



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • MAY 2, 2024

Workshop

Clement V. Sommers Municipal Building

7:00 PM

910 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ 07757

I. **Call to Order & Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act:** Mayor Tvrdik called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM and read the Open Public Meetings Act statement: This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by adequate and electronic notification on January 5, 2024 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.

II. **Flag Salute, Statement to the Public:** Judge Tom Cavanagh, Retired, led attendees and members of the Governing Body in the flag salute.

III. **Roll Call:**

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

IV. **Public Comment on Action Items:** Mayor Tvrdik opened the meeting for public comment on action items only. As no one appeared, Mayor Tvrdik closed that portion of the meeting.

V. **Action Items:**

#2024-121 Resolution authorizing payment of BILL LIST 05-02-2024

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

#2024-122 Resolution appointing Patrolman Connor Rogers to permanent status

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Richard Gallo, Councilman
SECONDER: Keith Salnick, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Cooper

#2024-123 Resolution confirming appointment of Kelle Burrough as Recreation Coordinator

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

#2024-124 Resolution for temp. permission for alcoholic consumption at SRLL Softball Tournament

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

#2024-125 Resolution authorizing shared service for purchase of ambulance from Borough of Little Silver

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER: Keith Salnick, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Cooper

#2024-126 Resolution authorizing a Site Access Agreement for Osprey Nest Survey

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Patty Cooper, Councilwoman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Cooper

#2024-127 Resolution appointing Robert Spellmon as a temporary Electrical Inspector

RESULT: **ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]**
MOVER: Patty Cooper, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Richard Gallo, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Cooper

VI. Clerk's Report:

1. Resolution authorizing waiver of the 2024 Budget Reading in Full – *reviewed and moved forward*
2. Resolution authorizing Tax Sale Redemption #21-00005 – *reviewed and moved forward*
3. Resolution to Cancel Uncollectible Taxes – *reviewed and moved forward*
4. Resolution to Refund Lienholder Due To Error – *reviewed and moved forward*
5. Resolution authorizing an extension of the 3rd Qtr Grace Period – *reviewed and moved forward*

Old Business:

6. Discussion: Update on Wardell Circle / Nicholson Place Issue - Councilwomen Cooper explained some options that were discussed with the best option being to make Wardell Circle a dead-end street. Signs would have to be posted stating no outlet. Asking for residents to come forward with any other suggestions, will ask the Police and Bill White for their input as well.
7. Discussion: NJDEP Incident #834649, Shore Road Improvements - Councilman Salnick asked for an update; Mayor Tvrdek stated that this is a private matter not a public matter; the Borough is not in violation, this is Colliers Engineering's issue from the complaint that was made by Councilman Salnick; Colliers responded almost two years ago and they still have not received a response back.

New Business:

8. Discussion: Proposed Amendments to Police Rules and Regulations – Mayor Tvrdek advised that the Chief had sent proposed amendments and asked to review for action at the next meeting
9. An Ordinance to Increase Fees for Liquor Licenses – proposal is to increase fees as permitted by the State annually until the Borough reaches the maximum fee permitted.
10. An Ordinance Repealing and Replacing Chapter 328 Stormwater Control – Mayor Tvrdek advised this was State mandated and was included in their packet.
11. Discussion: Tree Removal & Replacement Ordinance – Mayor Tvrdek advised that this was a key factor in the Stormwater changes and was being reviewed.

12. Discussion: Lighting at Maria Gatta Park - Councilman O'Brien advised that discussions have begun on adding lights to Maria Gatta Park; money has been secured through the sports wagering and a grant from the County to pay for the bulk of the project and the rest would come out of the open space money; no additional debt would be incurred for the borough.
13. Discussion: Bylaw's - Mayor Tvrdek explained in detail some of the recommended changes, highlighted the goals, rules and the conduct in which the meeting is run; asked for 3 volunteers from the members of the council to be part of the special committee to review the changes in the bylaws; the special committee will present recommendations at a regular meeting within 30 days; the committee members are: Councilwomen Cooper, Councilman Salnick and Councilman Deerin.

VII. Administrator's Report: Ms. Phelps reported that New Jersey American Water has started routine flushing of the water and will continue through May 17th; TRWRA gave an update on the Pleasure Bay Crossing Project, the contractor is currently excavating the upper half of the shaft which may cause minor traffic delays; the shared service agreement between Oceanport and West Long Branch court has been approved; Congratulations to Connor Rogers for his permanent status as a Police Officer and would like to welcome new construction official Mike Thulen and would like to officially welcome new Recreation Coordinator Kelle Burrough; the borough has received \$337,500 in the Green Acres Funding Grant; called for an update on the Trinity Park application and was told to do an amendment instead of the revision that was submitted, will advise once this is approved. Ms. LaPorta advised that weekly meetings have begun with FMERA to discuss the status of the MOU's, all three are complete and would like to request a resolution be done at the meeting to refund FMERA.

VIII. Mayor's Report: Mayor Tvrdek reported on the upcoming events, the Memorial Day Parade, the blood drive at the Fort Athletic Club, the Boujie Food Con; attended the Mini Golf Tournament which was a great event organized by the Recreation Committee; attended the 75th Anniversary of the First Aide Squad and presented Edward Ryan with a Proclamation and officially declares April 20th, 2024 as Edward Ryan Day; congratulated Kelle Burrough as the new full time Recreation Coordinator; congratulated Connor Rogers going full time to the police department; welcomed Mike Thulen our new construction official; meetings are scheduled with Netflix to discuss taxation, assessments and emergency services; the school budget hearing is scheduled at Wolf Hill School; wished all the mothers a Happy Mother's Day.

IX. Public Comment: Mayor Tvrdek opened the meeting for public comments.

Gary LaBruno, 50 Wyandotte Avenue, asked questions about the issue with Wardell Circle and Nicholson Place and making it a dead end street; asked about the lighting at the soccer field as to why is one a 50 feet candle and not all three, Councilman Obrien responded it was due to the cost and the one field is sufficient enough for soccer as they are the primary users of the fields at night, field hockey and lacrosse are not.

Mark Patterson, 40 Itaska Place, asked questions about the plans for Gatta Park and will they have to go out to bid, will the construction phase disrupt the usage of the fields.

Billie Jo Caruso, 47 Wardell Circle, asked for clarification on the plans for making Wardell Circle a one-way street and expressed her concerns; Councilwomen Cooper explained some of the options that are being discussed; waiting for Bill White, the borough's engineer to come back with his recommendations.

William Green, 8 Nicholson Place, expressed concern about the traffic that comes through the road, the speed of the cars and the size of the street. Asked about putting weight restrictions on the street and agreed with making it a dead-end street. Councilwomen Cooper responded that they are working on a solution that will make all of the residents happy, suggested having a meeting with all residents to hear all of their concerns and possible having Bill White attend the meeting.

Edward Ryan, 24 Willow Court, thanked Mayor Tvrdek for the proclamation, was very surprised by receiving it.

Rosanne Letson, 50 Deer Path Ct, Tinton Falls, reported that the signs were up at Old Wharf Park and they look beautiful; this weekend is Weekend in Old Monmouth which is an annual two day event where 52 of Monmouth Counties history sights open their door and waive admission fees; first speaker The Dead History Guy will be on May 9th at the Old Wharf ; Oceanport's birthday is May 11th;

As no one else appeared to be heard, public comments were closed on a motion by Councilman Salnick, seconded by Council President Deerin with no objections.

X. Adjourn to Executive Session: At 8:36 PM, Councilman O'Brien made a motion to adopt the resolution to enter Executive Session which was seconded by Councilman Salnick and received the following roll call.

#2024-128 Resolution authorizing an Executive Session, May 2, 2024

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

- XI. Return from Executive Session:** At 8:49 PM, Councilman O'Brien made a motion to re-open the regular meeting, which was seconded by Councilman Keeshen and received the following roll call.
- XII. Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:51 PM on a motion by Councilman Salnick, seconded by Councilman Gallo and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Smith
BOROUGH CLERK