

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
May 2, 2002

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on May 2, 2002 at 8:00 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann, 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 April 18, 2002 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Silkworth 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. Taxi license renewal application made by Anthony Palmieri t/a Paramount Cab.

The Clerk advised that the vehicle had been inspected and approved by the Police Department and that the application was found to be in order and required fees paid, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

2. Raffle license application made by Two River Theatre Group, to be held June 28, 2002, prize is a trip for two to Barcelona, Spain.

The Clerk again advised that the fees had been paid and the paperwork found to be in order, after which Councilwoman Silkworth moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon reported that the emergency services recently met and have resolved some problems that were being experienced as well as coming up with five items being recommended for improvement of the services and communications.

Councilman Mahon stated that the Library Association's Open House held last Tuesday was very successful and they also elected new officers for 2002. He also advised that the scholarship application sponsored by the Association is now closed.

Councilman Mahon advised under shared services, Jersey Management will submit for the next workshop meeting a proposal for shared services for several areas, which would save the Borough money in next year's budget.

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: Councilman Apruzzi reported that the tennis lights have recently undergone some minor repairs, like replacement of light bulbs, etc. and a new timer switch is being installed, which will allow the lights to be turned off when the courts are not in session. He also advised that the lights will be on a set timer to be on from 7-9 p.m. and if anyone notices that they presently are going off at 10 p.m., it is only because the timer was set incorrectly and will be changed shortly.

Councilman Apruzzi stated that the Public Work Department recently installed some plastic fencing at Old Wharf Park, which is supposed to help keep the geese out, and he is pleased to report that since the fencing was installed, there have been no geese at the park. He is hopeful that with this fencing in place, we can begin to re-seed, fertilize, etc. and get the park back to where it was previously, since it was a beautiful addition to our parks.

Councilman Apruzzi advised that he is working on the plans for Memorial Day and continued that the parade will be held on Monday, May 27th and this year we are going to honor the memory of Cliff Hepburn and we have invited his widow, Alice to attend and the VFW will be making a special award to her at the ceremonies.

COUNCILWOMAN GATTA: No Report.

R-02-31

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-31** authorizing the Tax Collector to refund an overpayment of property taxes for Block 127, Lot 10, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-32

Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-32** waiving the permit fees for the replacement/repair of the various roofs on Borough buildings, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the return of \$2,823.56 for Block 128, Lots 1 & 2 and Block 136, Lots 9 & 10 to Mr. Salvatore Lagrotteria, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe advised that there are two major projects going on in the Borough at the same time, one being the Port-au-Peck Avenue project being done under a DOT grant, where we are having new curbing, drainage as well as gas and water being replaced and relocated in the area and when that is complete, the roadway will be paved. He continued that the other project being undertaken by the County of Monmouth is the traffic light installation work at the intersection of Monmouth Boulevard and Myrtle Avenue which also includes a new drainage system to help alleviate the flooding problems on the west side of Monmouth Boulevard and it is a very comprehensive project and will take several months to complete and he asked that the residents be patient with the construction delays and detours.

Councilman Wolfe commented that he attended the meeting of the Monmouth County Freeholders last week in Monmouth Beach and commended them for the traffic light and drainage

project in the Borough and spoke with the County Engineer who advised that the project is on schedule but he did not think it would be completed until mid summer.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Absent.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilwoman Silkworth reported that the roof work will begin next week and the entire project should take approximately eight weeks to complete.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma was pleased to report that the Monmouth Park and the horsemen have reached an agreement concerning off track betting and they will open on time this year, which is a good thing, since although there is some inconvenience to the residents with regard to traffic, they pay approximately one-third of the Borough's taxes and bring in revenue to the businesses in town.

Mayor Gemma reminded everyone that the Celtic Fair would be held this weekend followed by the Lions Fair, which has grown into a regional type event due to the efforts and hard work of the Lions Club and especially Peter Deller, Jr. and they do a great job every year.

Mayor Gemma reported that on Tuesday evening the Fire and Police representative met and worked out some issues that had arisen and he thanked them for coming together and resolving any problems that had come up and their continued efforts to work as one team.

Mayor Gemma recognized that there were many residents in the audience from Wardell Circle and advised that we have received a report from the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission following an inspection made two weeks ago by the Commissioner and before we make any decisions, we will be setting up a meeting with the residents of Wardell, as we have done in the past, as well as our Engineer and the Commissioner from the Shade Tree Commission. He commented that hopefully the Council have access to a report done by an expert hired by the residents so that our Engineer can review this report as well before coming to the meeting. He continued that we have received \$150,000 from the State under a DOT grant to repave this street and we do intend to use these funds for that purpose and just wanted the residents to understand that we will discuss this matter one more time with them after the Engineer has prepared his concept of what should be done.

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

Mr. Charles Boland, 42 Elizabeth Drive stated his mother lives on Wardell and he had a copy of the report and gave the credentials of the expert who was hired to inspect the trees located on Wardell.

Mayor Gemma asked if it would be possible for Mr. Boland to leave a copy with the Clerk in order for her to make copies for the Council as well as our Borough Engineer, to which Mr. Boland stated he had made copies and would give them to Mrs. Varca after the meeting.

Mr. Boland stated that the second issue he wanted to bring up was that there were many small Forestry grants available to municipalities last year that included funding for planting trees and he questioned if our Shade Tree Committee had applied for any of these.

Mayor Gemma stated he did not know, but would find out and reminded Mr. Boland that the Borough's Shade Tree Committee is made up of strictly volunteers to which Mr. Boland volunteered to research for available grants for the Committee to apply for. Mayor Gemma thanked Mr. Boland

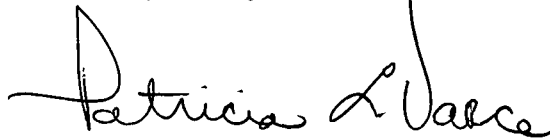
for his offer and would look forward to hearing if anything was available, since he would then bring that information to Councilman McGann, who is our Council Liaison in charge of grants.

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 2, 2002. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST \$41,019.02. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST \$9,638.75. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$220.00. TOTAL 2001 VOUCHERS \$220.00. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID \$85,658.11. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$945,979.55. TOTAL 2002 VOUCHERS \$1,031,637.66. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 8:25 p.m. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on May 16, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia L. Varca". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK