REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
January 17, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on January 17, 2008 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Mahon stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson and Mayor Mahon

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer and Borough Attorney, John O. Bennett

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplin Robert Mills gave the invocation.

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

Mayor Mahon presented the prizes to the holiday contest decorating winners and congratulated them all and thanked the committee from Recreation that did the judging.

The Borough Clerk stated there were 10 items on the Consent Agenda and Councilman Irace requested that item #7 be removed.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution awarding the contract for the Borough Bulletin for 2008.
2. Resolution awarding the contract for the Borough Directory for 2008.
3. Resolution confirming the appointment of the Municipal Court Judge
4. Resolution authorizing the payment of bills.
5. Resolution appointing the Community Development Representatives for 2008.
6. Resolution transferring funds.
7. Approval of the Workshop Minutes of December 20, 2007.
8. Approval of the Workshop Minutes of January 3, 2008.
9. Approval of the Fire Department member application Kenneth C. Carroll
10. Approval of the Fire Department member application of Robert Morley, III

Councilman Briscione moved that the remaining items be approved. Councilwoman Kahle seconded the motion, which was unanimously approved by Council.

The Clerk asked for a motion on Item #7: Approval of the Workshop minutes of December 20, 2007. Councilman Johnson moved it be approved. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion, which was approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Irace who abstained.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk stated she had the police report for December, 2007 which was distributed and will be posted in Borough Hall.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione stated that while storing decorations in the basement of Old Wharf building, Public Works found the temperature there to be about 90 degrees and after having the furnace checked there appeared to be a clogged chimney. The Fire Department had to be called because of possible CO2 exposure. The levels were found to be okay and the problem was the interior terracotta chimney had crumbled and required replacement. It was replaced with a stainless steel sleeve that has a lifetime guarantee provided the chimmeny is cleaned on an annual basis.

Councilman Briscione stated that today the DEP Hazmat Division did an inspection of the Borough fuel pumps. The pumps failed inspection due to problems with the monitoring system, vapor recovery and other items. Public Works has been in contact with the vendor that supplied the pumps and are working on ways to remedy the situation. We are not permitted to accept fuel deliveries until the situation is corrected. We do have enough fuel to cover the situation until the problems are corrected.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported that Shade Tree just completed the removal of three Borough trees which were dead and completed the installation of eleven new trees so Oceanport continues to think green.

Councilman Gallo reported that about sixty of our seniors have completed a safety driver program sponsored by AARP. During this eight hour course seniors learned defensive driving techniques, new traffic laws and the rules of the road. By doing this they will receive a discount on their auto insurance.

Councilman Gallo reported in conjunction with Councilman Briscione's report, the Borough provided the Old Wharf building with a CO meter so now everyone inside will be a little safer.

Councilman Gallo reported that at the last meeting of Parks and Recreation they installed new officers, Chairman, Dr. David LaPorta, Vice Chairman, Jim Gallo. The committee looks forward to the upcoming maintenance of the parks this year.

COUNCILMAN IBEX: Councilman Ibex stated that under the new committee structure, as Chair of the Public Safety Committee, until it is up and running with the other Council members on that committee, if anyone feels they have to talk to him please give him a call, email him and will try to get the job done.

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle reported that the Board of Health met and reorganized with Carole Conner as the Chairperson, Carole Appicelli is the Vice Chairperson and they are having the rabies clinic that coming Saturday, January 19th from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. at the Port-Au-Peck Firehouse.

Councilwoman Kahle stated she attended the Fort Monmouth Restoration Advisory Board meeting on January 8th and the FMERPA Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting on January 10th. She learned that they are on schedule for their extension that was granted and should have a concept plan for the public mid February. They are working with the DEP on investigation and remediation of much of the site and they hope that will be ready by early fall. Phase I would be history of all the land use and the condition of the land. Phase II would be that anything that is found to require further testing or remediation which is ongoing presently. Councilwoman Kahle stated she has given all this information to Water Watch and the Environmental Commission for their review.

COUNCILMAN IRACE: Councilman Irace thanked the Blue Ribbon Panel for their presentation at the Workshop meeting. As we move forward in 2008 he thinks Mayor and Council will take a serious look at their recommendations and implement many of their suggestions to ensure the smooth day to day operations in the Borough.

Councilman Irace reported that he attended the Parks and Recreation Committee reorganization meeting on January 8th with Mayor Mahon and Councilman Gallo and congratulated Dave LaPorta as the new Chairman and Jim Gallo as the Vice Chairman. Old Wharf Phase II should be beginning shortly and believes the residents will be happy with the restoration of what was once an award winning park. For those who have been to the park, you may have noticed new bocce courts which were redone as an Eagle Scout project of Michael Rodio. The Eagle Scouts have worked closely with the Parks and Recreation Committee and have completed many other projects around the Borough. Work has been completed by Eagle Scouts at Community Center, Blackberry Bay Park and Sommers Park just to name a few. Councilman Irace hoped to see all the Eagle Scouts recognized here at future Council meetings for their service and dedication to the Borough.

Councilman Irace stated that on January 11th he and Mayor Mahon attended a seminar for newly elected officials given by the League of Municipalities. Some of the topics they heard information on were updates on changes to budget law, local public contracts law and the value of working with your professionals, local government ethics and all the topics were informative. We heard from other Mayors, Council members, attorneys, clerks and administrators. They gave real life examples of how their decisions are made and how they affected their towns.

Councilman Irace reported that he attended the FMERPA meeting at Maple Place and congratulated Mayor Mahon on being sworn in as a member of the FMERPA committee.

Councilman Irace stated that past Monday Council had their first budget meeting of the year. The Council met as a whole with the CFO and Clerk to see the budget worksheet for the first time. He hopes to have more to report on the budget process as we move forward.

COUNCILMAN JOHNSON: Councilman Johnson called for the introduction of the **Stormwater Control Ordinance,** and then asked the Clerk to read the proposed Ordinance by title only, after which he moved to approve the Ordinance upon first reading, which was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Councilman Johnson made a motion to hold the public hearing on the proposed ordinance at the Council meeting of February 7, 2008 and to advertise same in accordance with the law and was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Councilman Johnson called for the introduction of **An ordinance repealing the Public Safety Committee** and then asked the Clerk to read the proposed Ordinance by title only, after which he moved to approve the Ordinance upon first reading, which was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

Councilman Johnson made a motion to hold the public hearing on the proposed ordinance at the Council meeting of February 7, 2008 and to advertise same in accordance with the law and was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES: Briscione, Gallo, Ibex, Kahle, Irace, Johnson
NAYES: None
ABSTAIN: None
ABSENT: None

MAYOR MAHON: Mayor Mahon reported on some of the activities since the last meeting. On January 5th Mayor Mahon attended the Two River Council of Mayors meeting and the topics included duck hunting on the Shrewsbury/Navesink Rivers and a report on the new 3rd round COAH regulations given by Jeffrey Surenian, Esq. On January 6th he attended the Commanding Generals New Year's reception at Fort Monmouth and on the 7th he attended a meeting with representatives from Clark, Caton, Hintz regarding modifications to the proposed Oceanport Vision Plan for Fort Monmouth and on January 8th he attended the administration of the Oath of Office in Trenton for Assemblywoman Caroline Casagrande and Assemblyman Declan O'Scanlon and the reorganization meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee along with Councilmen Gallo and Irace.

Mayor Mahon reported that on January 11th he was contacted by the Long Branch City Administrator regarding access to the Monmouth Park helistop for air ambulance transports on a temporary basis and on January 12th he attended the New Jersey State League of Municipalities seminar for newly elected officials along with Councilman Irace which he already gave the details on. On January 14th Mayor Mahon had a meeting with the FMERPA Executive Director Cosentino regarding committee assignments and his role on FMERPA and the status of the Oceanport plan going forward and attended the first Council Budget Workshop meeting. Mayor Mahon stated that the previous day he had the opportunity to meet Fire Chief Wes Sherman who could not attend this evenings meeting regarding the new committee structure and was sworn in as a member of the FMERPA.

Mayor Mahon added that an upcoming meeting on January 23rd Council President Kahle and Councilman Briscione will be participating in a conference call set up by FMERPA and the State representatives regarding COAH rule changes and their impact on Fort Monmouth as he is unable to attend.

Bill List: Capital Trust $3,954.75, Ad Hoc $0.00. Dog Registry $349.70. Escrow Trust $6,106.02. Off Duty Police $0.00. Open Space $765.00. Other Trust, Public Defender. 2007 Vouchers Paid $50,586.84. 2006 Vouchers Paid This Meeting $50m, 586.84. Total 2007 $50,586.84. 2008 Vouchers Paid $378,134.53 2008 Vouchers Paid This Meeting $1,178,027.25. Total 2008 $1,556,161.78.

The Mayor then opened the meeting for anyone from the public who wished to be heard.

John Bonforte, Horseneck Point Road, gave a brief perspective of his interpretation of where FMERPA is based on his experience of attending meetings over the last adding that is was not just about Horseneck Point and the railroad, but what is best for all the taxpayers of Oceanport. He felt that FMERPA did not represent the best interest of Oceanport; the only person Oceanport has on the Board is the Mayor and based on his experience there is no one else on that Board who is looking out for Oceanport. He spoke at length on the topic. Mayor Mahon thanked Mr. Bonforte and added a few names of individuals who represent the Borough on various FMERPA Committees, Joe Foster, Jim Modlin, Ellyn Kahle, Frank Bericelli, Jerry Bertekap, Chief Sutton and Lucille Chaump who are all actively involved in Committees that are mapping the future.

Jim Gallo, 45 Bradley Ave., wanted to publicly thank the Sports Foundation for their donations which last year refurbished the Community Center basketball court.

Jay Coffey, 39 Oneida Ave. asked if the Council has taken of the Economic Development Committees position as far as developing a plan for Oceanport and Mayor Mahon stated no, not completely. The Council has interrupted it briefly, and one of things that will be considered later in Executive has to do with the next step we are going to take in terms of that plan which was well underway and from that point the intention is to carry it back to the Economic Development Committee and continue with the process. Mr. Coffey asked if the Mayor met with Clarke, Caton Hintz and the Mayor stated that was correct. Mr. Coffey asked who was at the meeting and Mayor Mahon stated in attendance were the Chairman of the Economic Development Committee was present. Mr. Coffey asked if members of the Economic Development Committee were aware of the meeting and the Mayor said no, the only member invited was the chairperson.

Frank Barricelli, Hiawatha Avenue, asked why this matter would be discussed in Executive Session and Mr. Bennett stated that contractual matters will be discussed.

Jay Coffey asked if this was the contract with Clarke Caton Hintz and was told yes.

Michael MacStudy, 110 Oceanport Avenue, asked the Mayor to elaborate regarding the heliport at Monmouth Park and Mayor Mahon stated that it had not been discussed as he wanted to bring it up with the Council in workshop but would discuss the matter now. He read an email he sent to all Council members regarding the subject. He also stated that he has asked the Fire Chief and the Police Chief as to their ability to handle as few as 24 and as many as 36 flights. The time frame that is considered is between now and September, when the Long Branch fields should be ready. It is a temporary measure, not medivac transports but rather air ambulance transports the difference being these are existing patients within Monmouth Medical Center that are out bound to other medical facilities for specialized treatments. The problem becomes is that this could happen at any hour, but not with a lot of frequency. Mayor Mahon continued that it is a unique situation that is temporary in nature and the Council will be discussing it and see if there was anything Oceanport could do to help and he would like to give Long Branch an answer. The Mayor then quoted an Article that appeared in the Atlanticville that day. He will be asking the Council to consider this matter and approach the residents with their concerns.

Chris Baggot, Comanche Drive asked if there were any lighting requirements for night flights and was told know. Mayor Mahon explained the difference between the heliport and helistop lighting requirements.

Michael MacStudy asked if the sirens on the ambulances would be turned on and Mayor Mahon stated that in his experience as a former fire chief who did two or three dozen of these air ambulance calls, it is a not a lights and siren transport as the patience is outbound with lights on but usually not sirens and gave detail on the procedures that take place with a transport.

Deborah Sharkey, River Street stated that she lives near the landing area in Atlantic Avenue in Long Branch and stated it is not that bad and is in and out in about twenty minutes.

Jay Coffey asked if a sub committee that was set up back in November with Recreation and presidents of the sports associations was going forward and what is happening with the ordinance. Mayor Mahon did not have a chance to look at the ordinance changes and has not had anything concrete to look at in terms of changes, so he has not disbanded that committee. The only portion that the sub-committee was charged with that is already resolved is the access to Gatta Park facilities with regard to the Peninsula Club. The Committee is encouraged to continue with the recommendations to the ordinance. Mr. Coffey said the committee was set up to develop an ordinance among other things to develop a plan for access and use of the fields. The Recreation has not done anything and Mr. Coffey stated he has not heard anything regarding this. Mayor Mahon suggested that Mr. Coffey bring this to the next meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee.

At 8:29 p.m. there was a motion to adjourn from Councilman Briscione, seconded by Councilman Ibex and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

KIMBERLY A JUNGFER
BOROUGH CLERK