

REGULAR MEETING

Oceanport, New Jersey
December 19, 1996

- REGULAR MEETING:** The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on December 19, 1996 at 8:01 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons McGee, Filippone, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe and Mayor Cavanagh.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilwoman Silkworth.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- INVOCATION;** The invocation was given by Borough Chaplain, Betty Berry.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Cavanagh led the audience and members of the Council in in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on December 5, 1996 had been made available for review by the Governing Body, Councilman Wolfe moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS: NO REPORTS.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: Councilman McGee stated he had no formal report however, he wanted to say that it was hard to believe that three years have gone by so quickly during his term as Councilman. He continued that so much has happened in the Borough during this time including floods, Nor'easters, the passing of the Borough Chaplain, Rabbi Max Daina, hospitalization for members of the Governing Body, growth in the community, weddings, births and loss of loved ones. He continued that he leaves this Governing Body with a feeling of work left yet to be done and of some accomplishments. Councilman McGee stated that he appreciates the work of his fellow Council members and wished them all well in the future and thanked them for all that they do for this Borough and for all they have done for him.

Councilman McGee commented he especially wanted to thank Councilman Miller for all the work he did with him on the Police Committee and stated that everyone on the dais does a lot of work for the Borough of Oceanport to make this a special place to live and its citizens are fortunate to have these people serving them. He recalled Mayor Cavanagh's words on January 1, 1989 when he first took his seat on this Council and he said something to the effect of "I hope that if we disagree, we can do so without being disagreeable" and he felt that this had been accomplished.

Councilman McGee thanked the Borough Employees that he had interacted with and for all their help and dedication to Oceanport and he gave a special thanks to the Borough Clerk, Patti

Varca and Diane Super and commented that he would miss everyone. He offered all the best of luck to Gordon Gemma when he takes his seat on the Council and offered his help during the transition and would do whatever he could to assist him in that process.

Councilman McGee stated to the people of Oceanport, it has been an honor and a privilege to serve them and he thanked everyone who called and wrote to him following the election and commented that he will always be available to the Borough for anything that he can do and perhaps, some day he will serve again on this Council.

Councilman McGee thanked his wife Sandy and his daughters Kelly and Katie for sharing him with the community and for understanding when there were scheduling conflicts and he will not miss any further school activities in the coming year.

Councilman McGee ended his comments by wishing everyone a very happy holiday to one and all and best wishes for a happy, prosperous and most important, healthy New Year.

Mayor Cavanagh thanked Councilman McGee for his words and stated that most likely no one can appreciate the things that he said unless they have sat up on the dais and everyone on the Council understands the kinds of feelings he has expressed this evening. He stated that as a group, we all appreciate his kind words and he felt that he speaks for everyone when he expresses his appreciation for all the different things he has done over the last three years. Mayor Cavanagh stated that clearly we have found a way to be never disagreeable and he is not sure we disagreed a lot of the time, and whatever happens prior to the time you take your seat on the dais, the spirit of the Borough takes over once you get here and we have always been lucky in that aspect.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone stated that she will miss Councilman McGee sitting next to her and wished him all the best of luck in the future and commented that it has been a pleasure to work with him.

ORD.
#689

Councilwoman Filippone called for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance authorizing use of funds from the capital improvement fund for parks and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE REPAIRS TO THE COMMUNITY CENTER BALLFIELD UTILIZING \$7,500 AND \$1,500 FOR THE ROLLER HOCKEY PROJECT FROM THE CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT FUND FOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS.**

Mayor Cavanagh opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions on this subject only. As no one from the public wished to be heard on this matter, Councilwoman Filippone moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and approved by Council.

Councilwoman Filippone then moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Miller.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Filippone, Miller, Taylor and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: Councilwoman Silkworth.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilwoman Filippone reported on the pneumonia clinic which was held recently and as usual, there were a great number of excellent volunteers to help run the program and offered her thanks to Connie Savarese, Jan and Ed Anderson, Eleanor Widdis and Judy Baxter and commented that we had 19 participants who received this vaccination which is good for ten years and this is being highly recommended in the newspapers. She also explained that these types of programs can only be held during the weekdays because the County will not send their employees out on either weekends or nights even if the Borough would reimburse them for their time.

Councilwoman Filippone commended the Oceanport First Aid Squad on their great craft show and holiday bazaar and it appears that they did make some money, but she reminded everyone that they still have trees and wreaths for sale and she urged anyone who has not as yet purchased their trees, to please try and buy it from the Squad.

Councilwoman Filippone gave the Oceanport First Aid Squad's Captain's Report for the month of November, 1996 stating that they received 27 calls for a total of 183 man/women hours and there were 18 emergencies, 2 motor vehicle, 1 fire, 2 transports, standbys, and several mutual aid calls, which means that the other towns are looking to us for help in emergencies and because we have such an excellent Squad.

Councilwoman Filippone reported that John Long has been elected President of the Squad for 1997 and Doris Agaman will be the Captain.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday.

Councilman Miller stated that it has been a pleasure working with Councilman McGee on the Police Committee and felt that they got to know each other much better this second time around.

Councilman Miller reported that the state of the Shrewsbury River during 1996 was not as good as in 1995 and the water quality was worse because the turbidity due to persistent algae was worse in 96 than in 95 and with all that organic material in the water, the dissolved oxygen was used up so it was lower in 96 and the amount of nitrates was higher and is what algae lives on, the fecal coliform numbers were not as good in 96 as they were in 95, although it was not due to the track but mostly due to the geese that are now in our area.

Councilman Miller stated that one problem that can be addressed is the continuing education of our public to reduce the amount of fertilizer they put on their lawns especially those people who live near the river because that is where a lot of the nitrates and phosphates come from. He also advised that our last sampling was done in November and it just so happens that it was one of the best samplings we have had in quite a long time, but even those numbers could not improve the overall numbers for the Shrewsbury this year.

Councilman Miller reported that at the Senior Citizen's Christmas Party held last evening, which he thanked the seniors for being invited and had a very good time, and he got the chance to sit on Santa's lap. He continued that during the evening, he was approached by Mrs. Schoneveld who advised that her husband had taken ill several weeks ago and the first people who arrived on the scene were the Police and she wanted to express her thanks because they were the ones who transported him to the hospital and she was very grateful for their efforts.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR: Councilman Taylor wished Councilman McGee well in the future and stated it has been a pleasure working with him over the last several years and will miss his reports on how the Shore Regional teams are doing.

Councilman Taylor thanked Lee Poole who sat in for him at the Holiday Tree Lighting and played the role of Santa that evening.

Councilman Taylor reminded the residents that the Boy Scouts will be delivering the 1997 Drug Alliance calendars during the next several weeks.

Councilman Taylor reported that the Christmas Trees will be picked up by the Public Works Department, and Marpal will be supplying the containers for the trees, but the County will not pay for the removal of the trees this year, which is something they have done in the past, so the Borough will have to pay for this expense.

Councilman Taylor advised that he received good news that the Clean Communities grant program will be continued in 1997 and we will receive \$7,698 in 1997 which helps to pay for the sweeping of the Borough streets, some salaries, trash receptacles, education of our students at Wolfhill, etc.

Councilman Taylor wished all the residents of the Borough happy holidays.

R-96-63

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-96-63** authorizing refunds to property owners due to overpayment of taxes, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman McGee and approved by Council.

R-96-64

Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-96-64** authorizing a senior citizens and disabled person's tax deduction, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and approved by Council.

R-96-65

Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-96-65** transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe advised that Tuesday evening he attended the Recreation Committee where the 97 budget was discussed and the 96 expenditures were reviewed line by line and the needs for 97 were addressed and a preliminary budget was prepared and will be reviewed by Councilman Miller and the Council when we discuss the budget requests.

Councilman Wolfe wished Councilman McGee good luck in his future plans and wished all the residents a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and offered his best wishes to Donna Clark, our Chief Financial Officer, for a speedy recovery from a bad fall she took.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: ABSENT.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh read a proclamation proclaiming December as National Drunk & Drugged Driving Prevention month in the Borough of Oceanport.

Mayor Cavanagh expressed his best wishes to Councilman McGee in the future and noticed in the newspaper tonight reading about the teams at Shore Regional, he noticed that Councilman McGee's daughters name was listed and he thought that now he will be able to make all the games.

He continued that everyone up on the Dais works very hard at what they do especially in light of the small administrative staff that we have in the Borough. He commented that Councilman McGee brought with him his expertise in the insurance field which was very helpful to us over the last several years and he is very appreciative of his efforts. He stated he is also very appreciative that everyone gets along very well and in the past 14 years he has never had to vote in order to break a tie which says much for the character of the people in this community. Mayor Cavanagh stated he believes that when someone becomes a member of this Council we all have to be able to work together and he is thankful that it has always worked out very well.

Mayor Cavanagh stated he is appreciative of all of the Staff and recognized Tom Crochet and Don Hansen in the audience as well as Patti Varca and all the different people who do things during the year, only help to make the Council and himself look good.

Mayor Cavanagh then presented a plaque to Councilman McGee thanking him for his dedication and service to the Borough from the Governing Body.

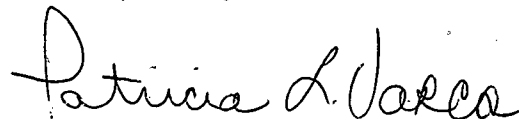
Mayor Cavanagh invited everyone to the New Year's Day Reorganization Meeting which will be held on January 1, 1997 at 12:00 Noon with a reception following at the Port-au-Peck Fire House.

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills listed on the Voucher Register dated December 19, 1996. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Wolfe who abstained from voting on a reimbursement check to himself and a bill due A & E Truck Parts. TOTAL 1996 VOUCHERS \$455,305.55. TOTAL 1996 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$36,781.69. TOTAL 1996 OPERATING FUND \$492,087.24. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$3,392.75. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT \$3,679.50. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-TAX OVERPAYMENTS \$2,060.17. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-VETERAN DEDUCTION \$50.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-FIRE PREVENTION, TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-LIEN REDEMPTION \$5,764.21. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

At 8:30 P.M. Councilman Miller moved to adjourn this meeting. It was seconded by Councilman McGee and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK