REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 17, 2005

REGULAR MEETING: The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on March 17, 2005 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Gatta stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Kahle, Johnson Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey, Briscione and Mayor Gatta.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann.

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.

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

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 17, 2005 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Chaump moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Mayor Gatta stated before going to the Clerk's Reports, she wanted to just comment, as this is our Borough Clerk, Patricia Varca's last public Council meeting. She noted that there is a wonderful story in the HUB this week on Patti Varca and she has been our Borough Clerk, serving us extremely well for the past thirty years. Mayor Gatta commented that she did a number count of thirty years of meetings and came up with a very conservative number of 1,680 meetings that she has attended and presided over for the Borough during her tenure in Oceanport. Mayor Gatta stated that as always, every retirement is bittersweet and we are very happy that Patti has attained retirement but she will certainly be missed and Mayor Gatta stated that she for one, working with Patti as both a Councilwoman and as Mayor, have found her to be extremely professional, always having the best interest of Oceanport at heart and that was very special and she is sure this is shared by the five Mayors she has worked with, the many Councilpeople, volunteers and employees as well as the citizens of this town. Mayor Gatta stated on behalf of everyone, she wished Patti a happy and healthy retirement and since she lives here, we know she is not going away.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of February, 2005 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.
2. Raffle license applications made by the following:
   A} Lupus Foundation of America, NJ Chapter, off premise 50/50 cash raffle and on premise merchandise raffle to be held July 24, 2005 at Monmouth Park Race Track.
   The Clerk advised that the appropriate fees had been paid and the applications found to be in order after which Councilman Briscione moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson, followed by the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

B} Friends of Maple Place Music, Inc., off premise merchandise raffle and on premise 50/50 cash raffle to be held on April 28, 2005 at Maple Place School.

The Clerk advised that the appropriate fees had been paid and the applications found to be in order after which Councilwoman Kahle moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump, followed by the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

C} St. Jermone PTA, off premise 50/50 cash raffle to be held May 29, 2005 at the Lion's Club Fair.

The Clerk advised that the appropriate fees had been paid and the applications found to be in order after which Councilman Briscione moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle, followed by the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Mayor Gatta stated before we begin the Committee Reports, we have a special guest with us thing evening, our County Freeholder and friend of Oceanport, Freeholder Bill Barnum who is here to present us with a grant from the County Freeholders.

Freeholder Barnum offered his congratulations to Patti Varca on her retirement.

Freeholder Barnum stated he is pleased to be here tonight and one of his responsibilities is Open Space, Parks and Recreation and it is what he does out in Freehold and with all the bad things that have been happening in the County, he thought it was time that he came out and try and promote all the good things that the County does for everyone and our Government in the County is still ongoing and we are still doing the right things for our citizens and we are proceeding in a fair and equitable manner out there.

Freeholder Barnum stated on behalf of the Board of Chosen Freeholders he wanted to present the Mayor and Council with a check in the amount of $59,000 from for the improvements to Olde Wharf Park, which Mayor Gatta accepted with much appreciation. Mayor Gatta pointed out that we do have members of our Recreation Committee in the audience this evening and recognized Jeff Bottger, Joe Irace, Lee Poole and Toni Sverapa. Mayor Gatta commented that this endeavor had a lot to do with two individuals in addition to the Recreation Committee and noted Christine Smith our Recreation Coordinator and Kim Jungfer, who between the two of them wrote this grant and we are appreciative to everyone involved for getting this grant.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle stated she had a resolution this evening with regard to the Olde Wharf House, but before asking the Clerk to read same, she wanted to explain and give an update on this building. She advised that as everyone knows we sustained a fire on Feb. 27th and the building has been pretty much cleaned out and we are waiting for the insurance estimators to give us an estimation of how much it is going to cost and move on from there. She continued that we are most likely sure that it is going to be able to be repaired because the foundation is sound and from all reports we have heard so far, it is going to be repaired.

Councilwoman Kahle stated that on behalf of Buildings & Grounds and the Olde Wharf House she wished to thank Sgt. Steve Cioffi for responding very quickly and locating the fire; she thanked the Fire Department and Police Department, the First Aid for opening up their building during the fire for warmth and coffee; the Public Works Department for boarding up the building so quickly and as you can see, we had many volunteers there that morning and the fire started very early in the morning and there were a lot of people there and we are truly fortunate to have such dedicated

volunteers in our community to respond. She noted that Al DeSantis was there from the senior center and there were just a lot of people there helping with that fire and we are very appreciative of all their efforts.

Councilwoman Kahle asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-41** closing the Olde Wharf House until such time as an unconditional certificate of occupancy is issued, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Kahle wished Patti Varca all the best in her retirement and welcomed Kin Jungfer as our new Clerk.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Councilwoman Johnson reported that the annual Health Screening will be held on April 9th between 8:00 –11:00 a.m. at the Oceanport First Aid Building and letters will be going out to all Oceanport households shortly and the registration will be held on April 6th here at Borough Hall and the letter will contain the times and other information.

Councilwoman Johnson reported that Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Co. held their meeting on March 8th and they had two new members who were voted in: Sam Schneider and Mike Patterson. She also noted that the Fire Department had 6 calls for the month of February and on April 9th the Department will be holding a driving class between 8:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and the Hook & Ladder will be holding their annual ham dinner on Sunday, March 20th between Noon and 5:00 p.m. and she urged everyone to try and attend.

Councilwoman Johnson reported on the Cadet Explorers who will be conducting several car wash events on April 16 and July 16 as well as a pancake breakfast May 22 and between August 17-19th, the Hook& Ladder Fire Company will be sponsoring the Clyde Beatty/Cole Brothers Circus this year which will be held at the racetrack and she hoped everyone would support this fund raiser.

Councilwoman Johnson offered her thanks to the Fire Department on a job well done in fighting the Olde Wharf House fire and they all did an excellent job in containing that fire.

Councilwoman Johnson stated that it has been a pleasure working with Patti Varca and she welcomed Kim Jungfer stating she looked forward to working with her in the future.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported that the Shade Tree Committee held its meeting this past Tuesday and reviewed plans for the coming year and they will be looking at some dead trees at Trinity Park and getting prices for that project. He noted their next meeting with April 19th.

Councilman Gallo reported under First Aid that they had 57 calls: 41 emergencies; 7 motor vehicle accidents and they responded to 9 fire calls. Councilman Gallo advised that the First Aid Squad now has their permit for their proposed addition and they will be finalizing their costs for this project. He also advised that the Squad will be having a stand-by crew at the NJ Marathon this year, which is an all day race event running from Sandy Hook to Long Branch.

Councilman Gallo commented under Street Lights, he wanted to thank Freeholder Bill Barnum for assisting and helping with the downed stanchion light at t6he intersection of Monmouth Blvd. and Comanche Drive and he got a letter off to Dennis Welsh of Field Investigations for the County and Mr. Welsh contacted Roberta Sheridan from JCP & L and determined the status of this stanchion needed to be repaired and with JCP & L work stoppage, it just did not get done but they did come

and remove the hazard right away when found out and now that the strike is resolved, they will be working on repairing this light. He continued that they are also looking at two lights along the First Aid Squad, which came down during the bridge construction so we are looking into seeing if we can get those removed as well.

Councilman Gallo thanked and congratulated Patti Varca on her retirement and wished her good luck and welcomed Kim Jungfer.

COUNCILWOMAN CHAUMP: Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-42** amending the 2005 temporary budget, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-43** authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract with the Borough Prosecutor, James Butler, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-44** authorizing a DOT grant application be submitted for Crescent Place, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-45** authorizing a DOT grant application be submitted for Horseneck Point Road, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-46** authorizing a DOT grant application be submitted for Summerfield Avenue, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-47** authorizing a DOT grant application be submitted for Safe Streets to School for Wolfhill Avenue sidewalks, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under education, she sat in on a Teacher Recognition Award meeting on Feb. 15 and the Teacher Recognition for Wolfhill School is Mrs. Bette Davis and at Maple Place is Mrs. Nancy Strigliano.

Councilwoman Chaump reminded all the members of the Governing Body that Student Government Day will be held on Thursday, April 7 in the morning at Maple Place School followed by the students conducting their meeting on Thursday, May 5th at 7:00 p.m. and everyone is invited.

Councilwoman Chaump advised that she and Councilman Briscione attended a meeting on Feb. 24th for shared services with two members from the Board of Education and there are some things that we discussed and one thing looked into was the bulk telephone purchasing coop, which only school districts can participate in and another was bulk electricity purchases, but again, only school districts can participate. She continued there is also a bulk purchasing bid membership and since we are under the administrative code 40, we cannot have joint purchasing with the Board of

Education and we are also looking into the e-rate program with the library and checking with the County to see if we can fill out an application for our Library to try and get some money for their internet service. Councilwoman Chaump stated we will also be looking into other areas, such as technology, lawn care and snow removal which we are still researching and will be discussing at our next meeting.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under parks and recreation, she advised she would give the report since Councilman Sharkey arrived late at that meeting. She advised that the Youth Action Camp had an increase of $5 so it will be $170 because the Camp will be paying $.25 per mile and the gas and using the school buses. She also commented that the other thing Recreation asked her to do was with regard to cars being parked at Trinity Park by people who are not using the park and she did speak with Chief Sutton and he will be looking into the cars that are being parked overnight, which is not allowed according to our Borough ordinance. Councilwoman Chaump stated also looked into the CPSI training which we will be deciding who is going to be taking that course and that is the annual inspection of our playgrounds.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under Public Works, the pothole repairs are in progress and hopefully we will not be getting any more snow. She advised that the snow removal fleet held up very well this winter and they are in the process of washing all the equipment down. She noted that the baseball machine is out of storage and being readied for the upcoming season as well as the Department getting the lawn equipment serviced and ready together with the leaf machine for the spring leaf pick up season.

Councilwoman Chaump advised that last year for 2003/2004 there were thirteen snow events with a total accumulation of 31 inches; for 2004/2005 we have had twelve snow events with a total accumulation of 39 inches. Councilwoman Chaump reminded everyone that the spring leaf collection will begin on March 28th, weather permitting.

Councilwoman Chaump stated she attended the senior citizens meeting on Wednesday and they are meeting in the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire House until the repairs can be made to the Olde Wharf House.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under the finance committee, stating that on Monday night there was a discussion on the Borough's purchasing policy which all Council members received copies of the policy in February. She continued that there were concerns that the purchasing procedures were not being followed so she took the initiative to speak with the Finance Department on Wednesday and the Mayor, Council members, Borough Clerk and Deputy Clerk received her memo to confirm her conversation with the Finance Department with steps to correct. She stated that Mayor and Council also received a memo in their mailboxes from the Finance Department sent to all Department Heads and we will be following the purchasing policy to ensure that we are in compliance.

Councilwoman Chaump wished Patti Varca much luck on her retirement and a good vacation, which is well deserved after thirty years and welcomed Kim Jungfer as the new Borough Clerk.

COUNCILMAN SHARKEY: Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-48** authorizing the Mayor to execute a non-waiver agreement with United National Insurance Company, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilman Sharkey reported under the insurance committee we are showing significant progress and indications that we could have some potential savings on the health insurance going forward and we are at preliminary stages of finalizing an action plan to formalize the review process of the Borough's insurances: the health insurance and property/casualty insurance. He stated his background is in the insurance field and we are going to look to formalize this process and document it in writing and move forward on that.

Councilman Sharkey stated with regard to the finance committee, he has been doing a fair amount of work and he would like to comment to the Borough employees for the significant improvement in complying with purchasing controls and, from the first day on Council when he was looking at the payment of bills and how they were processed, there was a lot of problems and after two and a half months, there has been a significant improvement and he thinks that goes to what we need to be focused on as a Borough with what the climate is about and that our controls are in place and working and that we are watching the taxpayers dollars. He added that we still have a long way to go through on other issues related to finance and administration, which we are addressing as a Borough.

Councilman Sharkey addressed Mr. McGann, Borough Attorney, on the contracts that he has reviewed stating that one of the contracts has a certificate of insurance but none of the others, to which Mr. McGann stated they are supposed to submit them and Councilman Sharkey asked if we can hold off signing the contracts until the certificates are received, to which Mr. McGann stated that can be done since the insurance certificates had been requested. Councilman Sharkey stated that this is an important consideration to make sure that we do have insurance certificates for our professionals because if one of our professionals does not perform satisfactorily, it gives us recourse and protection in the event we do have damages.

Councilman Sharkey stated in regard to purchasing, the Board of Education did give us a presentation to the Council and did a very nice job on the presentation and commented about bulk purchasing that they have implemented and he wanted to comment that he felt that is where we need to get as a Borough in our purchasing processes and we are moving in that direction.

Councilman Sharkey wished Patti Varca best of luck and welcomed Kim Jungfer.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione thanked Patti Varca for her year's of service and her help to him last year during his first year on Council and he wished her the best of luck in her retirement and he also congratulated Kim who has been here and has been extremely helpful and he is sure she will do a great job.

Councilman Briscione asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-49** permitting Mr. & Mrs. Youmans access to their property from a partially improved area of Werah Place, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

Councilman Briscione asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-50** authorizing the Mayor to sign the contract with the Planning Board Attorney, Pasquale Menna, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative, with the exceptions of Councilpersons Kahle and Sharkey who voted no.

Councilman Briscione called for the second reading and public hearing on an ordinance to exceed the establish a CAP bank and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the

proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions on this subject only, but upon hearing none, Councilwoman Chaump moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle.

The Clerk called the roll:
AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Johnson, Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the second reading and public hearing of an amendment to the personnel ordinance with regard to vacation and sick time for part time employees after which he asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT PERSONNEL POLICY" PASSED AND APPROVED MARCH 20, 1986.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions on this subject only, but upon hearing none, Councilwoman Chaump moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle.

The Clerk called the roll:
AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Johnson, Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione reported under the Planning Board that they met on March 2nd with Joe Layton of Maser Consulting regarding the master plan reorganization report and he will be presenting the report at the Planning Board public meeting of March 30th.

Councilman Briscione stated the Police Report for February indicates that the Department answered 1,344 calls and officers responded to 516 calls and 115 summonses issued with 143 motor vehicle stops. He continued that the Mayor and Council had discussed in workshop meetings that all special events requiring police presence will be charged the applicable rate and this would include all events and activities taking place at Monmouth Park parking lots including the rummage sale and the various fairs and circuses. Councilman Briscione commented as outlined in Patrolman Kelly's discussion at the town meeting held on March 7th, speed limits within the Borough are being strictly enforced.

Councilman Briscione then read a letter into the record from Carol Melnick, Traffic Engineer for the County, which will assist us in traffic control and which advised Patrolman Kelly that all traffic investigations forwarded to that office have been completed and the traffic sign requests made by

Patrolman Kelly have all be found warranted and the process to install warranted signs has been started and they should be observed on the roadways soon. The letter went on to advise that the existing signage has been upgraded on County Road 11 (Oceanport Ave.) for safety of pedestrian and vehicular traffic created by Monmouth Park Race Track.

Councilman Briscione reiterated that the Police Department is continuing to work on speed limit enforcement and traffic safety. He continued that we have also received numerous complaints about real estate open house signs and we have an ordinance for that and the sign ordinance will be fairly and uniformly enforced throughout the Borough.

Councilman Briscione recognized Det. Barcus and Capt. Baldanza completed the Level I Counter Terrorism Intelligence and Awareness Seminar given by the Office of Counter Terrorism; Capt. Baldanza and Det. Sgt. Murphy have completed training given by the State Police and the Statewide Intelligence Management System; Sgt. Tagerty has completed a course at the Academy on Reality Based Side Handled Baton Training and Patrolman Chenoweth has completed training with the Fort Monmouth Police in their counterfeit identification training program. He stated that for the past three months that he has been on the Police Committee, he has been reading these accomplishments for continuing education by our officers and we are very lucky that they are so diligent.

Councilman Briscione stated with regard to the race track there is nothing new with regard to the official word on night racing and we still do not anticipate it but we have not received anything official.

Councilman Briscione stated with regard to the information that was reported on earlier on purchasing policies, he wanted to thank Councilman Sharkey for bringing those up and especially thank Councilman Chaump for aggressively implementing procedures to correct any deficiencies in the policy.

MAYOR GATTA: Mayor Gatta stated that prior to asking the Borough Clerk to read a resolution appointing our new Clerk, she wanted to tell everyone a little about Kim Jungfer and stated that she is a long time resident of Oceanport, she received her Bachelor of Arts Degree with Administration from Kean College in NJ and she is a registered Municipal Clerk and received her certification from Rutgers Center for Government Services as well as the Edward Bloustein School of Planning and Public Policy. She continued that Kim was the Assistant Court Administrator for the Borough from 1995-1998; the Zoning Board Secretary from 1993-2000; Planning Board Secretary from 1990 to the present and our Deputy Borough Clerk from 1998 to the present.

Mayor Gatta commented that as many of you know, many of our Borough employees wear multiple hats to accomplish all the diverse tasks that they are asked to do and certainly, Kim has not only computerized the dog licensing system, but implemented a records retention system for the Borough, assisted in the Borough's open space plan as well as numerous grants that she has helped individuals to procure for the Borough of Oceanport. Mayor Gatta advised that Kim is also a member of the Public Safety Committee, the Cable and Technology Committee, the Building Modernization Committee and a long time coach of many sports.

Mayor Gatta stated that we are very fortunate to have such an experienced and diverse Borough Clerk coming to Oceanport and asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-51** appointing Kimberly A. Jungfer as the Borough Clerk effective April 1, 2005, after which Councilman Briscione moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative.

The Clerk then administered the Oath of Office to Kimberly A. Jungfer as the Borough Clerk effective April 1, 2005 after which Mayor Gatta offered congratulations on behalf of the Borough as the newly appointed Borough Clerk and wished her a wonderful tenure and looked forward to working with her.

Mayor Gatta reported that the Public Safety Committee met for the second time on March 2nd and advised it was a very intense agenda and she just wanted to say that at the next meeting each of the emergency services and Public Works will be presenting their capital improvement plans and needs as well as a replacement plan on vehicles and equipment. She continued that also discussed were the drills that have taken place and also the motor vehicle crash policy, a wish list that is to be developed by everyone, so that when we are fortunate with people coming forth wanting to donate something, there will not be duplications of equipment.

Mayor Gatta stated last Friday evening she attended the Oceanport Sports Foundation Coaches Appreciation night and in addition to honoring the three coaches, the Borough was presented with a $2,500 check from the Sports Foundation for work either at the Community Center or at Olde Wharf Park and we are very appreciative of the Foundation's contribution.

Mayor Gatta commented that she received a letter from a former resident, Robert Witek, commending the efforts of Patrolman Kelly who had responded when his wife was involved in an automobile accident and while it was not serious, she had her child in the car and was quite upset and he commended Patrolman Kelly for attending to their needs and missed that about not living in Oceanport any longer.

Mayor Gatta advised that the Board of Chosen Freeholders of Monmouth County will be conducting their monthly meeting in the West Long Branch Borough Hall on Wednesday, March 23 at 7:00 p.m. and all residents are welcome.

Mayor Gatta stated that not only are we saying goodbye to Patti Varca our Borough Clerk, but the end of March we will also be saying goodbye to Deanne Sole who works in the Tax Office and she has given 20 years of service to the Borough and we wish her a happy retirement as well and she will also be missed.

Mayor Gatta advised she is in receipt of a letter from the NJ Sports & Exposition Authority, which culminates a request that she and Councilman Briscione made last November to Peter Cammarano, Chief of Staff to Governor Cody, with regard to the condition of Crescent Place. She stated they brought up the condition of this roadway when discussions of night racing first began and asked for some assistance in the hopes of trying to get it paved and reported that the Authority has agreed to donate $50,000 to assist in repairs of this roadway, after we had submitted the cost estimates from our Borough Engineer and his recommendations for this road.

Mayor Gatta reported at the March 10th special meeting, Councilman Sharkey raised a concern as to certain items that were on the agenda for the special meeting that had been advertised in the Atlanticville on March 3rd and at that point our Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann, stated he would look into the matter and the Council has received a memo from him, stating that he reviewed the Affidavit of Publication submitted by Kim Jungfer, Deputy Borough Clerk, which reveals that the notice of the special meeting was duly advertised. She continued that as the time for consideration on the agenda, the notice set forth the time and place for both the workshop meeting and the special meeting and the notice also set forth the matters which would be on the agenda. Mayor Gatta stated that Councilman Sharkey's concern was that there were additional items on the agenda that were not

set forth in the advertisement, but our Attorney cited State and case law that supports the fact that the additional items placed on the agenda for the special meeting were in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act and applicable case law, so the Borough was in compliance.

Mayor Gatta stated that we held our town meeting on Monday, March 7th and the second town meeting will be on Wednesday, June 1st. She advised that she has been in contact with Deputy Chief of Staff, Joe Fiordiliso who will be at the June meeting and apologized for not being at the last meeting due to an illness, but he has committed to being present at the June 1st meeting and the issue is, while we are aware that night racing is off the table for this year, we need to have additional information as we move forward and we are looking for an official notification.

Mayor Gatta also noted that we will be asking representatives from Realty Appraisal, who will be conducting the revaluation in the Borough, to attend the town meeting of June 1st to answer any questions our residents may have on the revaluation.

Mayor Gatta stated she is getting additional pictures for the Wall of Honor and encouraged everyone to continue submitting them and hopefully we will have enough to build another Wall of Honor.

Mayor Gatta commented that now that Spring is official coming, she wanted to thank Tom Crochet and his men for the excellent job they did with the snow removal this year.

Mayor Gatta acknowledged and thanked our police officers, our firemen, fire police, first aid and public works for combating the fire that we had on that early morning at the Olde Wharf House. She continued that it was obviously devastating for all of us but we appreciate the fine efforts of all our volunteers and employees who came out to help fight the fire and secure the building.

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

Sal Vecchione, 114 Woodbine Way commended the Public Works Department on the excellent job they did with the snow storms this past winter and recommended a bonus or at least a citation of merit for the fine job they did.

Mr. Vecchione stated that he wanted to note for the record that she and former Councilman Mahon as well as Tom Crochet of Public Works responded to his request to resolve the twenty-year old flooding and ponding of water on Summerfield Ave. He continued that they all met with the Borough Engineer and a short while later, restored this road to the level where it is now free of ponding and he was pleased that this was accomplished.

Mr. Vecchione reminded everyone that the Shore Regional High School budget vote would be coming up shortly and stated that last year a figure of $350,000 was floated around as the dollar amount the Superintendent of Shore Regional High School would get if he retired that year and it was referred to as the "golden parachute". Mr. Vecchione advised that the four Mayors should look into urging the Shore Board of Education to cap this lump sum in order to save at least $100,000.

Mr. Vecchione then brought up an incident which had taken place at Rumson High School, wherein Mayor Gatta wrote a letter on November 17, 2004 to the Board President, Ted Szczurek, asking what procedures were in place, such as lock-down procedures in case of an emergent situation and asked those safety procedures be forwarded to the Oceanport Governing Body, as are already in place. He continued that on Feb. 1, 2005, the Mayor wrote a second letter since no one

had responded back and finally a letter was received on Feb. 11, 2005 from Mr. Szczurek in which the delay in responding was explained as well as advising that a meeting would be set up with the appropriate officials as soon as it was possible in order to coordinate with her schedule. Mr. Vecchione criticized not only the grammar and spelling of this letter from the Board President, but felt it was arrogant, insulting and he asked the Mayor if she was going to accept this and not do anything further about this matter.

Mayor Gatta advised that she will be responding and this was discussed by the Council the other night and there was an opportunity in that letter to meet and sit down with them, which she plans to do.

Mr. Vecchione stated he felt that the public should know how this Mayor and Council have been treated and thanked the Governing Body for their time.

Councilman Briscione stated that part of the reason for his support of that letter was that he had found out that Rumson/Fair Haven and Little Silver had trained with the State Police numerous times in Rumson/Fair Haven High School after that issue came onto the Internet, so we wanted to know if that same procedure was taking place at Shore Regional High School. He continued that to date, he has not been advised as to whether this has taken place, but he does know that our police force has trained in the Oceanport School system and they are in the process of formulating a joint training session with some of the neighboring towns including West Long Branch, and West Long Branch has the jurisdiction for the high school, and he does not know if that training has taken place, but we deserve it as do our children.

Mr. Vecchione also wished to commend Patrolman Kelly who had responded when his wife was very ill and he sat and spoke with her and gave her much comfort and he just wanted to thank him for his compassion showed in this instance.

Mayor Gatta advised Mr. Vecchione that the reason that letter had been written to Shore was because of our concerns with what had happened with Rumson/Fair Haven and we, the Council, felt that we wanted to insure that our children are safe since they are our most precious commodity. She continued that she has spoken with our Chief of Police in relation to the lock-down that they did have and participated in it as well.

Police Chief Harold Sutton advised that we have had discussions about this matter and we did meet with Police Chief Demaree of West Long Branch and reviewed the written policy, which is required and invited to participate in the lock-down which took place last week and we walked through and critiqued it with them and we will be training with West Long Branch at the end of the month and we have outlined for them as far as the improvements that need to be made at Shore Regional for security purposes and for us to be able to go in and training exercises at Shore Regional. Chief Sutton stated that so far the Administration at the Shore Regional has been very cooperative and it is moving ahead.

Scott Poyner, Tecumseh Ave. asked if there has been any discussion on the Council regarding both the First Aid and Hook & Ladder buildings with the idea of the Borough taking over ownership of those two buildings, since to his knowledge, the town pays the maintenance and upkeep of both of those buildings and questioned why we would not have ownership of those buildings considering that First Aid is adding onto their building and if the town does take care of the building, why then would we not own it as well.

Mayor Gatta stated to answer his question, we have not had discussions on this matter.

Mr. Poyner asked if there were going to be discussions on this matter, to which Mayor Gatta stated he could certainly bring this matter up to the Council.

Ed Ryan, Willow Court commented that as far as he knew, the Borough pays the utilities for the First Aid Squad and the Squad pays all the other bills and maintenance and pointed out that the First Aid Squad Building was built by the volunteers themselves twenty-five years ago with no money from the Borough.

Mr. Ryan also stated that last year he had brought up having an ordinance passed by the Council with regard to making people shovel their sidewalks after a snowfall, since we still have kids walking up toward Wolfhill School on Pemberton Avenue in the street because the sidewalk at the intersection of Wolfhill and Pemberton is never shoveled. He also thanked Tom Crochet and his men for always plowing out the First Aid and this year they even helped clear out the rear of the building.

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

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-52** approving the vouchers on the Bill List dated March 17, 2005 after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson with the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative with the exception of Councilman Sharkey who voted no as it pertains to the payroll amounts since he has not reviewed any reports related to the payroll amounts and he felt that we need to start doing that going forward and wanted to register that on the record. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST $7,952.75. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY $287.40. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST $365.00. TOTAL OPEN SPACE $235.00. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID $181,727.33. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $9,260.49. TOTAL 2004 VOUCHERS $190,987.82. 2005 VOUCHERS PAID $3,879,609.58. 2005 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $1,000,598.15. TOTAL 2005 VOUCHERS $4,880,207.73. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 9:17 p.m. Councilwoman Chaump moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on April 21, 2005 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Varca

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK