

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
May 16, 2002

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on May 16, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Gemma stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with law.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, Silkworth and Mayor Gemma.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilman McGann.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- INVOCATION:** Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gemma led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on May 2, 2002 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Gatta moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of APRIL, 2002 and a copy will be posted on the bulletin board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon reported he is in receipt of quotes on some improvements recommended by the Technology Committee following several meetings with the emergency services and we will have to meet and prioritize the list and see if there is any funding available for these items.

Councilman Mahon stated that the Library Association has appointed a sub-committee to review the capital improvement plan for the Library and at the meeting scheduled on May 20th the Association is having a furniture specialist to advise the best use of the present space and what would be recommended.

Councilman Mahon commented under Municipal Coordinating, he has received a quote from the NJ Professional Management with regard to shared services for trash collection and a capital equipment inventory and he will be meeting next week with this group to check on available grant money for this study.

Councilman Mahon advised that our Environmental Commission is presently reviewing the Borough's regulations on street lighting, commercial lighting, etc. as well as ordinances from

Shrewsbury and Eatontown and they will be making a recommendation in this regard in the near future.

Councilman Mahon also stated that the Water Watch Committee will be out taking samples this weekend and will also be participating in some sampling with both the County and Rutgers. He also reminded everyone that the Committee will be doing their annual clean up of the river banks on June 15th and urged anyone interested to come out and help on that day.

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: Councilman Apruzzi called for the introduction of a bond ordinance with regard to alleviating the flooding conditions at both Cayuga Avenue and Gooseneck Point Road and asked the Clerk to read the proposed bond ordinance by title only as follows: **BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$40,000. AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$38,000. BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.**

Councilman Apruzzi moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Apruzzi then moved to hold the public hearing on this bond ordinance at the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on June 6, 2002 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Apruzzi reported that during the month of April, the Police Dispatchers answered 1,227 calls and 652 were responded to by our officers, so it was a busy month for the Department.

Councilman Apruzzi advised the Memorial Day Parade will be held on Monday, May 27th and the Grand Marshal will be Dr. Joseph Buccieri, a former member of our Planning Board for many years and a member of the Lions Club. He also advised that we will have a guest speaker from Fort Monmouth participating in the ceremonies. He also advised that following the ceremonies at Borough Hall, there will be festivities at the Community Center with pizza being sold by Recreation, soda sold by Soccer as well as soccer sign ups and the Garden Club usually participates as well.

Councilman Apruzzi commented that recently Gary Edwards of Edwards Electric installed a new switch at the tennis courts located at Blackberry Bay Park which will allow the lights to be turned off when no one is playing during the hours of 7-9 p.m. He continued that after 9 p.m. the lights are automatically shut off and he thanked Gary Edwards who donated the switch to the Borough.

COUNCILWOMAN GATTA: Councilwoman Gatta reported at the senior meeting the First Aid Squad distributed cards, which she showed the members of the audience, which go on your refrigerator and contain all medical information including medications, allergies, medical conditions, etc. so that during an emergency, the information is readily available. She urged anyone who was interested to see her after the meeting to help distribute these cards to all our residents, reminding everyone that they have to be updated as medications are changed. She also commented that there was a lot of positive feedback from the seniors with this program as well as the members of the First Aid Squad, who will be able to have all the necessary information they need during an emergency situation.

Councilwoman Gatta also reported at the First Aid Squad meeting, there were 46 calls during April, which equates to 461 people hours and since January, they have responded to 179 calls equating to 2,034 hours and these numbers have increased over the same time period from last year.

Councilwoman Gatta commented that three of our First Aiders, Carole Connor, John Connor and Doris Agaman recently certified 19 firemen for both CPR and the use of the automatic defibrillators, which certification has to be done yearly. She continued that the First Aid Squad has four new members and expect another three at the next meeting, which is great for the Squad.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-33** amending the Borough's capital budget, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-33

Councilman Wolfe commented that this is being done in connection with the bond ordinance which was introduced earlier, which all relates to federal funding in the amount of \$300,000 being made available to the Borough for the alleviation of the flooding problems on both Cayuga Avenue and Gooseneck Point Road.

R-02-34

Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk resolution **R-02-34** regarding the bridge replacement on East Main Street by the County of Monmouth after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe commented that the bridge was being replaced and recently, after inspections by the County, had the weight limitation lowered to five tons, due to the unsafe structure of the bridge. He continued that the bridge project will take approximately 7-9 months due to shoreline stabilization that is included in this project and it should begin shortly after Labor Day.

Councilman Wolfe stated he was contacted by Councilwoman Gatta regarding a request by a resident for a street light on a County road. He advised that he contacted the office of Freeholder Narazanick who put in him touch with a representative in charge of these matters and they should be contacting the Clerk's Office in the near future with more information.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Absent.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: No Report.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma commented that the roadwork at Monmouth Boulevard and Myrtle Ave. is making progress but he is doubtful they will be completed by Memorial Day. He also advised that the Borough has received notification from the County that the trees located along

Myrtle Avenue will have to be removed, since the telephone poles have to be re-located some 8 feet back from the curb line, but the trees will be replaced with similar ones that are located on Monmouth Boulevard.

Mayor Gemma stated on the subject of road work, the work is also continuing along Port-au-Peck Avenue and although we had planned to be done there with final paving completed prior to Memorial Day, the water company has replaced the main water line in that area due to the old age of the pipe and our Engineer has recommended that we now wait approximately 3-4 weeks to allow the trench to properly settle, so we don't have any settling following the final pavement.

Mayor Gemma reported he attended opening day at Monmouth Park and stated that there were 18,000 people in attendance, which is a good thing for the Borough and even the following day which was a rainy one there were still 5,000 people who came out.

Mayor Gemma reminded everyone the Lions Club Fair begins Tuesday evening and urged everyone to come out and support this event.

Mayor Gemma announced that at the work shop meeting he voted on an issue for the first time in five years and stated that the Summer's End Festival would be held on Saturday this year, which was in part due to a telephone survey undertaken by Recreation, since there had been requests to have the date changed from Sunday and we will see how it works out this year.

Mayor Gemma stated that shortly after September 11th, a group of soldiers from Massachusetts known as BRAVO Company, were stationed at Fort Monmouth to make sure the Fort remained a secure facility and although there were some problems in the beginning, these soldiers have been good for our Borough and have been away from home since early October and are finally going to be able to go home to their families. He continued that there is going to be a dinner for them at St. Dorothea's Church on May 29th to thank them for all their help and assistance during a very difficult time and we will be there to say thanks and wish them well.

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Charles Boland, 42 Elizabeth Drive presented another evaluation of the trees located on Wardell Circle from H. Clay Umstead and asked that the Council review same and gave Mr. Umstead's credentials as a tree expert. He also noted that a similar project has been done in Interlaken and he had included a map of the street in question and stated that he went and took a look at what they did and was quite impressed.

Mr. Boland also had some notes from another tree expert, Steve Garcia from Fair Haven, inspected the trees on May 12th, he described the trees as having a little dead wood and some hollow spots from some earlier poor trimming, but otherwise healthy and Mr. Boland stated if anyone wanted to speak with Mr. Garcia, he has a phone number. Mr. Boland also commented that when Mr. Shaw from the Monmouth County Shade Tree Committee was out inspecting the trees for the Borough, he commented at that time that he noted four trees should or could be removed.

Mr. Boland stated that one of the options discussed by the Borough Engineer, Tom Rospos, was to narrow the road and save the trees. He continued that the majority of the residents on Wardell Circle think this is a good solution and with the information from their experts, feel it should

be no problem in entertaining the option of two way traffic with one side parking, might make it workable and safe. He has also asked local nursery people and a landscape architect from the area for suggestions on suitable trees to be used for re-placement trees.

Mayor Gemma asked the Clerk to fax the information to the Borough Engineer for his review. He also advised Mr. Boland that when we have our meeting here with the residents and the Borough Engineer, he would ask that Mr. Boland have his experts attend as well, so that any issues that arise may be addressed at that time.

Stu Briskey, 46 Werah Place asked what the status of when Mr. Fiore will be back to make the repairs to the ponding problem in front of his father's home on Manitto Place, to which Councilman Apruzzi stated there were two items to be addressed and the one on Werah Place has just been resolved, but that was a cash settlement. Councilman Apruzzi did speak with the Engineer at that time about Manitto and was advised that the Engineer was waiting for the contractor to come back into the area and he will contact the Engineer tomorrow and advise Mr. Briskey of what is happening.

Mr. Boland stated there was some discussion that Cayuga Avenue had been paved, but Mayor Gemma pointed out we are talking about the lower end of Cayuga and not the section between Comanche and Port-au-Peck Ave. which had been recently resurfaced.

Mrs. Annette Boland, 50 Wardell Circle reminded the Council that they had agreed to have a sign erected at the entrance of Wardell curtailing the parking just at the entrance, since it makes it very dangerous when pulling into that street.

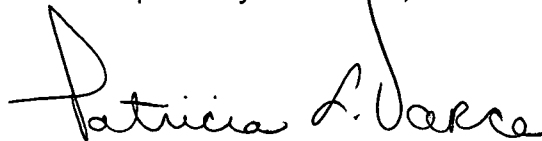
Councilman Apruzzi stated that our Traffic Safety Officer, Sgt. Cioffi, is working on this and he will check with Chief Bebout tomorrow on what the status is of this project.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard, Mayor Gemma closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated May 16, 2002. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Apruzzi who abstained from voting on a check to himself for reimbursement. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY \$186.60. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST ACCOUNT \$3,971.66. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID \$617.05. TOTAL 2001 VOUCHERS \$617.05. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID \$75,689.36. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$287,375.20. TOTAL 2002 VOUCHERS \$363,064.56. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 8:30 p.m. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on June 6, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK