

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
February 17, 2005

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on February 17, 2005 at 8:03 P.M. with Mayor Gatta stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with law.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey, Briscione and Mayor Gatta.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilwomen Kahle and Johnson.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann.
- INVOCATION:** Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gatta led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the special meeting held on January 19th and the regular meeting held on January 20, 2005 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Chaump moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of JANUARY, 2005 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: ABSENT.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: ABSENT.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-26** amending the recycling contract with Global Recycling, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilman Gallo reported he went to the Shade Tree meeting which is the first meeting this month and they chose new officers: Mike Tober, Chairman; Rocky Sullivan, Vice-Chairman; Adrienne Bedell, Recording Secretary and Mickey Smith, Corresponding Secretary. He continued that they already have a list of trees that need to be taken down or trimmed and they have their prices already and they also have a list of trees they would like to plant and they will be getting prices for them. He advised that if any residents have any tree concerns they can get in touch with Mike

Tober or our office and their next meeting will be March 15 right here in Borough Hall and the public is welcome.

Councilman Gallo advised that he went to the Water Watch Committee meeting and it was their first meeting and they summed up last year's reports and they will be submitted. He continued they also began water sampling this past Saturday and from last year's testing, their conclusion is that Blackberry Bay and the Shrewsbury River remains the cleanest sites in our water shed area and Old Wharf Park and Branchport Creek continue to demonstrate high fecal coliform levels due to the ever present geese and horse population. Councilman Gallo stated that the Oceanport Water Watch Committee remains committed to their mission to monitor the Shrewsbury River and to continue their efforts to work for clean water in our water shed area.

Councilman Gallo reported under First Aid, they had a total of 48 calls this month with 33 being emergencies, 5 were MVA's and they responded to 10 fire calls. He continued that the First Aid Squad is moving ahead with their addition and waiting for final site plan approval.

Councilman Gallo stated that Public Safety was given defibrillators and they will be putting them in public buildings in the community and one is being placed in the senior building and the First Aid will be giving defibrillator training to the seniors.

Councilman Gallo advised that this past week he attended the Monmouth County Improvement Authority seminar and also went to the senior meeting.

COUNCILWOMAN CHAUMP: Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-27** transferring funds, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-28** amending the 2005 temporary budget, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Gallo with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-29** refunding overpayments of property taxes, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Gallo with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-30** waiving building permit fees for the First Aid Squad building addition, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Gallo with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-31** appointing bond council, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Gallo with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-32** awarding an emergency contract for the replacement of the siren system, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-33** accepting the Tax Appeal settlement of the Monmouth Park Corporate Center II, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative.

Councilwoman Chaump reported she attended the Board of Education meeting on Tuesday night for a Special Services Director and they are going to be advertising because she will be retiring and they are going to have a teacher for separation of service of Susan Hershfield, on July 1st. She also reported that they had a shared services meeting with Councilman Briscione and herself, who met with two Board of Education members and went over the shared services that we presently do between the Board and the Borough and one is the diesel fuel that we are sharing with the Board benefiting from the savings; the Board of Ed buses are stored on Borough property behind Public Works, we have reverse 9-1-1 which is used to alert the public of emergencies through the phone system, baseball uses the school fields and the school uses the Borough fields and basketball, boy scouts, senior citizen groups with the computer course, adult basketball, volleyball, baseball, girl scouts, cub scouts, Pop Warner football, Coastal Alliance, DARE and Oceanport Drug Awareness all use the school facilities for meetings and their fields. Councilwoman Chaump continued that the field hockey girl's softball, boy's baseball, girls and boys soccer also use the Borough fields and the school buses are used during Borough of Oceanport emergencies. She added that we are going to be looking at other shared services at our next meeting scheduled for Feb. 24th and after she discusses it with the Council, she will make a report for the public.

Councilwoman Chaump stated under finance, the Finance Committee that consists of herself and Councilman Sharkey met with our Chief Financial Officer and our Deputy Borough Clerk this morning and after discussing this with the Council, she will report on this to the public.

Councilwoman Chaump also attended the Monmouth County Improvement Authority breakfast on Tuesday morning and she has handouts, which she will be discussing further with the Council at the next meeting.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under the Library Association that Fred Belcore was a founding father of the Library and passed away recently and the family donated \$500 to the Library Association and relatives in the area donated an additional \$195. She continued that on October 1st the Oceanport Library will be celebrating their 40th Anniversary and they have appointed Arlene Welsh as their recording secretary.

Councilwoman Chaump stated she attended the senior meeting on Wednesday afternoon and the Monmouth Medical Center/St. Barnabus gave a program on Stopping Accidental Falls.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under Public Works, the Olde Wharf House was painted and the snow removal from the January 22nd storm went very well and we had 14" of snow and the Public Works crew did a fantastic job and they wanted to publicly thanks Chris & Wendy Baggot, Ellynn Kahle, Patrolman Steve Briskey and Darlene Crochet who provided hot food, coffee, donuts and brownies to keep them going during those long hours of which it totaled 25 hours. She reported the pick-up truck broke down on Saturday and was taken to be repaired and all maintenance has been done on all the equipment and they are ready for the next storm.

Councilwoman Chaump stated the Public Works Department went through the town on Feb. 3rd and took care of the pot holes, which should now be under control and they will be working on the signage throughout the town, when weather permits.

COUNCILMAN SHARKEY: Councilman Sharkey reported with regard to Recreation, the Committee met during the month of February and one of the items discussed was a dinner scheduled on February 29th at the Ocean Place Hilton with regard to the County giving away grants that have already been awarded and they will be announcing them and handing them out and making a show of the grants that were given out to various towns.

Councilman Sharkey also reported there was discussion at the Recreation Committee in regard to getting another goose buster since the other two are working fairly well and the geese have learned to go onto the other side of Blackberry Bay Park where there is not goose buster at that time and he can attest to that because he has seen them on the other side of the park.

Councilman Sharkey advised there was discussion on setting the dates for the various events coming up over the next twelve months, which will be publicized, in the next Bulletin.

Councilman Sharkey commented with regard to insurance, we did meet with the insurance brokers on both the health and property/casualty program and got an update on different coverages and issues especially on the property/casualty and there were some items that needed to be corrected on the property/casualty insurance program which the insurance broker was going to follow up on but nothing of material consequence.

Councilman Sharkey advised that there was nothing to report on the utilities, street lighting or on municipal shared services at this time.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione called for the second reading and public hearing of an amendment to the 2004 salary ordinance to include the 2004 police 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 ON MARCH 16, 1939.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public for any comments on this subject only, but hearing none, Councilwoman Chaump moved to close the public hearing on this matter. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and unanimously approved by those Council members in attendance.

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on 2nd and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilwomen Kahle and Johnson.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the introduction of an ordinance to exceed the CAP limitations and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

Councilman Briscione moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilwomen Kahle and Johnson.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the next regular meeting to be held on March 17, 2005 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump.

Councilman Sharkey asked to have this repeated since it was not on his agenda, to which both Councilman Briscione and the Clerk advised that it was item number 2 under Councilman Briscione, but the third ordinance to be introduced was not on the agenda.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilwomen Kahle and Johnson..
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione asked the Clerk to read an amendment to the personnel ordinance with regard to vacation and sick time for permanent part-time employees as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT PERSONNEL POLICY" PASSED AND APPROVED MARCH 20, 1986.**

Councilman Briscione moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump.

Councilman Sharkey asked what is it that we are moving to which Mr. McGann, Borough Attorney, stated this was discussed at the workshop on Monday night with regard to benefits to part-time employees for vacation and sick time.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilwomen Kahle and Johnson.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione moved to hold the public hearing at the meeting scheduled to be held on March 17, 2005 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Gallo, Chaump, Sharkey and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: Councilwomen Kahle and Johnson.
ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione reported that the Police Report for January indicates that the Department answered 1,099 calls, officers responded to 420 calls, 102 summonses issued and 97 motor vehicle stops. He also recognized Patrolman Michael Chenoweth and Sgt. Ray Ciani have completed the Middle Atlantic Great Lakes Organized Crime Law Enforcement Network seminar on dealing with stress and trauma in the aftermath of critical incidents and Sgt. Steve Tagerty has completed the DARE Elementary Training given by the Multi-Jurisdictional Counter Drug Task Force.

Councilman Briscione commented with regard to Cable & Technology, while the Committee has not as yet met, he has spoken with Pat Hickey relative to the problems we were having with access to the Borough web site and he advised that he has resolved the access issues. He continued that additionally as part of the review of the shared services with the school district that Councilwoman Chaump mentioned in her report, he continued that Tom Maggio will review the computer systems that are in Borough Hall and continued that he has done a great job in the school district and we are exploring the possibility of some type of shared service arrangement relative to the Borough's technology issues.

Councilman Briscione advised that our local racetrack advisory committee met on Feb. 1st and we have still not received official notification on the night racing for 2005 but we will continue to monitor this and try to get official confirmation and to this end, he called the Governor's Office and spoke with Joe DiFiordaliso yesterday and he stated he will attempt to get confirmation for us on this issue. He further reported that the Committee continued to discuss an Oceanport Day at the races in the summer of 2005 and the he and the Mayor met with Pete Verde and Bob Kullina at Monmouth Park and they thought it was a great idea and they are going to review dates and they felt to have community involvement would be excellent.

MAYOR GATTA: Mayor Gatta stated that we have received word that the Monmouth County Board of Chosen Freeholders have just approved plans for the drainage improvements at the intersection of Monmouth Boulevard and Shrewsbury Avenue and the work is being put out to bid at the present time and the project is estimated to cost about \$160,000 and should be completed within 45 days from when work commences.

Mayor Gatta advised that we have scheduled our first town meeting to be held on Monday, March 7th at 7:00 p.m. and for those who attended the last town meeting, we had Deputy Chief of Staff, Joe DiFiordaliso and Dennis Dowd who committed to come to the next meeting and she has been in contact with them and they will be in attendance to discuss any questions that residents may have in relation to the night racing. She continued that in the hallway of Borough Hall there are flyers for the town meeting asking for any concerns our residents want to have addressed at the town meeting.

Mayor Gatta reported that she attended a Save the Fort meeting on Monday and in attendance were our Congressmen, Rush Holt and Frank Pallone, the Patriot's Alliance and the other two Mayors of Eatontown and Tinton Falls. She continued that it needs to be stressed that the focus on creating joint bases and facilities is the key difference between the BRAC 2005 and previous BRAC rounds and the argument can be made that Fort Monmouth is the best place to do the integration and become the receiving base and there is still speculation as to who the Commissioners are that will be named and it is expected that all nine commissioners will be named by March 15th and on May 16th the Defense Department expects to reveal the proposed list of closures. She stated that on Monday later in the day Frank Muzzi and Admiral Gaffni went to see Gov. Codey along with several Commissioners of the Governor's Commission to Support and Enhance the NJ Military and Coast Guard installations to discuss the upcoming BRAC closures and realignments and Gov. Codey

has pledged to continue to lend his support and assist all efforts in the coming months to insure that all seven NJ military bases remain intact. Mayor Gatta advised that the next meeting will be in March and at that time, Ginny Bauer will be speaking about the economic impact of Fort Monmouth.

Mayor Gatta reported that we have received official notification that Oceanport received a \$59,000 grant with a 50% match from the Borough from the 2004 Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant Program for the Olde Wharf Park project and on Thursday, March 17th Freeholder Bill Barham will be at our Council meeting to present us with the check.

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

Jim Gallo, 45 Bradley Ave. stated he was here this evening on behalf of the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company and continued for the last seven or eight years they have named a Port-au-Peck fireman as "fireman of the year" in memory of Al Weigel which is for the fireman who responds to the most fire calls in one year and this year he wanted to present it to Rick Gallo who made 80 out of 104 calls, after which he thanked Port-au-Peck for this award since he has been unable to attend the meetings.

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

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read the resolution **R-05-34** approving the vouchers as listed on the bill list dated February 17, 2005 after which she stated that one purchase order was being removed from the Bill List, which was #05-0187 and then moved to approve the resolution. It was seconded by Councilman Gallo with the Clerk calling the roll and all Council members in attendance voting in the affirmative, with the exception of Councilman Sharkey who voted no and stated he is voting no so that the record reflects that there are still a number of non-compliance going on with some of these bills and we are going to start working aggressively to improve it but he wanted the record to reflect that there is a problem. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST \$220,252.61. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY \$525.80. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST 2004-\$446.50 AND 2005 \$18,533.63. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID \$175,427.59. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$6,299.74. TOTAL 2004 VOUCHERS \$181,727.33. 2005 VOUCHERS PAID \$2,506,534.64. 2005 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$1,150,275.11. TOTAL 2005 VOUCHES PAID \$3,656,809.75. (SEE BILL LIST)

Mayor Gatta stated for the record that at the January public meeting, a motion was made to pay the bills pending a second signature and she just wanted the minutes to reflect that a second signature was affixed and the bills were paid.

At 8:37 p.m. Councilwoman Chaump moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on March 17, 2005 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and unanimously approved by those Council members in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK