

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 7, 2002

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on March 7, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. and it was stated that the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, and Silkworth.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilman McGann and Mayor Gemma.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- INVOCATION:** Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Council President Apruzzi led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on February 21, 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.

Council President Apruzzi stated the next item on the agenda was the public hearing on the 2002 municipal budget and advised that both our Chief Financial Officer, Lesley Connolly and our Borough Auditor, Mr. Robert Hulsart, were in the audience tonight to assist in answering any questions.

Council President Apruzzi then opened the meeting to the public for any comments on the 2002 municipal budget, but hearing none, closed the public hearing.

Council President Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-23** amending the 2002 municipal budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by Council. **R-02-23**

Council President Apruzzi then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-24** adopting the 2002 municipal budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth. **R-02-24**

The Clerk called the roll:

- AYES:** Councilpersons Mahon, Gatta, Wolfe and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilman McGann.
ABSENT: None.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month for of February, 2002 and a copy will be posted on the bulletin board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon reported under the Cable Technology Committee, as the Mayor had directed, the emergency services met to discuss how best to solve the problems regarding the communications system in the Borough and in conjunction with the installation of the new antennae which was done today. He continued that a survey has been given to all members which will be returnable in the next 30 days to rate the new system and advise of any problems, in order to see how the system is working as well as asking for an inventory of all equipment of the emergency services regarding communications. He continued that after they are returned he will report the findings back to the Borough Council.

Councilman Mahon stated that earlier tonight the budget was voted on and approved by the Council and he thought about this for a while as to whether he was going to vote yes or no on this document. He continued that the budget process was much more difficult then he first thought and later realized that although he came to the meetings with his priorities, he found that everyone at the table had their own priorities as well and he felt that although all of his priorities were not met to the degree he would have liked, he hoped that in the coming years, the priorities would change to meet the ever changing needs of the Borough. He ended by stating that the Borough Council did a good job in putting the budget together in the face of the built in costs over which we have no control such as the garbage emergency from last year and this year's increase and the area of insurance.

COUNCILWOMAN GATTA: Councilwoman Gatta reported that this morning she and Councilmen Mahon and Apruzzi and Mayor Gemma met with the 7th grade students at the Maple Place School to discuss what the duties of the Governing Body are and she felt that it was a very good discussion. She reminded everyone that the students will be conducting their own meeting for Student Government on Thursday, March 21 in the Borough Hall at 7:00 p.m. and hoped everyone would come out to watch their meeting.

Councilwoman Gatta reminded everyone that the annual Health Screening would be held on Saturday, March 16, 2002 at the Oceanport First Aid Squad and the registration will be at the Borough Hall on Tuesday, March 12 from 3:30 –5:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m. She also advised that this year the screening is being done by Monmouth Medical Center and we are going to have other information available at the screening in an effort to make it more of a Health Fair type of event.

R-02-25

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-25** refunding overpayments due to successful tax appeals, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe moved to return a cash maintenance bond in the amount of \$5,509.44 minus \$100 for a report fee, to the property owner of Block 61, Lots 7 and 8 located on Shapen Way on the recommendation of the Borough Engineer. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe reported that there have been several meetings with the emergency services in the Borough dealing with the communication system and he complimented Councilman Mahon the good job he did with the survey on the present equipment. Councilman Wolfe continued that the main tower had an addition installed including new cables and wiring and following the

installation, he spoke with 1st Assistant Fire Chief, Jim Gallo who advised that he was able to broadcast and receive from Holmdel from both his radio and plectron, which was something that they could not do before, so it appears that the addition of the tower has helped and hopefully, solved the problems our emergency services were experiencing.

Councilman Wolfe also reported that the siren that was removed from the Hook and Ladder has been found to be repairable and the parts should be in shortly and the siren re-installed by Edwards Electric in the near future.

Councilman Wolfe lastly reported that he and Councilpersons Gatta and McGann together with our Borough Engineer, Tom Rospos, met with the residents of Wardell Circle again with regard to the situation with the forty silver maple trees that surround the circle. He stated after speaking with the residents, it was agreed that the Monmouth County Shade Tree Commission would be contacted, which has been done, and we have requested that Mr. Shaw come out and inspect each tree which he has agreed to do and will provide a written report on each individual tree as to its health and condition. He advised that after the report has been received by the Borough, there will be another meeting with these residents to discuss the findings in the report.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Absent.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilwoman Silkworth called for the introduction of an amendment to the salary ordinance to include the 2002 salaries and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE TO FIX AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES OF CERTAIN BOROUGH OFFICIALS" PASSED AND APPROVED MARCH 16, 1939.**

Councilwoman Silkworth moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Gatta, Wolfe and Silkworth.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman McGann.

ABSENT: None.

Councilwoman Silkworth then moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on March 21, 2002 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Gatta, Wolfe and Silkworth.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilman McGann.

ABSENT: None.

MAYOR GEMMA: Absent.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT APRUZZI: Council President Apruzzi also complimented Councilman Mahon on the great job he did with the survey for our emergency services and the information coming back will be shared with all the services involved.

Council President Apruzzi announced that there will be a Save the Fort meeting at the Eatontown Borough Hall on March 18th at 8:00 a.m.

Council President Apruzzi thanked our Hook & Ladder Fire Company for their assisting us with the Quint Ladder Truck in the installation of the antennae with the professional team that did the actual installation.

Council President Apruzzi announced the annual Spring Egg Hunt will be held on Saturday March 30th with the rain date set for April 6th.

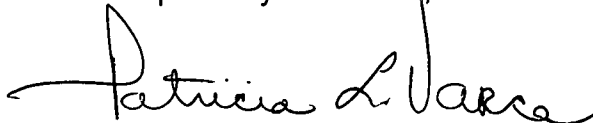
Council President Apruzzi thanked the Borough Council for the great job done with the 2002 municipal budget and felt that we had some very good direction from the Mayor.

Council President Apruzzi 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 7, 2002 with the exception of one voucher due GridTech, which we will hold. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by Council. CAPITAL TRUST \$28,196.65. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY \$228.60. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST \$734.22. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$8,970.50. TOTAL 2001 VOUCHERS PAID \$8,970.50. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID \$67,717.30. 2002 VOUCHERS PIAD THIS MEETING \$92,523.37. TOTAL 2002 VOUCHERS \$160,240.67 (SEE BILL LIST)

At 8:20 p.m. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on March 21, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK