

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 15, 2007

The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on March 15, 2007 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Chaump stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with the law.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer and Borough Attorney, Scott Arnette

INVOCATION: Pastor Bob Mills gave the Invocation

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

CONSENT AGENDA:

The Borough Clerk stated there were 17 items on the consent agenda and then asked for a motion.

Councilwoman Kahle asked if item #1, authorizing the 2007 budget to be read by title only, was just an authorization to introduce the budget.

The Borough Clerk stated the introduction of the budget is later on in the agenda not under the Consent Agenda.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution authorizing the 2007 budget to be read by title only.
2. Resolution allowing the Borough to conduct the annual budget examination.
3. Resolution amending the 2007 Temporary Budget.
4. Motion authorizing the release of the performance bond for Kelly Office Building.
5. Raffle application, St. Benedict School PTA , On premise 50/50 to be held on May 20, 2007 at Monmouth Park.
6. Raffle application, Lions Club of Oceanport, On premise 50/50, May 22-27, 2007 Monmouth Park Racetrack.
7. Raffle application, Lions Club of Oceanport, On premise merchandise raffle, May 22-27, 2007 , Monmouth Park Racetrack
8. Raffle application, Lupus Foundation, Off Premise 50/50, May 22, 2007, Monmouth Park Racetrack
9. Raffle application, Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Co. #1, Off premise 50/50, Monmouth Park Racetrack.
10. Raffle Application, Lupus Foundation, Off Premise merchandise raffle, July 22, 2007 Monmouth Park Racetrack.
11. Resolution for Library Fees and Fines.

12. Resolution authorizing an inter local agreement with the Borough of Rumson for repair and maintenance of Public Works Vehicles.
13. Resolution authorizing the payment of bills.
14. Approval of the Workshop minutes of January 22, 2007.
15. Approval of the Workshop minutes of February 1, 2007.
16. Approval of the Workshop minutes of February 12, 2007.
17. Approval of the Regular minutes of February 15, 2007.

The Borough Clerk then asked for a motion, to approve the Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman Ibex and seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORT:

The Borough Clerk stated she had the police report for February 2007, which has been distributed and will be posted tomorrow morning.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle started out with First Aid stating that the total amount of calls for January were 38 and 22 of those calls were in response to incidents at Monmouth Park, which resulted in 233 personnel hours. They made 10 out of town mutual aid calls and Oceanport received 2. She attended along with the First Aid Captain, Laura Hornung, Ed Ryan, and Fred Filipone, a meeting of the 16th District New Jersey State First Aid Council on February 28th. The First Aid Council has been in existence for 75 years in 14 volunteer squads in 13 Municipalities. Although the squads are independent they are closely linked with the needs of the Emergency Mutual Aid requirement and all have a large responsibility for major community events, multiple casualty incidents, and area wide emergency responses. Between all of them they answered 8,468 calls for 2005. If they were all paid calls and volunteer calls the cost would have been \$3,810,770.00 so we are very lucky to have all of those volunteers. The meeting was called to better facilitate the needs of the volunteer squads to our elected officials. It was very well attended. They had Assemblywoman Jennifer Beck, Freeholder Barham, and Senator Karcher etc... There was plenty of discussion going on and she does have a brochure that was handed out just explaining the 16th District and the calls that they make and things like that.

Councilwoman Kahle stated the Police Report for the month of February had 856 calls resulting in 89 summonses and 3 arrests. She also recognized Sgt. Steve Cioffi for completing the Time Management Roundtable for the DARE Program. The DARE Program is a valuable learning experience at Maple Place School and Sgt. Cioffi has been added to that program as an instructor. The Police Department is also interested in establishing an Ordinance about beer kegs. It requires the identification of beer kegs to have attached tags or labels. Each keg would be numbered individually by the retailer and a log would be kept. The purpose would be to reduce underage keg parties by allowing the Police to identify the person who purchased the keg and then hold them responsible for distributing alcohol to minors. The Ordinance has not been passed yet. They are still reviewing it and it will be brought up at the next workshop meeting.

Councilwoman Kahle reported on the Fire Department stating they are working on plans for the Haskell and the Breeder's Cup. For right now they will also be doing the coin toss at the

Haskel for soliciting some donations, which has been approved. For the month of February they had 13 calls for a total of 202 man-hours. 28 extra calls were made the day of the ice storm by the Fire Department. They have also submitted an application to the Federal Emergency Management Agency for the Public Benefit Conveyance for the properties at Fort Monmouth for the fire station. It is centrally located and is better equipped than the Hook and Ladder building. There have been other applications and letters of interest for that same building so hopefully we will be considered. We have over 400 acres over there so if we were able to get that building it would be a real benefit for Oceanport. The Hook and Ladder will also have their Annual Ham Fundraiser on April 1st from 12-5pm and everyone is invited.

Councilwoman Kahle stated she had also attended the senior citizen meeting on February 21st and they had an excellent presentation made by the US Postal Service and the Oceanport Police. They brought the seniors up to date on the dangers of current fraud schemes. The session was sponsored by the Senior Citizens Club of Oceanport and held at the Old Wharf House. They provided practical tips to senior consumers on how to make well informed purchase decisions, avoid scams, and protect personal information and how to file a complaint. Presenters included the whole Police Department with Oceanport Chief of Police, Howard Sutton, Sergeant Steven Cioffi, also the Postal Inspector, Ann Koslinsky, and the Post Master, Katherine Lockwood. It was very well enjoyed by the senior citizens and most of them had already been receiving scams and solicitations through the mail and also via the email such as they won a contest in Venezuela and to send money. It was a timely presentation and it was enjoyed by all.

Councilwoman Kahle stated she attended a Breast Cancer Fundraiser for our Assistant Tax Clerk, Maggie O'Donnell. She had recently left her position to battle this horrific disease and she asked that everyone keep her in their thoughts and prayers.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Councilman Johnson stated he had 2nd reading of Ordinances tonight. He then called for the 2nd reading and public hearing of an Ordinance to exceed the municipal budget appropriation and establish to establish a CAP Bank he then asked the Clerk to read the proposed Ordinance by title only.

Mayor Chaump then opened the meeting to the public for anyone who wished to be heard. As no one from the public wished to be heard the public hearing was closed.

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

The Clerk polled the Council:

AYES: Kahle, Johnson, Gallo, Ibex, Sharkey, Briscione

NAYS:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Councilman Johnson called for a 2nd reading and public hearing of the 2007 Salary Ordinance and he then asked the Borough Clerk to read the affidavit of publication and the proposed Ordinance by title only.

Mayor Chaump then opened the meeting to the public for comments on the 2007 Salary ordinance only.

Frank Barricelli, Hiawatha Ave, said he has tried to get an explanation of the Borough Administrator position several times from those on the Council who think it's needed. It's not been forthcoming. He heard claim after outrageous claim on what this Administrator will do. The last one was to prevent problems in construction with ball fields. Maybe this Borough Administrator will be a licensed Professional Engineer. He doesn't know. This appears to be totally unthought out and totally unjustified to hire a new position that we haven't needed for over 20 years. He would encourage the Council to vote against it and for those who are in favor of it to be more open as to why.

Alan Johnson, 30 Belmar Ave, stated he disagrees with the Borough Council for wanting to hire a Borough Administrator. We have people in Borough Hall now who have the credentials to handle any task as that, so he would think they would hire within the pool of labor that already exists. We really don't need a Borough Administrator. So far from what he has heard at the Workshop Meetings, no one has been able to come up with substantial reasons as to why they need a Borough Administrator. The taxes are high enough and they don't need another layer of government.

Steve Tagerty, Hedge Drive, his understanding is that there is some talk of reorganization within the front office and from what he understands it's not really open for discussion. It seems to him that they are hiring a person for \$90,000 a year, which is going to cover a position that is currently paying in neighborhood of \$48,000 - \$58,000 a year. He had absolutely no idea what this person's responsibilities would be. The job description has not been forthcoming and until these questions are answered he would strongly advise Council to vote against this.

Ronald Sickler, Morris Place, said he would request that Council act with fiscal responsibility on this issue when you are taking on a salary at \$90,000 a year that is not where it ends. It would also include medical coverage for this person and probably their family, some type of a retirement plan and whether it's even really a full time position. Again, this is a position that we could do without. This is not a time to do this when a reevaluation of property is about to commence and to be spending money without looking for any other alternative is not right. How much do we really need a person with this title?

Joe Foster, 29 Bradley Ave, he heard a lot of talk about management issues and costs that could be saved and \$90,000 sounds like a lot of money. The problem as he sees it and this goes back a number of years talking with people through out the town and a lot of times if you don't have management on site you have a lot more cost overruns. Somebody mentioned Blackberry Bay Park, which is not a bad example. The problem is there is no management responsibility assigned to them. You have to be in power to be a manager. Also looking at the elected officials sitting there, constituent service is something that we all hear about, and Congressman Pallone is noted for his constituent services. Part of this service is that he has people that manage certain things. There are other towns that have Business Administrators and it is a management position it's not one of the other functions that usually falls into a municipality unless it is incorporated into a job description. The point is that nobody has heard the exact job description but that shouldn't be the show stopper here. What we need to do is make sure that there is accountability and a single point to the public. The Mayor and Council are all part-time and it is not easy. It is also not easy to always be there 40 hours a week or 60

hours a week managing everything that comes in and goes on such as a pile of sticks that hasn't been picked up or a pot hole that has not been filled. This is what the Business Administrator should do. If we get good services then we are more than happy to pay for it but you have to get good services. This is a good opportunity and it's something that the town should look at seriously and give it fair consideration. He agrees there should be a good job description.

Mayor Chaump replied she would like to make one correction to Mr. Foster's comments. There were no overruns at Blackberry Bay.

Joe Foster replied okay but time is money. There was a lot of down time where that park was no available and people were expecting it to be available by a certain time, which is something that could contribute to cost overruns.

Mayor Chaump stated that this Council had decided and told everyone, especially the associations, that Blackberry would be closed for a year, which it was.

Joe Foster responded it went on longer than what was originally spec out for, which is the point he was trying to make.

Matt Patella, 75 Shrewsbury Ave, he doesn't know what his feeling is here. This town needs to be cleaned up because it is disgusting. He's been living here 30 years and has owned the property for 37 years. He bought it when he was 21 years old. The town is going down hill and he is watching it. He has property in other towns in New Jersey and in Florida and other than the other towns that are very close to here the other towns where he has property in are amazing. The streets are unbelievably clean. We need to get rid of this stuff that is going on in this town. There are things all over the place. People have piles of crap all over the place and it's out of control. It's all about the quality of life in Oceanport. When someone drives around this town and sees garbage all over the place they are going to go to another town.

Mayor Chaump stated she would have to stop him because the discussion was only to be on the Borough Administrator's salary.

Matt Patella responded he understands that but he doesn't know if the town needs a Borough Administrator or not, which is what he is trying to bring up, but enough said.

Alan Johnson, 30 Belmar, as you stated there were no cost overruns for Blackberry Bay Park and the budget is really tight. Our Road Department could help clean the Borough except they are shorthanded and there is not enough money in the Budget to hire another person. For \$90,000 we could do another street. A lot of people have been promised streets and now here we are getting a \$90,000 Administrator. The front office doesn't need someone to run around with post-it notes to tell people what to do. They already know what to do. He was here when the Business Administrator was here 20 years ago and all he did was walk around with post-it notes telling people what to do.

Laura Hornung, 7 Center Street, she is trying to understand the reasoning behind this person that needs to be hired because several months ago we were trying to save the Borough money, which is fine but you wanted to lay off all of the dispatchers. This would cut some of the service in town that the resident's are used to getting. Now you want to hire somebody for \$90,000? I thought you were trying to save the Borough some money? There are conflicts here. This is not the same town she was born in. It is spiraling down. I think the Council needs

to go back to the basics. What does Oceanport need? Forget your private agendas or whatever is going on behind the scenes because it is quite obvious there is a lot of conflict here. Do only what is necessary and only what we need.

Mr. Foster wanted to remind everybody that the taxes throughout the state are going up. They are almost spiraling out of control. The Governor, yesterday, mentioned that he is pushing for the regionalization and to contain these costs by the taxpayers is to start sharing services. So what looks like an agenda that is local is much broader than that. Its coming right out of Trenton and it's bipartisan and it actually makes a lot of sense. We are paying a lot of money for services. This is one way to make things better by making sure the money is being used wisely.

Mayor Chaump asked if there were any other comments. Hearing none she asked for a motion to close the public hearing, which was moved by Councilman Johnson and seconded by Councilman Briscione.

Councilman Johnson stated he would like to make a motion to adopt the Ordinance on the 2nd and final reading and advertise same in accordance with the law which was seconded by Councilman Gallo.

Councilman Ibex asked for a discussion on the motion and then stated he had lived in Oceanport for 38 years since 1969 when he came back from the Army. He had some comments about the Business Administrator position and thought this was a good time to discuss them. He feels that as a professional who has been in the business field for close to 40 years he does not believe Oceanport needs a Business Administrator. He can take you through the organization chart and tell everyone how many people work there. Approximately 8 people work there full-time and part-time who manage this town. The need for an administrator has not been clearly discussed at a Council table. He is the head of Finance and Administration and has been trying to get his colleague, Will Johnson, to get that discussion on the table and what the need is to have an administrator. Thus far no demonstrated need has been set forth. He believed at best that this decision is premature. Hopefully tonight we will have a new CFO on board and he believes that if you look within the current staff to see if they could provide the authority along with the responsibility to accomplish some of those things. At this point in time he is still not quite sure what the Business Administrator position is and what that person is going to accomplish. In his opinion he does not think there is a need to spend the money today. The real issue is why we need an administrator at all, which needs to be explored first before we start reserving money for what may very well be a permanent position. Can the administrator make the departments more efficient? He doesn't know, but he is convinced that we don't need an administrator today and to get one today is premature. It needs to be thought out and set in concrete what the position is and what is expected from that position. From a personal point of view, if we have \$75,000 or \$90,000 to spend that could be used for something such as broken curbs or drainage issues etc... Having said that he urges his colleagues to think this over seriously before they vote on this matter and being a team player he will abide by the decision of the Council. He is putting his professional opinion on the line because he thinks it's necessary and he feels he has a responsibility with the years' experience that he has and the years he has been in business and the kind of work he has done as a CPA.

Councilman Briscione stated he has a comment as well. Unfortunately this is going to sound like a political issue but it really shouldn't be. With the hiring of a Business Administrator it would make his life easier unquestionably. Unfortunately, he doesn't think they have discussed the cost benefit analysis of hiring a person for this position. He thinks that with the

addition of the new CFO we have the opportunity to take a step back and see how this person works out. Will we ultimately need a Business Administrator? We have to see what happens with Fort Monmouth but he thinks now they have time to evaluate new positions in the Borough and he doesn't think that its been shown to him what the benefit would be to hire someone in this position for that kind of money.

Councilman Johnson stated he had a comment as well. The last time Oceanport appointed a Borough Administrator was over 20 years ago. He believes that it's important to point out that back then the Administrator procured grants to build the Port-Au-Peck Fire House, the Old Wharf Community Center, Old Wharf Park, along with major road projects, such as the curbs and sidewalks on Pemberton Ave and the reconstruction of Port-au-Peck Avenue along with other infrastructure improvements. Applying for and administering grants whether they are from the County, State or Administrative levels would be one of the Administrators top priorities. If he is successful in obtaining one grant it would pay for itself. Other responsibilities would include overseeing the operation and coordination of all departments and he would be instrumental in preparing the Municipal Budget. We were able to cut discretionary spending this year by 5%. He would hope the Administrator could also help cut other measures. The Administrator would be responsible for implementing policies and procedures so that the Borough is compliant with any County, State or Federal mandates. Currently we are fighting a very expensive lawsuit because we were not COAH compliant. Last but not least the Administrator would be the day-to-day manager holding the Borough's professionals and contractors accountable. He doesn't have to be an engineer. He just has to hold them accountable. We all are aware of the problems we encountered over at Blackberry Bay Park. He is not saying the Administrator has to be an engineer but he is saying that if someone was there keeping day-to-day tabs the problems would not have gotten so bad and we could have recouped some of the money we wasted. We have numerous road projects that encountered problems due to lack of supervision, Burnt Mill Circle and Sagamore are good examples. He sees some members of the Sports Association here and they know better than anybody that we can't get a plumber to do a simple task as hooking up the water fountains that they donated 2 1/2 years ago. 20 years ago the Borough's budget was \$2 million. Today the budget is \$6 million and we employ a little less than 40 people. We have some huge issues on the horizon such as the closing of Fort Monmouth, sponsoring the Breeder's Cup, development projects such as the Town Center, Jockey Club Estates, Holiday Oceanport, and the responsibilities of Gatta Park. He firmly believes now is the time to make that appointment here at Borough Hall.

Councilwoman Kahle stated she would like to make one comment as well. A lot has been said about the Borough Administrator's responsibilities and what that person would do. Actually Oceanport has a Borough Administrator Ordinance and the Ordinance says that person would direct and supervise the administration of all departments, coordinate the functions of the officers, boards and agencies, budgets planning and problems, hire and fire employees, personnel items and right now we have no one in personnel, attend all meetings, keep the Mayor and Council informed, submit reports on the budget and activities of all departments, continuing and improving communications, keeping the public informed of what is going on, see that the statutes and contracts are kept and performed, supervise insurance programs, most of you might know that we have been fighting our insurance for over 2 years now, which took us a year to get the information, supervise and maintain properties, liaison with several County, State and Federal Agencies, which she really does believe is going to be very important, apply for funds and services, review daily any complaints and respond to them, grants and negotiations, just to name a few things. Not one park has been completed. We also have a Public Safety Department that is not really making any decisions. Shared Services is our responsibility to look into opportunities in this area. We can't go into County Dispatch until 2011. They are

closed. She spoke to County Dispatch just to clarify the situation and we cannot go. There are a lot of hard decision coming up like with Fort Monmouth, Oceanport Center and we need someone to manage from day-to-day. She asked how many towns in Monmouth County have Business Administrators and out of 53 municipalities, 42 have a Borough Administrator, 13 have dual positions, we need someone to manage our day-to-day and she thinks this is a good idea. 2 years ago she and Councilman Briscione applied for a Community Development Block Grant to redo the sidewalks over by the senior center and Main Street across from Cumberland Farms to try to get that started. We didn't advertise correctly and we could not get that grant. That grant only comes out every 2 years. We will try again this year so hopefully it will work out. However, that was lost money and lost opportunities just foolishly because we didn't know. She is a big proponent of having someone who is going to be consistent here year-to-year, managing our affairs, know what's going all with all of the different departments who when we need to buy a fire truck or ambulance they will know. We need someone to manage our day-to-day.

Councilman Briscione stated he had a few comments on Councilwoman Kahle's comments. With regard to grants they may have in the budget the amount of \$25,000 for a Grant Specialist, so if that stays in the budget will that then reduce the salary of the Business Administrator by \$25,000 or will that be a dual Grant Specialist? This is a question that came up. As far as grants he's got paperwork from Consulting Firms that we can outsource the grants for \$500 a grant. So to hire an Administrator to get grants is not a valid point. Regarding the Blackberry Bay issue, we were all unhappy with that project but it was based on the contractor and we took advice from 2 separate Legal Counsel's as to what to do. We didn't have any cost overruns. He is sure that everyone is aware of the Joline Avenue bridge project. The County had a Construction Management Official and they have their own Business Administrator and he's sure they have a tremendous amount of administrators. The contractor went bankrupt and the bridge didn't get built for 2 years and none of those people in those positions helped in that situation. He is sure everyone is aware of Tinton Falls Borough Hall. They had substantial cost overruns. They had 2 engineering firms and a Business Administrator and lastly is the County Hall Records Building, it was supposed to be completed in February 2005 and it is now March 2007 and it is still not completed. They budgeted \$7.7 million and went up to \$8.2 million and it's only going to get higher. So to say that the Business Administrator is going to help with those projects is not a reason to do that. The taxes are another issue. Our effective tax rate is currently lower than Shrewsbury, West Long Branch, Fair Haven, Little Silver and Eatontown. Is the Business Administrator going to do something that is effectively going to lower the taxes? Our budgets are bare boned and he thinks in time we may need this position but not right now. Some of the job descriptions that were just read for the Administrator are already being done by someone in the Borough Hall. It's time to sit down and look at these positions and see what will give us effective control of Borough operations. He doesn't know by paying someone that kind of money is warranted right now. He is for smaller government. He is concerned with layers and layers of government. The Business Administrator would need a car and a secretary. So that \$90,000 in 5 years becomes a lot more money for us.

Councilwoman Kahle stated she didn't hear about a car or anything and it's just a salary range that is up to \$90,000 so that does not mean that we are going to be spending \$90,000. Also, the tax rate right now is one of the lowest in Monmouth County because of the financial mistakes that have been made here. We are A3. This is just another reason why we need someone to manage our business.

The Clerk polled the Council:

AYES: Kahle, Johnson, Gallo, Sharkey

NAYS: Ibex, Briscione

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

Councilman Johnson stated on a personal note, his father-in-law, Bill Housechild, fell and broke his hip on February 16th, which was 2 days after the ice storm. On behalf of himself and the Housechild family he would like to thank the Oceanport First Aid Squad and the Oceanport Police Department for their prompt and professional response.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported on Oceanport Recreation stating that Demetrio Zarate informed the committee that clean up of the parks will begin the first week of April and if anyone has been through the parks they were hit well during the ice storm and the trees will need some major trimming and some removal. He then asked Kim to talk to Demetrio to see if that is beyond our ability to handle and if so if we need an outside source to do that. The 2 water fountains were installed last year at the Community Center and we do need a plumber to hook them up and hopefully that will be done soon.

Councilman Gallo stated the Easter Egg Hunt is planned for Saturday, March 31st at 11am at the Community Center for children 9 years old and younger.

COUNCILMAN IBEX: Councilman Ibex stated it is his pleasure to inform the Council that they have a resolution before them tonight regarding the new Chief Financial Officer. We have been without a CFO since January 1st and the last couple of months Will Johnson and himself had interviewed a number of candidates and narrowed it down to 3 then made a recommendation to Council and they then spoke to that person a week ago and they have come to terms and they are very pleased to bring this resolution to Council tonight. He then asked the Borough Clerk to read the resolution. Councilman Ibex made a motion to appoint Gregory S. Mayers as CFO for a term of 4 years and seconded by Councilman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilman Ibex stated the next thing on the agenda is the introduction of the 2007 Budget Resolution. The budget process has been going on probably since November of last year and it might have been as late as October when he gave a small presentation to the Council and the members of the public on zero based budgeting. He believes the first meeting as a Council was back on December 4th or 3rd and there have been approximately 11 meetings and they have done most of this without a CFO. The interlocal agreement with Eatontown did not include her working on the budget. He then personally commended Kim Jungfer, the Borough Clerk, for stepping up to the plate in giving Council some assistance. The former CFO did a lot of the organization, preparing the schedules, requesting various information from department heads, so this has been a long process and we are at a point tonight to talk about it. He is not so sure if everyone will be in agreement. He commended everyone for their involvement in this process. He then asked the Clerk to read the Resolution. Councilman Ibex moved to approve the resolution and was seconded by Councilman Johnson.

Councilman Ibex asked for a discussion on the motion. As the head of the Finance and Administration Committee along with Will Johnson's work he thinks they pretty much put

together a budget, which they believe in but there is one portion in it which he is opposed to, which is the Borough Administrator. There is going to be a public hearing of the budget in April. The municipal budget last year was 28 ½ cents per 100. The budget that is being introduced tonight is going to reflect an increase of 3.2 cents, which would bring it to 31.7 cents per 100. Our total tax rate last year was a dollar thirty and six tenths cents of which the 28 ½ cents were about 21 percent is the municipal budget, which this Council has some control over and if you look at the statutory and contractual arrangements there is very little discretionary spending that we may control but we do have some influence. A penny on your tax rate is equivalent to \$133,000 and a penny on your tax rate is worth approximately \$10 per \$100,000 evaluation, so at 28 ½ cents that translates to about \$285 per \$100,000 of valuation and that means if this budget is adopted it will go to 31.7 cents, which will translate to approximately \$317 per \$100,000 of valuation. This just kind of gives you a perspective as to what we are dealing with. In this budget there are a couple of drivers that bring that number to the 3.2 cents. One being the planner that was hired to assist us with the Fort Monmouth situation, which costs \$173,000 and hopefully this would be a one time expense and it's worth about 1.3 cents of the 3.2 cent increase. The other is the Business Administrator and that position is in the budget at \$75,000 plus benefits and about \$1,500 to set up an office, which will amount to another 6/10 of a cent. So out of the 3.2 cents almost 2 cents is tied into these 2 items. The other increases are tied into contractual increases like the Police Contract and a few people who are moving up on the steps and a few other things they provided for in the budget this year, which Council believe is necessary. He thinks that the zero based budgeting did help this year to some degree. If you looked at the discretionary line items we saved about 4% on the first pass and with some tweaking it works out to about 5%. Having said all of that he is basically in agreement with the entire budget with the exception of the Borough Administrator. Again, he just doesn't believe it has been well thought out and it certainly has not been discussed at length at the Borough table and before we commit to something like this we need to take a look at it and assess it based on what it can accomplish. He said that from the first moment he heard of the need for the administrator and he is still unclear whether it is part-time or full-time and if someone can convince him that we need it, he will be a big supporter. He doesn't believe that need has been demonstrated or clearly identified. He heard for the first time tonight some of the reasons and some people believe we need one but it has never been discussed so that we can have an active open debate on the issue. He has no problem with different opinions but thinks it just hasn't been completely thought out so therefore he is in disagreement with that. We need to figure out what this Business Administrator is going to do for the 8 full-time and part-time employees we already have working at Borough Hall. We have a pretty effective team of people. We have a tax collection rate of over 99%. We have some pretty dedicated people. The Tax Collector has been working short because the Tax Clerk position has been vacant for 5 months last year when tax clerk was ill and it's been vacant since January 24th since she resigned. We have a lot of dedicated people working very hard and he thinks there are people within our structure who are more than capable to step up to the plate and to that added dimension of administration if given the proper authority and responsibility to do so. The question is not closed but he believes that this needs to be discussed and a consensus. Convince him he's wrong and he will be the first one to admit it.

Councilwoman Kahle asked with the introduction of the budget could it be amended by the next public hearing.

Kim Jungfer stated it could not be amended until the next public hearing.

Councilman Briscione stated he had problems with the cost of the administrator, the Capitol Budget and the changes made recently.

The Clerk polled the Council:

AYES: Kahle, Johnson, Gallo, Sharkey

NAYS: Ibex, Briscione

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT:

COUNCILMAN SHARKEY: Councilman Sharkey reported on the Board of Health Clinic, which is scheduled for April 21st and reminded the public that there will be a time to schedule your appointment by calling Borough Hall.

Councilman Sharkey stated he took a tour of the library at Fort Monmouth with Councilwoman Kahle, Councilman Briscione and our librarian. The Borough made a request to Fort Monmouth to try to acquire the Fort's library because it is in excellent shape and is a beautiful building. Hopefully down the road we may have some success with that.

Councilman Sharkey stated he attended the meeting with Governor Corzine at Brookdale Community College. He was very much focused on Fort Monmouth and he was pleased with his comments. He wants to reserve some of the Intellectual Capital of people who have been working around the area and at the Fort and he talked a little bit about the capital money from Wall Street to start up companies or high-tech area. He urged to help keep those jobs and thought that was a good match and he was glad to see that we have a Governor who is focused on Fort Monmouth. He doesn't think it was lip service and thinks that is a major concern.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione reported on Planning Board stating they began hearing an application for a Use Variance for a portion of the building of Monmouth Park Corporate Center II on Crescent Place. The applicant proposed a medical research facility that will be equipped to do phase I clinical trials for pharmaceutical drug testing for drugs such as Alzheimer, blood pressure and cholesterol. There would be 24 beds that would house people for up to 10 days, which represents the Use Variance. Those situation would occur where there would be Hazmat issues, no bacterial agents would be tested or no psychological drug testing. The hearing will continue on March 21, 2007.

Councilman Briscione reported on Public Works stating the Valentine's Day ice storm has kept the Public Works Department extremely busy. They have been picking up branches since February 20th and as of March 14th 248 truck loads of trees and branches have been picked up and the department has logged in 498 hours. The clean up is about 60% finished and they would ask that the residents not put leaves curbside or have their landscapers put leaves curbside until April 1st at which time Public Works will begin the spring cleanup and that type of debris will be picked up at that time.

Councilman Briscione stated Oceanport has entered into an Interlocal Agreement to have our vehicles serviced by the Borough of Rumson's in house mechanics for a price of \$45 per hour. This will save the Borough approximately \$30-\$45 per hour as we continue to look for shared services and/or Interlocal Agreements. He then thanked the Borough Clerk, Kim, and Demetrio and Marc from Public Works Department for their efforts because they basically did this 100%.

Councilman Briscione stated he met with the Engineer, Rick White, and members of the County Transportation Department. Due in part to the anticipated redevelopment of Fort Monmouth, the County is looking at the proposed continuation of Oceanport Ave south of Port-Au-Peck Ave, which was the project that was started probably 10 years ago. They did all of the engineers and condemnation work and then the project stopped. So they will be looking at that again and they will be providing our engineer concept plans as they are developed.

Councilman Briscione stated in regards to the library at Fort Monmouth it is a 10,000 square foot building and it is in excellent condition. The layout and the design of this building would be a tremendous improvement over the current library space we have now and would allow us to reutilize the library space here perhaps pulling in the Building Department from rental space. So it is a good thing and the library is one of the few buildings at Fort Monmouth that is basically turn key because it already is a library. He then thanked Rick Harrison from the Redevelopment Authority for putting together the tour for them.

Councilman Briscione stated that a Compliance Evaluation Inspection of the Borough's owned storm water was done on February 20th by the Department of the Environmental Protection and the system was found to be acceptable by the DEP.

Councilman Briscione reported on the Economic Development Committee stating they had a preliminary meeting with Clark, Kate and Heinz, which is the firm they retained to provide a Land Use Plan for the acreage at Fort Monmouth that lies within the Borough of Oceanport. That committee will meet again on Tuesday, March 20th with the planner and after that meeting the firm will provide them with a meeting schedule, which will consist of 3 public meetings or charettes as they call them for public input and then they will form stakeholder's group to assist in the planning process.

MAYOR CHAUMP: Mayor Chaump stated she attended the Two Rivers Mayor's Council on March 3rd, Tom Clark from the NJ Transit gave a presentation on transportation and he also spoke about the Monmouth Ocean Middlesex Rail Line (MOM) and also Fort Monmouth's closing and impact. There are going to be regional recommendations and a public hearing in either 2008 or 2009 and they will submit a 2010 plan to the Federal Transit Association. Some of the solutions would allow our trucks to use the Garden State Parkway past the 105, expand the Garden State Parkway exit at the 105 north so that you can have direct access to Route 18 and a new exit to Route 18 on Laird Road in Colts Neck. Also, at that meeting the Mayor's received their NIMS Certificate and it was also asked to the Mayor's in the surrounding towns if any of their Council members needed training they would have another training session. However, she was happy to say Oceanport is the only one who has all trained members. Also at shared services she reported at our Workshop meeting as far as Emergency Management Services Fort Monmouth Revitalization Authority is going to be looking at that under there advisory committee. She also spoke with the Mayor of West Long Branch about looking into the Building Department and sharing that. She received a phone call this evening from Declan O'Scanlon the Councilman in Little Silver who talked about the Police Department and there is going to be 2 phases. The first phase is going to be Little Silver, Rumson and Fair Haven with a grant and then seeing where that goes they would also bring in Oceanport and Shrewsbury if they so choose to do it with them then she thinks that needs to be discussed at the next Workshop meeting to get back to him.

Councilwoman Kahle stated she asked him that same question, what happens after phase I if they are happy with that report with the 3 towns? He said they would go forward with

the 3 towns and then they would discuss it again. So where they have the phase I and phase II there is still a question as to whether we will be included in Phase II. That was very clear because she asked a specific question about that.

Mayor Chaump stated he said he was going to be speaking with whoever was doing shared services, which is finance and administration so it's Councilman Johnson and Councilman Ibex.

Mayor Chaump reported on Planning Board stating that Gerry Newmark resigned so she is going to have Linda Kelly move up to be a permanent member, Philip Lane will be alternate #1 and she is appointing Michael Savarese as alternate #2. There was also a question last month at the meeting about the Mount Laurel Subcommittee and adding public members and as she told Counsel Jeff Surenian our special Counsel said we wouldn't have attorney/client privilege so therefore we will not be adding one. Councilman Sharkey also asked at the Workshop and also public about adding another Council member and she also informed him that at the minutes of August 8, 2005 the attorney at that time had said that the Mount Laurel subcommittee formation was working well but she is adding another Council person besides Councilman Briscione and that is going to be Councilman Johnson who said he would be more than happy to serve on the subcommittee.

Mayor Chaump stated she had a letter from the Oceanport Board of Education addressed to Captain Baldanza commending him for an outstanding job that he has done over the past 2 days with the weather related emergency with the ice storm.

Mayor Chaump stated there was a public safety meeting on March 6, 2007 and the only thing that was discussed was the ice storm on February 14th. Chief Sutton expressed his concerns on the coordination of response so that the single file units could be dispatched at different calls and Chief Bertekapp advised them that everything was coordinated very well and Chief Sutton also suggested having a Fire Coordinator at Police Headquarters during these events.

Mayor Chaump reported on First Aid Squad was asked to contact Police Headquarters when they are standing by and advising what they have available to assist with the operations if needed. Captain Baldanza discussed if there were problems with our mass notification system the phone system at Wolf Hill School only had a 2 hour back up battery, which was not enough. The battery failed and it needed to be replaced but they also contacted Long Branch and they helped us out for that with the generator and Captain Baldanza is going to be addressing the issues with the school including using Maple Place phone system, getting generators with at least wiring to extend external generation. The Emergency Alert System also needs to be repeated several times in order for it to be affective because it was not. There was a shelter operation and the Chief suggested that we need to educate the public more and suggested advising people to contact the front office for non-emergency information and keeping the front office personnel at the Borough Hall. The emergency operation center was set up and opened in case it was needed and again the Chief has suggested that the CERT Team assemble there instead of the Police Headquarters so they can use the phones to critical care residents. There will be another Public Safety meeting probably in another month or two.

Mayor Chaump reported on the FMERPA meeting, which commenced on February 21st. The authority members talked briefly on their committees. The Executive Director added an 11th committee, which is going to be the Public Input Committee which you can either call their office or at least email them with any of their concerns. The Executive Director traveled to the

ADC Conference in California. The veterans have a tour of the Fort as well as Academia, Developers, Social Services and Environmentalists. We are going out for an RFP for a Master Planner. It was advertised nationally on February 26th and 27th. On March 14th there was a mandatory conference for anyone who picked up an RFP. The deadlines for the RFP are March 26th. We also hired an accountant on February 21st, Beverly Acrobloom, and she is a registered CPA.

Mayor Chaump stated she also attended the meeting at Brookdale Community College with Governor Corzine and he is committed to making Fort Monmouth the high-tech quarter with stem cell research and energy research. He did not address the quality of life issues, which she was a little bit concerned about and the Mayor's are going to speak to him on that. The Governor also talked about shared services and none of the newspapers picked that up. He is looking into having shared services and for the towns not to lose their identity and the state has committed \$20 million to do shared services studies.

Mayor Chaump stated she had a meeting in her office with Genevieve Clifton from the NJ Department of Transportation, Lucy Sanders and Alex Brown and also Jennifer DeLorenza from Nigerian Associates, which is the eye boat and also Bill White concerning dredging. She thinks there is a misunderstanding that DEP keeps saying the DOT does the dredging as that is not what the DOT does they can only help us with the process on marking of the channels whether they are Federal or State. We will be reporting back because our engineer, Bill White, has to follow up with phone calls.

Mayor Chaump reported on the New Jersey League of Municipalities. If you look at the last page Oceanport is in there about storm water.

Mayor Chaump stated as far as the budget is going she wishes that Council would communicate more and bring their concerns to the table. We had 11 meetings and it seems that a lot of the dialogue did not start until the end of those meetings. We need to discuss that further.

BILL LIST: Ad Hoc Trust \$45.00. Capital Trust Account \$37,546.09. Dog Registry Total \$370.50. Open Space \$705.00. .2005 Vouchers Paid \$7,800.00. .2006 Voucher Paid \$210,285.15. 2006 Vouchers Paid This Meeting \$8,536.52. Total 2006 \$218,821/67. 2007 Vouchers Paid \$4,640,056.83. 2007 Vouchers Paid This Meeting \$1,278,110.04. Total 2007 \$5,918,166.87.

PUBLIC:

Frank Baricelli, Hiawatha Ave, stated he had a question for Councilman Ibex. Do we have any kind of idea what increases are coming from Board of Education and Councilman Ibex responded he does not know at this time.

Frank Baricelli asked if that would be an addition because we just recently bonded for improvements. So we can expect an increase from the school board?

Councilman Ibex replied he would expect but he does not know for sure. He would be happy to make some phone calls to find out.

Laura Hornung, 7 Center Street, stated she was puzzled because she received the Bill List and on the list says for the First Aid that they are over budgeted. For \$5,700 but it should have been paid last year. Why was it carried over until this year because the check was not cut? It was funded last and was approved last year and it was part of capital. She doesn't know why it's on hold because the check should have been issued last year. It's not part of this year's funding.

Mayor Chaump replied that it says hold because it's not from the regular budget. It's from capital and will not be from this year's budget.

Alan Johnson, 30 Belmar, stated when Linda Johnson was on Council she was not able to vote on anything that dealt with First Aid because she was a First Aider and even gave up her trusteeship. Now that they are voting on a \$450,000 fire truck why did Ricky Gallo and Willie Johnson sit there and vote on it? He wants to know how this can be when Linda was asked to not vote on something like that, which is in capital this year and why do they need a \$450,000 fire truck? Why couldn't they get a \$250,000 fire truck? We have mutual aid and we don't know what's happening to Fort Monmouth. Also, the new Borough Engineer should oversee and supervise our projects and use Blackberry Bay Park in comparison but now we are going to have the Borough Administrator as a watchdog. Is the new BA position going to be advertised? Is it oinggoing to be open to people that are already working for the Borough or are they overlooked? From what it sounds like tonight the people that already work there are overlooked and this is going to be somebody from the outside. So is this going to be an open and fair process where people are interviewed and everyone has an equal opportunity?

Mayor Chaump stated that it will be advertised but first they have to update the Ordinance from 1975.

Mike Tober, Horicon Ave, he understands that the budget contains money for salaries that will be coming out of the open space funding, which is really for parks. He understands that the money for salaries would be for people working in the parks but he thinks when that referendum came up for vote if the people of Oceanport were told that they would not have gotten one vote. Legally he knows that we are allowed to do it but the thing is the people of Oceanport do not want us spending open space money when we have parks in town that are almost not usable and to be taking money out of that fund would be really irresponsible. However, on the positive side that money would be going to Public Works and the number one priority should be giving those guys raises and bringing them up to standards of the surrounding towns. They are grossly underpaid and we should be embarrassed what we pay them. This could be adjusted and dig up \$20,000 out of the regular budget but it takes people making real decisions, which he has not seen yet. He has seen a lot of bickering and a lot of fighting and he doesn't see a lot of hard decision making and he thinks that we could take money from the surplus. Councilwoman Kahle had talked about anticipated interest and there is a lot of places where we could find that money but the wrong place to take it is out of Parks and Rec. He feels that is not the right place to take the money. We really need to take care of those guys because 3 or 4 of them quit but it's not the place to take the money. It was brought up at the recreation meeting and overwhelmingly we are opposed to it. What he is really asking tonight is to make real decisions and find the right place to take that money out of and don't just take the easy way out. Now that we are done with that he has a little humor for everyone. There is a sign in Oceanport at the end of Port-Au-Peck Avenue that says "Dead End, Strictly Enforced" how do you strictly enforce a dead end? Thank you.

Robert Kelly, Gooseneck Point Road, had two positive comments about municipal services. His next door neighbor, Mr. Stein, passed away suddenly not unexpectedly and his widow didn't empower him to make any comments but he wants to anyway. He was not home at the time and the emergency services responded and when he saw her at his wake she expressed thankfulness for the professionalism and the courtesy that the 2 police officers who responded to the emergency. He then asked Harry to pass that along to them. He then commented on the ice storm stating after the storm his street looked like a war zone and he thanked the Public Works Department because the street was an incredible mess and they did a fantastic job of cleaning up quickly and efficiently. Thank you.

Maryann Housechild, Cayuga Ave, stated she was here to express an opinion because she is very insulted and upset about something, which was the article in the Link Newspaper today. She has lived here for 46 years and for 46 years she has attended many Council meetings and what she doesn't like about this article is this line "all I received during the campaign were family photographs and short biographies. I really don't care about a candidates breeding ability." She thinks that insulting because she doesn't consider her daughter a breeding machine. She is a fine mother, wife and a wonderful daughter and she doesn't consider herself a breeding machine. She always thought that Oceanport is a family oriented town but liking to see photographs of people running for Council? In all the years she has never heard personal attacks or confrontations like this. It is not necessary and she does not like this. She just wanted to express her opinion that she is insulted and her family is insulted. My daughter is not a breeder and neither is she!

Frank Barricelli, Hiawatha Ave, apologized if anyone took the article personally because it was not meant to slander anyone who raised a family. What it actually meant was that he was coming to Council meeting trying to get answers on why things were being done and what he asked was why do people propose things like hiring administrators... but the point he was trying to make was that people were not being given the information that we need and that when you ask people why do you run for office without providing the information of what you intend to do and all you get is nice little photographs but no substance. He apologized because his language was very strong but he was very upset when he left the meeting because he was not given an answer. He doesn't personally have children but he does support all the children in Oceanport with his taxes and he is glad to do it.

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

At 9:20 p.m. there was a motion to adjourn from Councilwoman Kahle, seconded by Councilman Johnson and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

KIMBERLY A JUNGFER
BOROUGH CLERK