



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • JANUARY 1, 2023

Reorganization Meeting

Clement V. Sommers Municipal Building

12:00 PM

910 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ 07757

- Meeting Called to Order:** Mayor Jay Coffey called to order the Reorganization Meeting of the Oceanport Governing Body on January 1, 2023 at 12:00 PM
- Statement of Compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act:** This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by adequate and electronic notification on December 22, 2022 of this meeting and its location, date and time to the Asbury Park Press and Two River Times and by the posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough's Web Site.
- Flag Salute & Statement to the Public:** Mayor Coffey led the Council and attendees in the flag salute then read the Statement to the Public.
- Dedication & Proclamation - Frank Barricelli:** Mayor Coffey read the Proclamation honoring Frank Barricelli for his service to the Borough, dedicating the Oceanport "A Great Place to Live" book in his name and declaring January 1, 2023 Frank Barricelli Day in the Borough.
- Clerk's Certificate of Election and Administration Oaths of Office to:** Ms. Smith read the Certificate of Election from the Board of County Canvassers of Monmouth County, New Jersey certifying THOMAS J. TVRDIK and KEITH SALNICK were duly elected Councilpersons full term. Mayor Coffey administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Tvrdik. Ms. Smith administered the Oath of Office to Councilman Salnick.

6. **Roll Call of the 2023 Governing Body:**

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Jay Coffey	Mayor	Present
William Deerin	Councilman	Present
Richard Gallo	Councilman	Present
Bryan Keeshen	Councilman	Present
Michael O'Brien	Councilman	Present
Keith Salnick	Councilman	Present
Thomas Tvrdik	Councilman	Present
Jeanne Smith	Borough Clerk	Present
Zach Levy for Scott Arnette	Borough Attorney	Present
Donna M. Phelps	Administrator	Present
Catherine D. LaPorta	Chief Financial Officer	Present

7. **Mayor's Greeting:**

8. **Election of Borough Council President:**

- #2023-001** RESOLUTION ELECTING RICHARD A. GALLO 2023 COUNCIL PRESIDENT

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER:	William Deerin, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

9. **Borough Council Appointment of Class III Member to the Planning Board:**

- #2023-002** RESOLUTION APPOINTING THOMAS J. TVRDIK CLASS III MEMBER TO THE PLANNING BOARD

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
SECONDER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

10. Borough Council Adoption of 2023 By-Laws:

1. #2023-003 RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE BOROUGH BY-LAWS FOR CY2023

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

11. Mayor's Appointments for Council Standing Committees:

1. #2023-004 RESOLUTION APPOINTMENT OF 2023 BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

12. Mayor's Appointments to the PLANNING BOARD: Ms. Smith read for the record, BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Coffey makes the following appointments to the Planning Board:

Patricia Cooper	Class I	1yr Term
Joseph Foster	Class II	3yr Term
Leslie Barham Widdis	Class IV	4yr Term unexpired term
Kevin Calver, Jr.	Alternate II	2yr Term
Robert Kleiberg	Alternate II	2yr Term unexpired term

The PLANNING BOARD is now composed of the following members:

Patricia Cooper	Class I	1yr Term expiring 12/31/23
Joseph Foster	Class II	3yr Term expiring 12/31/25
Christopher Widdis	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/23
Leslie Barham Widdis	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/24
Darren Davis	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/24
John Kahle	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/24
James Whitson	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/25
Michael Dailey	Class IV	4yr Term expiring 12/31/25
Kevin Calver, Jr.	Alternate I	2yr Term expiring 12/31/24
Robert Kleiberg	Alternate 2	2yr Term expiring 12/31/23

13. Mayor's Appointments to the Environmental Commission: Ms. Smith read for the record, BE IT RESOLVED that Mayor Coffey makes the following appointments to the Environmental Commission:

Joseph Foster	3yr Term
Jack L. Harris	3yr Term
Meghan Walker	Alternate #1 Unexpired Term

The ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION is now composed of the following members:

Robert Broege	3yr Term expiring 12/31/24
Thomas Cox	3yr Term expiring 12/31/24
Patricia Cooper	3yr Term expiring 12/31/23
Richard Gruskos	3yr Term expiring 12/31/23
Joseph Foster	3yr Term expiring 12/31/25

Jack L. Harris		3yr Term expiring 12/31/25
Meghan Walker	Alternate #1	Unexpired term ending 12/31/23
Vacant	Alternate #2	2yr Term expiring 12/31/24

14. Mayor's Appointments to OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

Mauro Baldanza	Director	3yr Term expiring 02/21/25
Chris Baggot	1st Asst. Director	3yr Term expiring 12/31/25
Wes Sherman	2nd. Asst. Director	3yr Term expiring 12/31/23
Chief Michael Kelly	3rd Asst. Director	3yr Term expiring 02/21/23

15. Mayor's 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

16. FIRST AID SQUAD 2023 Officers: The Mayor and Council recognize the following First Aid Officers for 2023. Ms. Smith administered the Oaths of Office to the following:

1. Sergeant, Dawn Placer
2. 2nd Lieutenant, Frank Lippolis
3. 1st Lieutenant, Doris Agaman
4. Captain, Fred Filippone

17. FIRE DEPARTMENT 2023 Officers: The Mayor and Council recognize the following Fire Department Officers for 2023. Ms. Smith administered the Oaths of Office to the following:

1. 2nd Assistant Chief, James Gallo, Jr.
2. 1st Assistant Chief, Joseph Wolf
3. CHIEF, Thomas Gallo

18. Acknowledgment of Outgoing Chief Francis Lippolis:

19. Consent Agenda: All items listed under Consent Agenda are considered routine by the Borough Council and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed below. There will not be separate discussion of these items. If discussion is desired by a Council Member on one or more items on the Consent Agenda, that item or those items will be removed from the Consent Agenda by request of a Council Member and will be considered separately. There will be one motion for all items listed.

1. **#2023-5** Resolution fixing date, time and place of the Governing Body meetings
2. **#2023-6** Resolution designating the official newspapers for Borough advertising
3. **#2023-7** Resolution approving the 2023 temporary budget
4. **#2023-8** Resolution setting a fee schedule for various miscellaneous administrative items
5. **#2023-9** Resolution designating depositories
6. **#2023-10** Resolution approving a Cash Management Plan and Investment Policy
7. **#2023-11** Resolution permitting prepayment of certain items
8. **#2023-12** Resolution Tax Grace Period & Interest for Delinquent Taxes
9. **#2023-13** Resolution authorizing the Tax Collector to cancel small balances
10. **#2023-14** Resolution authorizing the annual tax sale
11. **#2023-15** Resolution designating Police Chief as Alternate Records Custodian
12. **#2023-16** Resolution of Police Department Appointments
13. **#2023-17** Resolution setting fees for extra duty assignments for 2023
14. **#2023-18** Resolution awarding contract for 2023 Towing Services
15. **#2023-19** Resolution authorizing participation in the 1033 LESA program for 2023
16. **#2023-20** Resolution appointing a Public Agency Compliance Officer
17. **#2023-21** Resolution appointing Community Development Representatives
18. **#2023-22** Resolution appointing Clean Communities Coordinator
19. **#2023-23** Resolution appointing an ADA Coordinator for CY2023
20. **#2023-24** Resolution appointing Designated Employer Representative for CDL requirements
21. **#2023-25** Resolution authorizing limited waiver of alcoholic beverage hours – Monmouth Park
22. **#2023-26** Resolution appointments to Boards & Committees

23. **#2023-27** Resolution appointing Fire Police members

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Richard Gallo, Councilman
SECONDER:	Keith Salnick, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrđik

20. **Resolutions:**

24. **#2023-28** Resolution appointing a Municipal Prosecutor

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrđik

25. **#2023-29** Resolution appointing a Borough Attorney

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER:	Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrđik

26. **#2023-30** Resolution appointing a Borough Auditor

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER:	Thomas Tvrđik, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrđik

27. **#2023-31** Resolution appointing a Bond Counsel

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER:	William Deerin, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrđik

28. **#2023-32** Resolution appointing a Borough Engineer

Councilman Salnick requested discussion on the motion. He commented at length concerning reports from residents questioning the Borough Engineer's competency, lack of follow up on engineering items, concerns with one matter involving the DEP, and enough items that warranted reconsideration of the appointment. Mayor Coffey commented that there has been a back and forth with DEP and the Borough Engineer in connection with Shore Road and Gooseneck Point development and at this point there was no decision or finding by the NJDEP, Colliers is addressing the items presented by the DEP. Councilman Deerin commented his experience with the Engineer has been nothing more than competent, helpful, insight of professionalism and in his opinion above reproach.

Councilman O'Brien stated he supported Councilman Deerin's comments. Councilman Tvrđik commented that it was his motion and has always worked well with the Engineer related to Planning/Zoning Board with excellence and supports his motion. Councilman Gallo responded that he works with the Engineer on public works projects such as the road programs and he is always available on the phone and he has no problem with him. Councilman Keeshen commented that from a technical aspect, Mr. White's expertise and knowledge have been beyond reproach. Councilman Salnick asked members of the public to contact him to resolve any of there specific situations and welcomes the opportunity, respects everyone's feedback.

On the vote Councilman Salnick voting no, withdrew his second on the motion, the vote was discarded on a motion by Councilman Salnick and seconded by Councilman O'Brien.

Councilman Tvrđik made a motion to approve the resolution which was seconded by Councilman Deerin.

RESULT: ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER: Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER: William Deerin, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik
NAYS: Salnick
ABSTAIN: Keeshen

29. #2023-33 Resolution appointing a Borough Planner

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

30. #2023-34 Resolution appointing Special Projects Engineer(s)

RESULT: ADOPTED [4 TO 1]
MOVER: Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, O'Brien, Tvrdik
ABSTAIN: Keeshen, Salnick

31. #2023-35 Resolution appointing Special Counsel for Redevelopment

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

32. #2023-36 Resolution awarding contract for Special Counsel for Affordable Housing

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Richard Gallo, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

33. #2023-37 Resolution appointing Municipal Court Judge

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Richard Gallo, Councilman
SECONDER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

34. #2023-38 Resolution appointment of Jason Sutton as Tax Collector

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER: Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

35. #2023-39 Resolution appointing Tim Griffin as Fire Official

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Keith Salnick, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

36. **#2023-40** Resolution confirming re-appointment of Acting Construction Official

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Thomas Tvrdik, Councilman
SECONDER:	William Deerin, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

37. **#2023-41** Resolution appointing 2023 Borough Officials

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
SECONDER:	Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Salnick, Tvrdik

21. **Borough Administrator Remarks:** Ms. Phelps welcomed everyone with a happy, safe New Year; thanked all employees and volunteers including Police, DPW, Administration, Planning Board, Fire and First Aid and the many other parents and coaches that make Oceanport a great place to live. Ms. Phelps reviewed some of the accomplishments from 2022 including several capital projects, numerous grants secured which would not be possible without the Borough's governing body, professionals and all the behind-the-scenes work performed by a staff of 8 full time, 5 part time administrative employees that cover the Clerk/Planning Board, Finance, Tax, Court of Sea Bright & Oceanport, Construction departments, and thanked each one including Jeanne, Kim, Kelle, Katie, Renee, Jason, John, Carol, Carolyn, Peggy, Jess and Tim as well as the DPW employees, Steve, Kelly, Jorge, Juan, Mike, Bryan, Adam, John, Wes and Demetrio. She looks forward to working with everyone in 2023.

22. **Borough Council Remarks:**

1. Councilman William Deerin – wished everyone a happy new year, proud of accomplishments in 2022 and look forward to even more in 2023, commented at length at the much needed Maria Gatta Park turf fields which were already seeing use and thanked all of the volunteers that serve.
2. Councilman Richard Gallo – congratulated Councilman Tvrdik on re-election and Councilman Salnick on his election, looks forward to working with the Council and for their trust in him as President, hopes to advised of a grant award and hopes to continue road programs as in recent years; thanked Steve Briskey and Public Works employees for all of their improvements in the last year; thanked outgoing Fire Chief and all the new volunteers sworn in earlier for their services.
3. Councilman Bryan Keeshen – thanked outgoing Councilwoman Meg Walker for her tireless efforts on the Public Safety Committee, made great strides with making all 4 departments better, will continue with that this coming year with some long-term planning; thanked those sworn in today for their service and the significant amount of time it takes, thanked the families of all the volunteers who are left behind when they answer the call.
4. Councilman Michael O'Brien – congratulated Council President Gallo, Councilman Tvrdik on re-election and Councilman Salnick on his election, looks forward to working with all employees this year and accomplishing more this year; he reflected on the volunteers, those serving, the support in the room and looks forward to the new year.
5. Councilman Keith Salnick – thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve the Borough after taking 3 years to gain the position, the Council and members have done an amazing jobs, but always room for improvement, looks forward to bringing to the table some checks and balances and varying opinions and alternative approaches that he believes will benefit the Borough, looks forward to taking the time and diligence in his efforts and looks forward to serving the community.
6. Councilman Thomas J. Tvrdik – wished everyone a happy new year; congratulated Council President Gallo, Councilman Salnick on his election and all those who supported his re-election. Thanked individually all the volunteers of the Fire Department, First Aid and Planning Board. During his first term he strived to restore communication with first responders, have a 10-year plan to maintain roads and parks and thanked the team of Councilman Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien and Councilwoman Walker; thanked members of the Police Department, Administration, Construction and Public Works. Closed by wishing everyone a happy, healthy new year.

23. **Mayor Remarks:** Mayor Coffey offered remarks encompassing the past year's successes, the big-city problems of a small town handled and resolved by the great volunteers and employees of the Borough and wished everyone a happy new year.

24. **Public Comments:** Mayor Coffey opened the meeting for public comments.

Fred Filippone, Captain of First Aid Squad, personally thanked Katie, Donna, Jeanne, Police Department, OEM and everyone who helped him his first 3 years as Captain, especially during the pandemic of COVID19, thanked his Squad for getting up in the wee hours of the morning and at dinner times and for all the work they've done.

As no one else from the public appeared, Mayor Coffey closed that portion of the meeting.

- 25. Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 1:09 PM on a motion by Councilman O'Brien, seconded by Councilman Tvrdik and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Smith
BOROUGH CLERK