



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

REORGANIZATION MINUTES * JANUARY 3, 2019

Reorganization

Maple Place School

7:00 PM

2 Maple Place, Oceanport, NJ 07757

Mayor Coffey called to order the Reorganization Meeting of the Oceanport Governing on January 3, 2019 at 7:03 P.M.

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

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Stacy Deerin gave the invocation.

STATEMENT OF COMPLIANCE WITH OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT: Mayor Coffey stated for the record that the Reorganization Meeting complied with the Open Public Meetings Act *by notification of this location, date and time to the Asbury Park Press and the LINK News on December 26, 2018 and by the posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough Web Site.*

CLERK'S CERTIFICATE OF ELECTION: Ms. Smith read the Certificate of Election from the Board of County Canvassers of Monmouth County, New Jersey certifying **WILLIAM DEERIN** and **MICHAEL O'BRIEN** were duly elected Councilpersons full term.

The Oaths of Office were administered by Mayor Coffey to:

William Deerin	COUNCILMAN	3-year term	Term Expiring 12/31/21
Michael O'Brien	COUNCILMAN	3-year term	Term Expiring 12/31/21

The Clerk called the Roll:

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan, Mayor Coffey

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilman Proto

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Administrator Donna M. Phelps, Borough Clerk, Jeanne Smith, Borough Attorney Scott Arnette

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-001** nominating and electing the Borough Council President which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Deerin.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman William Deerin
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien
ABSTAIN:	Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-002** Council Committee Appointments which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman Richard Gallo
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-003** Appointment of Class III Planning Board Member which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman Richard Gallo
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey asked the Clerk to read the Statement of Municipal Positions with Fixed Terms.

Statement of MUNICIPAL POSITIONS with FIXED TERMS		TERM EXPIRATION
Assessor	John E. Butow	Tenured
Borough Clerk	Jeanne Smith	Tenured
Chief Financial Officer	Catherine D. LaPorta	08-01-2020
Tax Collector	Peggy Warren	Tenured
Construction Official	John Johnson	02-03-2020
Building Inspector/Subcode Official	Django Wieggers	02-03-2020
Electrical Inspector/Subcode Official	James McCormick	01-20-2020
Fire Prevention Subcode Official	John Drucker	06-01-2021
Plumbing Subcode Official	John Palmer	Tenured

Mayor Coffey stated for the record that **JOHN BONFORTE** and **MICHAEL MACSTUDY** are serving as **OCEANPORT'S REPRESENTATIVES** to the **TWO RIVERS WATER RECLAMATION AUTHORITY**:

John Bonforte	5yr Term expiring 01/31/19
Michael MacStudy	5yr Term expiring 01/31/20

Mayor Coffey made the following appointments to the **PLANNING BOARD**:

Darren Davis	Class I	1yr Term
Thomas Tvrdik	Alternate I	2yr Term
Eric Motzenbecker	Alternate II	Unexpired 2yr Term

The **PLANNING BOARD** is now composed of the following members:

Darren Davis	Class I	1yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Joseph Foster	Class II	3yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Robert Proto	Class III	1yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Christopher Widdis	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Robert Kleiberg	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/20
Daphne Halpern	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/20
John Kahle	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/20
James Whitson	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/21
Michael Savarese	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/21
Thomas Tvrdik	Alternate I	2yr Term expiring 12/31/20
Eric Motzenbecker	Alternate 2	2yr Term expiring 12/31/19

Mayor Coffey made the following appointments to the **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**:

Robert Broege	3yr Term
Richard Gruskos	3yr Term

Anthony Forlini	Unexpired 3yr Term
Patricia Cooper	Alternate 1yr Term
Jack L. Harris	Alternate 1yr Term

The **ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION** is now composed of the following members:

Joseph Foster	3yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Robert Kelly	3yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Anthony Forlini	3yr Term expiring 12/31/20
Richard Gruskos	3yr Term expiring 12/31/20
Robert Broege	3yr Term expiring 12/31/21
Bruce Lane	3yr Term expiring 12/31/21
Thomas Cox	3yr Term expiring 12/31/21
Patricia Cooper	Alter #1 Term expiring 12/31/19
Jack L. Harris	Alter #2 Term expiring 12/31/19

Mayor Coffey made the following appointments to the **FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION and FLOOD PLAIN MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

OEM Director Baldanza	Chairperson
Kevin Kubik	One year term
Bob Kelly	One year term

The Clerk reported the results of the election of officers for the **OCEANPORT FIRST AID SQUAD FOR 2019:**

Kathy Kenny	CAPTAIN
John Connor	1st LIEUTENANT
Maggie Lippolis	2nd LIEUTENANT
Joseph Lombardo	SERGEANT

The Clerk reported the results of the election of officers for the **OCEANPORT FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR 2019:**

Richard Gallo III	2nd ASSISTANT CHIEF
Michael Lippolis	1st ASSISTANT CHIEF
Paul Van Brunt	CHIEF

Mayor Coffey advised that Oaths of Offices were administered on New Year's Day.

Mayor Coffey stated for the record that the following are currently serving in the **OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:**

Mauro Baldanza	Director	3yr Term expiring 02/21/19
Chris Baggot	1st Asst. Director	3yr Term expiring 12/31/19
Wes Sherman	2nd. Asst. Director	3yr Term expiring 12/31/20
Chief Michael Kelly	3rd Asst. Director	3yr Term expiring 02/21/20

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-004 FIRE POLICE** Appointments which was moved by Council President Solan and seconded by Councilman Irace.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Council President Steve Solan
SECONDER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

The Mayor called for a motion on the Consent Agenda's 31 items. Councilman Irace requested that #2019-035 be taken separately. The Clerk stated that #2019-015 would be taken separately for amendments. Mayor Coffey asked for a motion on the remaining items listed on the Consent Agenda which was made by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Deerin. The Clerk called roll:

CONSENT AGENDA

#2019-005	Resolution appointing Municipal Prosecutor
#2019-006	Resolution appointing Borough Attorney
#2019-007	Resolution appointing Borough Auditor
#2019-008	Resolution appointing Borough Bond Counsel
#2019-009	Resolution appointing Borough Engineer
#2019-010	Resolution appointing Borough Planner
#2019-011	Resolution appointing Special Counsel for Redevelopment
#2019-012	Resolution appointing Special Counsel for Affordable Housing
#2019-013	Resolution appointing Special Project Engineer(s)
#2019-014	Resolution appointing Borough Positions
separate	Resolution appointing Board & Committee members
#2019-016	Resolution appointing Community Development Representatives
#2019-017	Resolution appointing Clean Communities Coordinator
#2019-018	Resolution of Police Department Appointments
#2019-019	Resolution appointing the Public Agency Compliance Officer
#2019-020	Resolution fixing date, time and place of the Borough Council meetings
#2019-021	Resolution permitting prepayment of certain items
#2019-022	Resolution authorizing a tax grace period and interest on delinquent taxes
#2019-023	Resolution authorizing the annual tax sale
#2019-024	Resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel small balances
#2019-025	Resolution authorizing the signature of checks
#2019-026	Resolution approving the 2019 temporary budget
#2019-027	Resolution authorizing direct deposit
#2019-028	Resolution designating the official newspapers for Borough advertising
#2019-029	Resolution authorizing waiver of alcoholic beverage – Monmouth Park
#2019-030	Resolution authorizing a fee for photocopying of requested records
#2019-031	Resolution authorizing a returned check fee
#2019-032	Resolution authorizing participation in the 1033 DOD program for 2019
#2019-033	Resolution awarding contract for 2019 Towing Services
#2019-034	Resolution designating depositories
separate	Resolution approving the Borough Cash Management Plan

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman William Deerin
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

The Clerk stated that **Resolution #2019-015** was amended to remove Paul Hester. He was not appointed to serve on the Recreation Committee and that the position was Vacant and asked for a motion with that amendment which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman William Deerin
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-035** approving the Borough Cash Management Plan which was moved by Councilman Gallo and seconded by Councilman Deerin.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Richard Gallo
SECONDER:	Councilman William Deerin
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSTAIN:	Irace
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-036** Waiver for 51 Mohican Ave Right of Way Request which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman Richard Gallo
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-037** Support for Oceanport Gardens Renewal Project which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

Councilman Irace asked for discussion on the motion and advised that the Borough received a proposal to make interior and exterior improvements. In exchange, the Borough will extend the current PILOT agreement. Payments will increase approximately 10% a year and the Borough will receive an upfront payment. The Borough remains in negotiations with Fair Share Housing on its Affordable Housing obligation to allow those 100 units toward the Borough's COAH credits.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Council President Steve Solan
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

Mayor Coffey called for a motion on **Resolution #2019-038** Closure of Recycling Center at 222 Monmouth Blvd. which was moved by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

Councilman Irace asked Councilman Gallo to take the lead on the discussion. Councilman Gallo reported that the Borough has sold the property at 222 Monmouth Blvd, and the Recycling Center will be closed as of January 31st. Signs will be posted to alert residents. He suggested residents take advantage of curbside pickup for recycling and bringing electronics to the Monmouth County Recycling Center on Asbury Ave. in Tinton Falls. He stated that previously, the Borough had made a profit from recycling. However, in recent years, it has become an expense to recycle. Councilman Irace added that the Borough used to get a profit of up to \$12,000 a year. Recently, the Borough has been paying approximately \$18,000. He also stated that if there are funds available in the Recycling Trust Fund, that the Borough will investigate purchasing recycling containers for residents.

RESULT:	ADOPTED
MOVER:	Councilman Joseph Irace
SECONDER:	Councilman Richard Gallo
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Irace, O'Brien, Solan
ABSENT:	Proto

BOROUGH ADMINISTRATOR Remarks: Ms. Phelps wished everyone a Happy New Year and congratulated Councilmen Deerin and O'Brien on their elections, and Council President Solan on his appointment as Council President. She expressed her thanks to the Governing Body for their vote of confidence in selecting her as Borough Administrator. Ms. Phelps stated that Ms. Smith and Ms. LaPorta have been invaluable in helping her get up to speed. She stated that 2019 will be exciting and challenging for Oceanport, and she looks forward to facing those challenges.

BOROUGH COUNCIL Remarks:

COUNCILMAN DEERIN: Councilman Deerin thanked everyone for their support in the past election. He stated that the Borough's volunteers are what make the town better. Councilman Deerin expressed surprise at the passion surrounding the election, particularly on social media. He would like to see solutions in the coming year, rather than just complaints. He provided updates on tree removal and resurfacing work at Trinity and Community Center Parks.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo congratulated Councilman Deerin and Councilman O'Brien on their election. He looks forward to working with Ms. Phelps and the DPW in the coming year.

COUNCILMAN IRACE: Councilman Irace welcomed everyone and wished everyone a Happy New Year. He congratulated Councilmen Deerin and O'Brien on their election. He welcomed Ms. Phelps as Borough Administrator and noted positive changes since she began as BA. There has been an increase of information shared with elected officials and rapid responses to Council's and residents' concerns alike. He thanked Ms. Smith and Ms. LaPorta for their expanded leadership roles in the Borough. Councilman Irace noted that John Johnson has taken over responsibilities as Construction Official/Code Enforcement and has instituted changes which will benefit residents. He thanked all Borough volunteers, who are the backbone of the Borough. While there have been differences between FMERA, Monmouth Park and other elected officials, the Governing Body will continue to defend Oceanport's needs and concerns. Appropriate development of the former Fort Monmouth is important. Sports betting at Monmouth Park has greatly improved the finances there. Councilman Irace noted that legislation has been introduced to approve purse supplements of \$100 million over 5 years for NJ horseracing, with \$50 million going directly to Monmouth Park.

COUNCILMAN O'BRIEN: Councilman O'Brien thanked everyone for their support during the last electing, including Council. He looks forward to working with everyone in town, and noted that he volunteers in different ways in the Borough. Councilman O'Brien is looking forward to a positive, productive three years.

COUNCILMAN PROTO: Councilman Irace read a statement from Councilman Proto. He congratulated Council President Solan on his appointment as Council President. He thanked Councilman Irace for his past efforts as prior Council President. He expressed congratulations to Councilmen Deerin and O'Brien. Councilman Proto thanked all Borough employees, particularly Ms. Smith, Ms. Phelps and Ms. LaPorta. He thanked all volunteers and first responders.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT SOLAN: Council President Solan congratulated Councilmen Deerin and O'Brien. He noted the Borough continues to face challenges such as the new Municipal Complex, Monmouth Park and the former Ft. Monmouth. Council President Solan congratulated newly appointed officers for Fire, First Aid, OEM.

MAYOR COFFEY: Mayor Coffey stated the Borough is preparing for its 100th anniversary. The year 2018 was especially transformative: Monmouth Park was teetering on the edge of irrelevancy, but has rebounded with the institution of sports betting there and echoed Councilman Irace's report that new legislation will provide \$50 million purse supplements over the next 5 years, which will allow Monmouth Park to compete with surrounding states on a level playing field. Redevelopment of the Oceanport section of the former Ft. Monmouth has also taken great strides, with only the McAfee building and the 400 area remaining for sale. He recapped the sales and uses of former Army properties. New legislation also permits 4 new liquor licenses to the Borough's portion of the former Fort, independent of the residential requirements, and will remain there until FMERA is dissolved. Afterward, the licenses will be transferrable to anywhere in Oceanport.

Looking forward to 2019, Mayor Coffey shared his hope that the site of the former municipal building will be under construction and his certainty that construction on the new Municipal Complex will begin. He noted the Borough will be undertaking projects to address flooding and preparing the 2019 budget. He thanked everyone for attending the Reorganization meeting.

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

Jeff Oaks, 60 Pemberton Ave., recounted his efforts last year in support of legalized medical marijuana. He stated the election was run based on comparing safety issues with medical cannabis. He stated that Council failed to act on anything about medical marijuana and turned a blind eye to it. He discussed DEI and Steered Straight appearing at the school, opioide and heroin addiction. He called on Council President Solan for an explanation about his stance on school safety. Mr. Oaks questioned whether these programs were appropriate for presentation at schools. Mr. Oakes found it appalling that the Borough was adding 4 liquor licenses and stated it was hypocrisy at its finest. He complained about the lack of security, handicap parking, and inappropriate fire lanes at Monmouth Park.

Mark Patterson, 40 Itaska Place, congratulated new Council members and volunteers on their new positions. Mr. Patterson noted that the resolution regarding recycling included language that recycling cans "will" be purchased with the supplement of a \$10,000 grant, as opposed to a previous statement that cans could be purchased and asked for clarification. Ms. Smith replied that cans will be purchased, it was the amount that was in question. He asked if it was a matching grant or the borough was trying to stretch the \$10,000 throughout the Borough. Ms. Smith explained the history of the grant and supplementing the grant with the Recycling Trust. Councilman Irace advised that at this point, a recycling center is not planned for the new Municipal Complex. Mr. Patterson asked Council President Solan about the status of the Borough's Verizon PEG Channel 28. Council President Solan stated a piece of equipment in the boiler room was replaced and troubleshooting the de-coder is in progress. Mayor Coffey stated it's a technical issue, and it will get rectified. Also, Mayor Coffey stated a possibility is to establish a YouTube channel for the Borough since FiOS is not available to everyone in town. Finally, Mr. Patterson again expressed his displeasure with the decision to remove shared services for snow removal and lawn maintenance from the Board of Education. Councilman Irace explained an appropriations cap that the Borough will face this year, additional demands on the current DPW staff, and expense of adding to the DPW staff. He thanked Ms. Phelps for her assistance on a problem at his residence.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard, Mayor Coffey closed the public portion of the meeting. Mayor Coffey also congratulated Councilmen Deerin and O'Brien and stated he looks forward to working with them over the next year.

There being no further business moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 PM. Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Irace and seconded by Council President Solan and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

JEANNE SMITH
BOROUGH CLERK