

REGULAR MEETING

Oceanport, New Jersey
December 20, 1990

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on December 20, 1990 at 8:06 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller, Rodman, Wolfe and Mayor Cavanagh.

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

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

As copies of the minutes of the regular meeting held on December 6, 1990 had been made available for review by the Governing Body, Councilman Rodman moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Taxi license renewal application made by Chris Amecangelo t/a Chris's Taxi.

The Clerk advised that the vehicle had been inspected and approved by the Police Department and the required fees had been paid to the Borough, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve this application for taxi license renewal. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

R-90-66

2. The Clerk read resolution R-90-66 approving the renewal of three liquor licenses held by Harry M. Stevens, Inc. following approval by Court Order for an extension of these three pocket licenses, which approval was retroactive to July 1, 1990, after which Councilman Miller moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by Council.

Mayor Cavanagh stated at this time we are going to hold a public forum for the residents to speak to us about the issue of the incinerator and he asked that anyone who wished to speak on this subject only, to please do so and to please give their name and address for the record.

Annie DiDominico, 36 Steeplechase Court stated that she spoke with many other people who are present this evening at the last Freeholder's meeting to oppose the incinerator proposed to be built in Tinton Falls and the main reasons are the pollution, the health hazards and she felt that if other towns could come up with recycling programs that work as well as Oceanport's, there would be no need to have the incinerator.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that we have had a presentation by a group opposed to the incinerator and we have also had a visit from a spokesperson from the County Freeholders, Mr. Zaayanga to address the Council on the position of the Freeholders. He continued we have also been sent a variety of materials to read and he felt that we now have some familiarity with what we are speaking about. He felt that since

this subject is going to be an issue, he felt that before this Governing Body takes a stand on the matter, he wanted to hear from any resident who wanted to speak to us as their Representatives on a local level before we make our decision and that is really what the purpose of tonight's meeting is about.

Mr. Ron Maher, 27 Doreen Drive commented that he has spoken to this Governing Body before and made his feelings known on this subject and wanted to second the comments made by Mrs. DiDomenico and draw attention to the fact that in the brief period of time since we have been discussing this issue in the Borough, there have been a number of newspaper articles with regard to the advancements in technology dealing with recycling and new ways to cut down the waste feed into the sites where they would either be placed in a landfill or incinerated. He continued that there have also been a number of articles on new incinerators which have come on line, one in our own State in Essex County, and where they are now begging people to send them something to burn as we have indicated that we found this to be true from people across the country that we have spoken to about these operations. He wanted to reiterate again that while he has seen plenty of additional items to fortify the position that incineration does not seem to be the way to go at this time, he sees nothing from the Freeholders that would indicate that they have come up with any additional information or anything of value that would give a redeeming quality to the position that they are advancing.

Mary Sue Rogers, 15 Dwyane Street stated she was representing seven of her neighbors who were not able to attend tonight and they all feel the same way about the incineration and felt there were other alternatives at this point and she does not think that the knowledge available about incinerators and the safety of them are far enough advanced that she would feel comfortable with the situation. She continued that she has two small children and she would prefer to consume less and she is very proud of the way Oceanport is recycling and the fact that we are one of the few towns that have been recycling plastic for some time. She felt that people are much more aware of what we are using with recycling and we have been such a throw away society that now we are thinking more of what we are buying because of the way it is packaged. Mrs. Rogers felt that if the incinerator comes on line, people will no longer care about recycling and just throw everything away. She realized that there are problems with the landfills and the fact that they are running out of space, but she would feel more comfortable about staying with the landfill for the next ten years when science and technology are more advanced and developed, go back and dig up the landfills and take care of it then, but she is not at all comfortable with the idea of incineration.

Robert Livingstone, 10 Serand Avenue concurred with the comments already made and he is anti-incinerator and one of the things along with the pollution concerns is the money that is going to be spent on this project and the figure that he has read is \$230 million, and as a tax payer we are all suffering the bite of increased taxes as well as the problems with the recession and it appears to him that if the Freeholders are telling us it is going to cost \$230 million, any reasonable person would say it has to probably double that figure when everything is completed. He felt that this was too high a price tag to be burdened and if we were to spend that amount of money on trying to find an alternative that would generate less pollution, we might be able to find a better solution. He also commented that it seems to him that the way the Freeholders have gone about this, it appears that the deal is

completed and he suggested that we put forth more effort into alternative measures rather than the incinerator issue and look at other methods such as increasing recycling as well as composting.

Mr. Larry Taylor, 1219 Turf Drive commented that during the pre-election flyers sent out by the Freeholders, they stated that composting was putting materials into the fields to rot supposedly and until he got involved in matter, composting plants that they have in Dade County and in Seattle, Washington are completely different and they are entirely enclosed facilities and it is one-third of the cost of incineration. He felt that we must be more informed on the alternatives that are available and no information was given out about compost plants such as the ones he spoke about and that more investigation should be done in this area rather than go to an incinerator.

Mr. Gordon Elam, 23 Pocahontas Avenue stated that he supports the positions already stated tonight and it does seem to him that this has been a done deal and now we are getting to comment on it and he hoped that this was not the case and hoped that the Council could make some headway with the Freeholders and he is just not clear on how far down the line we are and if alternatives can still be considered on this project.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that to the best of the Council's knowledge as was explained to us is that in July there was a resolution adopted authorizing the County to sign a contract to proceed with the unit, but to the best of our knowledge that has not happened as yet, but he is in no position to represent to anyone that it cannot happen tomorrow or next month or whenever and that is where we are. He continued that his further understanding is that if the County does sign the contract it will take a period of approximately two years to conduct various environmental studies to determine how it should be implemented and at that point, he would guess, it would be ready for construction.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that this is the status of the project as far as this Council knows and one of the reasons we are doing what we are doing is because many of the people we have spoken to us have indicated, perhaps quite correctly, that if it is going to happen, the Council should go on record before it happens rather than after it happens and we have all agreed that we would act before the end of the year.

Mr. Elam asked if the Mayor could further clarify what these environmental studies consist of and would the EPA be performing them or some other agency?

Mayor Cavanagh stated he does not know that he is the person who should be answering this question or if perhaps there is someone in the audience that might be better to answer what precise environmental studies are going to take place by which agencies.

Gloria Cannon explained that the approval that is needed is from the EPA, the BPU and the DEP so there are three different bodies that they must go through.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that the other reason we decided to do this tonight is that we all feel to a certain degree, that the environment that has grown up is somewhat unfortunate about this issue and it almost appears that at least during the discussion he witnessed, it has become a polarized topic where there is not as much discussion as there is polarization and what we are trying to do is genuinely encourage people to speak to the Council so that we can try and learn enough about this issue to make an intelligent judgment on where we are going and he has

always hoped that people feel comfortable to come here and even if they do not agree with what we ultimately do here, feel that we will listen to them and be able to converse and not have an atmosphere that is counter-productive. He stated the Borough Council could have adopted a somewhat form resolution one way or the other on this topic and he thinks to the credit of all the members of the Governing Body, no one wanted to do that and everyone wanted to say how much of this can we understand and how much can we learn about this issue before we make our decision.

Mayor Cavanagh stated we have all received a lot of material that we have read and spent hours reviewing the documents forwarded in an attempt to understand and perhaps, this is the type of cutting edge technology wherein no one seems to be exactly sure of all the factors that are related to what this incinerator means and he thinks there is a bit of uncertainty about what is going to happen and it is not like we have had 75 years to study the effects of incineration and that is one of the areas that gives him some trepidation as he looks at the situation and we are trying to be intellectually honest here and see how much we can figure out, but we have agreed to put a resolution together and we will do that this evening and we will give each Councilperson an opportunity to voice their views on this subject.

Joann Angelucci, 90 Hiawatha Avenue agrees with what everyone has said this evening and she does not know enough about this project to have it built in our backyard.

Frank Tuttle, 20 Monmouth Boulevard stated it is his understanding that the incinerator should not even be considered until every other alternative is considered and the incinerator project sounds to him like a very good device to burn tax dollars.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard on this subject Mayor Cavanagh closed the public forum on this issue and he will now offer a resolution which he will do orally and if anyone on the Council has a problem with any part of the resolution, he will allow them to discuss the section prior to adoption.

Mayor Cavanagh stated prior to offering the resolution, he had some thoughts on this issue which he wanted to make and stated that as he understands this plan, the actual decision to go forward with the incinerator apparently was made in July of 1988 which was when the commitment to incinerate was made by the Board of Chosen Freeholders. He stated we are now almost into 1991 and the way he has tried to approach this is to try and study the situation then and now to determine if it is appropriate to look at it the same way now that it was looked at back in 1988. He continued that the motivation back in 1988 to do it was the very obvious problem of space and economics and he thinks that the Freeholders along with a lot of other Freeholder Boards in 1988 looked at this alternative, but since that time, we have a different set of facts looking at us now. He explained that thanks to people like Councilman Terra and other Recycling Coordinators, we are far in excess of the numbers that in 1988 people projected we would be receiving. He continued that in the documents he read it stated that by 1995 they hoped we would get to 25% and we surpassed that last year and we are on our way to much greater numbers with the cooperation of all our residents.

Mayor Cavanagh stated he felt it was fair to say that in the last couple of years the standards for emissions seem to be increasing in the sense that there are more stringent restrictions that are being developed and more guidelines being utilized of smaller numbers, depending on how you look at the scale, but it appears they are also changing. He stated

that he has noticed that over the last 3-4 years current, there appear to be a lot of other counties that began this process that had either stopped or at least arrested and said maybe we will go forward with the project, but for now we want to think a little further about what is happening. He stated that one of the things he read in the County brochure was that this was not a mass burn facility and as he read further he began to think that the reason it is not is because the technology appears to have taught us that this is not the right way to go and that the level of emissions is just much too uncontrollable in that facility so that we have progressed to what now can be offered, which appears to be a less onerous facility. He continued that if that is the case, he has to reason that continuing technology should be able to improve the situation further and again these are just his thoughts on this matter, and that appears to be a positive consequence of time and of new technology. He also read in the County brochure that in the last several years the comments they have received from environmental groups have improved the program in that they have learned different things and decided how perhaps it might be better or safer to do certain other things and if this is true, that is another positive factor as a relationship to time. Mayor Cavanagh commented that you also have to look at the Task Force Report which is 1990 and although he has not read the entire report, there were some areas on incineration and the concept of this Force saying that it is a last alternative concept and it is not an initial alternative concept and that the current bias toward incineration in essence, they are saying let's not go with this until nothing else is proven to do the job and that appears to him something that was not strongly stated in 1988 and appears to be a relatively new direction. He also stated that when we spoke to the environmental group opposed to this project, one of the arguments received was what are we going to do it this facility needs 25-40% more garbage than it can use and he cut out a newspaper article from the December 6 Star Ledger paper which basically says that the Essex County trash to energy incinerator which was conceived for Essex County alone when it started, is likely to become a regional disposal facility because they do not have enough trash and that makes him think that maybe that point is well taken and we seem to have proof that the recycling, etc. is lowering the volume and we have standards that were apparently designed three years ago which may wind up with this same problem.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that we on a local level are doing our very best to try and figure out how to regionalize as much as we can acknowledging that the tax payers of this town and just about every other town have had enough and are having trouble making ends meet and he has met with approximately 8 other Mayors of surrounding communities and we have Councilpersons talking to other communities and our goal is to become diffuse and to find a way to use as much as we can. He is wondering what the sense is to build an incinerator everywhere you can site one and then wind up with more than you need and if we are going to think about regionalizing, should we not determine if the on going sites are going to be sufficient to take ours, otherwise what we will do with all of them and will we not put more into the atmosphere than you need to even if this turns out to be the right way to go and he does not have the answers, but it is a question that bothers him.

R-90-67 Mayor Cavanagh then read resolution **R-90-67** regarding the subject of the proposed incinerator, after which Councilman Terra moved to approve same and it was seconded by Councilman Wolfe. Mayor Cavanagh stated as he promised before taking the vote, he asked the members of the Governing Body to make any statements or comments they might care to make on this resolution just offered.

Councilman McGee commented that he is not sure he is opposed outright to the incinerator at this time and he thinks a lot has been done to get to this point from both sides. He stated he would like to personally be in favor of a moratorium for the purposes of entering into a dialogue with all interested parties who have relative material, since he is not expert enough in this topic and he has heard a lot of discussion at the Freeholder's meeting and we have had people come in and bring material in and discuss with us various components, but to become an expert in such a short period of time, he really does not feel that he is in position to say out of hand that he is 100% opposed and he would like to be in favor of a moratorium only at this point.

Councilman Terra stated that he is 100% sure that he is 100% opposed and he thinks that the concept of incineration is offensive and outmoded scientifically and ecologically and he cannot in good conscience be able to answer the question to a child in the audience who he happened to see at age 10 minutes old when he would ask at age twelve what Councilman Terra has done twelve years ago to keep the air clean and the water pure, he wants to be able to say to that child that at least he voted against the incinerator.

Councilwoman Filippone stated that she too is opposed to the incinerator and as a past President of the American Lung Association of Central New Jersey she has worked very closely with people who have asthma and she spent a few days last summer at an asthma camp for children and if you have ever experienced what people go through who cannot breathe, you would know that any other kind of junk that we put into the atmosphere that should not be there, really does not deserve to be there and we do not know enough about anything at this point to move on. She continued that a couple of years ago we thought we knew everything about electro magnetic fields, but just this past week the EPA came out with a study that confirmed that the electro magnetic fields have been in part, conducive to the proliferation of brain tumors and leukemia, particularly in children and this is enough for her to say that we do not know enough about this to go on. She stated that the technology is improving daily and we have waited this long, we really must wait further. Councilwoman Filippone pointed out that we are just becoming educated as Americans to the fact that we are a wasteful society and we cannot go on this way, and we are going to have to learn source reduction and we have to learn to do away with a whole lot that we take for granted and she used as an example, all the wrapping paper, boxes, ribbons, etc. and what does that all do to our atmosphere in the end. She felt that we must all become more educated and move on by reducing the source of this massive garbage rather than creating another monster.

Councilman Miller stated he is definitely opposed to the incinerator and commented that he is a high school chemistry teacher and one of the things he does with his students is during the first two marking periods, he has them get involved with the environmental concerns and find an article and write a summary about it and the group he has this year, picked articles that had a lot to do with air pollution, garbage waste problems, etc. He continued that for him to even think about voting yes on this matter and then walking back into the classroom would make him the biggest hypocrite in the world, since he is trying to teach them to be informed and concerned citizens and he goes and does something diametrically opposed, so obviously he is not going to vote in favor of the incinerator.

Councilman Miller also commented that he concurs fully with what the Mayor has said as well as what Councilpersons Terra and Filippone have stated previously. He stated that the composting that Mr. Taylor spoke

of earlier, he heard the Freeholders talk about compost and garbage, but you do not compost garbage; you separate all the things in the compost stream and you remove those items that can be composted and then other items that can be sold as usable items and this is being done in many towns around the country. He gave an example of sofas, refrigerators, toilets, bathtubs, windows, etc. and stated there is a town in Massachusetts that has a place where they have these items for sale at a much reduced rate, which is another form of recycling. He continued we have certain days at the County Landfill when they will accept toxic chemicals and there are towns in the United States that go one better in that they recycle those toxic materials because perhaps there are some paints there that someone might be able to use and therefore it does not go into the garbage stream and by recycling the batteries as we do here in Oceanport you get rid of the cadmium and lead from the landfills and plastic is now being recycled and turned into plastic lumber which does not break down and at the same time save trees and there are many other things we can do besides taking trash and create fly ash, which none of it throughout the United States can pass the EPA standards, so why take three tons of trash and make one ton of highly toxic chemicals, which we have enough of already.

Councilman Miller stated he voted against the incinerator and would pray that the Freeholders listen to the citizens and stop this nonsense of an incinerator and look to educating the public, which he felt that we are all ready to learn.

Councilman Rodman stated that no one can deny that in 15 years this County will have no place to dispose of our trash even with optimum recycling, which means recycling everything that we can in our homes, we will still generate waste and we must face the difficult task of managing that waste responsibly. He continued that in his lifetime there has been no more strident or decisive issue on the County level than this incinerator and he believes that neither side in this dispute, and it is a dispute, believes that the other side is listening and both sides may be right. He commented that he would favor a six month moratorium on the signing of a contract for the construction of an incinerator, which would provide time for an honest, rational and systematic evaluation of options and issues and would also provide a cooling off period. He stated that in the spirit of such a moratorium, he can neither support nor oppose the incinerator, but would like more rational discussion on options, therefore, he will not vote to oppose the incinerator at this time.

Councilman Wolfe stated that he is opposed to the building of the incinerator and it is not a rash nor spur of the moment decision, because since this topic has been brought before the Council he has spent many hours reviewing facts from both sides to come up with an intelligent and educated decision that he feels will represent the people of Oceanport and he is in favor of the resolution opposing the construction of the incinerator. He stated there are other alternatives such as increased recycling which in Oceanport we recycle not only the mandated bottles and cans and newspapers, but we have a proven successful program to recycle plastics, waste oil, automotive batteries, household batteries and there are many other items that can be recycled. He commented that it is his belief that we must try these less costly methods first rather than spend a quarter of a billion dollars on a process that we all might regret later and unfortunately, possibly pay with our health.

Councilman Wolfe volunteered his services and his time to the Board of Freeholders to be a member of any committee they feel they might want to form to find a viable alternative to this incinerator.

Mayor Cavanagh stated he would now call for a vote on the resolution and reminded everyone that if you vote in favor of the resolution read earlier, you oppose the funding and construction of the incinerator.

Mayor Cavanagh then called for a voice vote on resolution R-90-67 regarding the opposition to the funding and construction of an incinerator which has been moved by Councilman Terra and seconded by Councilman Wolfe and carried by a majority of the Council with Councilmen McGee and Rodman voting no on the resolution.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that what we are doing here is not to be misinterpreted as a condemnation of anything and what we are trying to do is what we feel to be environmentally sound and to say to the Board of Freeholders regardless of how you felt in 1988, please listen to us as 1991 approaches and he offered the Board of Chosen Freeholders any cooperation from him or from any other member of the Borough Council if we can serve in some way to breach the problem which has apparently arisen in terms of trying to speak on this issue he would be happy to fulfill that role, because someone is going to have to do that soon because the issue is too important to be reduced to a polarized discussion.

Mayor Cavanagh thanked everyone for coming out tonight to speak on this subject.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: Councilman McGee extended his deepest sympathy to Chick Walling who last week lost his wife who was a member of the Oceanport First Aid Squad and offered his sincerest heartfelt sympathy.

Councilman McGee wished everyone a happy holiday and a prosperous 1991.

COUNCILMAN TERRA: Councilman Terra extended thanks to the members of the Fire Company who helped place the lights on our holiday tree especially to George Ottino, Sr. and Jr. and Chuck Wolfe as well as Councilman Miller and Bart Boyle. He also stated in addition, he wanted to thank all the members of the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company who hosted the party following the tree lighting and it was a very good time.

Councilman Terra thanked Councilman Wolfe for helping him out on our Clean Communities Day and Sol Clark was there with his boys and the kids were terrific and helped to clean up Blackberry Bay Park, the Seawaneka Wildlife Preserve and Sommers Park and we filled up the better half of the truck including a huge battery and we got a lot accomplished and he thanked the Boy Scouts for all their help and assistance.

Councilman Terra stated the bad news regarding recycling is that Marcal Paper did not agree with his recommendation to have them place a trailer somewhere in the area so that we could begin collecting grade 2 paper and he was concerned about this because grade 2 paper is considered trash and is thrown away and winds up at the landfill. He reported that Little Silver has decided to collect grade 2 paper but unfortunately they are disposing of it at \$30 per ton, which he feels at the present time is inappropriate and he is still going to try and convince Marcal as well as other companies to see if we can at least lower the cost. He continued that at the present time we are receiving \$1.00 per ton for newspaper and if he could work out a similar arrangement with the grade 2 paper or even

just break even to provide a trailer to us which we would be happy to fill, perhaps even allowing other residents from neighboring communities to share in its use, which would also be a great way to start the regionalization program while saving some landfill space at the same time.

Councilman Terra reported there was a recycling meeting this past Monday which he was unable to attend, but one of his volunteers, Sandra Mealy did go and he thanked her for attending that meeting in his place and returned with a number of flyers and information which he has not had the time to go through yet, but the one item he found interesting was that an announcement was made at the meeting that there will not be an increase in the base tipping fees at the reclamation center, but there will be an increase of \$.30 per ton for taxes.

Councilman Terra commented that some of the other figures brought back from the meeting attended by Sandra Mealy stated that out of the 53 communities listed, we were second in terms of the amount of materials being recycled, per person at a figure of 65.9 lbs. per person, per month and only one other community did better than we did, which is Sea Bright who had 99.3 lbs. and he wondered where they were getting all their materials from.

Councilman Rodman suggested it was probably coming from all the bars and liquor stores in Sea Bright, since they have more liquor licenses per capita in Sea Bright than any other town in New Jersey.

Councilman Terra extended his thanks to all the residents and businesses in Oceanport for their cooperation with the recycling efforts.

Councilman Terra extended his thanks and appreciation to the Boy Scouts and John Duke for the construction of the handicap ramp in the rear of the building and he was there while it was going on and got some good pictures that will be in the Bulletin.

Councilman Terra recognized the following Police Officers of our Department who have recently attended and completed courses and commended Don Ross and Harold Sutton for attending two courses and Steve Tagerty for increasing their knowledge and making the Police Department more efficient.

Councilman Terra also expressed his condolences to Chick Walling and his family.

Councilman Terra wished all the members of the community who celebrate Christmas a very merry and happy one and to everyone a happy and healthy New Year.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone reported that the response for the request for volunteers to help with the First Aid Squad wreath making and Christmas Tree selling was pretty good and the senior citizens have agreed that next year they will probably take this on as one of their projects.

Councilwoman Filippone reported that the Oceanport First Aid Squad had their election of officers recently and the new President for 1991 is Carol Connor and she offered her congratulations to E.J. Wright on a fine job as President during 1990 and the new Captain for 1991 will be Edward Ryan and she offered her congratulations to Joe Lombardo for his fine job during 1990.

Councilwoman Filippone reminded all the residents that there are still Christmas trees and wreaths and grave blankets for sale at the Oceanport First Aid Squad Building and this is their major fund raiser and she encouraged anyone who has not purchased their trees yet to please support the Squad.

Councilwoman Filippone reported that the Oceanport First Aid Squad has responded to a total of 335 calls to date for a total of 2,071 person hours which shows you what a major endeavor this is and she commented that we are running into a problem with volunteers available during the day time hours since most people are working these days, so if there are residents out there who are interested in joining the Squad and are available during the day time hours to please get in touch with the Squad.

Councilwoman Filippone advised that the Oceanport Senior Citizens had their election recently and Ralph Walsh will be President during 1991 and she thanked Walter Dangler for the fine job he did as President during 1990.

Councilwoman Filippone commented that she had spoken recently to Rabbi Daina and for those who did not know, he had underwent surgery and he is coming along well and expects to be with us on New Year's Day.

Councilwoman Filippone wished everyone a Merry Christmas and to our Jewish residents who have almost completed the Chanukah season, a Happy Chanukah.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller wished everyone in the Oceanport community a happy holiday season and a happy and healthy New Year.

Councilman Miller thanked the members of the Shade Tree Committee headed by Bill Sullivan for all the work including tree trimming and planting that was done this summer.

Councilman Miller thanked the members of the Waterways Committee headed by Eddie Edwards and many of the activities we have been involved with have been documented by the Two River Times.

Councilman Miller presented to the Mayor and Council at the work shop meeting a two page listing consisting of 43 items that have been undertaken by the Recreation Committee this past year, headed by Lee Poole and he thanked them for their efforts.

Councilman Miller thanked Patti Varca and the Administrative Staff for helping expedite his job and it was a learning experience for him.

Councilman Miller stated that his first year has certainly been a learning experience to say the least and for the most part a very enjoyable one and looks forward to the next two years ahead and offered the Governing Body members happy holiday wishes.

COUNCILMAN RODMAN: Councilman Rodman reported on the state of school finance in the State of New Jersey which is in an utter state of confusion. He continued that the NJ School Boards Association today announced that they will be suing the Governing and the Commissioner of Education to force the statutory release of State Aid figures, which were due this past Monday. He stated the Governor sent around a memo signed by him and Commissioner Ellis stating simply that they were not going to honor the statutory time line for that and he understands from Assembly Speaker Doria that his opinion of the State Department of Education has

reached a new low and it is open season on Legislation for financing the schools in the State of New Jersey and he wished our people on the Boards of Education of Shore Regional and Oceanport a great deal of luck in dealing with what is degenerating into a very difficult situation. He indicated that on April 23 the school elections are going to be held and by April 30 school districts must notify all non-tenured staff as to whether or not they are going to be hired back for the following year, which gives the school districts 7 days to finalize their budgets and notify their staff members as to whether or not they have jobs and it is a rather cruel situation on everyone.

Councilman Rodman commented that he has been speaking with Councilman Cooper from West Long Branch, who was referred to him by Councilman Wolfe and stated that West Long Branch is currently experiencing a significant problem with its underground gasoline tanks and we are looking to see if there is some mutually beneficial way that we can help West Long Branch solve their problem and he will be discussing figures and usages of West Long Branch to see if we can perhaps cooperate in some way in that matter.

Councilman Rodman stated the Mayor will probably comment on the fact that we had a presentation recently by NJ Transit on some of their plans for a revised railroad station and although they are getting closer, they still have some significant questions that need to be satisfactorily answered before this Council would give their informal blessing to such a project. He stated that NJ Transit does seem to be working closer and they have moved all of the parking and traffic off of the corner of Myrtle and Port-au-Peck Avenues, but there are still a couple of things that need to be worked out.

Councilman Rodman asked Councilman Terra if January 5 was the date to set out your Christmas tree to be recycled in Oceanport and Councilman Terra stated that this was the day and he would be announcing it again at the next meeting. Councilman Rodman reminded everyone not to throw their Christmas trees in the trash, since we will be recycling them in Oceanport and we will pick them up and grind them up and put them near our leaf compost disposal area.

R-90-68 COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution R-90-68 authorizing a petty cash fund for the Municipal Court in the amount of \$100.00 for the purpose of making change during Court sessions, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Filippone and unanimously approved by Council.

R-90-69 Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk to read resolution R-90-69 transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe announced that Public Works has just about finished the annual leaf pick up program and in speaking with Mr. Giordano, Superintendent of Public Works, this is the earliest he can remember being completed with this program. He stated we realize there will be some scattered pick ups throughout the Borough over the next several days, but the majority of the leaves have been picked up and Public Works is ready for the first snowfall.

Councilman Wolfe commented that this past Saturday we experienced a sudden ice storm that hit the County at approximately 7:30 A.M. and there was a call to Mr. Giordano from the Police Dispatcher at around 7:45 A.M. and Councilman Terra was at the recycling center, opening up the gates

and the Borough truck was out on the roadways sanding at 7:55 A.M. and the County had not gotten to any of the three bridges entering Oceanport and those bridges were closed off on Oceanport side as well as the neighboring communities on the other side because of the dangerous situation. He continued that Mr. Giordano sanded the three bridges as well as any access roadways coming down from the bridges and he also assisted the Long Branch Police by cooperating since they had a very serious accident and we wanted to aide a neighboring community. He stated it shows how well the Oceanport Public Works Department is ready and prepared when the County with their numerous employees and various pieces of equipment was not on the scene.

Councilman Wolfe commented on the 1990 road project which has been completed for approximately one week and we have experienced a number of rains since then and have received no complaints from the residents living there and there does not appear to be any ponding problems and everyone is very satisfied.

Councilman Wolfe thanked all the Department Heads in the Borough for their efforts over the last several weeks and the cooperation they have extended since it has been a rather difficult time with all the problems that have been forecast for the up coming year and we have tried to tighten our belts as we wind down this present year and we will end 1990 on the affirmative side.

Councilman Wolfe wished everyone a happy and healthy holiday and a prosperous New Year and as Councilman Rodman mentioned earlier, we had a meeting with NJ Transit and he is sure we will probably have additional meetings and he is personally not very satisfied with their presentation and felt it left a lot to be desired and until they come back and present to him a program that is going to be a bit more justifiable for the residents of Oceanport, he will go on the record at this time that he opposes this project.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh asked the press to mention the beautiful holiday decorations done by the Oceanport Garden Club which is made up of all volunteers and they decorate all the other public buildings in Oceanport.

Mayor Cavanagh sent a letter out today and spoke to Mrs. Foggia today and noted Felix's 82nd birthday and although he is no longer active, he was a man of great substance in this community.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that NJ Transit was back and we are in phase 3 and the good news is that they plan no construction on the residential side, there will be no kiss and ride loop on the residential side and they have decided that it is necessary to cure the sight triangle by shaving a substantial portion of Port-au-Peck Avenue where it abuts with the Myrtle Avenue intersection. He continued that we are putting together a letter shortly addressing probably twice as many things that were left unsaid that we all talked about the other night from the problems dealing with the back up of traffic to the timing that the gates are down, to whether the gates stay up or down while the train is loading and unloading. He stated that he went through Little Silver last night at peak hour and he agreed with the Chief's comments because the traffic was backed down Sycamore Avenue almost into Shrewsbury from Little Silver and the Chief had pointed this out the other night and had suggested someone from NJ Transit come down and perform some type of traffic analysis on back up which occurs when the gates are down for what we were told was 2-1/2 minutes, but it did appear to be more when he was sitting at the gates in Little Silver.

Mayor Cavanagh also suggested in his letter to NJ Transit that they contact the Chief and he would give them some specifics on what he thinks insofar as security and traffic is concerned. He continued that as everyone has commented, we have made progress and the plan is better than when we started and there are now less issues that have to be dealt with, but they are still open and we will continue to monitor each application that we receive and point out what we think and what has to be addressed.

Mayor Cavanagh pointed out that at the Holiday Tree Lighting ceremony we mentioned that both Bart Boyle and Chris Reisner had served for ten years on the Recreation Committee and since it is one of our most active committees, ten years represents a substantial commitment of their lives and we thank them for their time and efforts.

Mayor Cavanagh offered his condolences to the Walling family and his best wishes from him and his family to all the residents of the Borough for a happy holiday and invited the public to attend the Reorganization Meeting scheduled for January 1, 1991 at 12:00 Noon and we have a new addition to the ceremony which he is going to talk about on New Year's Day.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments they might care to make on any subject.

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

Mayor Cavanagh stated before he turned the meeting over to Councilman Wolfe for the payment of bills, the Voucher Register lists a variety of tax overpayment vouchers which our Borough Attorney points out will be paid subsequent to the adoption of a resolution and since we do not have a resolution prepared this evening, we will remove these names from the register.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills listed on the Voucher Register dated December 20, 1990 with the exception of the comments just made by Mayor Cavanagh. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Wolfe who abstained from voting on the bills due Clayton Co. Inc. TOTAL 1990 VOUCHERS \$84,832.09. TOTAL 1990 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$32,161.16. TOTAL 1990 OPERATING FUND \$116,993.25. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$1,351.00. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$1,170.79. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT \$41.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER DWI FUND \$99.00. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

At 9:31 P.M. Councilman Miller moved to adjourn this meeting until the next scheduled meeting to be held on December 27, 1990 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman McGee and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Varca

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK