REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
January 3, 2002

REGULAR MEETING: The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on January 3, 2002 at 8:00 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann, Silkworth and Mayor Gemma.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca.

OFFICIALS ABSENT: Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.

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

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on December 6, 2001 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Silkworth moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Mahon who abstained from voting.

CLERK'S REPORTS: No Reports.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon reported this Saturday he will be attending a Freeholder sponsored conference at Brookdale Community College for newly elected officials and hoped that will help bring him up to speed a bit faster.

R-02-8

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: Councilman Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-8** appointing the Municipal Attorney under the Local Public Contracts Law, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-9

Councilman Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-9** appointing the Municipal Prosecutor under the Local Public Contracts Law, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-10

Councilman Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-10** appointing the Municipal Public Defender under the Local Public Contracts Law, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman McGann and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-11

Councilman Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-11** appointing an affirmative action representative after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-12

Councilman Apruzzi asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-12** appointing Monmouth County Community Development representative and alternate for 2002, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Apruzzi announced that the Recreation Committee will be holding its annual Reorganization Meeting next Wednesday and be ready for the coming year.

COUNCILWOMAN GATTA: Councilwoman Gatta reported that on Saturday, January 19th from 9 – 11 a.m. we will be holding the annual free rabies clinic for cats and dogs at the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company and encouraged any residents with animals to take advantage of this free clinic.

R-02-13

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-13** transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-14

Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-14** appointing the municipal Auditor under the Local Public Contracts Law, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

R-02-15

Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-02-15** appointing the municipal Engineer under the Local Public Contracts Law, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman McGann and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe reported that he has been in contact with both fire companies in the Borough and a meeting has been scheduled with the Fire Chief to review the needs with regard to the upcoming budget for 2002.

COUNCILMAN MCGANN: Councilman McGann stated we have an introduction of an amendment to our zoning ordinance and basically this amendment provides for instances where a developer would come in and want to develop property that exceeds five (5) acres, we would require as part of our site plan development ordinance, an environmental impact statement be done and he asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance, by title only, as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED "THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT ZONING ORDINANCE" PASSED AND APPROVED ON JULY 3, 1969.**

Councilman McGann moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES:	Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS:	None.
ABSENT:	None.
ABSTAIN:	None.

Councilman McGann the moved to hold the public hearing on this amendment to the zoning ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on February 7, 2002 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Apruzzi, Gatta, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: None.
ABSENT: None.
ABSTAIN: None.

Mayor Gemma stated for the record that not only does this require an environmental impact statement but it further indicates that the application will not be deemed complete for the purposes of review unless the environmental impact statement is provided.

Councilman McGann advised that he had a conversation with our Borough Attorney and he has in fact prepared the contracts and sent then off to the Sports Authority for the purpose of acquisition of the 46 acres which is currently owned by the Sports Authority and we will await word from their Counsel.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: No Report.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma advised that we are now beginning our budget process and we will be meeting and anyone who has not as yet submitted their budgets to please do so immediately.

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

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Mr. Keats, 17 Maple Ave. stated that he just want to say that the Mayor and Council showed a lot of courage in adopting the ordinance at the last meeting and commented that we have all learned a lot about cremation. Mr. Keats felt that there were some other facts that he wanted to bring up with regard to cemeteries and he gave everyone a hand out with regard to ventilation systems in mausoleums and evidently this is a state of the art system and he has highlighted the area which addresses toxic gases as well as insecticides that are pumped as shown in the illustration.

Mr. Keats stated the reason he was bringing this to the attention of the Governing Body is because he has been told by a neighbor, that some time in the past, some Oceanport residents who were working for a roofing company, were working on the roof at the mausoleum and were overcome by fumes at some point and he asked Councilwoman Gatta, as the liaison to the County Board of Health, if she could have this situation checked out by a Health Inspector, in order to learn all the facts. He also suggested that someone go back and review the drawings submitted to the Planning Board to see how closely the ventilation systems are to the one shown in his hand out and what the facts are about that and felt this was necessary, especially in light of what we found out during the hearings on the crematory.

Mayor Gemma commented that he would suggest that we forward a copy of this to our Building Inspector for his review, since he is not sure that the plans submitted to the Planning Board would have that much detail and our Inspector would be aware of what type of system is in place at the mausoleum.

Mr. Vecchione, Woodbine Way commented that he had also heard this story as well with regard to workers on the roof who passed out and that help had to be called and he felt that this could be found in the Police Department, since all calls are documented.

Mr. Vecchione commended the Public Works Department for the excellent job they are doing collecting leaves, recycling and the new garbage contractor is doing a very good job as well. He felt the only assistance they need is with help with potholes because as soon as they repair them, there are more and its not they're fault, but they need more help.

Mr. Vecchione also commended the Council for the small number of transfers that are made at the meetings which shows good accounting practices.

Mr. Vecchione commented that an article in the newspaper about the flags being removed from the grave sites at the cemeteries and then Councilman Lyons had been in contact with the cemetery with regard to the proper disposal but he was questioning why they had to remove the flags right after Veteran's Day and felt that the flags should be left alone, unless the flag is deteriorated and they should be asked to not bother with them, especially since the flags are placed close to the grave stone and are not in anyone's way.

Mayor Gemma stated he spoke with the cemetery owner and he suggested that the owner discuss this matter with the Veterans who wrote the letter and try to work out a solution.

Mr. Vecchione discussed an article in the newspaper with regard to the amendment to the zoning ordinance with regard to the cemetery and the article went on to say that Woodbine was negotiating with the town to change the set back requirements and Mayor Gemma stated he would not comment on what Mr. Vecchione just said, but would say that we have had many conversations with the cemetery about that ordinance and their displeasure with the 700' set back and the fact that they may consider litigation if that is not changed.

Mr. Vecchione again asked if anyone from the Council were conducting negotiations with the cemetery to which Mayor Gemma stated he has had conversations with the owner of the cemetery, but there are no negotiations taking place.

Mr. Vecchione asked the Council if the mausoleums front on Eatontown Blvd. to which the Council responded that they do, but Mr. Vecchione pointed out that the three reports that our Borough Engineer puts in his report that the Monmouth County Planning Board has no interest in this application and he has done this with the last three applications, because the application does not have the buildings fronting on a County road. There was some discussion as to why this was stated, since the County Highway 537 runs right in front of the mausoleums and why the County isn't looking into this matter and Councilman Wolfe will check out this matter and get back to Mr. Vecchione.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated January 3, 2002. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council. TOTAL CAPITAL

TRUST $849.32. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY $60.00. 2001 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $22,402.21. TOTAL 2002 VOUCHERS $63,790.51 (SEE BILL LIST)

At 8:30 p.m. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on January 17, 2002 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Gatta and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Varca

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK