

## REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey  
February 21, 2002

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on February 21, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Gemma stating for the record, that this meeting had been advertised in accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann, Silkworth 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:** 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 January 3 and 17 and February 7, 2002 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 approved by Council, with the exceptions of Councilmen Mahon and McGann, who abstained from voting on the minutes of February 7, 2002 since they were absent.

**CLERK'S REPORTS:** No reports.

### COMMITTEES:

**COUNCILMAN MAHON:** Councilman Mahon moved to authorize the Monmouth County Mosquito Commission to continue their aerial spraying program during 2002. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

**COUNCILMAN APRUZZI:** Councilman Apruzzi reported the Recreation Coordinator, Christine Smith, will be conducting safety classes for all our coaches and these will run through April, in order to give all the coaches an opportunity to participate.

**COUNCILWOMAN GATTA:** Councilwoman Gatta reported the First Aid Squad responded to 56 calls in January, which is a large number for one month and expended 178 man/woman hours.

Councilwoman Gatta advised that donations are being received for Donna Shaw and her daughter, who lost their home in a fire recently and lost everything and items are still needed and she urged anyone who is able to please send their donations in care of the Oceanport First Aid Squad.

Councilwoman Gatta announced the annual Health Screening will be held on Saturday, March 16, 2002 at the First Aid Squad Building and we will be working with Monmouth Medical Center and we are attempting to expand this program into a Health Fair. She advised that the pre-registration for

the Screening will be at Borough Hall on Tuesday, March 12<sup>th</sup> from 3:30-5:00 p.m. and 7:00-8:00 p.m.

Councilwoman Gatta extended thanks and appreciation from the senior citizens to the Council for their prompt action in replacing the broken refrigerator at the Olde Wharf House, which they discussed at their meeting and asked that she advise the Governing Body.

R-02-22

**COUNCILMAN WOLFE:** Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-22** amending the 2002 temporary budget, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe moved to temporarily appoint Councilman McGann to the Finance Committee for the purchase of signing several vouchers, which were reimbursements to Councilman Apruzzi. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by Council.

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**COUNCILMAN MCGANN:** Councilman McGann called for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance regarding the Local Cap Law and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE PURSUANT TO LOCAL CAP LAW CONCERNING THE 2002 MUNICIPAL BUDGET OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY.**

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions on this subject only, but seeing none, Councilman McGann moved to close the public hearing on this ordinance. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and approved by Council.

Councilman McGann then 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 Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.  
**NAYS:** None.  
**ABSENT:** None.  
**ABSTAIN:** None.

Councilman McGann then called for the first reading of a bond ordinance for various improvements in the Borough and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$527,900. AND AUTHORIZING \$359,005. 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 ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

**AYES:** Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.  
**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

Councilman McGann then moved to hold the public hearing on this bond ordinance at the 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, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.

**NAYS:** None.

**ABSENT:** None.

**ABSTAIN:** None.

**COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH:** Councilwoman Silkworth reported that she had the final proof of the 2002 Directory, which she would be going over this weekend and hopefully, it will be out to the residents very soon. She also advised if anyone has anything else they want to add, they should be in contact with her or the Clerk's Office no later than Monday.

Mayor Gemma asked if the Council can have an opportunity to look over the proof, to which she advised it would be available on Monday in the Clerk's Office if anyone wants to review it.

**MAYOR GEMMA:** Mayor Gemma reported he met with the Atlantic Watch who are the people who ran the Celtic Festival last year and they are asking to do it again and perhaps make it an annual event and they will be working with the Chief in that regard. He also advised that he has asked Councilman Mahon who is the Liaison for Special Events, to make contact with this group and see if we, as the host town, can have bagpipes at some of our events during the year.

Mayor Gemma then advised that he has been reading articles in the newspapers and hearing rumors with regard to the race track and he has spoken with representatives including Senator Bennett and he has been informed that the Borough will continue with its project of acquiring the soccer fields from the Sports Authority located on Port-au-Peck Avenue and which we have approximately ¾ of a million dollars through Green Acres funding and we now have two cents for open space and intend to move forward with this project and the property behind the bank is planned to be developed for high end senior housing in accordance with our local ordinances.

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might wish to make.

Michael Keats, 17 Maple Ave. asked what the status was of the proposed ordinance prohibiting crematoriums in the Borough, to which Mayor Gemma explained this was discussed at the work shop meeting and we will have something to review in the near future, but he wanted to make sure that anything we adopt is going to stand up if challenged and this will also be addressed in our master plan review.

Mr. Keats questioned the time frame regarding the County's spraying program as well as what they are using and Mayor Gemma suggested he stop in the Clerk's Office for the name and number of a contact person in the County regarding this program and stated that the Commission notifies the Police Department when they plan to spray, but explained that it deals with weather conditions among other things.

Mr. Keats asked if any of the Councilpersons had listened to the tapes of the Planning Board meeting he discussed at the last meeting with regard to the questions he raised to the owner of the cemetery, to which the Council advised no one had listened to the tapes.

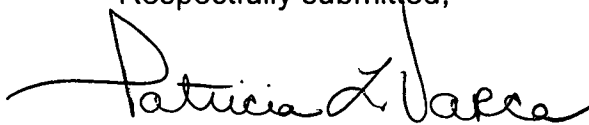
Ed Ryan, 24 Willow Court discussed the matter of the siren still not working at the Hook & Ladder Fire House and gave a brief history of the sirens, radios and plectrons used by the volunteers, explaining that it is now difficult if someone is out mowing their lawn to hear their radio go off and he felt that something should be done. Mr. Ryan pointed out that it is well over one year that we have not had the siren system working properly and felt that the Council should be addressing this matter and looking into a new system, since it is a one time purchase as compared to having a paid First Aid and Fire Department on call.

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated Feb. 21, 2002. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Apruzzi who abstained from voting on the vouchers due him as a reimbursement for expenses. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST \$86,152.00. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY \$421.20. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST \$1,816.00. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST \$115.97. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$11,533.95. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID \$75,689.13. 2002 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$274,335.65. TOTAL 2002 VOUCHERS \$350,024.78. (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 7, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman McGann and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patricia L. Varca". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "P" and a long, sweeping underline.

PATRICIA L. VARCA  
BOROUGH CLERK