



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • DECEMBER 16, 2021

Regular Meeting

Clement V. Sommers Municipal Building

7:00 PM

910 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ 07757

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Coffey called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
- II. **Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act:** This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by adequate and electronic notification on June 29, 2021 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.
- III. **Flag Salute:** Mayor Coffey led attendees and the members of Council in the flag salute.

IV. **Roll Call:**

Attendee Name	Title	Status	Arrived
Jay Coffey	Mayor	Present	
William Deerin	Councilman	Present	
Richard Gallo	Councilman	Present	
Bryan Keeshen	Councilman	Present	
Michael O'Brien	Councilman	Present	
Thomas Tvrdik	Councilman	Absent	
Meghan Walker	Councilwoman	Present	
Jeanne Smith	Borough Clerk	Present	
Scott Arnette	Board Attorney	Present	
Donna M. Phelps	Borough Administrator	Present	
Catherine D. LaPorta	Chief Financial Officer	Present	

- V. **GUEST: FMERA Staff Monthly Update:** Mayor Coffey provided updates on Fort Monmouth development including the closing on the sale of the lodging parcel; the mega parcel will now include the bowling alley parcel and expo theatre with the deadline for the RFOTP moved to Jan. 31, 2022; Somerset has closed on the lodging parcel; ongoing topic of streets within the former Fort and whose responsible.
- VI. **Administrators Report:** Ms. Phelps reported unofficially that the Borough will be awarded a portion of the grant funds requested for the pickleball courts at Blackberry, original amount requested was \$86,500, award will be \$53,000 which means the Borough will need to cover the balance of the estimated costs for the project; provided updates on reimbursement requests for storm laisis, new generator for Port Au Peck Firehouse has been delivered with assistance from DPW staff; Borough staff are busy completing year-end tasks and day to day efforts to respond to residents and took time to recognize not only Department Heads but the entire Borough staff who began 2021 still working with COVID obstacles, moving in to the new building which was successful with the cooperation of the employees, the growth at Fort Monmouth continues with more permit inspections, more planning board meetings, more leaves and bulk to pick up, more police – a staff that does whatever needs doing to get the job done. She is thankful that we have such a great team of talented people and have all been working together. She closed wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and healthy, happy new year.
- VII. **Clerk's Report:** Ms. Smith advised of a public notice of development on the Monmouth park corporate center for a hearing to develop a golf shop; more than 700 public works service requests have been processed since July; credit card payment options have been set up and will start beginning Jan. 3rd for some departments and will grow to other departments in the future; 255 OPRA Requests this year not including police requests. She reviewed additional items added to agenda with no questions or objections.
- VIII. **Consent Agenda:**
- #2021-236** 1. Resolution authorizing 2021 budget appropriation transfers
 - #2021-237** 2. Resolution authorizing refund of overpayment - Block 36, Lot 1.02
 - #2021-238** 3. Resolution authorizing refund of overpayment - Block 110.02, Lot 31
 - #2021-239** 4. Resolution authorizing Shared Service for iTaxMap/Collaboration Center System
 - #2021-240** 5. Resolution authorizing agreement with Eatontown for Brush Compost 2022-2023
 - #2021-241** 6. Resolution setting the date for the 2022 Reorganization Meeting
 - #2021-242** 7. Resolution authorizing an exception of Chapter 267 "Noise"
 - #2021-243** 8. Resolution appointing Crossing Guard Margaret Lippolis

9. Approval of Fire Membership Application, Dylan Drahos
10. Receipt & Acceptance of Minutes, Historical Committee, 10/07/21
11. Receipt & Acceptance of Minutes, Parks & Recreation Committee, Sept. 8, 2021

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
SECONDER: Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Walker
ABSENT: Tvrdik

IX. SEPARATE:

#2021-235 Resolution authorizing payment of BILL LIST with conditions

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

X. Minutes:

1. Mayor & Council - Regular Meeting - Nov 4, 2021 7:30 PM

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Walker
ABSENT: Tvrdik

2. Mayor & Council - Workshop - Nov 4, 2021 7:00 PM

RESULT: ACCEPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER: Richard Gallo, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Walker
ABSENT: Tvrdik

XI. Resolutions:

#2021-244 Resolution awarding the sale of Special Ft Monmouth Liquor License - Commissary Parcel

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Michael O'Brien, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Walker
ABSENT: Tvrdik

#2021-245 Resolution referring to Planning Board - AIN Study, Block 110.13, 110.14, Lot 1 - *Added on Late*

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

#2021-246 Resolution authorizing carry over of paid vacation for qualified personnel - *Added on Late*

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

#2021-247 Resolution authorizing purchase of lawn equipment for DPW - *Added on Late*

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Richard Gallo, Councilman
SECONDER: Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Walker
ABSENT: Tvrdik

XII. Second Reading & Public Hearing Ordinances:

#1047 An Ordinance establishing an Environmental Commission

Councilwoman Walker called for the 2nd reading and Public Hearing of an ordinance creating an Environmental Commission and asked the Clerk to read the affidavit of publication of the proposed ordinance by title only "**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, STATE OF NEW JERSEY CREATING THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION**" was published one time in the Two River Times on Nov. 11, 2021.

PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Coffey opened the meeting for public comment for this ordinance. As no one from the public presented to be heard, the public hearing was closed on a motion by Council President O'Brien and seconded by Councilwoman Walker.

Councilwoman Walker made a motion to adopt the ordinance and advertise in accordance with law, which was seconded by Councilman Keeshen.

RESULT: ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER: Meghan Walker, Councilwoman
SECONDER: Bryan Keeshen, Councilman
AYES: Deerin, Gallo, Keeshen, O'Brien, Walker
ABSENT: Tvrdik

XIII. Committee Reports:

1. Councilman Deerin, Parks & Recreation – reported on the events of 2021, increased usage of fields, field usage – thanked Jeanne and Kim for their efforts and suggested possible hiring someone to assist or take it on in the future as the demands for it increase with so many new people in town; sought opinions and suggestions for the pool; thanked the REC Committee which works very hard and the success of their events including Egg Scramble, Summer's end, movies in the park; all done with the amazing assistance from the DPW. Thanked each member of the Committee with special thanks to Therese Wollman after years and years of service.
2. Councilman Gallo, Public Works & Engineering – thanked Steve Briskey and the rest of DPW staff for the great job on leaf pickup; they are prepared for the "s" word <snow> which hopefully will not show until next year; wished everyone happy holidays.
3. Councilman Keeshen, Public Safety – reported that there was a great year with public safety and thanked the volunteers for their service – getting up in the middle of the night to answer calls – lots of dedication; thanked OEM who moved their stuff 3x this year and hopefully is all set; wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.
4. Councilman O'Brien, Finance & Administration – wished everyone Merry Christmas and belated Happy Hanukah; reviewed the successes accomplished in 2021 including relocating to the new buildings, managing COVID19, an uncertain economic environment; renewed chief's and PBA contracts without contention; hired new superintendent for DPW which has been a positive move for the Borough; improvements to the Borough's parks and road; thanked employees for dedication and flexibility. Lastly, the Borough was able to take advantage of low rates to finance its debt long term with MCIA.
5. Councilman Tvrdik, Planning & Development – Mayor Coffey advised he wasn't able to attend while recovering from COVID; he wished everyone Merry Christmas and New Year; extended condolences to the Rollieri family.

6. Councilwoman Walker, Health & Human Services – reported that the schools continue to adjust their COVID policies in accordance with guidelines; recognized John Fleming and Rick McKenna for their years of service on the BOE; they have hired a full time Business Administrator as of Dec. 2, 2021; provided information on vaccines and booster availability. Wishes everyone stay well, commended Borough staff for all the hard work they put in and wished everyone Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

- XIV. Mayor Coffey's Report:** Mayor Coffey commented on the success and productive year they were able to have, thanked the Council and all the staff for all that they do; wished everyone a Merry Christmas.
- XV. Petitions from the public:** Mayor Coffey opened the meeting to petitions from the public. As no one from the public appeared, Mayor Coffey closed that portion of the meeting.
- XVI. Adjournment:** As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 PM on a motion by Council President O'Brien, seconded by Councilman Deerin and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Jeanne Smith
BOROUGH CLERK