

REGULAR MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 14, 1996

- REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council of the Borough of Oceanport was held on march 14, 1996 at 8:00 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons McGee, Filippone, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe, Silkworth and Mayor Cavanagh.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Cavanagh led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on March 7, 1996 had been made available for review by the Governing Body, Councilwoman Filippone moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor Cavanagh then stated that the public hearing was scheduled for the 1996 Municipal Budget, but he wanted to give a brief presentation explaining to the public what our budget was for this year. He stated the budget is a two fold proposition of money in and money out and we raise money by either surplus or taxation. He continued that to show the impact on this year's budget, he wanted to show the general appropriations, which is how much money we spend and gave the differences between 1993 and 1996, which when averaged out, shows three years later we are only spending 1% more than in 1993.

Mayor Cavanagh also advised that our surplus has gone down from \$871,790 in 1991 to \$218,000 in 1996 and explained that when the surplus goes down, the money raised by taxation goes up.

Mayor Cavanagh reported that in just items listed under Anticipated Revenues, we have a loss in our surplus from 1995 of \$132,000 and a \$59,022 loss in the amount of franchise and gross receipts, which totals \$191,022 and if you divide that by \$43,400 which is what a penny is, you come up with a loss of 4.4 cents. Mayor Cavanagh advised that the municipal rate this year will be increased by 3.3 cents per hundred on resident's taxes.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments on the 1996 Municipal Budget.

Mr. Lawrence Souville, 35 Manitto Place asked why the Prosecuting Attorney's cost went up so much this year, to which Mayor Cavanagh stated the allocation last year contained a deduction that we did not use this year and the money that will actually be expended will be about the same, but last year he was paying some of that back, but this year he will be paid in a different manner, but the allocation and expenditure remains about the same.

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

R-96-26

The Clerk read resolution **R-96-26** amending the 1996 Municipal Budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

R-96-27

The Clerk then read resolution **R-96-27** adopting the 1996 Municipal Budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Miller.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Filippone, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.

Mayor Cavanagh thanked the members of the Governing Body for all their hard work and cooperative efforts in putting this document together and the professionalism shown by everyone as well as thanking Mr. Hulsart for all his help with our budget.

Mayor Cavanagh then asked Linda Fujimoto of the First Aid Squad to come up and make a presentation to Doris Agaman also of the First Aid Squad and also asked Councilwoman Filippone to comment briefly on this award.

Councilwoman Filippone announced that Doris Agaman has again been selected as the Volunteer of the Year by the Oceanport First Aid Squad and it is no small accomplishment when you consider how excellent all of our volunteers are and she congratulated her on receiving this award again.

Linda Fujimoto, last year's Captain of the First Aid Squad presented Doris Agaman with the John Hauser Award which is given by the Captain to the First Aider who has gone beyond the call of duty for the town and their fellow members of the Squad.

Mayor Cavanagh and the members of the Governing Body congratulated Doris Agaman on receiving this award.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Resolution regarding person to person liquor license transfer re: Olde Wharf Inne.

R-96-28

The Clerk read resolution **R-96-28** regarding the liquor license transfer after which she informed the Council that the applications had been filed, fees paid and transfer notice advertised with no negative comments received, as well as a positive report back from the Police Department.

Councilwoman Filippone moved to approve this resolution. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: Councilman McGee moved to appoint Faith Allen as a School Crossing Guard for the remainder of 1996. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman McGee reported under Police, that Sgt. Sutton, Patrolman Cioffi and Detective Baldanza had completed a course in Arson Awareness and Detection; Sgt. Sutton and Patrolman Cioffi had completed a course in Bias Incident Investigation; Patrolman Cioffi completed a course in White Collar Crime Investigation; Patrolman Murphy completed a course in Crisis Negotiations and Sgt. Hendley, Dispatchers Cook, Mazzarella and Scerbo completed a Refresher 9-1-1 Course. Councilman McGee commented that the Chief is constantly having his employees kept up to date by sending them to various courses made available through the Monmouth County Police Academy.

Councilman McGee also advised that on March 28, 1995 in this room at 8:00 P.M., Jim Slattery, the Borough's Emergency Management Director, will be conducting a program on National Flood Insurance and he urged anyone who lives on or near the water to attend, as well as anyone who may be interested in the changes recently made in the flood insurance laws.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone reminded everyone that the annual Health Screening will be held on April 13, 1996 and pre-registration will be held in the Borough Hall on April 10 and although pre-registration is required, you can have someone else come in and register you for the screening. She also advised that the cost would remain the same as last year with the regular testing at \$25. and with the PSA a total of \$45. and she urged all residents to take advantage of this health screening.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller advised that the 1995 Water Watch Report has been put together by our Chairman, Richard Gruskos and one of the members, Bill Sverapa and he will be giving copies to the Council members at the next work shop meeting and to any of the newspapers who may want a copy.

Councilman Miller stated he hoped the first sampling would be able to take place on March 23 since with the weather conditions, we have not been able to do any sampling to date and he also thanked Keith Seeley and Steve Remaley, who are two of the Borough's marina operators, for their cooperation on the repair of our 20' ski barge with a minimum donation from the Water Watch Trust Fund and a lot of donation of their time and parts they had on hand and when they are completed, the boat will be like new and we can begin using it in April.

Councilman Miller reported that for the time being, the cutback proposal for the Marine Police has been halted and the Governor was going to reduce the Marine Police back by 45 members and gut the number of stations along the Atlantic, which would leave us to be policed by either a station in Newark or Point Pleasant, so he is quite pleased, together with the other members on the Council, that this has been postponed and the Governor has given a charge to the Legislature to come up with an extra 2-3 million dollars to pay for the Marine Police to stay on and he hoped that this money could be found.

Councilman Miller advised that on March 30, 1996 members of the Recreation Committee will be meeting at the Municipal Building and then touring all of our parks for a safety inspection of the Borough's Tot Lots and making a priority list of what needs to be done.

Councilman Miller informed the public that on Saturday, April 13, Recreation will be sponsoring the Annual Spring Egg Hunt at Blackberry Bay Park beginning at 11:00 A.M.

Councilman Miller also announced that there is a cooperative project between the Recreation Committee and the Buildings & Grounds Chairperson, Councilwoman Silkworth to beautify the Community Center, which needs quite a bit of work and hopefully within the next six months there should be some improvements.

Councilman Miller offered his congratulations to Borough resident, Jessica Coleman, who is a Sophomore at Shore Regional High School on being picked to serve on the 16 and under Junior Olympic Hockey Team and they will be participating in a tournament this Spring in Europe and it will cost her approximately \$2,200 and she is looking for donations to help defray some of the costs and if there are any groups out there who are interested in helping out, she would be quite pleased.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR: Councilman Taylor announced on April 13 prior to the Spring Egg Hunt, Bicycle Safety Day will be held at Wolfhill School at 9:00 A.M. and the Drug Alliance will be over there as well handing out materials and helping to sponsor this program.

Councilman Taylor moved to authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise and receive bids for a used recycling vehicle, which Councilman Taylor stated would not cost the taxpayers any extra funding because we are using the money that we were paid for newspapers and other recycling materials when the rates were high. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe advised he recently attended an Emergency Management FEMA meeting in Neptune with Jim Slattery, our Emergency Management Coordinator and this meeting dealt with the reimbursement for the January 8 blizzard. He continued that FEMA has dedicated that storm as a disaster and allocated funds and yesterday he forwarded the required forms and hopefully we will be receiving some, if not all, of our expenses from that storm.

Councilman Wolfe offered his thanks to the Public Works Department for an excellent job they did during this long winter and although it is not entirely over with yet, they have cleaned up the sanding machines, but left them hooked up to the trucks, even though they have been out picking up leaves the last couple of days. He commented that the men have fought fourteen ice and snow storms this year and just wanted to commend them for the great job they have done.

Councilman Wolfe stated that since the last several days have warmed up, the men have been putting down grass seed at Blackberry Bay Park which has some bare spots and just performing the normal spring clean up projects in the various Parks throughout the Borough.

Councilman Wolfe reminded all residents that the spring leaf pick up will begin tomorrow through the end of April and he asked everyone to rake their leaves to the curb, free of branches and other debris, or the leaves will not be picked up, since the men are using a vacuum and the debris only clogs the machinery.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: NO REPORT.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh offered the congratulations of everyone on the dais to Monmouth University and wished them good luck tonight in their game and they have had a terrific program this year.

Councilwoman Filippone stated as a 21 year employee of Monmouth University, she wanted to say this was a great feat and the Coach is not only a phenomenal coach, but a terrific man and is exactly who you would want to coach your children and he is the epitome of fineness.

Mayor Cavanagh stated reading the newspaper yesterday with regard to the sixteen children who were killed in Scotland puts everything in prospective about what life is all about and we are here tonight speaking about surplus monies and what a penny means on our tax rate, and then you have all those parents who sent their children off to school yesterday morning with no idea of what was going to occur, nor could any of us and he stated we should all say a prayer for them and send our condolences to those parents.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills as listed on the Voucher Register dated March 14, 1996. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council. TOTAL 1995 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$2,156.10. TOTAL 1996 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$58,721.36. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$213.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-TAX OVERPAYMENT \$1,201.12. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER).

At 8:30 P.M. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on April 4, 1996 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK