



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • MAY 18, 2023

Regular Meeting

Clement V. Sommers Municipal Building

7:00 PM

910 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ 07757

- I. **Call to Order:** Council President Gallo called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
- II. **Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act:** This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by adequate and electronic notification on January 5, 2022 of this meeting and its location, date and time to the Asbury Park Press and Two River Times and by the posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough's Web Site.
- III. **Flag Salute, Statement to the Public:** Council President Gallo led attendees and the members of Council in the flag salute.

IV. **Roll Call:**

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jay Coffey	Mayor	Absent
William Deerin	Councilman	Present
Richard Gallo	Councilman	Present
Bryan Keeshen	Councilman	Present
Michael O'Brien	Councilman	Present
Keith Salnick	Councilman	Present
Thomas Tvrdik	Councilman	Present
Jeanne Smith	Borough Clerk	Remote
Kathleen Beilin for Andrew Bayer	Board Attorney	Present
Donna M. Phelps	Administrator	Present
Catherine D. LaPorta	Chief Financial Officer	Present

- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT - Action Items Only:** Council President Gallo opened the meeting to the public for comments on Action Items only. As no one from the public appeared this portion of the meeting was closed.
- VI. **Administrators Report:** Ms. Phelps reported on items including: the Forerunner Program through Monmouth County Shared Services- Current Contract expires at end of year. The current contract was covered by a grant from FEMA, there was no cost to the Borough for the last three years. The County is committed to \$75,000 which is divided between participating municipalities for the next contract that will start in 2024. If no grants it will be \$9,375 for total of \$28,125 over a 3-year period. If they are awarded the grant the Borough's share will be \$1,562 per year with a total for 3 years of \$4,688. The numbers will change depending on how many municipalities participate. The program has been heavily used by our OEM. It provides a necessary tool for tracking elevation certificates and flooding information. Hydrant flushing is happening next week. Central Jersey health insurance has approved the Boroughs grant application to reimburse the Borough for the cost of the employee assistance program with the amount \$3,780. The community gardens did not receive grants that were applied for. The Mayor & Council were reminded to take the elected official management seminar which must be done by May 31, 2023.
- VII. **Clerk's Report:** Ms. Phelps reported on behalf of Ms. Smith in regards to the financial disclosure for the governing body everyone who completed is compliant and she is working with the remaining individuals that still need to file.
- VIII. **Consent Agenda:**
- #2023-126** 1. Resolution authorizing payment of BILL LIST 05-18-23
 - #2023-127** 2. Resolution Setting Compensation for Action Camp 2023 Employees
 - #2023-128** 3. Resolution authorizing refund of overpayment - Block 107, Lot 1.01
 - #2023-129** 4. Resolution Authorizing 3rd Quarter Estimated Tax Bills
 - #2023-130** 5. Resolution authorizing an extension of the 3rd Qtr Grace Period
 - #2023-131** 6. Resolution authorizing participation in the County CDBG Program 2023-2026
 - #2023-132** 7. Resolution authorizing a fireworks display at 2023 Summer's End
 - #2023-133** 8. Resolution accepting donation from the Oceanport Lions Club
 - #2023-134** 9. Resolution appointments to Boards & Committees, Recreation
 10. Receipt & Acceptance of Minutes, Historical Committee, 03/09/2023

11. Approval of Fire Department Membership - McSorley, Colin T
12. Approval of Fire Department Membership - Pollard, Andrew

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

- IX. **PUBLIC HEARING - Liquor License Place to Place and Person to Person Transfers:** Notice of this public hearing was published two (2) times in the Two River Times on May 1 and May 8, 2023 in accordance with law.

Council President Gallo opened the public hearing for questions on the liquor license transfer application from the public. As there was no public that appeared, Council President Gallo closed that portion of the meeting.

#2023-135 Resolution approving transfers of Liquor License - Fort Monmouth Business Center LLC

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

X. **MUNICIPAL BUDGET:**

1. **#2023-124** Resolution authorizing waiver of the 2023 Budget Reading in Full

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

2. **#1072** Ordinance Establishing a COLA/CAP Bank for CY2023

Councilman Tvrdik called for the 2nd reading and Public Hearing of an ordinance establishing the 2023 CAP Bank and asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication of the proposed ordinance by title only "**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS FOR 2023 CALENDAR YEAR (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14)**" was published one time in the Two River Times on May 4, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council President Gallo opened the meeting for public comment for this ordinance. As no one else from the public presented to be heard, the public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Deerin and seconded by Councilman Keeshen.

Councilman Tvrdik made a motion to adopt the ordinance and advertise in accordance with law, which was seconded by Councilman O'Brien.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

3. **MUNICIPAL BUDGET PUBLIC HEARING:** Notice of this Public Hearing was published in the Two River Times on May 4, 2023 and posted in accordance with law

Council President Gallo opened the meeting to the public for comments on the 2023 municipal budget.

Councilman Salnick commented with thanks to Councilman O'Brien for the time he spent reviewing the budget as well as Ms. LaPorta, but moving forward in future years, it should be re-evaluated the amount of discussion held on the budget.

Stuart Briskey, 46 Werah Place, asked questions about the budget for the First Aid and Fire departments which were addressed by Ms. LaPorta, Borough CFO.

Gary LaBruno, 51 Wyandotte Ave, asked Councilman Salnick what he would cut in the budget since he has concerns about it. Councilman Salnick said he would like to see more details on the finances of the Borough as to what the money is going towards.

Matt Zieniewicz, 1215 Turf Drive, offered his thoughts on the finance discussion and asked questions about capital improvements, anticipated revenue from Gatta fields, and has no problem with roadway improvements and buying a new fire truck but feels there is excessive spending in the recreation category.

As no one else from the public appeared this portion of the meeting was closed.

#2023-125 Resolution Adopting the 2023 Municipal Budget

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER:	William Deerin, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

XI. First Reading Ordinances: None

XII. Second Reading & Public Hearing Ordinances:

#1073 BOND Ordinance for Various 2023 Capital Improvements

Councilman Tvrdik called for the 2nd reading and Public Hearing of an ordinance adopting a Redevelopment Plan and asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication of the proposed ordinance by title only "**BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2023 ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS, BY AND IN THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY; APPROPRIATING \$1,802,700 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,716,857 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF**" was published one time in the Two River Times on May 4, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council President Gallo opened the meeting for public comment for this ordinance.

Stuart Briskey, 46 Werah Place, asked if they were using the old roadway list for the road program.

As no one else from the public presented to be heard, the public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Deerin and seconded by Councilman Keeshen.

Councilman Tvrdik made a motion to adopt the ordinance and advertise in accordance with law, which was seconded by Councilman Keeshen.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER:	Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

#1074 An Ordinance Adopting the UCC Mechanical Code

Councilman Tvrdik called for the 2nd reading and Public Hearing of an ordinance adopting a Redevelopment Plan and asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication of the proposed ordinance by title only "**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ADOPTING THE STATE UCC MECHANICAL CODE PURSUANT WITH N.J.A.C. 23-3.4(D)**" was published one time in the Two River Times on May 4, 2023.

PUBLIC HEARING: Council President Gallo opened the meeting for public comment for this ordinance. As no one else from the public presented to be heard, the public hearing was closed on a motion by Councilman Deerin and seconded by Councilman Keeshen.

Councilman Tvrdik made a motion to adopt the ordinance and advertise in accordance with law, which was seconded by Councilman O'Brien.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

XIII. Council Standing Committee Reports:

1. Councilman Deerin, Parks & Recreation – reported that the fields look great and the courts are all set to play on, Memorial Day Parade coming up, donation envelopes being mailed out for Summers End Festival.

2. Councilman Gallo, Public Works & Engineering – reported that road work is still going on, concrete work is almost complete, will look into Myrtle Avenue questions about a possible bump out with ADA requirements.
3. Councilman Keeshen, Public Safety – reminded everyone about Bingo at the First Aide building, spoke about the mutual aide agreement we have with Long Branch.
4. Councilman O'Brien, Finance & Administration – commented on the budget, reminded everyone about the Memorial Day Parade details will be posted on the borough website.
5. Councilman Salnick, Health & Human Services – thanked the finance committee for all of their time and hard work preparing the budget, spoke about email he received from the US Army Corp of Engineers.
6. Councilman Tvrdik, Planning & Development – gave an update on the Road Program with what is taking place as he received calls from residents, welcomed two new members to the Fire Department, gave an update on the Board of Education Meeting and the Teacher of the Year ceremony and congratulated the retirees, spoke on the upcoming Boujie Foodi at Fort Monmouth.

XIV. Mayor Coffey's Report - Absent

XV. Public Comments: Council President Gallo opened the meeting to comments from the public.

Debra Sharkey, 437 River Street, asked questions about the dredging situation and when it would start, it's a health hazard. Councilman Salnick responded and spoke in detail about the plan that is in place.

Gary LaBruno, 50 Wyandotte Ave, commented on fields and having tournaments there, gave a donation towards the purchase of a turkey sign for the borough, asked Ms. LaPorta the Borough's CFO what do Council Members get paid. Councilman Tvrdik responded to the question.

Mark Patterson, 40 Itaska Place, asked questions about the budget and what the rules are with spending the money.

Roseanne Letson, 50 Deer Path Ct, Tinton Falls, discussed some upcoming events that the Historical Committee is having, the Army Band concert, looking for residents to donate historical items to display, doing holiday home tour this year, and reminded that they are still selling historical books.

Matt Zieniewicz, 1215 Turf Drive, suggested that the Veteran's Day Ceremony be held at Fort Monmouth at the existing memorials instead of having it at Borough Hall.

As no one else from the public was present, Council President Gallo closed that portion of the meeting.

XVI. Adjournment: As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM on a motion by Councilman O'Brien, seconded by Councilman Deerin and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Smith
BOROUGH CLERK