



**Shrewsbury Township
1979 Crawford Street
Shrewsbury Township, New Jersey 07724**

**Julie Martin
Municipal Clerk**

**Phone (732) 542-0572
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**Shrewsbury Township Committee
February 11, 2025
REGULAR MEETING - 6:00 PM**

MINUTES

CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Jennings called the meeting to order at 6:10pm and stated in accordance with the requirements of Section 4(a) of C.231, P.L. 1975, the required Annual Notice of this meeting was published in the Two River Times on January 9, 2025, in addition to posting on the Township Website and the bulletin board in the Municipal Building and filing a copy of said notice with the Municipal Clerk.
www.townshipofshrewsbury.com.

ROLL CALL

GOVERNING BODY MEMBERS PRESENT: Glenwood Puhak and Mayor Lester Jennings. Deputy Mayor Lynda Lettice Absent.

TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS PRESENT: Township Attorney Gene Anthony, Julie Martin, Municipal Clerk and Deputy Clerk Katrina Thornton.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

MINUTES - Mayor Jennings offered a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting for January 14, 2025 moved and seconded Mr. Puhak. All were in favor.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Ms. Thornton welcomed Julie Martin as the new Municipal Clerk and Mr. Anthony stated he's known her for years and she's one of the best Clerk's he knows.

REPORTS

Finance – Ms. LaPorta stated they submitted their paperwork to the DCA for the water sale. The DCA came back with additional questions and it was regarding documents that were before both her and Katrina's time. It took a lot of digging and emails back and forth with bond counsel and people at the MCIA would help them. She stated she sent an email out to everyone including Mr. Anthony and hopefully everything is all buttoned up and they can now resubmit it.

Housing- Ms. Thornton stated Mr. Welsh just did their fire inspection. They also had Encore come in and checked our stove and we passed all of our inspections.

Recreation – Mr. Brunson reported he recently collaborated with a gentleman that is the owner of a semi pro basketball team. He collaborated where they will be using Brookdale for half of their home games starting March 9th and he would like to flood the area with tickets. So we are going to give the tickets to people in the community. There will be celebrities both past and present in attendance. There will be scholarships and give aways for the kids.

Mr. Puhak questioned the age of the children.

Mr. Brunson stated it would be for any age group.

Municipal Attorney – Mr. Anthony stated as the CFO has indicated they were in the process of transferring the water system to American Water Company. There has been only one other town that has been able to do this so we are following the legislation that is rarely utilized. We've received some approvals already from the State but we have to get final approval from DCA. He stated DCA has looked at his submission and they have asked several questions, which they have answered and then they've asked even more questions. As Ms. LaPorta indicated, they've asked us to get bond ordinances and some of it transpired when even he was not around. Other than that, he stated he believed they had it all resolved and would be sending it off tomorrow. He stated originally he had a conference call with American Water Company about a closing on the 18th of this month. He stated he thought that was unrealistic in light of the fact that they still needed DCA approval and even if we sent everything out to the DCA they were not going to approve it by the 18th. He stated they were going to leave the closing a little loose. He stated they had to prepare some closing documents and once they get everything off to DCA and they approve it then they will have a closing and a ribbon cutting and the water systems will transfer to American Water Company and another utility will have been gotten rid of.

Public Works – Ms. Thornton stated they got the new recycling bins in and the contractor is placing them out and should start recycling next week.

Safety & Neighborhood Watch – Ms. Thornton stated the cameras have come in that will go in the park and DPW building they just have to be passed.

ORDINANCE (S) – NONE

RESOLUTION(S)

Township of Shrewsbury

RESOLUTION #2025- 37

RESOLUTION TO EXTEND BUDGET AND ANNUAL FINANCIAL STATEMENT STATUTORY DEADLINES

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has authorized revisions to the statutory budget deadlines as per Local Finance Notice LFN 2024-20 dated December 18, 2024; and

WHEREAS these revisions permit municipalities to extend the deadlines for the submission of the Municipal Annual Financial Statement, as well as the introduction and adoption of the Municipal Budget; and

WHEREAS, to avail itself of these revised dates, the governing body must adopt a resolution by no later than March 31, 2025;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Shrewsbury, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, that the Township of Shrewsbury hereby avails itself of the revised budget introduction and adoption dates for the calendar year 2025 budget as follows:

Submission of the Municipal Annual Financial Statement (AFS): Extended from February 10 to March 7, 2025

Budget Introduction Date: Extended to March 31, 2025

Budget Adoption Date: Extended to April 30, 2025

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the temporary budget appropriations will be extended as may be necessary to accommodate this extension of the budget introduction and adoption dates.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Chief Financial Officer is directed to submit a certified copy of this resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services using the Financial Automation Submission Tracking (FAST) system, as required by Local Finance Notice LFN 2024-20.

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Puhak		X	X			
Lettice						X
Jennings	X		X			

Township of Shrewsbury

Resolution #2025-38

AUTHORIZE AN INCREASE TO THE TEMPORARY BUDGET OF 2025

WHEREAS the appropriations as set forth in the 2025 temporary budget are insufficient to meet the financial obligations as set forth below, and

WHEREAS the permanent budget for the year 2025 has not yet been adopted , and

WHEREAS the total emergency temporary appropriations adopted in the year 2025 pursuant to the provision on N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 including the appropriation in this resolution total \$1,099,744.74.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Shrewsbury, County of Monmouth, State of New Jersey, no less than two thirds of the full majority concurring in accordance with the aforementioned statute, that the 2025 temporary fiscal budget is hereby amended to

provide for an emergency temporary appropriation in the amount of \$7,344.57 and said appropriations are as follows

Two Rivers Water Reclamation 5-01-31-455-000

\$ 7,344.57

Total \$ 7,344.57

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Puhak	X		X			
Lettice						X
Jennings		X	X			

Township of Shrewsbury

RESOLUTION #2025- 39

**TAX COLLECTION OFFICE
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**

WHEREAS N.J.S.A.54:4-91 requires that the Tax Collector shall submit an annual statement of receipts to the governing body.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Committee of the Township of Shrewsbury that the following Collector’s Annual Report of Receipts for the Year Ending December 31, 2024, be hereby acknowledged and accepted as submitted.

**TAX COLLECTION OFFICE
FOR THE YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2024**

2025 Taxes Prepaid	\$7,651.89
2024 Taxes	\$1,953,235.23
2023 Taxes	\$6,589.97
Interest	\$4,383.49
Total	\$1,971,860.58

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Puhak		X	X			
Lettice						X
Jennings	X		X			

**Township of Shrewsbury
Resolution #2025-40
County of Monmouth**

AUTHORIZE PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS the Consent Bill List for Municipal JIF, County Taxes, has preauthorized payment of \$150,806.12.

WHEREAS the Township Committee of the Township of Shrewsbury authorized payment of 2024 bills in the amount of \$.199,266.45

WHEREAS the total authorized payment of bills is the amount of **\$ \$ 350,072.57**

Name	Motion	Second	Ayes	Nays	Abstain	Absent
Puhak	X		X			
Lettice						X
Jennings		X	X			

NEW BUSINESS – None

OLD BUSINESS – Mr. Anthony stated the update was the public sale of the water system, which he reported on earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Jennings offered a motion to move to open session, moved and seconded by Mr. Puhak. All were in favor.

PUBLIC PORTION – PLEASE STATE YOUR NAME AND ADDRESS FOR THE MINUTES

Robin Kane questioned why the Comcast bill was \$1122.00 and why so high.

Ms. Thornton stated it was for two months and it was for the cameras and internet.

Ms. Kane questioned whether Comcast was the Township’s phone system.

Ms. Thornton stated they were looking to go to Comcast but they were currently with Verizon and that one of the lines for a phone in DPW would be removed especially since the DPW worker uses his cell phone.

Ms. Kane questioned who were Remington Engineers.

Ms. Thornton stated they do the water testing.

Mr. Anthony stated he had mentioned at the last meeting that there was litigation where Tinton Falls brought a lawsuit against Shrewsbury Township and Eatontown. It had to do with taxes basically and they reached a Settlement with the State of New Jersey which may help our tax base a little bit. That litigation was postponed temporarily but they finally settled it last week going into this week and that will be it.

Ms. Kane told everyone to be safe because it is a full moon and people are driving reckless. She questioned whether they were doing only Crawford for the assessments.

Ms. Thornton stated they were doing all of them.

Ms. Kane stated her tax bill has really gone up.

Mr. Anthony suggested she speak with the Tax Assessor.

Ms. LaPorta suggested why it could have gone up and we have nothing to do with the schools and County. She stated everyone has gone up.

Mr. Anthony stated it could be that they are a co-op.

Ms. Meer Eagone questioned whether they were going to have a party after the ribbon cutting.

Mr. Anthony stated originally the American Water Co. wanted a ribbon cutting ceremony and he informed them that the 18th was unrealistic. He informed them that the closing should take place next month and a party would have to be discussed.

Julie Martin stated Katrina was doing great and is a pleasure to work with.

Mayor Jennings offered a motion to close the hearing, moved and seconded by Mr. Puhak. All were in favor.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – NONE

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Regular Meeting, March 8, 2025, at 6:00 PM

ADJOURNMENT - meeting adjourned at 6:26pm.