

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
December 16, 2004

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on December 21, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Gatta stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with law.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Kahle, Johnson, Gallo, Chaump, Mahon, Briscione and Mayor Gatta.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Deputy Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer and A/Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann.
- INVOCATION:** Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gatta led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on December 2, 2004 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Chaump moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council.

Mayor Gatta stated that the next order would be to hold a public hearing on an application, which was submitted to the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant Program for improvements at Old Wharf Park.

Councilman Mahon moved to open the hearing to the public for this purpose only. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Council.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Deputy Borough Clerk to explain the application as she worked with Recreation on the application. Ms. Jungfer explained that this application was submitted last year for Old Wharf Park for benches. This year's application was enhanced because Old Wharf Park is an anchor for the Village Center Zone and the application now includes the lighting and sidewalk requirements of that zone.

The Mayor asked if anyone from the public wished to be heard regarding this application only, and hearing none asked for a motion that the hearing be closed. Councilman Mahon moved to close the public hearing regarding the application to the Monmouth County Municipal Open Space Grant Program. Councilwoman Kahle seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

Receipt of the November 2004 Police Report which has been distributed and will be posted.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle reported on the Fire Department stating they had their elections this month and the new Chief is John Schneider who will be sworn in on January 1st, Kerin Slattery will be the 1st Assistant Chief and Jerry Bertekapp will be the 2nd Assistant Chief. The President of the Hook and Ladder will be Bob Howie and the President of the Port-Au-Peck Fire House is going to be Al DeSantis.

Councilwoman Kahle stated the next matter was a resolution appointing Global Recycling explaining that a few months ago she had read that the County was going to be leasing some of their property at the landfill to a private contractor for recycling and there might be a way to save money if we went in with that. After researching the matter it was discovered that the recycling materials could be picked up and brought to the County landfill at no charge and instead of paying someone to take our recycling it will be a wash for the Borough and the Borough will also be paid for its newspapers as in the past. She continued that it is a win win situation with a savings to the Borough of about \$18,000.00 a year.

Councilwoman Kahle then asked the Deputy Clerk to read that resolution after which she moved to approve same. Councilman Mahon seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Council

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Councilwoman Johnson reported that there was a Capital Improvement Committee meeting the previous evening and capital requests from the various Committees which will be presented in 2005.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported that the Police received 931 calls in November, responding to 569 of those calls.

Councilman Gallo congratulated Jared Murphy on his promotion to Detective Sergeant and wished him good luck in the new position adding that there was now a Sergeant's position open which the Department is looking to fill along with a Patrolman's position. The Department is reviewing potential candidates for that position.

COUNCILWOMAN CHAUMP: Councilwoman Chaump thanked the Recreation Committee for the Tree Lighting festivities, especially Joe Irace who had all the scouts and Shore Regional singing, Linda Gately for providing the refreshments and Mike Tober for staking the tree in the front of Borough Hall.

Councilwoman Chaump stated that the new member of the Recreation Committee would be David LaPorta who will be filling Kevin Kornek's vacancy.

Councilwoman Chaump announced that the Seniors have announced their new officers for 2005 as follows: President Dick Tupy, Vice-President Peter Deller, 2nd Vice President Leland Wersinger, Corresponding Secretary Joan Kelly, Assistant Corresponding Secretary Marion Tuttle, Recording Secretary Fran Bendock, Assistant Recording Secretary Anne Rooney, Treasurer Marilyn Parker and Assistant Treasurer Mary Bostwick.

Councilwoman Chaump reported that First Aid had 38 calls in November. The Tree Sale is still going on and as of last night there were 25 trees left. The First Aid also had their election last night and their new officers are President Ed Ryan, Vice President John Long, Secretary Carol Connor, Assistant Secretary Lynn Arnold, Treasurer John Connor, Assistant Treasurer Allan

Johnson, Captain Laura Hornung, 1st Lieutenant Lynn Arnold, 2nd Lieutenant Allan Johnson and Sergeant Kathy Kinney and congratulated them on their election.

Councilwoman Chaump stated that she attended a meeting of the Coastal Alliance and there is a newsletter in every Councilperson's box from the Alliance. They held a program at Shore Regional on teen dating on November 16 and it was well attended. All funds for 2004 were spent, so we will be looking at 2005 for new programs with a family awareness program in Oceanport on January 25th at Maple Place School, "Parents setting Boundaries" from 7 to 8 p.m. and from 8 to 8:30 will be a panel discussion and she is hoping to get some students from Shore Regional High School SADD program to attend the program.

Councilwoman Chaump noted that 8 of the Alliances in Monmouth County are now gone due the strict requirements and said the Monmouth County Alliance Coordinator was in Trenton lobbying for funding.

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Borough Clerk to read resolution **R-04-99** an insertion of revenue into the 2004 budget after which he moved to approve same. Councilwoman Chaump seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-100** authorizing the Mayor and Clerk to sign a grant application for the emergency siren system after which he moved to approve same. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-101**, awarding a contract for minor road repairs to Angel's Paving after which Councilwoman Kahle moved to approve same. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon explained that as earlier reported when it was learned the Earle Paving would not be able to do some minor repair work as an addition to their contract for Burnt Mill Circle it was decided that a portion of the work would be done in house. Then after speaking with Tom Crochet he had 99% of the home work done and the resolution was prepared the awarding the work to Angelo's Paving and is scheduled to be completed Monday and Tuesday of next week.

Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-102** authorizing a Veterans Tax Deduction after which he moved to approve same. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-103** authorizing the transfer of funds after which he moved to approve same. Councilman Kahle seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon explained the reason there are no funds being transferred into the snow removal trust, is that in case of a snow event between now and the end of the year the funds would be available to be used and thereby changing the amount transferred to the snow removal trust.

Councilman Mahon moved that a bond in the amount of \$1,900.00 for Block 2, Lot 13.02 per the recommendation of the Borough Engineer be returned. Councilwoman Kahle seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon made a motion to direct the Borough Clerk to prepare a resolution to be read at the Reorganization meeting appointing Martin A. McGann, Jr. Borough Attorney for 2005.

same. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was approved on votes in the affirmative from Councilpersons Briscione, Chaump, Gallo and Johnson. Councilpersons Kahle and Mahon opposed the motion.

Councilman Mahon made a motion to direct the Borough Clerk to prepare a resolution to be read at the reorganization meeting appointing Fallon and Fallon, LLA as Borough Auditor for 2005. Councilwoman Chaump seconded the motion which was approved with votes in the affirmative from Councilpersons Briscione, Chaump and Johnson and Mayor Gatta. Councilpersons Kahle, Gallo and Mahon opposed the motion.

Councilman Mahon made a motion to direct the Borough Clerk to prepare a resolution to be read at the reorganization meeting appointing Thomas K. Rospos of Birdsall Engineering as Borough Engineer for 2005. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon reported that with regard to Finance and Administration a spending freeze was put in place last Friday for anything other than necessary operating expenses. The cut off date for departments and committees to submit their 2005 budget worksheets is December 20th and the 2004 employee evaluations are complete and reminded the Council that 2004 budget represented the third year of corrective adjustment to employee salaries that should permit the Council to approve across the board increases for the first time in 2005.

Councilman Mahon reported that for Public Works this was the last day they would be picking up recycling. Beginning in January the sanitation contractor will perform this function and because of this residents will need to get their recycling out the night before as the contractor plans to begin pickup as early as 6:00 a.m. and complete the pick up by noon.

Councilman Mahon stated that milling began today on several streets involved in the 2004 Road Program, Burnt Mill Circle and Evergreen Lane among them and parts of Main Street. Weather permitting residents should see new pavement early next week. Various locations around town which also need repair are being performed under a different contract, Angelo's paving.

Councilman Mahon reported that the Cable and Technology Committee met last week and concluded its work for 2004. Kim Jungfer has been designated the web site administrator and will oversee access and content as the Committee moves forward.

Councilman Mahon stated that with regard to the Building Modernization Committee, he spoke with Eric Wagner, the architect selected to perform the feasibility study for the project and he is looking forward to meeting with the Committee at their next meeting on January 13th in the library at 7:00 pm. Tom Rospos, the engineer, said the study will be completed within 4 to 6 months.

Councilman Mahon stated that tonight was his last meeting on Council and has spent the last several days tying up loose ends and putting together records to pass on to those who will chair the committees that he has. In doing so he has learned that he had worked on many committees over the three short years and accomplished much to benefit this community.

Councilman Mahon commented that he began his work in 2002 chairing the Cable and Technology Committee, facing a life threatening radio problem for our emergency services. He worked with all concerned, conducted a survey of trouble spots and solved the problem. Thanks to Phil Apruzzi, Chief Bebout and Jim Ramsey of Monmouth County Radio System they were able to put together a three-year plan and eventually upgrade the 891 systems. During his tenure this Committee has also accepted an Eagle Scout project to develop the Borough website, began

working on a new cable franchise agreement, identify contractors to renovate the radio tower, and a share service agreement with Monmouth County Fire Dispatch. This Committee also developed a new siren protocol that limited the siren activation during night hours and gave residents living nearby a better quality of life. That Committee is made up of the members of the emergency services, Joe Irace, Joe Foster and Chris McCrae.

Councilman Mahon continued that he also worked with the Environmental Commission and successfully sought the assistance of the County Mosquito Commission to address stream encroachment problems around the Borough. He also worked with them to develop a lighting ordinance that is in its final stages prior to adoption. He thanked Bob Kelly for raising the light ordinance issue and for getting it started.

Councilman Mahon said that as liaison to Fire he proposed and wrote the framework creating the Fire Committee as a body charged with the responsibility of self-governance of the Fire Committees and a model for working together. He convinced his fellow Council members to adopt the shared service agreement with Eatontown for Fire Prevention Bureau services and again he worked with Phil Apruzzi on interviews of several individuals for fire official and two municipalities to perform this service. They both found Eatontown to be a good fit and the service pays for itself.

Councilman Mahon stated that as library liaison he worked with Lucille Chaump to convince the association that a small scale renovation, rather than an addition, stood a better chance of being approved and brought in a professional library designer, at no cost to the Borough to assist in the development of a multi-year plan to upgrade the library. The architect, as part of the municipal complex feasibility study will be able to use this groundwork along with the research of former Councilman Joe Lyons as that plan goes forward.

Councilman Mahon said that with regard to Sanitation and Recycling, he has worked with Ellynn Kahle to outsource the collection of recycling which will commence in the New Year. Ellynn has championed the cause during her two years on Council and together with some help from Sea Bright, the proposed outsourcing of recycling will free up 24 man hours weekly for Public Works while saving approximately \$22,000.00 each of the next five years, time that he hopes will be devoted to maintaining our parks and buildings.

Councilman Mahon stated that on Water Watch he saw the beginning of a research report dedicated to analyzing the water quality tests this Committee has conducted since its inception. This report and its author, Dr. Kaloss, should be an extremely useful tool when seeking environmental discharge improvements at Monmouth Park. This is critical component of any quality of life issue and must be addressed in the future of the racetrack.

Councilman Mahon said with regard to the Recreation Committee, he is proud of getting the ball rolling on the Blackberry Bay Park renovation. What started as a \$60,000.00 in 2001 has blossomed into a half million-dollar project that you see today. He thanked Marty McGann for his support in getting the original \$25,000.00 approved, he thanked Barbara Silkworth for providing the fourth vote needed to include the \$25,000.00 for this project in the 2003 Capital Budget on her last night on Council. He thanked Phil Apruzzi for taking the project to the next level and securing an additional \$280,000.00 loan. He wrote the original proposal to change appointments to the Recreation Committee to ensure that representation from the sports associations had an opportunity to participate. He thanked Gordon Gemma who lent his support to this plan and added the senior representative position as well. It is up to the sports groups to participate in the process. He credited George Karpus, Rick Karinja, Glenn Miller, Joe Henderson and Dave Chachko and others who believed in this change. These are same individuals who banded together to form the Oceanport

Sports Foundation. This group has raised money over the past two years and gave it back to the community in the form grants for things like scoreboards, gym mats and drinking fountains. He said he will continue to dedicate time to this organization as it grows and supports any Borough sports programs.

Councilman Mahon commented that on Emergency Management, he convinced the Council to purchase a military surplus truck, surplus an old suburban and purchase a new SUV. With the help of Stan Gazubo, Long Branch OEM Director, he introduced the terrorism annex for our emergency operations plan. Later with the assistance of Steve Briskey, a police officer and school board member, they drafted the reverse 911 agreement with the Oceanport Board of Education. This agreement cost the Borough \$1,500.00 over three years, but it saves the Borough from duplicating an expensive phone system the taxpayers have already purchased at the Board of Education. Last year again he worked with Phil Apruzzi and Maria Gatta to gather information on the sale or lease of Monmouth Park Racetrack. Together with them and representatives from the Emergency Services, including Phil Payne, Harry Sutton, Kip Bebout, Jim Gallo and Linda Johnson they provided the initial glimpse of what Oceanport may be faced with as Monmouth Park changes.

Councilman Mahon said that on Building and Grounds, again he worked with Ellynn Kahle to address improvements to the Community Center with interior painting by Public Works and new exterior lighting donated. In the rear of the Boro Hall, we worked together to find the money to pave the employee parking area and repair the roof. He worked with Ellynn to organize and plan the municipal complex modernization. He knows that Ellynn will continue to make this priority and move this project to the next stage.

Councilman Mahon said with regard to Finance and Administration, he worked with Jay Briscione to enact purchasing guidelines, demand accountability for the use of public funds, implement the employee performance appraisal program, and update vacation and sick time benefits for part-time employees. The stage has been set for the next budget to deliver services to the community without a tax increase.

Councilman Mahon said he has also served as a member of the Planning Board, a liaison to Municipal Coordination, Flood Mitigation, Insurance and Real Property. He continued that whether he was the primary or the backup, he has tried to take an active role in the work of each committee. Some of the committees operate independently and you cherish them as a Councilperson, requiring a much greater commitment and responsibility and though he has taken a very active role with the Public Works Committee, together with Tom Crochet and Tom Rospos, our engineer, he has worked to demand a higher level of service for our residents, a well planned and coordinated effort to solve problems, reduce punch list items, renovate roads rather than resurface them, correct drainage problems and commit to doing things right the first time.

Councilman Mahon stated he introduced and won Council approval the pavement and restoration ordinance to hold utilities accountable financially for any damage caused by road openings. He has also worked with Tom Crochet to modernize the maintenance fleet both as a Councilman and before that as a member of the Capital Improvement Advisory Committee for the previous five years committing to make each vehicle capable of plowing snow, purchased a tractor and 16 foot wide mower deck that can cut grass at the rate of 9 acres per hour. Councilman Mahon thanked the entire Council for this from making this a reality and John Talbia of the New Jersey Turnpike Authority who assisted in making the purchase for Oceanport.

Councilman Mahon continued stating we have upgraded our materials for deicing roadways and have a supply under contract for the next three years. We have taken on a new park, battled

staffing shortages, stripped roads and crosswalks and installed signs for schools. We have worked hard to be responsive to the public's complaints and he thinks the Public Works Department shines brighter today as a result and again thanked the entire Council for their support in a difficult year for Public Works and especially Marty for his support and thoughtfulness.

Councilman Mahon said that when he campaigned for Council in 2001 he pledged to do 4 things; fight for zero budget increases, improve our roads and parks and implement shared service agreements. He has done all four things and he leaves Council today having kept his promise to the people of Oceanport. He has learned much about the people of this Borough and much more about himself. He thanked the people of Oceanport for the opportunity, the Mayor and Council and Kim and Patti for the challenge, the opportunity and the privilege of serving with them for these three years.

Mayor Gatta stated it would be appropriate at this time to deviate from the agenda. The Mayor presented Councilman Mahon a plaque symbolizing everything he had just said, continuing that it is wonderful in life when you set your goals and realize them and as we all have been witness to this evening, you have set many goals for yourself and you have realized them. This is a very hands on Council and the work of the Council is really never done. Mike has been a very contributing Councilperson and has always, in going back to years working on school projects, had the best interest of the town's people at heart. For many of those sitting here their work is still ahead the Mayor congratulated Councilman Mahon for all the work he has done for the Borough Council. It is certainly appreciated not only by the people sitting on the dais, but by all the residents of this town for being an accessible Councilperson is not an easy thing especially when you have young. It is hard to balance because you always want to be there for your children and Councilman Mahon has always found the time to keep that balance.

Mayor Gatta then read the plaque and presented it to Councilman Michael Mahon.

Councilwoman Kahle stated that she worked with Councilman Mahon ever since coming on to the Council and he was always there for her with any advice or to answer any question she might have. As you can see with all that he did in the three years, he did have the answer to anything she had. Councilwoman Kahle continued that she would be missing his experience and Councilman Mahon has been invaluable to her. Councilman Mahon's diligence with his committees and his love of Oceanport has been unparalleled and it was apparent right from the start when his campaign slogan was not a D, not an R but an O for Oceanport and he has put a lot of time and effort into the town and we all benefited for that and she thanked Councilman Mahon for everything that he has done.

Councilman Mahon wanted to make sure that everyone understood he was trying to mention all of the people that contribute 110 percent to what the Council does. There are many people who get involved for no good reason at all and get things done.

Mayor Gatta added that she feels that these people do this because they love their town and they want to work for their town and it is evident by Councilman Mahon's contribution and all the volunteers.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione congratulated Councilman Mahon on the many accomplishments that he has outlined over the last three years and thanked him for the time and the service he has given this community.

Councilman Briscione reported that the Master Plan Review Committee met with the planner to discuss the Master Plan Re-examination and recommendations to the Planning Board should be ready for the January 12th meeting.

Councilman Briscione stated that with regard to Monmouth Park, the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority announced the first step in the renovation efforts to prepare for the 2007 Breeder's Cup. They have allocated 3 million dollars for a new turf course after the 2005 racing season, as this was one of the requirements of the Breeder's Cup Committee.

Councilman Briscione wished all the residents a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukah and a healthy and happy New Year.

MAYOR GATTA: Mayor Gatta asked for a motion to appoint David LaPorta as a member of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Councilwoman Chaump moved the appointment. Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Mayor Gatta stated that the Borough received a letter from George Zoeffinger saying that the lease process has been terminated for Monmouth Park.

Mayor Gatta also reported that we received word this week that the Borough is the recipient of a \$150,000.00 DOT Grant for work on Port-Au-Peck Avenue.

Mayor Gatta stated that this past week she was involved some other Mayors of surrounding municipalities in meeting and taking to people in relation to Fort Monmouth and keeping the Fort off the BRAC list. The Mayor also attended a Save the Fort meeting and is happy to report that the County Board of Freeholders has joined in the endeavor. This initiative now includes the State Legislators, the County Board of Freeholders, five Mayors of surrounding municipalities and the Patriots Alliance all of whom are working very hard to make sure Fort Monmouth stays off the BRAC list.

Mayor Gatta stated that word was received last week that the Borough was awarded a \$100,000.00 grant for an emergency alert system and it was issued by the New Jersey Department of Treasury, which administered this one time only grant. The process will now start to replace very old and antiquated emergency alert system.

Mayor Gatta thanked the Recreation Committee, and in particular Joe Irace, for the wonderful tree lighting ceremony.

Mayor Gatta reminded everyone that just because First Aid only had 25 trees left, they still need to sell those trees, and asked to please get out there and support the Squad.

Mayor Gatta invited everyone to the Reorganization Meeting on January 1st at 12 noon, where the new Council people will be sworn in and it is a good way to begin the New Year.

Mayor Gatta spoke about the year, saying that it was a challenging year was putting it mildly. This Council works very hard and she appreciates the fine work of all the Council people. The Mayor continue that part of what was heard this evening was there are times when one has to say goodbye and it is only goodbye in the sense of being a Councilperson, but she knows the caliber of volunteers we have in this town and the caliber of Mike and Bob Holden only means that they will be working for the Borough in different ways.

Mayor Gatta stated that she would like to acknowledge Bob Holden who served on the Council this past year and stated that the Mayor and Council appreciated his hard work and all his contributions to make Oceanport a better place to live. She asked former Councilman Holden to come up at which time the Mayor read the inscription and presented former Councilman Holden with a plaque after which he thanked the Council, and Kim and Tom because they are the people that really go unsung and people don't realize how hard they work.

Mayor Gatta wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy New Year and again reminded everyone about the Reorganization meeting. The Mayor also asked that everyone please keep in mind the service people who will not be spending the holidays with family and friends this year.

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

Jim Gallo, Bradley Avenue wanted to see if the Mayor could possibly look into changing the name of the new Sea Girt Avenue. The emergency services are being called to Sea Girt Avenue and it runs from Myrtle Avenue to Milton, stops and then goes to Bradley to get to the other Sea Girt and it is very, very confusing. Mr. Gallo also asked if there could be an ordinance for house numbers to make it easier for emergency services.

Councilman Briscione stated that Monmouth Beach did something regarding the numbering of houses and buildings and the Mayor asked Councilman Briscione to look into it and report back to Council.

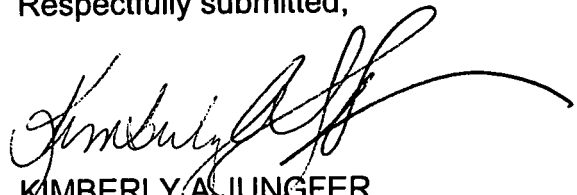
Joe Lombardo, Oceanport First Aid, wanted to update the Council that the plans for the addition are with the Building Inspector and requested that the Council have a resolution to waive the fees on the permit. Councilman Mahon thought that was done and this would be confirmed with the Clerk's Office.+

There being no one further from the public who wished to be heard the Mayor closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman Mahon moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated December 6, 2004. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump and approved by Council. (SEE BILL LIST)
CAPITAL TRUST TOTAL, \$4,413.25. ESCROW TRUST, \$2,548.75. WEDDDING TRUST, \$800.00,
LAW ENFORCEMENT TRUST, \$1,888.10. TOTAL 2003 VOUCHERS \$70,422.91., 2004
VOUCHERS PAID \$15,292,775.75. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING, \$696,616.42. TOTAL
2004 VOUCHERS \$15,989, 392.17.

At 9:00 p.m. Councilman Mahon moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on January 1, 2005 at Noon. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



KIMBERLY A. JUNGFER
DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK