

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 17, 1997

- REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was held on March 17, 1997 at 8:02 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Gemma, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, Silkworth and Mayor Cavanagh.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilman Taylor.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Cavanagh led the members of the audience and the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on March 6, 1997 had been made available for review by 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 Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that the next item on the agenda is the public hearing on the 1997 Municipal Budget and commented for the record that the Municipal Tax Rate would be going up only two cents and commented that the increase in both the Pension Costs and the Dumping Fees, added with an additional sick time buy back for another retiring Police employee, added up to almost one and one half cents, and these are items over which the Council has no control. He continued that the local school was going up almost six cents and Shore Regional was almost three cents and the County appears to be coming in flat, but we will not know that for certain until all the budgets have been adopted.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions on the 1997 municipal budget and as no one wished to be heard, the public portion for this matter was closed.

The Clerk read resolution **R-97-30** amending the 1997 municipal budget with regard to the amount that had been originally listed for the Drug Alliance grant which was \$6,880 and had been changed to \$6,200, after which Councilwoman Filippone moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and approved by those Councilpersons in attendance. **R-97-30**

The Clerk then read resolution **R-97-31** adopting the 1997 municipal budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Gemma and approved by those Councilpersons in attendance. **R-97-31**

CLERK'S REPORTS: NO REPORT.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN GEMMA: NO REPORT.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone reminded everyone that the Health Screening was scheduled to be held on Saturday, March 22 at the Oceanport First Aid Squad Building and the registration would take place on Wednesday, March 19 at Borough Hall.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller reported that the last sampling taken had very good results and he recently received results from the Monmouth County Board of Health, who samples inside the track and there were no fecal coliform numbers above 30, which included the pond.

Councilman Miller reported at the last Water Watch Committee meeting, it was announced that one of our local marinas, Oceanport Landing, had submitted an application for funding through the DEPE for the installation of a pump out facility and hopefully, he will receive favorable news in the near future. He also advised that many groups representing the Manasquan, Shrewsbury, Navesink and other local Rivers are attempting to establish a no pump out zone in those rivers and are trying to set up some type of a monitoring system for this purpose.

Councilman Miller also advised that residents may notice that there are some large white crosses at various locations throughout the Borough and it is his understanding that this is part of an updated GIS System, which the County is going to ask the municipalities to share in the cost of this survey, which is done in the air, at a cost of between \$5,000 and \$10,000. Mayor Cavanagh asked the Clerk if we have received any correspondence from the County on this matter, to which she indicated nothing has been received. Mayor Cavanagh commented that we have already adopted our budget for 1997 and there has been no funding provided for this purpose.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR: ABSENT.

R-97-32 COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-97-32** authorizing senior citizens tax deductions, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Gemma and approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

R-97-33 Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-97-33** transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

Councilman Wolfe reported that the Public Works Department has begun cleaning up the parks, which puts them about one month ahead of schedule and hopefully, if we can miss this predicted storm, they will begin picking up leaves for the Spring Leaf collection.

Councilman Wolfe reported that there was a collapsed pipe at the intersection of Serand and Port-au-Peck Avenue and our Public Works Dept. was able to borrow a back hoe from Fair Haven and replaced the crushed pipe with a new high density polyvinyl type material that will last for years.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilwoman Silkworth reported under Public Works, that there are some roofing projects that will be undertaken by the Public Works Department at both the Borough Hall and at the Old Wharf House.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh stated that he wanted to comment, with a note of sadness, on the passing of our Tax Assessor, Ernie Hoffman, who had worked for the Borough for many, many years as our Assessor and he offered his condolences to his family. He also advised that he would send a letter to his family and advise that during the funeral services, he had the flag at Borough Hall lowered as a sign of respect for the many years of service that Ernie had given to this Borough.

Mayor Cavanagh requested in the absence of Councilman Taylor, that Councilman Miller contact the Environmental Commission Chairman, who had written a note to the Mayor with regard to a memorial plaque for Richard Parker and suggested that perhaps it could be presented at the annual poster award contest, in his memory.

Mayor Cavanagh also advised that he has provided copies of the formula on which State Aid for schools is calculated to the members of the Governing Body for their review and commented that it is a very difficult document to fully comprehend.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that he had been advised that Shore Regional had ordered several signs which will be installed around the High School concerning the Girls Field Hockey Championship and he had offered to pay for one of the signs, since we are part of that system and he estimated the cost would be under \$50.

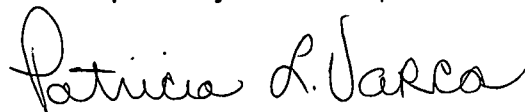
Mayor Cavanagh wished everyone a very Happy St. Patrick's Day.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have, but seeing none, closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills as listed on the Voucher Register dated March 17, 1997. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by those Councilpersons in attendance, with the exception of Councilman Wolfe who abstained from voting on the bills due Jersey Gravel & Sand Company. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS \$276.98. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$169,156.26. TOTAL 1997 OPERATING FUND \$169,433.24. TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE II ACCOUNT \$1,038.50. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$858.25. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$3,241.50. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL \$174,879.60. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-OCEANPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION \$387,250.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-GARDEN STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTION \$872.00. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER).

At 8:20 P.M. Councilwoman Filippone moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on April 3, 1997 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Gemma and approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK