

REGULAR MEETING

Oceanport, New Jersey
May 2, 1991

- REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on May 2, 1991 at 8:10 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller, Rodman, Wolfe and Mayor Cavanagh.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Patricia L. Varca, Borough Clerk and Francis A. Margalotti, Borough Attorney.
- INVOCATION:** The invocation was given by Rabbi Daina.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Cavanagh led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

Mayor Cavanagh stated the first item on the agenda tonight is the long anticipated adoption of our 1991 Municipal Budget which probably is being adopted at the latest date he can remember and as we have explained to the public before, it was necessary for the Division of Local Government Services to approve the budget before final adoption and up until today we had not received approval nor did any other towns because all of the involved financial questions related to the Quality Education Act and the different aspects that were being investigated concerning budgets. Mayor Cavanagh advised that apparently all of those questions have been resolved and there have been certain items added to our budget as revenue items in accordance with the new law and Mr. Hulsart, our Borough Auditor, contacted the Mayor from Florida on Tuesday to inform him that the items had all been checked and worked out with him and the Division of Local Government Services called our Borough Clerk late this afternoon and after going over some minor changes they authorized us to adopt our budget this evening.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that since everyone is going to ask what affect this will have on the Borough's tax rate, he will address that subject first. He continued with the new items of revenue added, the affect of the 1991 budget will be to take the municipal tax rate and he explained as he has done in the past that the tax rate is broken down into four components: local which is the Borough, the two school systems which are the regional and local schools, the County and Library section which are the four areas of the budget. Mayor Cavanagh stated the final tax rate as it applies to the regional school budget is uncertain because as most everyone knows, the Shore Regional High School budget was defeated and now has to be resolved; the County tax rate, although generally accorded to be down 2 cents throughout the County, may fluctuate as a result of a variety of tax appeals and other questions and what our assessment of true value and what percentage it is and the County uses an equalized rate and everyone does not get the same basic reduction and that number will probably not be known until sometime in the summer he would guess; the local school budget was approved and therefore you can probably bank on the increase that was announced at their public meeting.

Mayor Cavanagh reported that last year the total tax rate was \$1.86 and our portion of that was \$0.3161 per hundred dollars of assessed valuation and this year's rate, as a result of adding the new revenues,

will be \$0.1744 which means our municipal tax rate will be reduced approximately \$0.14 which is a substantial reduction and in effect it is reduced approximately 45% of last year's charge. He continued that how that will effect the total rate is not certain yet, but it is certainly the largest reduction he can recall during the last 8 years and obviously does well for the tax payers this year and he thinks we can say that although it is an estimated number, he believes that it will hold and we can fairly opine that it should result in a total tax decrease when all of the other rates are added together.

The Clerk then read resolution R-91-36 adopting the 1991 municipal budget, after which it was moved by Councilwoman Filippone and seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller, Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of APRIL, 1991 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: NO REPORT.

COUNCILMAN TERRA: Councilman Terra welcomed back Rabbi Daina and stated it was good to see him looking so fit and we are looking forward to him presenting the Invocation at our Memorial Day ceremonies.

Councilman Terra welcomed the 8th Graders who are here tonight.

Councilman Terra called for the introduction of an amendment to the Storer Cable franchise renewal and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE GRANTING NON-EXCLUSIVE RENEWAL OF MUNICIPAL CONSENT TO STORER CABLE COMMUNICATIONS OF MONMOUTH COUNTY, INC., d/b/a STORER CABLE COMMUNICATIONS, ITS SUCCESSORS AND ASSIGNS, TO CONSTRUCT OPERATE AND MAINTAIN A CABLE TELEVISION SYSTEM IN THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, NEW JERSEY PASSED AND APPROVED ON APRIL 4, 1991.**

Councilman Terra moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller, Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Terra then moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the meeting of May 16, 1991 beginning at 8:00 P.M. and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller,
Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Terra then called for the introduction of the 1991 salary ordinance and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICIALS" PASSED AND APPROVED ON MARCH 16, 1939.**

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

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller,
Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Terra moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the meeting to be held on May 16, 1991 beginning at 8:00 P.M. and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Filippone.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller,
Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Terra reported that 532 calls were received by our Police Dispatchers during the month of April and 215 were answered by our Police Officers and over 10,000 miles have been logged for the month of April, thereby demonstrating that the Oceanport Police Department is out there and available and on the roads as they should be.

Councilman Terra commended several members of the Department on the completion of some courses and stated the following: Jared Murphy on a course as a Fitness Instructor and Firearms Instruction; Steven Tagarety and Jared Murphy on the Use of Side Handle Baton; Sgt. Tom Hendley and two of the Dispatchers, Tammy George and Diane Cook on a course called Over the Line, Bomb Threats.

Councilman Terra reported that since the calculations for the determination of the recycling targets have been changed and he wanted to comment on the totals and stated that Oceanport residents and businesses recycled 316.8 tons of recyclables including newspapers, computer paper, bottles, cans, etc. and 2.9 tons of plastics of which he is very proud. Councilman Terra has also taken on another member of the community to assist him with the recycling program and Mr. Frank Remski will be

helping him calculate and complete the required recycling reports and he and Mr. Remski met last night and he is delighted to have Mr. Remski's expertise and thanked him for his help.

Councilman Terra advised the Bulletin deadline is May 15 and he reminded all the organizations that any articles they wish to have included in the next Bulletin must meet this deadline.

Mayor Cavanagh commented on the Storer Cable ordinance, which we have introduced previously and explained that we had changed some language in the previously adopted ordinance and we were then notified that Storer Cable had objected to portions of the adopted ordinance and the Borough Council discussed it at our work shop and in essence decided that the language they objected to was not one of the areas that we felt strongly about such as the 5 year renewal term or the community relations board, so we decided that rather than go through an appeal process and spend a lot of time and money and the costs for the advertisement of the ordinance will be paid by Storer.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone welcomed the 8th Graders and was pleased to see them here this evening.

Councilwoman Filippone asked the Clerk to read resolution R-91-37^{R-91-37} appointing Ward Coles as the Borough Representative to the Northeast Monmouth County Regional Sewerage Authority, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilwoman Filippone publicly thanked Peter B. Moore for his time and service as a member of the Northeast Monmouth County Regional Sewerage Authority and he did a fine job and as we are all aware, public positions take a tremendous amount of time and effort and we do appreciate his previous service to the Community.

Councilwoman Filippone announced that we have licensed 541 dogs as of the end of April and if you have not renewed your dog's license yet, summonses are being mailed out next week and the licenses are due the month of January and we had allowed a grace period, but that is over. She also reported that the State mandates that we perform a dog census each year and the past few years the Boy Scouts have been undertaking this project for us and they will be beginning this project again this year some time next week and we are pleased to have them doing this project again this year and appreciate their efforts.

Councilwoman Filippone reminded the public that it is against the law to allow dogs to soil other people's property whether it is public or private and this has been a concern of the residents of Oceanport and she sees many people violating this law with their dogs.

Councilwoman Filippone reported that the Health Screening has been completed and all the results have been mailed to everyone who participated and we had 168 participants this year and we will be making another donation to the First Aid Squad of the final amount left over after all the expenses involved have been taken care of and as of this date we have given the First Aid Squad \$817 and there will be a little bit more going to their organization.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller welcomed the 8th Graders and their Principal and congratulated one of the members of the 8th Grade and stated that John Gruskos is our State Winner in the Geography competition

and he will be going to Washington, D.C. to compete with other State winners.

Councilman Miller also welcomed back Rabbi Daina as well.

Councilman Miller received a letter from the Oceanport Garden Club advising that he is accepting the Garden Club's donation, on behalf of the Governing Body, of a tree as a memorial for one of their members who recently passed away, Charlotte Swiess and he will be contacting the parks people to see where it would be best planted.

Councilman Miller reported that under the Waterways Committee, the Litterbug is just about ready to be launched and just needs some bottom paint and we hope to have the Litterbug in the water by the end of May and we already have some projects scheduled.

Councilman Miller reported under the WaterWatch Committee, this Saturday he will be out at Allaire State Park to participate in a wetlands plant identification seminar and at the same time to receive our WaterWatch Charter. Councilman Miller also advised that we have a tentative date for a shoreline clean up project on Saturday, June 8 and it will be coordinated by Sol Clark and Dr. Richard Parker with the help of two Scouts, Brian Valentino and Andy Snedeker and there will be an article in our next Bulletin and some other advertisement because the more help we get, the more shoreline we can cover.

Councilman Miller stated the results of first month's water monitoring during April of our ten storm drains shows that the quality at most of the sites is about average; borderline nitrate and phosphate results; minimum dissolved oxygen; ph of 5.5 which says that our storm drains are giving forth an acidic water and we had positive coliform tests, only qualitative-it does not say how much from slight to strong qualitative tests on the majority of the sites and again, it does not say how much but only that we are picking up possible coliform, which is an indication of what Councilwoman Filippone reported on earlier, that the pooper scooper law which was recently passed, was done so to try and cut down on the animal waste getting into the drains and then ends up in the river.

Councilman Miller reported under the Shade Tree Committee, they have donated 200 small saplings to the Oceanport Schools for Earth Day and this was coordinated by one of the members of the Shade Tree Committee, Arlene Mullen.

Councilman Miller advised that the parks are presently being spruced up by our Public Works Department and Trinity Park is back to being used by tennis players.

Councilman Miller informed the public that the State has come up with an infrastructure law that has something to do with us mapping and then monitoring our storm drains and basically, our monitoring process is kind of getting us ready to go in that direction, so when the time comes that we must have this done, we will have some organization in trying to tackle that activity and he will have more information at the next meeting.

COUNCILMAN RODMAN: Councilman Rodman welcomed the 8th Graders and their Principal, Ms. Sposato and offered his congratulations to John Gruskos and commented that it is quite an achievement and our school should be

proud of you and he stated that John should also be proud of himself and wished him good luck in Washington. 61

Councilman Rodman asked the 8th Graders to remain after the meeting for a few minutes and it will be a good time to come up and introduce themselves to their Council counter parts and he also asked the members of the Governing Body to remain on the dais for a few moments to arrange a day next week for Student Government Day.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe reported on a project which has been going on for a number of weeks by the Water Company and has been satisfactorily completed and he stated the Water Company had been replacing some major valves and there had been much trepidation on the part of the Governing Body as well as the businesses in the area, but the project had little if any impact on anyone and was completed on schedule and he thanked Chief Joyce and his Department and especially Captain Budinski for all his efforts in scheduling to maintain a safe traffic flow during that construction.

Councilman Wolfe reminded the residents that the spring leaf pick up program is over and the reason that it does not continue through the year is that the Mike and his crew are now cutting grass in the parks and that is very time consuming and it is practically all they have been doing for the last three weeks due to all the rain we have been experiencing. He asked all residents not to rake any more leaves out to the curb and they will have to wait until the fall.

Councilman Wolfe thanked Mike Giordano for all his efforts throughout the winter and up to this point, he has worked very closely with the Recreation Committee and John Kerwin and Councilman Miller in taking care of the parks and he is basically one month ahead of schedule due to some of the nice weather we have been experiencing.

Councilman Wolfe also offered his congratulations to John Gruskos and his parents, Michelle and Rich and wished him good luck in Washington.

Mayor Cavanagh asked that Council President Terra chair the meeting and call for the appropriate votes on the next two items listed under Councilman Wolfe's reports, since his firm represents both parties.

Councilman Wolfe moved to return \$1,325.70 to Mr. Leonard Longo re: major subdivision known as Block 18, Lot 14 located on Algonquin Avenue per the recommendation of the Borough Engineer. It was seconded by Councilman Rodman and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe moved to return \$4,035.60 to Mr. Antonelli for the subdivision known as Block 117, Lot 10 located at Pleasant Place and Center Street per the recommendation of our Borough Engineer. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor Cavanagh then resumed chairing the meeting.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh stated as he mentioned before the Shore Regional High School budget was defeated, which necessitates a meeting of the four school districts which has happened rather regularly over the last several years for purposes of attempting to work out a resolution with the Board and assuming that can be done, it will then come back to each of the Councils for a vote and if not, it is the option of the Board

to pursue the matter before the Commissioner for approval of their budget regardless of the denial of the voters and it is anticipated that we will be meeting some time next week and he will report back to the public following that meeting.

Mayor Cavanagh noted that he had attended a memorial service for Bill Edwards where a monument was dedicated to him that was run jointly by the Senior Citizens and the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Co. and Oceanport Hook & Ladder and it was a very nice ceremony and well attended on a very rainy day.

Mayor Cavanagh welcomed the 8th Grade students and wished John Gruskos good luck on his trip to Washington.

Mayor Cavanagh opened the meeting to the public for any comments anyone might wish to make.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills as listed on the Voucher Register dated May 2, 1991. It was seconded by Councilwoman Filippone and approved by Council, with the exception of Councilman Wolfe who abstained from voting on the bills due J.B. Sales. TOTAL 1990 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$422.00. TOTAL 1991 VOUCHERS \$41,664.26. TOTAL 1991 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$78,021.62. TOTAL 1991 OPERATING FUND \$119,685.88. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$1,761.87. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$390.00. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY ACCOUNT \$403.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER LIBRARY TAX \$16,656.96. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER COUNTY TAX \$495,688.05. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER OPEN SPACE TAX \$12,137.70. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER OCEANPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION \$100,000.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-DWI \$24.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-FIRE PREVENTION \$9.75. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

At 8:44 P.M. Councilman Miller moved to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on May 16, 1991 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Rodman and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK