2010

A motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilman DeNofa to approve the Special Meeting minutes of January 25, 2010. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Approval of Minutes of February 1, 2010

A motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilman DeNofa to approve the meeting minutes of February 1, 2010. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes except Councilman Burden who abstained.

**ORDINANCE NO. 939 – SECOND READING/PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION:
Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Borough of Shrewsbury by Amending Chapter 9,
Boards, Committees and Commissions, Article III, Recreation Committee**

Open/Close Hearing to the Public

A motion was made by Councilman Burden, seconded by Councilman Menapace to open the meeting to the public. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes. Seeing no one to speak, a motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilwoman DeNofa to close the meeting to the public. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Adopt

A motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilman Burden to adopt Ordinance No. 939, an Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Borough of Shrewsbury by Amending Chapter 9, Boards, Committees and Commissions, Article III, Recreation Committee. The Mayor explained for the public's information that there was a request from the Recreation Committee to increase the number of members on the Recreation Committee from ten to eleven. He explained that we had to change the Ordinance in order to accommodate this request. Mayor Cooperhouse explained that the Recreation Committee is completely run by volunteers and they are hoping to get more people involved as they are in need of additional help. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

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**ORDINANCE NO. 940 - SECOND READING /PUBLIC HEARING/ADOPTION:
ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY BY
AMENDING CHAPTER 9, BOARDS, COMMITTEES AND COMMISSIONS, ARTICLE I,
ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**

Open/Close Hearing to the Public

A motion was made by Councilman DeNofa, seconded by Councilman Menapace to open the meeting to the public. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes. Seeing no one to speak, a motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilwoman Burden to close the meeting to the public. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes

Adopt

A motion was made by Councilman Burden, seconded by Councilman Menapace to adopt Ordinance No. 940, an Ordinance to Amend the Code of the Borough of Shrewsbury by Amending Chapter 9, Boards, Committees and Commissions, Article I, Environmental Commission. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Resolution #2010-22 (Authorization for the Mayor to Sign the Shared Services Agreement between Shrewsbury Twp. and Shrewsbury Borough for Emergency Fire Protection Services)

A motion was made by Councilman Burden, seconded by Councilman DeNofa to adopt Resolution #2010-22 authorizing the Mayor to sign the Shared Services Agreement between Shrewsbury Township and Shrewsbury Borough for Emergency Fire Protection Services. The Mayor explained how the Borough had been approached by Shrewsbury Township to cover both their Fire and First Aid. He stated that the decision was made that we were not in the position to offer our First Aid Squad but that the Borough would be able to handle their fire calls. The mayor explained that there were discussions between our Fire, Police Department and First Aid Squad because when the fire Department answers a call the First Aid answers with them as well as the Police Department. Mayor Cooperhouse relayed how all three units came back to the Mayor and Council and indicated that they would be able to handle the number of fires that occur in Shrewsbury Township. He noted that therefore they entered into negotiations with Shrewsbury Township and the Borough settled on a \$4,500 annual fee. The Mayor stated for the record that there were 12 fire calls in 2009. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Resolution #2010-23 (Emergency Temporary Budget Appropriation #1

A motion was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilman Dodge to approve the Emergency Temporary Budget Appropriation #1 which was increasing our temporary budget by \$5,000 for the DPW for the salt and sand required for snow removal and sanding due to the recent storms. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Resolution #2010-24 (Release Performance Guaranty for Martelli At Rosewood)

A motion was made by Councilman Burden, seconded by Councilman Dodge to approve the release of the Performance Guaranty for Martelli At Rosewood Block, per their request and the

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approval of the Borough Engineer after performing a site inspection indicating that all bonded improvements installed pursuant to the Subdivision approval were successfully completed. The developer was granted the ability to post a Maintenance Guaranty in any of the three forms provided by the Borough Engineer. The motion was approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

Administrator's Report

Administrator Seaman reported that he attended an Appropriation Request meeting with Rush Holt on February 5, 2010. Congressman Holt discussed funding project priorities and how they are handled on the Municipalities wish list. Mr. Seaman discussed our priorities wish list with the Borough Engineer and the decision was made to submit three requests this year. The three projects submitted were the Patterson Avenue Traffic Calming project, the DPW Vehicle Washing Station and Acquisition of the Self Contained Breathing Apparatus for the Hose Company, all were considered good fits for this Appropriation Request "Wish List" being submitted to Congressman Holt".

Councilman Menapace asked about what would happen to the money in the bond that has been set aside for the Wash Station if we were granted our appropriation request from Congressman Holt. Mr. Seaman stated that we could cancel the ordinance and re-appropriate the funding portions of it.

Mr. Seaman stated that Mayor Cooperhouse had spoken to him about talking to the Code Enforcement Officer about extending the grace period for sidewalk shoveling from the past snowstorm to Monday. Mr. Seaman reported that he had discussed this with the Code Enforcement Officer and certain areas that DPW has plowed into corners the Borough will not be issuing summons on. Mr. Seaman stated that as long as there has been an effort to shovel the sidewalks that the Code Enforcement Officer is trying to work with the residents on this issue.

The Mayor questioned whether it was the responsibility of the Borough to take action in these cases. Administrator Seaman replied that he would like the input of Council on how to handle those kinds of situations. After discussion between the Mayor and Council it was decided that if DPW plowed going across streets and putting the snow in a corner that it should be the Borough's responsibility to clear that corner as opposed to the resident's responsibility to clear that corner. Mr. Seaman stated he would discuss this issue with Public Works.

Reports of Council

Councilman Burden reported to the Council that this is the second year that the Borough has operated on the twelve hour shifts for the Patrol Division and the first year for the Dispatchers. Mr. Burden reported that there were 475.5 less hours of overtime than the previous year. He noted that the Borough also had 67 less hours of light duty compared to last year which Councilman Burden noted was a substantial savings for all of the Borough.

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Councilman Burden stated that the overall crime rate decreased in Shrewsbury Borough in 2009. He noted that however, the Borough did see a rise in burglaries from 10 to 14, a rise in robberies from 2 to 5 and a rise in auto thefts from 2 to 3. Mr. Burden noted that motor vehicle summons rose from 1804 to 1950, while motor vehicle accidents declined from 342 to 299.

Councilman Burden reported that the Borough did realize an increase in yearly receipts from \$3,982.25 to \$4,101.62.

Mr. Burden stated that the Council has had some informal discussion about the deer population in Shrewsbury and he asked the Council if it was okay to have the Police Department make a presentation on their findings at the next Council meeting. The Council agreed this would be a good idea.

Councilman Burden stated that the Mayor, himself and the Chair of the Environmental Commission had a meeting to discuss their goals for the year and that it was a very productive meeting and that the Borough will be moving forward with the application for Sustainable New Jersey.

Councilman DeNofa had no report.

Councilman Dodge had no report.

Councilman Menapace reported that the cost of the February 6, 2010 storm was \$22,752. Mr. Menapace noted that since this storm did come on a weekend that it was pure overtime for the DPW workers who were called in. Mr. Menapace reported that the cost of the February 10 and 11th storm which was a Wednesday and Thursday was \$37,119. He noted that during this storm some of the DPW employees worked 39 straight hours, most worked 36 straight hours. Mr. Menapace noted that one of the employees sustained a minor injury that required being checked at the hospital and was subsequently sent home. He noted that this employee ended up missing one day of work as a result of the injury.

Councilman Menapace stated that the three storms to date this winter including the storm that occurred on December 19 and 20th 2009 which were also a Saturday and Sunday storm, cost the Borough \$29,560. He noted that between the December storm and the two February storms the cost of the storms has been a total of \$89,431. Councilman Menapace explained how they calculate the cost of these storms using the FEMA website, which offers a web formula to calculate the cost of snow removal, and he pointed out that these figures are based on that FEMA calculation of cost. Mr. Seaman added that some of the cost that is figured in this formula is the cost of the depreciation of equipment that is utilized. Councilman Menapace stated that cost of the December storm would be out of the 2009 budget and the cost of the two February storms would be out of the 2010 budget. Mr. Seaman stated that the Borough may receive some Federal emergency money back on the last storm.

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Councilman Burden commented that he felt the Borough's DPW had done an outstanding job with handling the snow removal and keeping the roads clear. Councilman Menapace agreed that with what he has observed from being in other municipalities he agreed with Councilman Burden's assessment.

Councilman Menapace reported that Laurel Avenue is out for bid and that several companies have picked up the specifications. Mr. Menapace advised the Council that the bid opening is scheduled for February 26, 2010.

The Mayor and Council discussed the reasons the Borough was not obtaining the salt and sand mixture through the County. The main reason being that unfortunately the product the County is using is predominately salt which degrades the equipment through usage and over time there is no savings realized because of the wear it puts on the equipment.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor reported that he had received correspondence from the Shrewsbury Parent Teacher Group requesting Council's approval to have the Shrewsbury Community Tree Lighting in the courtyard again and utilizing the tree in December of 2010. The Council agreed by consensus vote that this was fine.

The Mayor stated that he had received notification from the Monmouth County Park System that they are looking to acknowledge individuals who deserve recognition through The Monmouth County Board of Recreation Commissioners Awards Program. Mayor Cooperhouse asked Mr. Seaman to see if our Recreation Committee or parks workers from DPW could be honored. Mr. Seaman replied he would look into it.

Correspondence

The Clerk referenced the email received from the Chair of the Environmental Commission requesting the rescheduling of the presentation of the Shrewsbury Elementary School Environmental Club till one of the meetings in March. After discussion it was decided that the first meeting in March would be fine if it works for the children's schedule.

Open Meeting to the Public

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

Ms. Marjorie Clark, 213 Garden Road, stated that there are spots on areas of Garden Road close to Sycamore Avenue as well as some on White Street that have pot holes. Ms. Clark questioned if the Department of Public Works could fix them.

The Council explained that it would be a temporary fix. Councilman Menapace addressed Ms. Clark's concern with the pot holes on White Street and explained that the County still has work to

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complete there. Mr. Menapace explained that the County is supposed to come back and open the street up and do some additional work on the pipe that goes under the road and after that is completed they will repave the road, which should be done in the near future.

Councilman Burden stated that there are issues with the road on Garden and Beechwood and much of it was due to when they put the gas line in and reapplied the blacktop. Mr. Burden stated that the problem is due to the fact it has eroded, but that this is a result of work done 8 or 10 years ago.

Councilman Menapace stated that he would contact Mr. Wentway to see if there was something that the DPW could do but he was not sure how much they could do right now.

Ms. Clark stated her appreciation for the Reverse 911 call she received informing her about the robberies that had occurred and advising the residents. She stated that she really appreciated being made aware of the situation.

The Mayor stated that it was nice every once in a while to hear a statement such as this.

Close Meeting to the Public

A motion was made by Councilman Burden, seconded by Councilman Menapace 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 Dodge, 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

A motion to adjourn at 8:45 PM was made by Councilman Menapace, seconded by Councilman Burden and approved by Roll Call Vote with all members present voting yes.

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

Approve: _____
Terel J. Cooperhouse, Mayor