

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 21, 2002

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on March 21, 2002 at 8:00 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann, Silkworth and Mayor Gemma.
- 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 March 7, 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 Councilwoman Gatta and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman McGann who abstained because he was absent at that meeting.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Application for Associate Membership to the Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Company made by Peter Smikovecus and the Clerk reported that a Police background check was conducted due to the date of acceptance in another fire company, which was after April of 1994 and the Police have forwarded an approved report.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve this application. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MAHON: No Report.

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: Councilman Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-26** regarding the Borough's continued participation in the Monmouth County Cooperative Pricing System, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-26

Councilman Apruzzi reported the annul Spring Egg Hunt would be held on Saturday, March 30, 2002 at 11 a.m. at Blackberry Bay Park with a rain date scheduled for the following Saturday, April 6, 2002.

Councilman Apruzzi read into the record a letter from Mr. Donald Ball, an Oceanport resident who recently required the emergency services, commending the Police Department, who were first to arrive at the scene with needed oxygen for him, followed by the First Aid volunteers and he wanted to

thank each and everyone who responded to his need for assistance and to commend both the Police Chief and President of First Aid for having such caring and well trained personnel in our community.

COUNCILWOMAN GATTA: Councilwoman Gatta thanked the 7th grade students from Maple Place for the wonderful job they did this evening with their Student Government meeting.

Councilwoman Gatta reported that the annual Health Screening was held last Saturday, March 16th at the Oceanport First Aid Squad Building and this year it was held with the cooperation of Monmouth Medical Center and over 125 people signed up and took advantage of this screening and it went very well and she wanted to thank all the volunteers of First Aid as well as the volunteers who assisted with both the registration at Borough Hall and during the morning of the screening, as well as Patti Varca and Kim Jungfer for their help in signing people up who had missed the registration date.

Councilwoman Gatta advised that the First Aid Squad responded to 31 calls in February and in the first two months of this year they have responded to 87 calls to resident in the Borough for 428 man/woman hours, which is a very high number for such a short amount of time. She also advised that the Squad was very appreciative of the donations coming in for Donna Shaw and they are still accepting them.

Councilwoman Gatta also received a copy of a letter from Mr. Ball addressed to Ray Ciani, President of the First Aid Squad, again commending the volunteers for their quick response to his call for assistance and she read same into the record.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe moved to return the \$5,000 cash bond posted by Kudos Enterprises for the road-opening permit on Port-au-Peck Avenue, which was for work contracted by the Sewer Authority, upon the recommendation of the Borough Engineer. It was seconded by Councilman McGann and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe reported that the siren at the Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Company has been repaired and re-installed on a new platform and is in working condition as of late last week and following the installation, he contacted the Fire Chief to advise him of this repair.

Councilman Wolfe reminded everyone that the annual ham dinner was being held this Sunday, March 24, 2002 at the Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Company from Noon to 5 p.m. and urged everyone to come out and support the Company.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Councilman McGann called for the second reading and public hearing on a bond ordinance for various improvements and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only, as follows: **BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$527,900. AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$359,005. 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 McGann explained that the improvements in this ordinance were for the last \$10,000 payment to the Sewer Authority for the repairs to the sea wall at Sommers Park; payment for the fire truck of \$78,000; replacement of roofs for the Port-au-Peck Fire House, Public Works and Borough Hall - \$55,900; Road reconstruction \$265,000 which includes the \$150,000 grant for Wardell Circle; \$5,000 for police computers; \$6,000 for OSHA equipment for First Aid; \$32,000 for

the Fire Department for air packs and gear; \$32,000 for Public Works for a pick up truck and \$44,000 for parks equipment.

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments on this subject only, but as no one wished to be heard, Councilman McGann moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman McGann then moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading 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, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman McGann then called for the 2nd reading and public hearing of an ordinance amending the salary ordinance to include the 2002 salaries for all Borough employees, after which he asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and 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.** ORD.#
752

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments on this subject only, but as no one wished to be heard, Councilman McGann moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman McGann then moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading 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, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman McGann then called for the introduction of an ordinance amending the license and permit ordinance removing the sunset section regarding agricultural fairs and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "THE LICENSES AND PERMITS ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT" PASSED AND APPROVED ON FEBRUARY 2, 1989.**

Councilman McGann 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, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman McGann then moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the regular meeting of the Mayor and Council scheduled to be held on April 4, 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, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman McGann reported that he met with Dr. Farrell and representatives of FEMA last week in our continuing work project to try and reduce the flood insurance rates for our residents and we are trying to do this by lowering our points from 10 down to at least 8, which would give our residents a 10% reduction in their annual rates and we are proceeding with the program.

Councilman McGann also advised that over the last several years we have been discussing with West Long Branch, Eatontown, Monmouth Park Racetrack and the DOT with regard to upgrading the center divider from Exit 105 down to Monmouth Park and they have completed a computer generated photo of what they want to do by removing old bushes and replanting the area and it is a very nice plan and hopefully, it will be completed shortly to further improve the look of the Highway 36 corridor to Monmouth Park.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: No Report.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma stated we have received notice for the water restrictions due to the drought situation and anyone who needs information can call 1-800-For Its Dry to receive further information.

Mayor Gemma thanked Councilwoman Gatta for the work and effort she has done with Student Government Day and he was very pleased to see this program back in place this year.

Mayor Gemma announced that Congressman Rush Holt will conduct a town meeting at our Borough Hall on Monday, April 8th at 7:00 p.m. and he urged everyone to come out and voice their concerns to the Congressman and it was suggested that we put up a notice on our Community Events sign board which the Clerk will see is done to announce this town meeting.

Mayor Gemma also advised that at a recent Two Rivers Council of Mayors meeting, there was a discussion with regard to setting up a type of coordinator for the volunteer groups in town (church groups, Lions Club, etc.) to come in following an emergency after the emergency services have done their job, to offer support and assistance to the affected parties. He continued that he has met with our Emergency Management Director, Jim Slattery and asked him to head this project to see if we

can make this concept work, since this type of support is very important following a personal loss or tragedy to the affected family members.

Mayor Gemma wished all the residents of the Borough a Happy Passover and a joyous Easter.

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

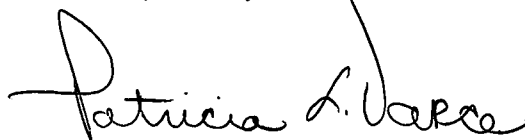
Ed Miller, 94 Hiawatha Ave. stated he just wanted to say for the record that he loves silver maple trees.

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 March 21, 2002. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$3,831.25. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY \$500.00. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST ACCOUNT \$5,790.69. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST FUND \$94.85. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$3,530.96. TOTAL 2001 VOUCHERS \$3,530.96. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID \$83,225.55. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$303,879.10. TOTAL 2002 VOUCHERS \$387,104.65. (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 April 4, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia L. Varca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK