

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
December 15, 2005

The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council were called to order on December 15, 2005 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Chaump stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Johnson, Gallo, Briscione, Sharkey, Kahle, Mayor Chaump

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer and Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.

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

As copies of the minutes from the Workshop Meeting held on November 3, 2005 and November 14, 2005 and the Regular Meeting held on November 17, 2005 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilman Briscione moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson with the Clerk calling the roll and all members in attendance voting in the affirmative. Councilwoman Johnson abstained from voting on the Workshop minutes of November 14, 2005 as she was absent from that meeting.

Mayor Chaump stated at this time they would deviate a little bit from the regular agenda because there is a new Patrolman that needs to be sworn in.

Councilman Briscione stated that they started this process with 50 applications and the Police Committee whittled it down to 19 then whittled it down to 4 and now they were left with 1. He complimented the department on the thorough interview process that took place and he has a resolution appointing the new patrolman Michele Perrulli and then asked the Clerk to read the Resolution **R-05-112** appointing new patrolman Michele Perrulli after which, he moved to approve it. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and unanimously approved by the Council.

The Borough Clerk then swore in Michele Perrulli as a police officer.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. The Clerk reported she received Police reports for November 2005, which has been distributed and will be posted
2. The Clerk stated she received a raffle application from the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Co. and 8th grade class for an off premise 50/50 to be held on February 14, 2006 and all the paperwork is in order and the fees have been paid after which Councilwoman Kahle moved to approve the same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson followed by the Clerk calling the roll and all members voting in the affirmative except for Councilman Gallo who abstained because he is a member of the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Co.

Municipal Clerk stated that she received a letter from the Democratic Municipal Chair, which said that the Democratic Committee has selected the following candidates for the vacant council seat and those candidates are Carmen Gary LaBruno, David Gruskus and John W. Ibex

Mayor Chaump explained to the public that there is a Council vacant seat due to her becoming Mayor. She resigned on November 27, 2005 effective immediately before she was sworn in as Mayor. The Democratic Committee has 15 days to submit names fill the Council seat. The Mayor then presented the name Carmen Gary LaBruno to fill the vacancy and asked for someone to make that motion, which Councilwoman Johnson did and was seconded by Councilman Briscione. Councilperson Kahle, Gallo and Sharkey voted in the negative and Councilperson Briscione and Johnson voted in the affirmative. The motion failed.

Councilman Sharkey made a motion for Ted Ibex to fill the vacancy, which was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by the Council.

Mayor Chaump stated that Ted Ibex was not present and would contact him tomorrow (December 16, 2005) to be sworn in immediately

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-113** appointing Lincoln Financial to administer the LOSAP program after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by the Council with Councilwoman Johnson and Councilman Gallo abstaining, as they are members of organizations eligible for LOSAP.

Councilwoman Kahle started her report with Buildings and Grounds stating it had been an eventful year starting in the spring with the fire over at the Old Wharf Senior Center and just tonight the insurance company will be getting the demolition permit that they need to start the re-building process. They are hopeful that it will be completed by the spring. The Borough Clerk is in constant communication with the insurance agent and they have both met with the Senior Committee to ensure that it will be done to everyone's specifications.

Councilwoman Kahle reported along with Buildings and Grounds is the Community Center, which has been updated with new lighting and lighting fixtures, curtains, paint and some artwork. Next will be the bathrooms and the floor along with some outdoor repairs to the buildings and roof. She has looked into either adding an additional bathroom to be used by the people in the park or adding an outside door to the existing bathrooms to make them accessible to the people outside. Councilwoman Kahle stated that she has learned from the passed year that we need 2 separate bathrooms, adding the outside door and then closing off the bathroom to the inside would not be permitted. Eric Wagner, the architect that is working with us with the municipal building drew up a plan to add the extra bathroom. He did this work for free. The extra bathroom would cost approximately \$47,000.00 and would be handicap accessible. She will be working on securing grant money in the upcoming year for this.

Councilwoman Kahle reported in regards to the buildings at Blackberry Bay, a Borough resident Chris Bonora and his daughter are re-siding and updating the roof on the Snack Shop and the bathrooms as part of a community service project. The bathrooms were painted last

year and this coming year she will be putting in hand-dryers and having the bathrooms open during the daylight hours.

Councilwoman Kahle reported with regard to the municipal complex, the feasibility study to expand the building, remove and rebuild the public works building and to add a police station in the back is complete. She added that the employees have been running out of space here for some time and we will also be bringing back the Building Department so we can save some money on that rent. We have the land and we will be looking into funding. This plan will be presented at the Council meeting in January. Eric Wagner the same architect that she mentioned has done a wonderful job incorporating all the Borough's needs. Closing out buildings and grounds for the year she is happy to report that along with Mike Tober and Lee Poole from the Recreation Committee we have secured a grant from the Oceanport Sports Foundation of \$9,000.00. This money along with \$5,000.00 of Borough funds will be used to refurbish the basketball courts at the Community Center. This is an important collaboration because it saves the Borough approximately \$15,000.00 - \$20,000.00. The reason that it saves the Borough money is because instead of the Borough being the principle of this project it will be the foundation so we will save a lot of soft cost including the engineering fees, the advertising fees, and the attorney's fees. This is a win-win situation for the Borough and the taxpayer because they both win and we save money. The kids get a new basketball court. Councilwoman Kahle then thanked Mike Tober, the Chair of Recreation, along with Lee Pool because without their help this would not have been possible.

Councilwoman Kahle stated that the Water Watch Committee has seen some changes this year with the addition of 3 eighth graders. They are excited to expand the program with a community clean up day and other water activities. She is looking forward to the upcoming year.

Councilwoman Kahle stated that she attended a Port-Au-Peck Fire Committee meeting this month and she would like to report that Santa will be delivering gifts on this side of town on the fire truck on December 18, 2005. If you have not registered your child you can still do so by contacting President Al DeSantis or any other fire member of the Port-Au-Peck Fire Committee.

Councilwoman Kahle wished everyone a Merry Christmas or a Happy Chanukah and hopes everyone has a happy and healthy New Year. She closed remembering our soldiers over seas and the sacrifices that they and their families are making. Thank you doesn't seem quite enough and she wishes them all a speedy return.

Mayor Chaump stated that the Council is doing something new this year that should have been explained in the beginning. According to our by laws **we** should be having our end of the year reports and so what your hearing this evening is the Council liaisons reports along with the month of December so we will continue with Councilwoman Johnson.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Councilwoman Johnson stated her committees were the Library, Board of Health, and the Fire Department this year. Oceanport Library usually meets 3 times a year or when necessary. They held their 40th anniversary party this year, which was very nice. All the Council Members attended along with the Mayor. We also put in new shelving, which they needed desperately and the Road Department helped them take the old shelving out and put in new shelving so they are getting quite a few more books and it's really growing there so they really need the space. They also had a scholarship this year, which was issued and they also do a lot of programs for our children in town so they do a really great job. They really need everyone's support at any time you can go there.

Councilwoman Johnson stated that the Board of Health meets 4 times a year. The Board of Health runs the rabies clinic, which is held at the Port-Au-Peck Fire House in January and she wanted to remind everybody that next years rabies clinic will be January 14th, which is a Saturday, from 9-11am. Also, the Board of Health does a health screening every year, which is held at the First Aid Building in April and flu shots, which are held at the Oceanport First Aid Squad in October. Also, the Board of Health every year does an inspection of Monmouth Park back side where the horses are and this is conducted by Oceanport's Board of health and the New Jersey DEP and she also has the minutes, which she will leave here at Borough Hall if anyone would like to look at the minutes they are more than welcome to do so.

Councilwoman Johnson reported on the Oceanport Fire Department. Oceanport Hook and Ladder has their meetings every 2nd Tuesday night of each month. Port-Au-Peck Fire Department has their meeting every 4th Monday of each month and the Chief's meeting is every 2nd Thursday of each month. The Chief's meeting was not held this past Thursday so they are having it tonight so unfortunately she and Councilwoman Kahle will not be able to attend that meeting. This year they have had 20 Explorers join the Fire Department, which is a great thing for both Fire Departments. The Hook and Ladder this year, through capital, purchased another thermal imaging camera. Port-Au-Peck Fire Department already has one. Both Fire Departments have participated in numerous drills throughout the year and a few of them were ice rescue, extrication, search and rescue drill, broken rigging drill, a smokehouse drill, CEVO class, which is a driving class, they participate in fire prevention week and now the Fire Department is going ICS 700, which is mandatory for all the Fire Departments. Explorers this year held 2 car washes and had a pancake breakfast and a ham dinner. Also they participated in the Lions Club Fair, which they had fire truck rides and the circus, which was held at the Monmouth Park Racetrack, which was sponsored by the Oceanport Hook and Ladder. She did not have the calls for December, but they are up to about 120 calls for the Fire Department this year. They had their elections on December 6, 2005 and the new Chief next year will be Kerin Slattery, 1st Assistant will be Jerry Berdikap, 2nd Assistant will be Wes Sherman. Joe Wolf will be Captain of Hook and Ladder and Paul Dewey will be at the Port-Au-Peck Fire House as Captain.

Councilwoman Johnson wished everyone a happy holiday season and a happy New Year and hopefully they will have a better year next year.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported that the First Aid Squad, this year, responded to a total of 636 calls (in hours it's 5,827). They also responded to 128 calls outside of Oceanport, so they definitely did have a lot of runs. At their next meeting held next Wednesday they would be electing new officers for 2006. If anyone is still looking for a Christmas tree they have about 30 left so hurry up and get one and this is one of the largest fund-raisers that First Aid does. They also plan on breaking ground early next year for an addition so they will be working on that.

Councilman Gallo stated his other committee is Shade Tree. They held around 3 meetings this year and the committee responded to a request from residence to remove Borough trees that were old and damaged. There were about 6 in total and there were also trees trimmed around the Borough and also at the Borough Parks. They will also be planting about 10 trees around the town and in the Borough Parks this year. The budget was spent with a little left if there is anything to arise between now and the New Year.

Councilman Gallo stated his other committee is Special Events. This year Memorial Day went well. The parade was followed by speeches at Borough Hall. **Ray Tony** was the Grand Marshall and **Matthew Croak** was the guest speaker. All the Borough groups were invited to attend the parade and the festivities after which had a very good turn out this year. Veteran's Day we had a full house and the guest speaker was Michael Ruane and we dedicated a second Wall of Honor, which is out in the hallway.

COUNCILMAN SHARKEY: Councilman Sharkey reported that the Parks and Recreation Committee held a number of special events such as the Christmas Tree Lighting, the Easter Egg Hunt, Halloween, Memorial Day Parade and they did a nice job and had good turn out for all of those events. They also had interviewed and hired Jim Faligno from Monmouth County Parks as our Recreation Coordinator. Jim brings the wealth of talent as he has run many programs for the County Parks System and is working with us now and he has been a very valuable asset for us. He also passed him Park Safety Certification so he will be able to go out and inspect the parks on a regular basis to make sure that all the playground equipment is safe and is functioning, which is important for the safety of our children. We have continued the Rutgers Certification Program and we now have over 350 parents who are certified through the Rutgers safety program who will be able to coach our kids in various sport programs. Recreation also had to hire and interview a new Action Camp Director this summer and we had a good turn out for the Action Camp as well. Recreation received a couple of grants, a \$199,000.00 grant to renovate Blackberry Bay Park tennis courts and that started in the early part of November. We also received a \$59,000.00 matching grant that is going to be used to re-do the Old Wharf with new lighting and new paving and tearing out the old concrete hazards. The plans were drafted up and presented at the Recreation Committee last night, which are preliminary plans and it just showed what the new park was going to look like and what is going to be done for that. One of the interesting points about that is Recreations is going to be selecting a color of the pavers so that is going to be the start of the color tone for the Village Center, so it's going to have to go through the Planning Board and a lot of people are going to have to look at it because what ever color is chosen is going to be what that whole down town area is going to look like, so this going to be interesting to see. Recreation also for the first time had the maintenance budget for the grounds, the parks and fields, under the Public Works. In the past they used to be under Parks and Recreation and we are probably going to go back to that next year, and the Parks and Grounds budget is used to fertilize the fields and take care of the weeds and we're going to try and switch that back to the Parks for next year. He thanked Mike Tober for the tremendous job he did this year and his first year as president with that committee and he had taken a real interest in putting in the water fountains at the Community Center and also taking care of some work at Blackberry Bay Park.

Councilman Sharkey also thanked the Oceanport Sports Foundation because he just learned that they are going to award a grant of \$9,000.00 to the Borough and that \$9,000.00 is going to be matched with some additional funds of \$5,000.00 that Ellynn Kahle has in her budget to repave the basketball court at the Community Center and put up the concrete baskets and rims, which will really bring us into the 21st century with a new basketball facility out there and we look forward to that.

Councilman Sharkey stated that the only other thing he had to report with regard to Recreation was that the Blackberry Bay renovation is still in progress and we're having problems with the contractor and it's being handled by our attorney right now and there is not too much more to comment on only that we are not satisfied with the outcome of the park to date.

Councilman Sharkey reported on the Holiday House Decorating Contest for this Christmas, the members of the Recreation Committee will be out touring the town on December 21st and 22nd and will pick 2 winners for that, so fix up your houses and leave the lights on for the 21st of December and they will probably be starting around 6pm and it takes at least 2 hours to through half the town and then another team will be going through the west side of the town. It's a commitment on their part, but it's also a lot of fun. Recreation also elected the new slate of officers, which will be the same slate of officers with the exception of Toni Sverapa who served for 17 years as the treasurer on the Recreation Committee and Councilman Sharkey thanked her for all of her time and hard work.

Councilman Sharkey stated that the Capital Advisory Improvement Committee is a committee that by ordinance requires the Borough to evaluate the capital needs for the Borough in terms of new fire trucks, first aid vehicles, road program and this group is again members from the community plus 3 members from the Council and the CFO. They met a number of times every 4th Thursday of the month and this committee has accomplished the following: they have expedited and prepared recommendations a couple of months earlier than in the past. The ordinance requires that the committee present a list of recommendations to Council by July 1st. We went a little over that date but in the past Council would get these recommendations in the end of the year by December/January and it wasn't adequate time in his opinion to really get to study it and know what the ramifications are. This year they got the recommendations a lot earlier and pretty much since September and that information was disseminated to the public through emails or conversations and we did have members of the public come back with comments and the bottom line is the group had anticipated spending \$28,000.00 for a new exhaust system for the 2 fire houses explaining that as the trucks are pulling out of the garages it fills up with fumes and it's a hazard and under laws it's a requirement to vent those fumes properly. They also recommend that the Borough spend \$125,000.00 for a new ambulance, \$300,000.00 to continue the road program by rebuilding and repaving the worst roads in town and we've been spending about \$300,000.00 a year and we'll get about half that money from various grants. The Committee also recommended \$42,000.00 for a new police communication console software. We've received notification that we're going to get \$30,000.00 of that covered by a grant as well. They also recommend almost \$14,000.00 for new OEM equipment for the CERT Team who are a team of residents who went to class and if we had an emergency in town this group can help and assist our public safety professionals. Also recommended was \$125,000.00 on a heavy-duty front end loader that would be able to pick up leaves a lot quicker, load salt in the snow plows during the winter, and to turn the leaf compost facilities throughout the year. This is something that they indicated a strong recommendation for. There's also \$4,000.00 for the library shelving, which is completed so we can cross that off the list. There's also \$5,000.00 for a security camera for the Borough Hall in the back when the police officers are taking prisoners in and out or the dispatcher is there at night so that area is secure. The last item was to approve \$100,000.00 for a matching grant to redo the Community Center building and upgrade the park facilities, if we got the grant that was the recommendation. If we didn't get the grant they are willing to eliminate that and spend \$13,000.00 for doing the basketball court, which he mentioned earlier, so we did not get the \$100,000.00 matching grant and that's going to be eliminated, so the budget per capita is about \$642,000.00 is what they are recommending Council consider for the 2006 Capital Program. What we did in the early part of the year was they brought in the Monmouth County Improvement Authority. They offer special financing and preferred rates because the County has a very good credit rating and you can get some of these capital needs through their programs when they bundle them together with other towns so we had them in for the first time last year and we we're actually a little late and we have to start that process a little earlier. The other item that we have is we had the

bond counsel in and he gave us some of the technical aspects of the capital and how to finance this so it's pretty interesting and we're going to try and do this again for 2006 if he recommends it again for 2006.

Councilman Sharkey reported on his last committee, the Insurance Committee. The insurance has 2 components of it, the health insurance and the Property Casualty Insurance. The health insurance renews on July 1st and covers all the Borough's employees and what we get in the beginning of the year in January is we invite the brokers in and we basically tell them to give us an update of the insurance program as it stood and they did that and Council's recommendation was to invite other brokers in to compete creating competition. It hasn't been out to bid in quite a while so what we did was have another broker bring in another competitive quote and we went through the process and the original estimate projected over a 12% increase on the health insurance was actually reduced to 7%, so it was an additional 7% savings, \$30,000.00 that we're required by the Borough to switch out carriers from Horizon to Oxford and Council made the decision not to do that at this time. The Property Casualty Insurance is the other big-ticket item. The health insurance was approximately \$500,000.00 the Property Casualty Insurance is close to \$180,000.00 or a little less than that and that re-news on January 1, 2006 and we've been with the Selective Insurance Company for a number of years with a majority of the policies with the police and the public officials with 2 different carriers, we've had excellent loss experience with these carriers for a number of years. Our workers compensation is with the State Wide Insurance Fund, which is out of north Jersey. We've had a good experience with not many workers compensation claims, so not many people were injured the past couple of years. This year we also sought to seek competitive quotes and we had a tough time getting interested brokers and the one real good shot was the Monmouth County Joint Insurance Fund. This is a group of municipalities that have formed together and have been in existence for over 20 years, it's financially stable, they offer tremendous dividends if the towns that have good loss experience. Eatontown, he thinks, received \$118,000.00 back on their insurance program last year if he recalls correctly. They did make an offer on the table, which he received this afternoon, a little summary of the differences between what we're going to possibly leave with Selective and what we will pick up with this Joint Insurance Fund. There are a couple of differences but it looks like we get some better coverage by being in the JIF on the pollution coverage for example and we have to give up something on another limit but it looks like a very good program for us to go into. Another item that we have to consider is that our worker's compensation program may have to stay with the current carrier, State Wide Insurance Fund, for the fact that we are required to give them 90 days notice in order to get out of it, so what that means is that the workers comp is going to be in one place and the rest of the insurance is going to with another fund and usually they don't like that and they want them all together, so we didn't know about this 90 day notice clause but we may end up getting stuck for another year with this State Wide Fund, so that is where we stand with that.

Councilman Sharkey reported on the last committee that he is on, the Street Lights and Utilities Committee and there's really no activity to report on that.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-114** authorizing an emergency appropriation for legal and planning fees with regard to the Housing Plan and the Builder's Remedy Lawsuit, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by the Council.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-115** canceling a transfer after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by the Council.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-116** canceling excess funds after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and unanimously approved by the Council.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-117** transferring funds after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by the Council.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-118** canceling an added assessment after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and unanimously approved by the Council.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-119** for a tax refund for overpayment after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and unanimously approved by the Council.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read Resolution **R-05-120** inserting an item of revenue after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and unanimously approved by the Council.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-121** authorizing the sale of RCA's to Lakewood after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council with Councilman Gallo abstaining due to a conflict.

Councilman Briscione reported on the Mount Laurel Sub-Committee. He had an update on the pending Mount Laurel Lawsuit. An adjournment was granted to the plaintiff, Oceanport Landings with regard to the motion hearing this month. The plaintiff states that they require additional time to retain, (Councilman Gallo and Mr. McGann both left this portion of the meeting due to a conflict of interest) experts to respond to the motion that was filed by our attorney Mr. Surenian last month. The new date is tentatively scheduled for January 20, 2006, however this date may be subject to additional adjournment.

Councilman Briscione reported on the Cable and Technology Committee (Councilman Gallo and Mr. McGann both re-entered the meeting) met this year to discuss 2 main issues, the Borough website and the best way to provide internet access to the Public Works Building. Comcast did a site survey to determine if access was available to the building at no charge. Public Works and Police ran a line into the building to provide service and there was no additional charge from Comcast. Borough employees were having trouble accessing the website to update information and we contacted the web designer and those issues were resolved. Jim Whitson has offered to look into the website to see if we can make it more functional. One of the goals for next year would be to enhance this website to make it more attractive and more adaptive to the residents in the community.

Councilman Briscione stated that the police report for November indicates that there were 883 calls, which officers responded to 531 calls. There were 12 motor vehicle accidents and 160 motor vehicle stops.

Councilman Briscione stated that Supervisory Agent Tim Nestor of the FBI presented a seminar on Internet safety here in the Borough Hall on December 8, 2005. The presentation

was very informative and Agent Nestor stressed that it is important that parents and children learn Internet safety habits to prevent them from being targets of sexual predators on the Internet. He is in the process of getting a copy of 12 safety tips that Agent Nestor presented for parents, and upon receipt of this he will make it available through the Police Department at Police Headquarters for anybody who wants it. Councilman Briscione stated that he was disappointed that more people didn't show up because he thought that this was an extremely well presented and important forum and it was advertised through the schools.

Councilwoman Kahle asked Councilman Briscione if the tips could also be distributed to the school district which Council and Councilman Briscione said that could be done.

Councilman Briscione stated that they continue to discuss the possibility of creating an ordinance to deal with the location of registered sex offenders in Oceanport. A lot of the neighboring municipalities have already enacted this type of ordinance and we are currently reviewing those ordinances, which have been passed in other towns and hope to have an ordinance ready for early next year.

Councilman Briscione stated as everyone has witnessed tonight the Borough hired a new police officer and the police received approximately 50 applications for the position. The police committee narrowed that down to 19 and then to 4 and he and Councilman Sharkey took part in the final interviews and the position was offered, obviously, to Michele Perrulli and he wishes him the best of luck in that position and as he said before the police did an exhaustive interview process and he was very impressed how it was conducted and they have heard that other towns ask how we conduct the interviews.

Councilman Briscione stated that some of the other highlights of the year included the \$30,000.00 federal appropriation for computer equipment that came through Congressman Rush Holt's office. The New Jersey American Water main break in September provided police the opportunity unfortunately to test our mass notification for emergency procedures and while everyone on the 911 list was notified, some flaws in the system were uncovered and new procedures have been put in place to alleviate those problems. Contracts were awarded for the emergency alarm system in town. The system is a state of the art unit. Currently we have no alarms that are working and no availability through the alarm system to contact emergency services for the residents. This system should be operational in mid to late January. With the assistance of the New Jersey Sports and Exposition Authority the AM alert radio station is operational at 1610 AM. The combination of the alarm system and the AM alert radio station will allow police and emergency management to contact the entire Borough very quickly and accurately in the event of a storm, flooding, power interruptions or any other emergency situations. The police were also commended on their traffic control plan for the 2005 Haskell. Over 40,000 people were in and they made some traffic adjustments this year and traffic control went very smoothly. The department has also made an effort to control speeding throughout the town with patrols, signboards, and digital speed devices were utilized for this purpose.

Councilman Briscione reported that with regard to ordinances the Borough passed 19 ordinances during the year and Kim was probably very happy about that.

Councilman Briscione reported on Monmouth Park stating that most of the activities surrounding Monmouth Park this year involved the finalization of plans for the track to host the 2007 Breeder's Cup, which is an international event and the World Series of Thoroughbred Horse Racing. Captain Baldanza and he met with the Assistant Commissioner Schneider at the Department of Transportation to discuss their role in traffic coordination for that event. DOT

has assured us that they would be a big part of that process. The track is in the process of replacing the turf for us which is an approximately a \$5,000,000.00 renovation required by the Breeder's Cup. Additionally, the Sports Authorities have approved plans to issue as much as \$45,000,000.00 in bonds to renovate Monmouth Park in preparation of the Breeder's Cup and that's a great thing for this town and it's a great thing for the track, it's major rateable and it should put the track in a position to continue to be one of the leading thoroughbred tracks in the Country/ Councilman Briscione stated that he had been in contact with representatives from Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie, Texas and Arlington Park in Arlington, Illinois. These cities hosted 2 of the last 3 Breeder's Cup events. Discussions have centered on the impact of the event, the cost associated with the event, funding sources and their reaction and impression after the event. Various studies have estimated that the regional economic impact of this event will \$60 million - \$80 million and this will happen after the summer tourist season. The relationships that have formed during this event so far have already paid off when we didn't receive the grant for the sidewalks at Wolf Hill he called the people that he had met at the Department of Transportation for an explanation and for the criteria that was involved with the selection process. Eventually, he was put in contact with the local district office and they viewed this project as very worthy and suggested that we apply for discretionary funding and have our Mayor and Assemblymen Panter and Morgan, write to the DOT on Oceanport's behalf. In early December we received notification that the grant was funded in the amount of \$51,000.00.

Councilman Briscione reported on the Fort Monmouth Reuse Committee. He stated that since the summer he has been attending meetings of the Fort Monmouth Reuse Committee as the Borough's Council Representative. He said that he would give this report for the former Mayor Gatta and Current Mayor Chaump. The mission statement of the Committee is to lead a collaborative effort that assesses key stake holder needs and develops recommendations for the Local Redevelopment Authority that set the direction to promote economic viability for the region and smart growth consistent with the Master Plan of the Host Communities that are affected by this closure. The voting membership of the committee includes the Mayor's of each town, a member of the Monmouth County Planning Board, a member representing the Governor's office, and 2 members of the Private Sector. Non-voting members include 1 Council member from each town, the Fort Monmouth Garrison Commander who has been very helpful throughout this whole process, the Administrator from Eatontown who serves in an administrative capacity to the committee, and the project manager from DOD Office of Economic Adjustment. To date we are awaiting the recognition from the Office of Economic Adjustment. This designation will enable the committee over \$300,000 in grant funds that had been applied for. The majority of the committee, including himself, attended a 2-day seminar in Fort Devens, MA sponsored by NAID an Association of Defense Communities. The seminar reviewed the BRAC base closure procedures and presented case studies on successful redevelopment projects and also outlined the pitfalls that communities need to avoid. Also the committee conducted a preliminary tour of the base and some of the building that are on post.

Councilman Briscione stated that the hearing for the Holiday Oceanport, which is the Old Wharf building, will not be heard until next year most likely in January. The plan has been revised to reduce the density of that project to 27 units. The applicant will be required to re-notice the public. During the year the Planning Board approved the Master Plan Reexamination Report, as required by the Municipal Land Use Law, additionally the Planning Board adopted the Affordable Housing Plan for the Borough to comply with COAH formulated by Birdsall Engineering and Special Council, Jeff Surenian.

Councilman wished all the residents a very happy holiday and healthy New Year.

MAYOR CHAUMP: Mayor Chaump stated that she has all of her committee reports and by looking at everyone she will try to make them very brief. With regard to education the Board of Education, which includes Board of Education and the Coastal Alliance, we had a meeting on February 24, 2005 about shared services and she's not going to go into detail about that, but the one that they are still looking into is snow removal. They tried to look into electricity and also the phone but they can only do a co-op between school districts and not between municipalities and the school districts. As far as the janitorial services is concerned it's cheaper if the Borough contracts out. The technology person, if we wanted to hire them, we'd have to pay by the hour because he doesn't have time in the schedule right now and the last thing that we're looking at is maybe the snow removal but right now it's not feasible at this time.

Mayor Chaump reported on Student Government Day Assembly, which was on April 7th and Student Government Day at Borough Hall was on May 5th. The Board of Education accepted a donation from Phillips Medical System of \$1,088.00, which had a few items in it and they donated it to the OEM.

Mayor Chaump stated that under the Coastal Alliance the grant was approved for 2005 were many programs that were given at Maple Place School by the Coastal Alliance. They had a FAN, which is a family awareness about setting boundaries at Maple Place. There was the DARE Graduation, which was done at the Police Department, Board of Education Coastal Alliance and also with Borough Council and that was done on April 20th with 88 fifth graders and 100 eighth graders graduating. Coastal Alliance also does the **Bage Program** for the second and third graders and they also did an eating disorder program for the eighth graders and in December hopefully by the end of the month the Safe Homes Pledge Book will also be sent out. There were also programs done over at Shore Regional High School, which she thinks are important, one was done on Heroine; What's Old, What's New, done by the US Drug Enforcement Agency. We did a parent University night on November 16th with 5 workshops and their Substance Abuse Coordinator, Linda Magnotta, is retiring on January 1st of 2006 and there is someone in place for that position.

Mayor Chaump stated that under the Finance Committee, we've been very busy with the Finance Committee, Councilman Sharkey and she have been working on that all year and they had many meetings. The department heads and the Council people now understand the procedures with PO numbers, requisition forms and vouchers and hopefully we are in compliance. There was also a memo that was sent to the Mayor and Council and it was returned to the Finance Department by March 24th that everyone understood the procedures now.

Mayor Chaump stated that the Borough had the retirement of Patti Varca as our Borough Clerk and the hiring of Kim Jungfer as our Borough Clerk. Also on April 1st we had the retirement of Deanne Sole, the tax office clerk and also there were 100 applicants for the Administrative Assistant, which was the position that Kim had held and then in March and April we hired Margaret O'Donnell who was hired as the Registrar and the Tax Office Clerk and Joan Degrande was hired as the Administrative Assistant but she left us also and we hired Stephanie Smeltzer. We also met with the Finance Committee and the CFO concerning the Bond Sale, monthly cash management reports, the 2004 audit findings along with the corrective actions plan, which were sent to the State, the 2004 vehicle maintenance reports and also our 3 quotes and bid thresholds in order to be compliant with the rest of the State of New Jersey. On September 12th the CFO attended a workshop to explain the bond sale and cash management

report. Joe Irace come in July to explain about bonds versus bands and thanked him for all of his explanation and all of his handouts to explain permanent bonding along with at a Capital Improvement Committee meeting bonding was also explained by Bond Counsel. In December the CFO reported on the status of the budget process, which we will hopefully have the ground running on January 1st.

Mayor Chaump reported on grants and state aid, and stated she would not read the list, because if you heard the other Council people telling you under their Council liaison reports the grants that we did receive and she thought that all of them were mentioned except for the \$150,000.00 that the DOT gave us for the Port-Au-Peck road improvements and drainage and the Oceanport Sports Foundation, they are all listed in here if anybody would like a copy they are more than welcome to have it but she just wants to give the total number of grants that we received for the 2005 year; \$581,622.00 and that doesn't count the \$9,000.00 so the actual total is \$590,622.00, which is very good for Oceanport and also that our State Aid for 2005 was \$816,893.00.

Mayor Chaump stated under Public Works, potholes were repaired, in 2004 and 2005 December through March there were 39 inches of snow, 375 tons of salt and there were 12 events. Potholes were filled on Crescent Place. The baseball machine was repaired by Public Works, spring leaf collection started on April 4th and we are going to have to start earlier this year and extend it later. The Utility Trench list was updated and we had the resignation of Tom Crochet who worked in the Borough for 10 years on June 10th because he took a job in another town. We advertised and received 6 applicants and interviewed 3 applicants on 6/6/05 and 6/8/05 and we hired Demitrio Zarate as superintendent and Marc Hunter as Foreman and Matt Guglielmi for a full-time position. In July we hired Alex Bubenias for another full-time position and Maximino Lopez for a part-time position. Sinkholes were repaired on Avon and Sea Girt because a drainage pipe had collapsed and the catch basins on Colonial and Revere Drive, Asbury Ave and Milton Ave, Itaska Place and Comanche Drive, and 27 Oneida Ave were all repaired. As Councilman Briscione said, Public Works has internet service and a new computer was purchased for that. The end of Nicholson Place was cleared of brush and debris and leaf collection started October 15th and went to December 15th. Mayor Chaump thanked Mike Tober and his crew for helping Public Works installs 2 of the 3 water fountains for Recreation. As of December, we have had 3 snow events, 12/2/05 we had 2 inches and we salted, on 12/5/05 we had less than 1 inch and we salted and on 12/6/05 we had 4 ½ inches and we plowed. All of the trucks have been repaired and we are in the process of waiting for the next snowfall.

Mayor Chaump stated under the Mayor's Report she would just like to do a Proclamation for the 3-D Prevention Month, which she read.

Mayor Chaump said that she would also like to thank the Parks and Recreation Committee, especially Joe Irace, for the wonderful tree lighting ceremony and this is the first time in a long time that we have had snow and it was a little touchy in the morning but it turned out very well. She also thanked the Cub Scouts and the Boy Scouts because they decorated the tree inside Boro Hall and this is the first year that we have lights on it. She also thanked the Girl Scouts and the Maple Place Chorus because they were outside in the snow singing.

Mayor Chaump wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Chanukah, Happy New Year and to keep in mind the service men and women who will not be spending the holidays with their families and invited everyone to the Reorganization Meeting on January 1st 2006 at 12 noon in the chambers.

Hugh Sharkey stated that he had 1 comment that he forgot to mention. The Parks and Recreation Committee has 2 openings on it so anyone who wants to volunteer for the Parks and Recreation Committee they are welcome to and it is important that we fill those 2 positions so if you are interested please see Mike Tober

Mayor Chaump then opened the discussion to the public:

Chris Letson stated that he lived at 37 Morris Place and he just wanted to make a statement about the fields at Blackberry. He and his friends had been playing baseball since kindergarten and they have all been waiting for the chance to play at Blackberry on the 90 foot field and last season they started a traveling baseball team and for the whole season they had to practice at the small field at the Community Center and they have played everyone of their games at the opponents field and they would like to ask the Council to please allow them to play baseball at Blackberry this season.

Tony Sempkowski stated that he was there on behalf of the Oceanport Baseball Association. 2006 is approaching rapidly and registration is in progress and with that they anticipate probably 425-450 children and that is just the recreation league and doesn't include the adults softball league, the travel teams, the summer leagues and the fall leagues. He is here to seek answers on the status of the fields for this year because within 1 ½ - 2 months they will pick teams and he needs to schedule the fields. It's a never-ending task to find availability and he needs to know where they are.

Borough Clerk stated that the Softball field will be open and at the Council meeting they discussed 2 options, one of which was to seed and hay it now and if the grass is ripped up and soded, the field will not be ready until April.

Mr. Sempkowski asked if they are more apt to play on the fields and then after the season to take it from there and the Borough Clerk stated that when she came away from the Council meeting she got the feeling that the entire Council wanted the kids to play on that field this season.

Mr. Sempkowski stated that it is very difficult to schedule 425 kids on the field that they have now. Obviously if we have the men's softball league here as well they need to know the availability too and the Borough Clerk asked if they play on the 90 foot field as well or just on the softball field to which he stated that they play on both fields but it depends on the game, and he asked if they would definitely be open?

Councilman Briscione stated that he wanted everybody to know that the small side by the pool, that field is fine, the baseball field and the soccer fields are fine. The grass is growing. The right field section of the large field had been seeded 3 times and it's just not coming up they way that they want it to or the way the specs call for and that is the issue on that field. The soccer fields will be fine in the fall on all the fields it's just a question on how we can get the kids back on that field as fast as we can. Councilman Briscione stated that he has played on those fields, he has coached his son on those fields, he's had a coach from another town refuse to play on those fields previously due to the condition they were in, but nobody out there wants those fields done faster than he does. We all understand the frustration and we've just been saddled with a contractor who is not performing the way we want him to.

Mr. Sempkowski stated that it seems to him that somebody has just dropped the ball because it's obvious to him that this thing should not have gone on as long as it has and in fact

he has done some research and at best that project should have taken a year to 18 months at best and here we are going into the third season and still no fields. To be honest with you we'd rather play out on them as they are. It's an impossibility to try to schedule games and have outside towns because it's Green Acres Fields as well try to play along with us and to schedule that; it's not an easy task.

Councilman Briscione stated that he fully understood the situation and he thinks that the options that were heard are what they have proposed.

Mr. Sempkowski asked if he was to walk away from the meeting tonight, we're playing on the softball field and the 90 foot field is out, is that what you're telling me and Councilman Briscione said no, we're not telling you that the 90 foot field is out adding that provided that litigation will not allow you to play on the field because of the performance of the contractor we are willing to let the games go on those fields

Councilman Sharkey stated that at the Recreation Committee meeting last night there was a lot of discussion on this topic and one of the members of the Committee is in the park renovation business as well as Mike Tober from a landscaping type of background and the concern that was raised was by allowing the kids to play on that field and taking down the signs so that they can play in April when the grass is really coming up, it's going to ruin the grass and kill it. This would waste the whole effort to do that. The other concern that was raised was from a legal point of view was that once you let the kids play on that field you pretty much let the field, Mr. McGann asked Councilman Sharkey not to discuss the litigation. So, that's the question, do you ruin the grass and don't get that growth during the spring season so that it's now growing. The other feeling was that if you open it up for baseball then people are going to start playing on that field and you're going to have growth problems on the soccer section as well. That was the concern that was raised.

Councilman Briscione stated that he thinks that we can live with the situation in right field. That's just his opinion and he would be willing to let them play. We can't discuss that.

Mr. Sempkowski stated that it seems like growing grass is like making ice cubes.

Councilman Briscione stated that he agrees with him and that they have had the field seeded 3 times, the PH level was tested and it was okay, top soil was okay, the seed was okay, and the one thing we now have on those fields is sprinklers. He would want those fields to look like Sickles and that's obviously what they want. Long-term with the infrastructure that we have those fields will be good it's just getting the grass to grow in the right field section.

Councilman Sharkey stated that the guy screwed up a second time on us and that he actually drove out on the fields after they rolled them and created brand new ruts on fields that have been rolled flat and now we have the problem of fixing the additional damage the guy did. He tried to hydro-seed.

Mr. Sempkowski asked if there was any oversight from the Borough or was this guy just out there running around and nobody's out there to check on him on a daily basis or even a weekly basis and Councilman Briscione stated that our engineer has been out there with him numerous times and that the guy shows up at 6 o'clock on Tuesday night, our engineer is not there 24 hours a day or shows up on a Saturday at 4 o'clock and Mr. Tober has seen him out there the times that he shows up.

Mr. Sempkowski stated that it seems to him that it has just gotten to the point that it's almost comical what's going on because if you walk the fields now they almost looked better before they started the project.

Councilman Briscione stated he would not agree with that. He's been on the fields and he was there when a coach from another town said he wasn't going to play on these fields because there was rocks and glass. The coach then said you come to my town or we don't play and the fields have had topsoil put on them, they're level, the sprinklers are in. Mr. Briscione stated he was as frustrated as anybody and he agreed with Mr. Sempkowski 100%.

Mayor Chaump stated she thinks that everyone on Council is frustrated with this and now we are to the point that it is in the hands of the attorney.

Mr. Sempkowski stated that litigation could go on for years and that is the bottom line and if we're going to get to that point they should just go with it and he doesn't know how much money has been spent on this project, but it's time to cut our losses and maybe hire another contractor to go in there and finish up the project.

Mayor Chaump stated that they have looked into that and they have looked into sod and then asked when baseball registration was and Mr. Sempkowski reported it was taking place as we speak and try-outs will start in March.

Mayor Chaump stated that she would advise him to go to the next public meeting in January and by then they should have answers on where they are going with the project.

Lee Poole asked what options do we have for the Old Timer Softball to play other than Blackberry Bay? They really want to play at the 90-foot field this year if at all possible and he's happy to know that the softball field is playable and that's great but he feels for the Baseball Association because they don't have an option and he knows that soccer is back here too and they want to get on the field and he's being told that they will be able to play and we can play on the small field, but again Mr. Sempkowski is stuck so if there is anyway to get him out there or try to do something to keep other people off the field with signs or whatever saying "week games only", "stay off the field" and you'd really help him. They've already had one bad year where they couldn't use it and now they're going to have 2.

Councilman Briscione stated that he has also talked to the people at Monmouth College and he asked if they did community service and would they be willing to work with our Public Works and with our Recreation people to look at the fields and suggest a program to keep them up once they are in a situation where that can be applied and they are willing to do that and they would be happy to do that, but they are hesitant into coming until or if and when we resolve the litigation on the fields. They don't want to suggest anything before we resolve our issues. So we have that commitment from them, which once it's finished we will have a program in place to make them what we hoped the fields would be.

Mr. Poole stated that we have expertise in town too and he's excellent (Mike Tober) and his hands are tied.

Councilman Sharkey asked if the Wolf Hill Park was 90 feet and Mr. Poole replied that it was 60 feet and they tried to find something that was more than 60 feet, but they came up with nothing and they are stuck in that situation.

Councilman Sharkey asked if we could make the 60-foot into a 90-foot field and Mr. Sempkowski replied no, we could make a 90 into a 60.

The Fort Monmouth Field was suggested but it was stated that it would help if we had a liaison and it would be more than possible for them to help us out but given the Homeland Security issues. They see a bunch of kids going through Oceanport in uniforms and possibly they could give us some type of security tags for cars or something like that with a year-to-year status. Mayor Chaump stated the Borough would look into it.

Gordon Elam, 23 Pocahontas, stated that he is the former Baseball President and Tony just took over for him. They researched all these questions a year ago and said with regard to the Fort they are wasting their time because they are not going to get over there and that is just his prediction from his past experience. 90-foot fields are at a premium. The fact that the 60-foot field is re-opening is great news, but 60-foot was not our biggest problem. Our biggest problem was in the 90-foot department. Monmouth Beach does not have a field because we looked into that last year and they were in the same situation. 90-foot fields don't grow on trees. We looked at Eatontown and other places to play and we ended up begging and playing all the games at away games, which complicated the job of the people who are scheduling, tremendously. It also makes it very difficult to practice because practicing on a 60-foot field is basically a safety hazard because if you put the bases out in the grass you're looking at hopes that will hit you in the teeth. It's not feasible to really do that. We did it anyway last year and we played any place that we could but it is really not a feasible solution. We did the best we could for a year with the full understanding that unless the sky fell we would be able to play on that 90-foot field this coming season. His expectation is that there will be enough kids for 3 teams from Oceanport this year as we had last year so that's 3 teams with no place to practice and all playing away and not to mention the school team, which also had additional issues as well. So it's difficult and unsafe to have these kids out practicing in this situation. If you don't practice it's practically a safety hazard to be out playing a game. It is a different game to play 90-foot baseball with lead-offs and all the kinds of things that go on in that game versus playing tight bases, no lead-offs, which is what they play on the little league 60-foot field so it's a different game that kids have to be taught to play it safely and if you don't teach them right then you put them in jeopardy. He doesn't care if the grass is not absolutely perfect down there. Mother nature will take care of that. We put the infrastructure in place and just like Councilman Briscione said, the grass will grow if you give it water, fertilizer, and you put the seed down it will take care of itself. In 2-3 years he doesn't care if they sod it and they do or don't play on it. In any case it's going to be gorgeous down there. That is the fact of the matter as long as they don't turn off the water and we maintain it. Now the other thing that he wanted to make sure the folks were aware of is baseball is vastly different from any other sport as far as abuse of the field. Primarily you're sending a kid into the grass and on the dirt it's different. We have a dirt infield that was part of the whole concept down there but in the outfield there are three kids standing out there for 90% of the time and there's no running around like soccer where they tear down the grass. It's a totally different usage pattern. He spoke a year ago to people from Rutgers Agricultural School who had PhD's who know this stuff in and out. He's not an expert but they are and it's quite clear that baseball is a different type of game than the others. We can put kids out there, they can stand out there and play baseball and it will not impact what happens to those fields. So his recommendation is they do everything possible to make sure we don't have the kind of situation that we had last year and put ourselves into potential of jeopardizing the kids catching balls in between the teeth because they're out there in a situation that they shouldn't be in. so his recommendation is to do everything possible to make it happen so that Tony can actually plan on and tell people that schedule the game that Oceanport will be able to play their games because he can live with 1 year and his kids are out of it now his son's

last year is spent and he never walked on the field there. So he doesn't have anything to gain from this other than the fact that it would be a real shame not to let these kids back out this year.

Michael MacStudy, 110 Oceanport Avenue, He asked the Clerk if the field was sodded would they be able to play in April and the Clerk responded, she was just paraphrasing what Mr. Tober said.

Michael MacStudy stated that the season starts after daylight saving, which would be 3 weeks in April. So we could arrange it that offers 3 games on the road and then asked if the rest of the season could be there, May – June? We're talking a 3 month season and the outfielders are standing around most of the time. He played in that field when he was a kid and now his kids want to play there. It's ridiculous that this park has taken this long. Has the engineer been paid? Has the engineer been fired for taking this long? Has the contractor been paid? Usually the contractor will retain 10% for his things. Are we retaining 10%? Is the engineer paid?

Mr. McGann stated that the contract doesn't provide that and the conversations are getting to areas that he would rather not talk about. There is money still being monies being withheld

Michael MacStudy stated that it's just really frustrating for our kids and it's not like football or soccer where you're going to rip up the fields and he's also the treasurer of Oceanport Baseball this year. If we can find a field that we have to pay for are you guys willing to pay that fee for Oceanport Baseball? He's not looking for Recreation, he's looking for the Borough. Recreation gives us money for uniforms and equipment as much as the fundraising we do. There is another option. Has anyone explored that?

Mayor Chaump stated no and that the money is the taxpayers money. It's one budget that happens to be under Receptions budget. She thinks the year before when there was money put into Recreation a line item in case they had to rent the fields.

Michael MacStudy stated he knew there was money for Monmouth Park for the 60-foot fields but he's not sure about the 90-foot fields. He asked if past years there were line items and wondered if it was still there?

Mayor Chaump said no, but they will be doing the budget in January and they will know then and that could definitely be an option.

Michael MacStudy stated that his second concern was that he lives on the corner of Summerfield and Oceanport Ave and stated that you will not build another house on Summerfield and it's about time that it gets re-paved because the drainage that was supposedly fixed last year sits in front of our neighbors house and puddles still and it's a mess. He knows at one point in time Summerfield was on the list to be taken care of and he guesses that Sagamore and some others decided to get bumped up into it but it's a small road and it's about time that it be re-paved and it won't be damage in the future because there is no more building on that street.

Mayor Chaump stated that what happens every year is they put 3 streets down that are the worst streets for that year and they go out for a DOT and they usually get 1 DOT grant for 1

street and the other streets move up and then we start looking at them. She stated that MacStudy was right and Summerfield was one of the streets they looked at and it's severely deteriorated and it's on the list. Public Works has a road evaluation and those streets are in line.

Mike Tober, 15 Horicon Ave, stated that he really wanted everyone to speak and that what you're hearing tonight is really a reflection of, you guys always see his face at all the meetings and heard his venting and frustration and now they get to hear it a little bit more from the public and one of the things he would like to let the public know is that he's been to the Council Meetings and they are all on the same exact page. The Council feels the same exact way as the Parks and Recreation does. They are all very upset about these fields and the first thing they wanted to discuss at these meetings is they want to get the kids back on the fields as fast as they can so just to let the public know that he thinks that the entire Council and Mayor and Parks and Recreation are all behind everything that was said tonight and they want those kids back on the fields as fast as possible. He knows that Mr. McGann hasn't been able to talk tonight and without really saying anything beyond that the fact that Mr. McGann can't talk tonight should tell you guys that something is going on. They are not happy with the outcome of the fields and obviously they are doing something about it. He thinks they will have some answers in January and there are some options on the table. Sodding is an option and but he doesn't think that there is enough money to sod and it takes some time to make the fields. Depending on weather, if we get snow right in until the end of March then you can't start until April. They should be able to sod early March if that's the way it goes but he doesn't know what kind of money is available but if that was the option that they took then the end of April we should be able to walk on the field. Baseball is not like soccer where you're going to beat the turf. One of the concerns is that the grass is literally a ¼ of an inch high and if you just go like this... it's done. If we did go on those field, what ever cost we will have to renovate them will be higher as a result, so that's something that Council is going to have to weigh. Mr. McGann can handle the contractor and that's why we pay him the big bucks. As far as a planned stand point if we decide to get people on then we are going to have to start early with the fertilization and get things going fast. We'll have a proposal by spring to have all of the fields to be maintained as far as what's required and what we talked about, getting together with them and he'll speak to them and try to get that going. His son is in baseball too. Has anyone looked into Long Branch's fields because they have used them for fall ball in the past and he doesn't know what the sizes are but that's just another option.

Councilman Briscione stated that he would try the Fort and he thinks the BRAC situation may have changed things but he can talk to the Colonel on that.

Mr. Tober stated that the Oceanport's Sports Association has given them \$9,000 as a grant for nice concrete Basketball Courts like the ones on Atlantic Ave that everyone drools over, which will be purchased for the Community Center. It is a passive sport that the kids can just go and play and there is not 20 people behind them screaming that they're holding the ball wrong and you're doing this wrong so he thinks that organized sports are great but sometimes the kids just want to hold the ball wrong for the first time. He thinks that one of the comments is that nobody plays on those courts and that is because they don't work. They are helping to get people back on them but one of the things that he would really like to tell people is to support Oceanport's Sports Association because this year they gave up \$15,000 and every penny of that went towards Sports. It went towards goals, dugouts, and they don't have a court in basketball that works well in town and he really asks for the publics support because it is a great organization and they bust their backs to raise money and we're really starting to see the fruits

of that. When everyone starts selling tickets, instead of buying a ticket maybe we could all buy a book and help them out because it's a win-win and all that money comes right back to us.

Ed Ryan, Willow Court, asked if the Council had looked into back in January and February to start looking into insurance, when did they realize that they had a 90 day clause in it and again the house on Pemberton Ave, every month he asks, if they have 30 days to tear down the house why is it still there 8 months later? He wants to know when they are going to start tearing it down because the First Aid Squad is getting rats over there.

Mayor Chaump stated that it's not a case for the Board of Health, it is a case for Ron Kirk and Ed Ryan stated that every month they tell him that it's going to be taken care of! When and Councilwoman Johnson stated that she would look into it and she'll try to find out what's going on.

Ed Ryan stated every month he asks for an answer and they always say we have to talk to the building inspector. He then asked the Council if they would like to have a burnt down house next to their homes? With Fort Monmouth closing down eventually he would like to have the Council look into buying fire equipment or building equipment. Little Silver just got a great buy on a fire truck. They paid \$130,000 for a 1996 truck with a 2006 motor in it and a 2006 pump in it.

Councilman Briscione stated that most of the fire equipment at Fort Monmouth is going to remain on the base because they are going to need to take of the base until it turns over and that equipment is eventually going to wind up at other bases throughout the state.

Ed Ryan said that they dropped the ball on the rescue truck that Little Silver got.

Councilman Briscione stated that he didn't drop the ball and that they made a decision that they didn't have the money to buy the truck.

Ed Ryan stated that the Road Department put a patch in a hole about a month and a half ago on Willow Court and 4 days later the hole was back because they put patch in it and then ran it over with a truck. They didn't have a stamper. If you're going to do a job then do it right or don't do it at all. Willow Court hasn't been paved since 1972 and Mayor Chaump stated that Willow Court was another street they were talking about today.

Ed Ryan stated that they need to do something about that building and to get the insurance straightened out because in his opinion the insurance in Oceanport is not great.

Councilwoman Johnson asked Mr. Ryan which insurance he was speaking about? Is it Health Insurance or Liability or Workman Comp?

Ed Ryan stated that he was talking about everything in this Borough. All the insurances.

Councilwoman Johnson stated that they just found out about the 90 day clause the other night ended Ryan stated that they talked about it in January and that they would look into it but they waited and they should have looked into the contract earlier.

Councilwoman Johnson stated that the 90-day clause was brought to their attention by the broker and Ed Ryan stated that the Council should have looked into it and not wait until the last minute and now they have to go to another company.

Councilwoman Johnson stated that they didn't know at that time and Mr. Ryan asked why they didn't know?

Councilwoman Johnson said that they didn't know that clause was in there and Mr. Ryan stated that they didn't read it then.

Councilwoman Johnson said that she didn't have the contract in front of her and then asked Mr. Ryan how he found out about it?

Councilman Sharkey stated that his only comment on it is that he received the by-laws that had the 90-day clause the day of the Council meeting. On Monday afternoon the broker sent him the by laws. His point is that the broker missed the ball and he didn't advise us properly earlier that there was this clause.

Mr. Ryan asked if we can go after the broker for not telling the Borough about the clause but the Clerk stated that staying with the existing Worker's Compensation will save the Borough \$10,000.00 this year. Councilman Sharkey added that there are other issues with it as well.

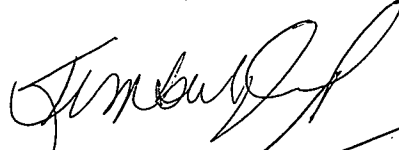
As no one else from the public wished to be heard Mayor Chaump closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman Sharkey asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-05-122** authorizing the payment of bills after which Councilman Sharkey moved to approve same. Councilwoman Johnson seconded the motion which was unanimously approved by Council, with the exception of Councilman Sharkey abstaining from the COBRA bill.

CAPTIAL TRUST TOTAL: \$107,398.65, ESCROW TRUST TOTAL \$148.75, OPEN SPACE TRUST 67.034/16, 2004 VOUCHERS PAID \$196,779.26, 2005 VOUCHER PAID THIS MEETING \$906,940.90, TOTAL 2005 VOUCHERS PAID 18,146,682.50.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 p.m. to the next regular meeting scheduled for January 19, 2006 on a motion from Councilman Briscione, a second from Councilman Gallo and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



KIMBERLY JUNGFER
BOROUGH CLERK