

May 19, 2014

Meeting Called to Order

The public meeting convened at 7:00 PM.

In accordance with the requirements of Section 4(a) of C.231, P.L. 1975, the required 48 hour advance notice of this meeting was given by mailing/faxing a copy of the agenda to the Asbury Park Press and the Two River Times, in addition, to posting on the bulletin board in the Municipal Building on March 16, 2014 by the Municipal Clerk.

Roll Call

Present: Mayor Burden, Councilman DeNofa, Councilwoman DerAsadourian,
Councilman Dodge, Councilman Meyer & Councilman Pellegrino
Also Present: Borough Attorney Martin Barger, Borough Administrator Thomas Seaman
& Clerk Kathleen P. Krueger
Absent: Councilman DeSalvo

Salute to Flag

Led by Mayor Burden.

Approval of Minutes: Borough Council Meeting April 21, 2014, Borough Council Workshop Meeting April 26, 2014 & Borough Council Meeting May 5, 2014

Councilman DeNofa motioned to approve the Council Meeting minutes of April 21st, April 26th, and May 5th, seconded by Councilwoman Dodge, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian (April 21st and 26th), Dodge (April 21st), Meyer (All) & Pellegrino (April 21st and 26th)
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: DerAsadourian (May 5th), Dodge (April 21st and 26th), & Pellegrino (May 5th)

Resolution #2014-32 (Amend the 2014 Municipal Budget)

Mr. Seaman explained that the state requested that a few items be changed on the budget. Councilman Pellegrino motioned to approve Resolution #2014-32, seconded by Councilman Dodge, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, Dodge, Meyer & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2014-33 (Adopt the 2014 Municipal Budget)

Open the Meeting to the Public

Councilman Pellegrino motioned to open the meeting for a public hearing on the budget, seconded by Councilman DeNofa, and approved by the rest of the Council.

Close the Meeting to the Public

Seeing no one from the public wishing to speak Councilman Pellegrino motioned to close the meeting to the public seconded by Councilman DeNofa, and approved by the rest of the Council.

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Councilman Dodge requested that an additional amendment be made to the budget prior to the adoption to reduce the tax rate. He reviewed the tax increases, spending, and budgets of the Borough over the last few years. Councilman Dodge suggested using deferred taxes to lower the tax rate to fewer than 2% and shared various statistics with the Council.

Adopt

Councilman Dodge motioned to approve the amended budget by deducting \$55,000 from the 'Other Expense' section by \$55,000 to reduce the tax increase, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian.

Mr. Seaman explained that each line item individually needs to be amended and that cutting \$55,000 would be cutting it too much in his opinion. He also noted that any surplus in this budget will go to future budgets and will keep the tax rate lower in the future.

Councilman DeNofa questioned why this was not brought up prior to this time and offered an alternative where the \$55,000 could come from. Councilman Dodge noted why he did not agree with the alternative Councilman DeNofa offered and continued to explain to the Council why this was beneficial for the Borough.

Mr. Seaman explained to the Council how surplus is used in the budget. The Council asked Mr. Seaman various questions in regards to the Borough's surplus and the budget. Mr. Seaman pointed out that \$32,000 would bring the tax rate increase to 2%. The Council discussed Councilman Dodge's motion.

Councilman Dodge motioned to amend his motion to amend the amended budget and reduce it by a total of \$55,000; \$40,000 from 'Employee Group Insurance' and \$15,000 from 'Landfill Solid Waste' line items, seconded by Councilwoman DerAsadourian.

AYES: Dodge & DerAsadourian
NAYS: DeNofa, Meyer & Pellegrino
ABSTAIN: None

Councilman Meyer motioned to approve the Municipal Budget, Resolution #2014-33, as amended by Resolution #2014-32, seconded by Councilman DeNofa, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, Meyer & Pellegrino
NAYS: Dodge
ABSTAIN: None

Resolution #2014-34 (Participation in the Safe and Secure Communities Program)

Resolution #2014-35 (Support for Returning Tax Receipts)

Resolution #2014-36 (Authorize Entitlements for the Retirement of Lt. Louis Fitzgerald)

Resolution #2014-37 (Authorize Escrow Agreement for the Housing Trust Fund)

Approval of New Member for the Shrewsbury Hose Company No. 1: Nicholas A. Palumbo

Approval of the Shrewsbury Classic 5K Race for October 19, 2014

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Councilman Meyer motioned to approve Resolutions #2014-34, 35, 36 & 37, Shrewsbury Hose Company No. 1 new member Nicholas A. Palumbo, and the Shrewsbury Classic 5K, seconded by Councilman Dodge, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, Dodge, Meyer & Pellegrino
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Administrator's Report

Mr. Seaman reported on the Safe Routes to School meeting, that the newsletter deadline is June 10th, and mentioned that the Borough would be conducting interviews for a new Tax Assessor. Mr. Seaman informed the Council that the Borough did not receive tax payments from numerous residents who all mailed their payments the same two days at the same location and that he would speak to the Post Office concerning it. He added that these residents did receive delinquent notices and that unfortunately nothing can be done about the interest incurred.

Mr. Seaman added that the Auditor would be at the next Council meeting to present the audit to the Council. Councilman DeNofa questioned why the Auditor was presenting to the entire Council and not just the Audit Committee. The Council discussed this and decided to have the Auditor meet only with the committee.

Councilman Pellegrino left the meeting at 7:38pm.

Reports of Council

Councilman DeNofa reported on various DPW projects and updated the Council on the Patterson Avenue project noting the start date would be after July 4th. He explained that the crosswalk lights on Sycamore Avenue have been reconfigured. Councilman DeNofa shared information about damage that was done to the ball fields which Councilman Meyer added was being addressed. Councilman DeNofa explained to the Council that the Borough will be testing LED lights for the Borough Hall parking lot which would save the Borough money.

Councilwoman DerAsadourian reported on behalf of Councilman DeSalvo information on the previous month's First Aid calls. She also noted that the ladder truck, as well as, the newer ambulance is out of service but the Borough was being covered by mutual aid.

Councilwoman DerAsadourian reported that they are conducting interviews for a new Tax Assessor and welcomed everyone to come to the Borough's Memorial Day Ceremony.

Councilman Dodge reviewed Lt. Fitzgerald's retirement resolution which was approved by Council and discussed Officer Gallagher's plan to retire. The Council discussed staffing for the Police Department. Councilman Dodge reported on the PBA Ball.

Councilman Meyer reported that the Recreation Committee requested that the Borough take over responsibility of field scheduling as of January 1, 2015. He noted that the Beach Blast Tournament would only be using the Shrewsbury Borough School field for their games.

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Mayor's Report

Mayor Burden reported on the Community Clean-Up Day.

Correspondence

Municipal Clerk Krueger stated that the new Ocean State Job Lot requested the Mayor's presence at their ribbon cutting ceremony on June 7th at 10:00AM.

Payment of the Bills

Councilman Meyer motioned to approve the bills list in the amount of \$1,822,584.03, seconded by Councilman Dodge, and approved by the following vote:

AYES: DeNofa, DerAsadourian, Dodge & Meyer
NAYS: None
ABSTAIN: None

Open the Meeting to the Public

Councilwoman DerAsadourian motioned to open the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Dodge, and approved by the rest of the Council.

Close the Meeting to the Public

Having no one from the public present, Councilman DeNofa motioned to close the meeting to the public, seconded by Councilman Meyer, and approved by the rest of the Council.

Adjourn

Councilman Meyer motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:56PM, seconded by Councilman DeNofa, and approved by the rest of the Council.

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

Approve: _____
Donald Burden – Mayor