

## **ORDINANCE NO. 1039**

### **CREATING AN “ON-LINE PURCHASE EXCHANGE ZONE” FOR INTERNET-BASED TRANSACTIONS AT THE BOROUGH OF SHREWSBURY MUNICIPAL COMPLEX**

**WHEREAS**, ensuring the safety and security of Borough residents is a critical concern for the Borough of Shrewsbury’s Mayor, Council and Chief of Police; and

**WHEREAS**, in recent years, in-person sales, transactions and exchanges originating from on-line marketplaces have experienced an increase in violence and fraud; and

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to promote safer transactions between strangers, municipalities across the country have encouraged residents to use municipal parking facilities as a meeting place for the in-person transactions to occur; and

**WHEREAS**, the Mayor and Council believe it to be in the best interest of the health, safety and welfare of the Borough’s residents to establish a “On-Line Purchase Exchange Zone” in the Shrewsbury Borough Municipal Parking Lot to facilitate a safe and neutral location for making in-person transactions; and

**WHEREAS**, the parking lot outside of the Shrewsbury Borough’s Police Headquarters is lighted and under surveillance 24x 7 which provides for a safer area for such transactions to be conducted.

**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Shrewsbury, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that:

1. The Borough of Shrewsbury hereby establishes an “On-line Purchase Exchange Zone” for conducting in-person private transactions involving a Borough resident that have been facilitated through on-line marketplaces to be located in an area of the Municipal Parking Lot of the Municipal Complex located at 419 Sycamore Avenue, Shrewsbury, New Jersey to be designated (the “Exchange Zone”).
2. Private exchange of motor vehicles or items that do not fit in a 10 x 10 parking space shall not be permitted.
3. Weapons, drugs and drug paraphernalia transactions shall not be permitted.
4. Borough officials will not provide police personnel or Borough staff to witness any transaction in person, nor can they give legal advice or settle disputes related to any transactions. The video surveillance by and

proximity to police personnel is meant to increase the public’s peace of mind when engaging in such transactions with unfamiliar individuals in the Exchange Zone.

5. The Borough of Shrewsbury makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises with respect to the condition or authenticity of any items exchanged between private parties.
6. The Borough of Shrewsbury makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to the safety or security of any in-person transactions that may take place on Borough property.
7. The Borough of Shrewsbury makes no guarantees, assurances, or promises as to availability of the Exchange Zone at any particular date or time.
8. The Borough encourages all persons to engage in such transactions in daylight hours, only; to bring a cell phone along in case of an emergency; to notify friends and/or family of the intention to meet to conduct such a transaction; to never invite strangers to the home or agree to meet at a stranger's home; and to reconsider any transaction with someone who refuses to meet at the Municipal Complex.
9. The purpose of this ordinance is to establish a safe space for the conduct of private transactions involving Borough residents facilitated by on-line marketplaces.
10. Any person, firm or corporation violating any provision of this chapter, which shall be enforced by the Police Department of the Borough of Shrewsbury, shall, upon conviction, be subject to a fine of not less than \$150 nor more than \$1,250, a term of imprisonment not exceeding 90 days or a period of community service not exceeding 90 days, or any combination thereof.
11. This Ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and approval in a time and manner prescribed by law.

**First Reading/Introduction: July 17, 2017**

**Second Reading/Public Hearing: August 21, 2017**

**Adoption: August 21, 2017**

**ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Kathleen P. Krueger, Clerk**

**APPROVE: \_\_\_\_\_**

**Donald Burden, Mayor**