

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 12, 2001

REGULAR MEETING: The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on March 12, 2001 at 7:04 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe, Silkworth and Mayor Gemma.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman McGann.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.

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

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on March 1, 2001 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Silkworth moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments anyone might have with regard to the 2001 Municipal Budget and commented that there were copies of the budget numbers as well as an overview of the increases we are facing this year. He also noted that both our Borough Auditor, Mr. Robert Hulsart and our Chief Financial Officer, Lesley Connolly were present this evening to respond to any inquiries the public may have.

Mr. Stuart Briskey, 46 Werah Place asked if there was any impact on this budget due to the Borough's former Chief Financial Officer.

Mayor Gemma commented that they only item was a grant of \$96,000 which was not entered into the books correctly and therefore we cannot utilize this money until next year, but we have been able to offset that under the amount for uncollected taxes, so there really is no impact.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard, Mayor Gemma closed the public hearing on the 2001 municipal budget and thanked everyone who worked very hard as well as the Council's appreciation to Mrs. Connolly for all her assistance this year in putting together the numbers and participating in the budget process.

Mayor Gemma asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-01-34** amending the 2001 municipal budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
ABSTAIN: None.

Mayor Gemma then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-01-35** adopting the 2001 Municipal Budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
ABSTAIN: None.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of FEBURARY, 2001 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: Councilman Apruzzi called for the introduction of an amendment to the salary ordinance for the 2001 salaries and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDNANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICIALS" PASSED AND APPROVED ON MARCH 16, 1939.**

Councilman Apruzzi moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Apruzzi moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the meeting scheduled to be held on April 5, 2001 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe and Silkworth.
 NAYS: None.
 ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
 ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Apruzzi then called for the introduction of a bond ordinance for various improvements and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$575,000 AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$403,745 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTOHRIZED TO BE UNDERTAKENBY THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.**

Councilman Apruzzi moved to approve this bond ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe and Silkworth.
 NAYS: None.
 ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
 ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Apruzzi moved to hold the public hearing on this bond ordinance at the meeting scheduled to be held on April 5, 2001 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Gatta, Lyons, Wolfe and Silkworth.
 NAYS: None.
 ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
 ABSTAIN: None.

COUNCILWOMAN GATTA: No Report.

COUNCILMAN LYONS: No Report

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-01-36** authorizing the refund of an overpayment of property taxes due to a successful tax appeal regarding Block 74, Lot 14.02 in the amount of \$1,755.18, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-01-37** granting a senior citizens tax deduction, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-01-38** granting veteran's tax deductions, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe moved to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare specifications for the 2001 Road Program and to advertise and receive bids for same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Absent.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilwoman Silkworth moved to authorize the Borough Engineer to prepare specifications, advertise and receive bids for the collection and disposal of garbage and trash. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma commented that last weekend we had meetings with our emergency services, Police, Fire, First Aid, Public Works, etc. with regard to the possibility of a major snow storm and he was pleased that everyone made themselves available to discuss our emergency plans and thanked Councilwoman Silkworth for being available at these meetings and felt we were lucky to have missed this storm.

Mayor Gemma announced that once again the Maple Place basketball team won the game over our Police Department.

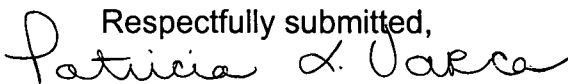
Mayor Gemma reported that last Friday he and Councilpersons McGann and Gatta met with Rich VanWagner to discuss the acquisition by the Borough of the property known as the "soccer fields" on Port-au-Peck Avenue and we have received notice that our application for our grant funds has been approved and we will now be looking for a source for the loan portion and possibility, the Sports Authority may be willing to assist us in this venture.

Mayor Gemma continued that the Authority is getting ready to come before the Planning Board with regard to forty units of senior housing on the other vacant property and he suggested that Councilman Lyons advise the Planning Board and Councilwoman Silkworth do the same with the Economic Development Committee so that we may begin planning this future development and make sure our Master Plan continues in this direction.

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated March 12, 2001. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$592,949.94. TOTAL 2001 VOUCHERS \$592,949.94. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT \$39,858.00. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 7:20 p.m. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on April 5, 2001 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICIA L. VARCA, BOROUGH CLERK