

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
March 5, 1998

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on March 5, 1998 at 8:00 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann Silkworth and Mayor Gemma.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- INVOCATION:** The invocation was given by Borough Chaplain Berry.
- 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 Feb. 19, 1998 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilman Wolfe moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by Council, with the exception of Councilwoman Filippone, who abstained because she was not present.

Mayor Gemma then stated the next item on the agenda is the public hearing on the 1998 Municipal Budget and commented that there were some figures up on the board, showing the drop in revenue and the slight increase in our spending for 1998, as well as copies of the line items for 1998 and 1997 and a copy of the increases/decreases in each department.

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have regarding this subject only.

As no one from the public wished to be heard, Councilman Wolfe moved to close the public hearing on the 1998 municipal budget. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

The Clerk then read resolution **R-98-29** making certain amendments to the 1998 Municipal Budget, after which Councilman Miller moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

#R-98-30 The Clerk then read resolution **R-98-30** adopting the 1998 Municipal Budget, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of FEBRUARY, 1998 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: NO REPORT.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone reported that we will be holding the 14th annual Health Screening on Saturday, March 28, 1998 at the Oceanport First Aid Squad Building and the pre-registration will be on Tuesday, March 24, 1998 at the Borough Hall from 3:30-5:00 PM and 7:00-8:00 PM and if you are unable to register yourself, you may send someone else in your place. She continued that the cost for the blood chemistry, urinalysis and hemocult is \$28 and there is a PSA test available for men at an additional cost of \$20 and she urged everyone to take advantage of this testing.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller moved to authorize Chief Bebout to sell one 1983 Dodge Diplomat and one 1993 Chevy Caprice at a joint Police Auction with Tinton Falls. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Miller moved to authorize the Monmouth County Mosquito Commission to continue their aerial spraying program during 1998. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Miller then moved to make Patrolman Michael Chenoweth a permanent Police Officer, since he has completed his six month probationary period and Chief Bebout has concurred. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Miller reported that our Police Department now has a Bicycle Patrol Manuel, since they now have two mountain bikes, which were donated by the Lions Club, and they will be used during the summer at Monmouth Park in the parking lot areas as well as again on Halloween, which was a very successful program. He advised that Patrolman VanBrunt will be heading this Patrol with Officer Barcus assisting him.

Councilman Miller advised that Detective Tagerty had completed a course in Arson Awareness and Detection and Sgt. Donald Ross had completed a course in Crisis Negotiations.

Councilman Miller announced that the Borough Water Watch Committee will be receiving a grant in the amount of \$10,000 which will be used for shore stabilization in the area of Charles Park.

Councilman Miller reported that the Monmouth County Board of Health had done some water sampling on Feb. 19 in Turtle Mews Creek and the fecal coliform numbers at all the sites were under 10, which is excellent. He continued that on Feb. 12, the Water Watch Committee did sampling of 8 sites and the results were much better than the previous month's numbers.

Councilman Miller stated that under the Library, he wanted to report that we now have access to the Internet from NJ Bell, who is providing a reduced cost for Internet Access to schools and libraries and the Borough will be saving approximately \$660 this year.

Councilman Miller stated that he is involved with the Water Shed project and they met last Wednesday and Tom Kellers who is their Technical Advisor, told them that Rutgers University and the Freehold Soil Conservation District were working under the heading of the Department of Agriculture and have received a \$600,000 grant to fund what is known as the Surface Water Management Model Computer Project, which will basically produce a model of land use and land cover, tidal areas, wetlands areas and also involve all of the data as far as the water analysis that he and the Oceanport Water Watch Committee and other groups along the Shrewsbury River have done over the past five to six years.

Councilman Miller reminded residents that the annual Spring Egg Hunt will be held on April 4 at Blackberry Bay Park beginning at 11:00 A.M.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-98-31** transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council. #R-98-31

Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-98-32** regarding the filing of a tax appeal by the Borough's Special Counsel, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council. #R-98-32

Councilman Wolfe reported that our Emergency Management Coordinator, Jim Slattery, will be conducting a meeting on Tuesday, March 10 with regard to the Borough's on going readiness response to emergency situations and all the members of this Committee have been notified.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Councilman McGann called for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance on capital improvement funds and he asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only, as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING REPAIRS TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER KIDDY LOT PLAYGROUND UTILIZING \$2,780.07 FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS AND \$32,775. FOR THE BALANCE OF ROAD IMPROVEMENTS TO TECUMSEH AVENUE FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR ROAD IMPROVEMENTS.** ORD. #699

Mayor Gemma opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments they might have on this subject only.

As no one from the public wished to be heard, Councilman McGann moved to close the public hearing on this ordinance. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman McGann moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

ORD. #700 Councilman McGann called for the second reading and public hearing of an amendment to the salary ordinance regarding 1998 salaries and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and 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.**

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments on this subject only.

Herbert Wolfe, an employee in the Public Works Department, asked what the starting salary was for a new full time employee in Public Works, to which Councilman Wolfe stated he did not have a copy of the ordinance in front of him and the Clerk indicated that in the 1998 Salary Ordinance the starting salary would be \$18,000.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard, Councilman McGann moved to close the public hearing on this ordinance. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman McGann moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman McGann 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 \$135,790. AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$128,995. BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES AUTHORIZED TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.**

Councilman McGann moved to approve this bond ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman McGann then moved to conduct the public hearing on this bond ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on April 2, 1998 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman McGann reported that last December the Borough was notified that we will be receiving our 1998 Clean Communities Grant in excess of \$7,000 some time in May.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilman Silkworth reported that the Economic Development Committee has been re-activated and they have met three times over the last month or so, at times in conjunction with the Planning Board discussing the development and the proposed Village Center, which is in line with the Master Plan amendments and they will continue meeting to discuss these matters.

Councilwoman Silkworth advised that we are presently without front steps near the Court Entrance because the slate was coming up and making the area un-safe, so we will be securing quotes to have the steps replaced to match the other entrances of the Municipal Building.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma offered the name of Andrew Judkis to fill a vacancy on the Economic Development Committee, which term expires December 31, 1999.

Councilwoman Silkworth moved to approve the above appointment. It was seconded by Councilman McGann and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor Gemma thanked Patti Varca and Kim Jungfer for their help in putting together the materials for the budget public hearing.

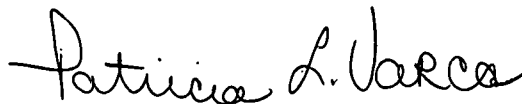
Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have, but seeing none, closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills as listed on the Voucher Register dated March 5, 1998. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and approved by Council, with the exception of Councilman Wolfe who abstained from voting on the vouchers due Clayton Block. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS \$2,500.00. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$5,405.63. TOTAL 1997 OPERATING FUND \$7,905.63. TOTAL 1998 VOUCHERS \$230,976.23. TOTAL 1998 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$47,894.75. TOTAL 1998 OPERATING FUND \$278,870.98. TOTAL DOG

REGISTRY ACCOUNT \$145.60. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$140.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-OCEANPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION \$481,456.13. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-LIEN REDEMPTION \$8,556.35. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

At 8:25 P.M. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on March 19, 1998 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman McGann and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia L. Varca".

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK