

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
April 17, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on April 17, 2008 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Mahon stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson and Mayor Mahon

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer, Chief Financial Officer, Gregory Mayers, Borough Auditor, Robert Oliwa and Keri Encarnacion for Borough Attorney, John O. Bennett, III.

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplin Robert Mills gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Mahon led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution authorizing the payment of bills. **R-08-66**
2. Resolution appointing Bond Counsel. **R-08-67**
3. Resolution approving various Games of Chance for the Lions Club Fair. **R-08-63**
4. Resolution appointing a Class I Special Officer. **R-08-64**
5. Resolution and proposal from T&M Proposal. **R-08-68**
6. Resolution rejecting bids received for the relocation of trailers. **R-08-65**
7. Raffle application, Tinton Falls PTA, On Premise Merchandise Raffle
8. Raffle application, Tinton Falls PTA, On Premise 5050.
9. Raffle application, Oceanport Lions Club, On Premise 50/50.
10. Approval of the Workshop Minutes of April 3, 2008
11. Approval of the Regular Minutes of March 20, 2008

The Borough Clerk stated there were 11 items listed on the Consent Agenda. Councilman Briscione requested that Items 2 and 5 be removed. Councilman Irace requested that Item #1 be removed.

Councilwoman Kahle moved to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Councilman Johnson and approved by the Council.

The Clerk asked for a motion on Item #1. Councilman Irace stated he wanted to pull the bill for GPS devices for the First Aid totaling \$599.00 and asked why do they need GPS devices and it was his understanding that it was going to be paid from First Aid donations and not by the Borough. Mayor Mahon responded that he and Councilman Ibex met with the First Aid on that topic and the First Aid presented justification for the purpose and the agreement was that the funds that the Borough would be contributing to the First Aid are a donation to their operation and a purchase order charged against that donation is permissible and asked that the purchase order be included with the bill list.

Councilman Johnson moved to approve Item #1 as presented, which was seconded by Councilman Gallo and approved by Council.

The Clerk asked for a motion on Item #2. Councilwoman Kahle moved to approve Item #2, which was seconded by Councilman Irace and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman

Briscione who voted no and stated that his only objection is that professional services should be competitive when possible.

The Clerk asked for a motion on Item #5. Councilman Irace moved to approve Item #5, which was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Briscione who voted no and stated that he thought it was a good project but again, his only objection is that professional services should be competitive when possible.

2008 BUDGET Presentation:

Councilman Irace stated that they would be showing a Power Point presentation of the municipal budget but first wanted to acknowledge the efforts of all the parties involved in the process and gave a brief summary of the development of the 2008 Budget and what was involved. Councilman Irace stated that he wanted everyone to know that they examined every part of the budget and that they did what they could to continue services at the same level and that they did what they could to cut expenses.

Councilman Irace began the PowerPoint presentation and described the appropriations of taxes, services that are provided and gave explanations of the various slides presented.

Mayor Mahon commented on the slide that discussed the amount of increase in the pension payments and wanted to make it clear that the amount included "catch up" payments from years ago and is not from existing employees.

Councilman Irace also discussed and commented on the matter regarding the reduction in State aid for 2008 and some of the steps that the Borough has taken along with other officials to oppose the reductions being made.

Councilman Irace concluded the PowerPoint presentation by explaining the impacts of the 2008 Budget for the local taxpayer.

Councilman Irace made final comments on various items achieved by each member of the Governing Body as well as the Borough Clerk that will result in additional revenues or savings to the Borough.

Councilman Irace asked those members of the Finance Committee present for their comments.

Mr. Mayers commented that the State's aid has actually been a decrease each year as it has stayed the same amount and was not adjusted for the cost of living and stated that his hopes were that the smaller towns will unite together and have a voice in Trenton.

Mr. Oliwa commented that the budget presentation was good and he only wanted to add that for 2008 that there are 2 different cap counts – appropriation cap and a levy cap and that the Borough's tax increases are capped by the State of New Jersey but described different ways that appropriations can be met through different revenue sources and still be in compliance.

PUBLIC:

The Mayor then opened the meeting for anyone from the public who wished to be heard on the 2008 Budget.

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

Councilman Irace made a motion to approve the Resolution adopting the 2008 Municipal Budget as presented, which was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle. **PR-08-69**

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Mayor Mahon thanked the Finance Committee for a great job and that he appreciated the support for this difficult year and commented on the challenges that were overcome.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk stated she was in receipt of the Police Report for March 2008, which had been distributed and would be posted.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione thanked the Finance Committee – Kim Jungfer, Bob Oliwa and Gregory Mayers for their work on the budget as the process is never easy and must weigh in the needs of the Borough's employees and its residents versus escalating property taxes. He stated that this year the process was made even more difficult with the reduction in State aid and in the future the Borough will need to explore shared services with neighboring towns and to see if there are realistic economic benefits that won't affect the quality of life or the character of the town.

Councilman Briscione reported on Public Works and that Spring Leaf Pick Up is April 1 thru the 30th and that all leaves must be raked to the curb and be free of debris. He reported that the 2007 Road Program which included Asbury, a portion of Avon and Summerfield Avenues would be commencing next week.

Councilman Briscione reported on shared services and that he and Councilwoman Kahle met with representatives of the Board of Education and discussed currently shared services as well as additional potential services and possible agreements to save taxpayer monies which would have to be discussed with the State due to various roadblocks that may prevent agreements between municipalities and school districts. Councilman Briscione reported that they are continuing to look at grounds maintenance and snowplowing as well as recycling as areas that they may be able to save money.

Councilman Briscione reported on out of state events that will impact the horse racing industry including the March 18th Philadelphia Park and Bensalem Township, PA event to break ground on a casino that will house slot machines.

At 8:35 p.m. Mayor Mahon left the meeting and Council President Kahle thanked Councilman Briscione for his report.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported that the batters warm up boxes were installed at Blackberry Park and that the field reconditioning at the 3 baseball fields was completed. He stated that the contractor will be training Public Works employee Marc Hunter how to properly drag the fields which will be shown to the volunteers and will extend the life of the Borough's investment.

Councilman Gallo made a motion to appoint Alfred DeSantis, Jr. to the Parks and Recreation Committee, which was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

COUNCILMAN IBEX: Councilman Ibex reported on the Public Safety Committee and that he attended the First Aid Squad meeting and provided statistics on the type and number of calls that the First Aid made in the last month and commended them for their work. Councilman Ibex also reported on the Police Department's report figures for the last month and commended those officers that attended the Sexual Assault Response Update session and commended Detective Barcus and Sergeant Murphy. He stated that they have also appointed Amanda Arnold as a Class I Special Police Officer and that it speaks well for the Borough that these have chosen to improve themselves.

Councilman Ibex also commented on the report that rated Oceanport as the #1 in the County and #4 in the State as he was away when it came out and it made him proud to be in this town and gave his thanks to everyone who participated in making Oceanport what it is. He mentioned some of Oceanport's residents whom are no longer with them but also had a big part in making Oceanport so great.

COUNCILMAN IRACE: No report

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Councilman Johnson called for the 2nd reading and public hearing on an amendment to the **2008 Salary Ordinance** and then asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication by title only.

Council President Kahle then opened the meeting to the public for anyone who wished to be heard. As no one from the public wished to be heard Council President Kahle closed the public portion of the hearing.

Councilman Johnson then made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second and final reading and advertise same in accordance with the law, which was seconded by Councilman Irace.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES:	Biscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	None

Councilman Johnson called for the 2nd reading and public hearing on the **2008 Bond Ordinance** and then asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication.

Council President Kahle then opened the meeting to the public for anyone who wished to be heard. As no one from the public wished to be heard Council President Kahle closed the public portion of the hearing.

The Clerk stated that the Supplemental Debt Statement to the State has not provided their approval which is required before adoption of the 2008 Bond Ordinance, therefore this matter for adoption will be carried to the meeting on May 1, 2008.

Councilman Johnson called for the 2nd reading and public hearing on the **Parks and Playgrounds Ordinance for Field Usage** and then asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication.

Council President Kahle then opened the meeting to the public for anyone who wished to be heard. As no one from the public wished to be heard Council President Kahle closed the public portion of the hearing.

Councilman Johnson then made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second and final reading and advertise same in accordance with the law, which was seconded by Councilman Irace.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Councilman Johnson called for the 2nd reading and public hearing for an amendment to the **Fee Ordinance** and then asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication.

Council President Kahle then opened the meeting to the public for anyone who wished to be heard. As no one from the public wished to be heard Council President Kahle closed the public portion of the hearing.

Councilman Johnson then made a motion to adopt the Ordinance on second and final reading and advertise same in accordance with the law, which was seconded by Councilman Irace.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Councilman Johnson then reported on the Planning Board and events from their April 9th meeting which was for the review of an amendment to the Borough's Master Plan and that a public hearing on the matter was scheduled for the April 23rd meeting. He also announced that there will be a Special Meeting for the presentation of a plan prepared by EDAW for FMERPA before the Planning Board on April 30th and that plans are available for public inspection.

Councilman Johnson then reported on utilities and a meeting held between Mayor Mahon, Councilman Irace, the Borough Clerk and himself met with Borough resident Ron Maslo from NJ Clean Energy Program and summarized the meeting.

Councilman Johnson stated he wished to thank Mr. Oliwa, Mr. Mayers, the Clerk, Councilman Ibex and Councilman Irace for streamlining the budget process this year and made reference to the difficult process experienced last year. He also thanked the Borough's professionals, the Borough's employees, department heads, volunteers and most of all Mayor and Council.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT KAHLE: Council President Kahle reported that the Board of Health would not be having their health screening this year but for those interested they can participate at the Eatontown screening and provided the information to the Clerk for the public. She also reported updates on the geese reduction project and asked for the public to advise if they see any nesting geese. She thanked Dr. Kaloss for his efforts at making the public aware and heading up the project.

Council President Kahle made reference to the meeting with the Board of Education and thanked them for setting up and thanked Bill McVitty for his work and looks forward to future discussions and efforts to save taxpayer money.

Council President Kahle reported on a meeting with officials from Monmouth County Library and a discussion for a public conveyance on a building on Fort Monmouth and that the County would like to have that building as the addition to the existing building is not large enough and that they are looking for a solution to benefit everyone.

Council President Kahle stated that she would be discussing a campaign for pride in Oceanport and a banner campaign for the study that showed Oceanport 1st in the County and 4th in the State and described items that the campaign would address and asked for anyone with comments to let her know.

MAYOR MAHON: As the Mayor had to leave the meeting, Council President Kahle reported on his behalf and stated they wanted to congratulate those individuals for their attaining Eagle Scout on May 4th. She stated that the Mayor wanted to congratulate the schools for presenting their budgets which were both well defined and were both passed. She announced that the Courtney Rose Foundation was holding a dinner at Fort Gibbs and gave information for those who wanted to attend.

Council President Kahle announced two appointments to the Environmental Commission. Councilman Briscione made a motion to appoint Bruce Lane and Thomas Cox to the Environmental Commission, which was seconded by Councilman Gallo.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Council President Kahle asked for a motion nominating Councilman Irace as the liaison to the Economic Development Committee. Councilman Johnson made a motion to appoint Councilman Irace as the Council liaison to the Economic Development Committee, which was seconded by Councilman Gallo.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: Irace
ABSENT: None

PUBLIC:

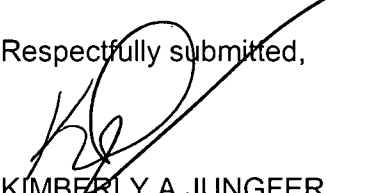
Council President Kahle then opened the meeting for anyone from the public who wished to be heard.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard Council President Kahle closed the public portion of the meeting.

Bill List: Ad Hoc \$17.64. Capital Trust \$85,734.00. Dog Registry \$103.80. Escrow Trust \$4,466.00. 2007 Vouchers Paid \$111,966.99. 2007 Voucher Paid this Meeting \$11,811.01. Total 2007 Vouchers Paid \$123,778.00. 2008 Vouchers Paid \$6,876,750.71. 2008 Vouchers Paid this Meeting \$131,805.85. Total 2008 Vouchers Paid \$7,008,556.56.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m. on a motion from Councilman Irace, seconded by Councilman Ibex and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,


KIMBERLY A JUNGFER
BOROUGH CLERK