



ShrewsBury Borough

NEWSLETTER

July, August and September, 2020

FROM MAYOR SHARKEY

The past few months have been a very interesting time. In mid-March, our work and school situations changed dramatically as we adapted to doing both from home. As I write this, York County will move into the green phase in a few days and let's hope COVID-19 remains forever in the rearview mirror. I'd like to urge everyone to support our local businesses, the stay-at-home order has been very difficult and local business is vital to a community's health. Several people have told me they wash their hands more often and touch their faces less. It makes me wonder what measures need to be in place for everyone to begin using turn signals consistently, but I digress.

Summer usually brings outdoor celebrations of all kinds. Loud music and large gatherings often bring noise and crowded streets with guests parking anywhere close to the party. It's important to not allow your pursuit of happiness prevent your neighbors from enjoying their own peace and quiet. Please be mindful and respectful and strike a balance to prevent being a nuisance. It's also good to point out that our nuisance ordinance prohibits mowing after 9:00pm and before 7:00am.

We have received several complaints recently about fireworks. I've asked our Borough Council to consider additional restrictions and enforcement capabilities for people who make a nuisance out of

something that is supposed to be fun. The use of fireworks is prohibited after 10:00 pm and is subject to restrictions in Pennsylvania State Law. While they may be fun to watch, fireworks are loud and often disturb pets, young children and veterans with PTSD. The debris from fireworks lands on nearby roofs and yards. They can also be hazardous if used unsafely. Please remember to be a good neighbor and respect those around you and the community at large.

Thanks for letting me bend your ear, I hope everyone has a great summer and please continue to do the right things to stay safe and healthy and help to keep Shrewsbury a great place to live.

JUNIOR COUNCIL PERSON VACANCY & RECOGNITION

At our June 10th monthly meeting, Mayor Sharkey presented certificates of appreciation to Mateo Vega and Amber Brose for their service as Junior Councilpersons. Mateo was one of our first JCPs and started in his junior year at Susky. Amber was selected to fill a vacancy last year and has served throughout her senior year. We are now recruiting to fill their vacancies.

We created the Junior Councilperson program in 2018 to help bring the voice of the younger generation to our community. It is a great way for high school juniors and seniors to serve the community and provide the perspective of youth to our local officials. Requirements are simply a willingness to serve. If you are interested, please contact the office by phone or email.

A GOOD CORPORATE CITIZEN

We'll soon celebrate Independence Day, one of our most significant patriotic holidays and I always enjoy seeing the American flag on display. In early April, our governor ordered Pennsylvania flags at half-staff to honor victims of the coronavirus pandemic. Some people and businesses misunderstood and lowered the U.S. flag. It's not common knowledge, but according to the U.S. Flag code, only the President can order the U.S. flag to fly at half-staff (go ahead, Google it). Shortly after the order, I observed the flag at Santander Bank at half-staff and spoke with the branch manager who explained to me their corporate office had the flag lowered. He contacted their corporate office; I spoke with their head of Government Relations, and I'd like to thank Santander Bank for being a good corporate citizen and doing the right thing.

Shrewsbury Borough
35 West Railroad Avenue
Shrewsbury, PA 17361
(717) 235-4371
www.shrewsburyborough.org
Email@ShrewsburyBorough.org



left to right, Amber Brose, Mateo Vega, Mayor Mike Sharkey

PUBLIC WORKS



WATER METER REPLACEMENT

The water meter replacement program was delayed during the Red Phase of the COVID-19 restrictions. The program restarted on May 26th as Pennsylvania moved into Yellow Phase. The 2020 water meter program includes: East Forrest Avenue, Devonshire Drive, Berkshire Drive, Glenhurst Road, Asbury Lane, Sundance Lane, Holiday Drive, Cassidy Way, Wineberry Drive, Plank Road, Foxtail Court, Greenview Drive, Brookview Lane and East Tolna Road. Appointments are from 7:00am to 3:00pm. We will never show up at your house unannounced. Do not let anyone in your house without proper identification and a scheduled appointment. The new water meter is no cost to our customers so please schedule an appointment by calling 717-235-1427!

ROAD CONSTRUCTION

The water line replacement is finished on Essex Circle Drive and Woodland Drive. The road paving will follow in late summer or early fall. Also, paving will occur on portions of East Tolna Road and West Forrest Avenue. Please drive carefully around the work areas.

PRACTICE WATER CONSERVATION

Water conservation is an excellent practice to reduce your water and sewer bill and protect Shrewsbury's most precious resource. Water and sewer are billed based on water usage and water meter readings.

WATER CONSERVATION TIPS:

- Check water meter periodically to make sure there are not any leaks in your house. Some leaks (toilets) may not be heard and must be checked via the meter. The Public Works Department can teach you to read the meter and analyze readings.
- Do not use the toilet as a garbage can. Five to seven gallons of water are used with every flush.
- Use dishwasher and washing machine when you have a full load. Will save five to 15 gallons per wash.
- Keep a container of drinking water in refrigerator instead of allowing water to run to cool for drinking.
- Turn water off when brushing teeth.
- Limit your shower to less than five minutes. Conservation can potentially save 1,000 gallons of water per month.
- Showers (10-25 gallons) use less water than baths (70 gallons).
- Water plants during coolest parts of the day (morning or evening) to avoid evaporation.
- Cover the swimming pool to eliminate evaporation.
- Mulch outdoor plants to help with soil moisture.
- Purchase and install a rain barrel for watering to capture rainwater.
- Use a broom instead of water to clean your driveway, porch, or sidewalk.
- Mow your yard to 3" height for a deeper root structure and avoid watering grass.
- Be smart, save money, and use water wisely!!!

DID YOU KNOW?

The Shrewsbury Borough/Municipal Authority Sewer collection system contains 47.38 miles of gravity sewer lines, 4.60 miles of pressure sewer mains, and 1224 sewer manholes. The service area is Shrewsbury Borough, portions of Shrewsbury Township, Hopewell Township, and Railroad Borough with approximately 7,260 people served.

PENNSYLVANIA FIREWORKS LAWS:

Listed below are the basic restrictions as found on the Pennsylvania State Police website:

1. They cannot be ignited or discharged on a public or private property without express permission of the property owner.
2. They cannot be discharged within 150 feet of an occupied structure,

whether or not a person is actually present. (When you consider the size of most residential lots in Shrewsbury Borough, there are not many places that meet this restriction)

3. They cannot be discharged while the person is under the influence of alcohol, a controlled substance, or another drug.

4. They cannot be discharged from or within a motor vehicle or building.

5. They cannot be discharged toward a motor vehicle or building.

In addition to state law, fireworks use is not allowed in Shrewsbury Borough after 10:00pm Please remember to be safe when using fireworks and to be respectful of your neighbors.



FROM COUNCIL PRESIDENT BUCK BUCHANAN

The Shrewsbury area has been very fortunate in the low number of virus incidents incurred, but we have had a major side effect. The Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Company had to cancel two of their very important fund raisers. The annual Carnival, as well as the Golf Tournament, are their most significant fund raisers typically raising approximately \$35,000. There is no substitute or other fund raiser events that can replace the income that has been lost. Since their budget must always remain in balance, this means a reduction in the replacement of equipment needed to respond to fires and other incidents. This could potentially result in unsafe conditions or a lack of their ability to accomplish their vital mission. Simply put, these are some of our local HEROS that respond to protect us at all hours of the day and night; and they do so as VOLUNTEERS. The money they need to do this is for our benefit, so I am asking that every household consider sending in a contribution to assist in making up the lost income. Yes, you do pay in your taxes an amount that goes to the Fire Company, but that amount has always been based upon a balanced budget which included the fund raiser income. Imagine you need to call them for help right now, and give what you can to make certain they will be there with the equipment needed to respond to your emergency! I also ask that you share this contribution request with those living outside the Borough since the Fire Company responds to more calls within the Townships than the Borough itself.

FIRE EQUIPMENT STATUS

The Shrewsbury Fire Company rolling stock has seen an increase in maintenance costs due to their age. The fire company plans for a 20-year life cycle for each vehicle with a refurbishment approximately mid-way. New vehicles cost on the order of \$1,000,000 and refurbishments approximately \$500,000. Engine 61-1 is a 1994 Spartan and has been refurbished once. Rescue 61 is 2003 Spartan and has been refurbished once. Engine 61-2 is a 2007 Spartan. Near term plans have Rescue 61 being replaced or refurbished again in 2024. An engine will need to be replaced or refurbished in 2028. The fire company appreciates the support from the community and any additional donations offsetting the lost revenue.

TRASH COLLECTION REMINDERS

You are allowed to place four (4) bags or containers (32 gallon) no heavier than 50 pounds out each collection day and must be out by 6:00am Cardboard boxes placed out for Friday recycling collection must be flattened and bundled.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

The York County Solid Waste Authority has tentatively set Saturday, October 3 as the day to bring household hazardous waste to their location at 2700 Blackbridge Road, York (717) 845-1066.

HOLIDAY DELAY TRASH COLLECTION

The week of Labor Day, September 6, collection will be delayed both days (will be collected on Wednesday and Saturday).

FROM THE BILLING DEPARTMENT

Occasionally, the utility bills get lost in the mail. Call the Borough Office if you do not receive your utility bill by mid-month following the end of the quarter. For the quarter ending September 30, you should receive your bill by October 15. Not receiving your bill does not relieve you of paying the late fee.



35 West Railroad Avenue
Shrewsbury, PA 17361

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
CASKEY GROUP

From The Shrewsbury Volunteer Fire Company

FOOD TRUCK FRIDAYS

Food truck vendors will be at the Fire Company from 4:00pm to 8:30pm on the following dates:

- JULY 10
- JULY 24
- AUGUST 14
- AUGUST 28
- SEPTEMBER 11
- SEPTEMBER 25

FALL FEST

At this time, the Fire Company is still planning on having the annual Fall Fest in early October. They will plan accordingly based on any guidelines that may be in place due to COVID-19. More information to come.



"Professionally Staffed By Volunteers"

SHREWSBURY VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY

21 West Forrest Avenue • Shrewsbury, PA 17361
(717) 235-4476 • www.shrewsburyfire.com