



BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT

MAYOR & COUNCIL

MINUTES • JANUARY 16, 2025

Regular Meeting

Clement V. Sommers Municipal Building

7:00 PM

910 Oceanport Way, Oceanport, NJ 07757

- I. **Call to Order:** Mayor Tvrdik called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM
- II. **Statement of Compliance with Open Public Meetings Act:** This meeting complies with the Open Public Meetings Act by adequate and electronic notification on January 12, 2025 of this meeting and its location, date and time to the Asbury Park Press and Two River Times and by the posting of same on the municipal bulletin board and Borough's Web Site.
- III. **Flag Salute, Statement to the Public:** Mayor Tvrdik asked Fred Fillipone to lead attendees and members of the Council in the flag salute.
- IV. **Roll Call:**

Attendee Name	Title	Status
Thomas Tvrdik	Mayor	Present
William Deerin	Councilman	Present
Richard Gallo	Councilman	Present
Bryan Keeshen	Councilman	Present
Michael O'Brien	Councilman	Present
Keith Salnick	Councilman	Absent
Patty Cooper	Councilwoman	Present
Jeanne Smith	Borough Clerk	Absent
Andrew Bayer	Borough Attorney	Present
Donna M. Phelps	Administrator	Present
Catherine D. LaPorta	Chief Financial Officer	Present
Stephanie Kramer	Deputy Borough Clerk	Present

- V. **PUBLIC COMMENT - Action Items Only:** Mayor Tvrdik opened the meeting for public comment on actions items only. As no one from the public presented, that portion of the meeting was closed with a motion from Council O'Brien and seconded by Councilman Gallo.
- VI. **Administrator's report**
Ms. Phelps had no report
- VII. **Clerk's Report**
Ms. Kramer reminded everyone to renew their dog or cat license.
Ms. Kramer reported that the County Board of Elections has notified us of a special election to be held March 11, 2025 for a referendum questions for Shore Regional High School for a Bond proposal.
- VII. **CFO's Report**
Ms. LaPorta reported that the finance office has been very busy with year end and took on shared service with Monmouth Beach so she and Jason have been going back and forth, but it is going well and but we are able to log into Monmouth Beach from our desks in Oceanport so it makes the work more efficient. She has met with Mayor Stickle and the BA and everyone is happy with the shared service.
Ms. LaPorta added that the Annual Debt Statement filed and 1099s need to go out by the end of the month and the Annual Financial Statement filed by the end of next month.

VIII. CONSENT AGENDA

- #2025-38** 1. Resolution authorizing redemption of tax sale certificate Block 2, Lot 13
- #2025-39** 2. Resolution authorizing redemption of tax sale certificate Block 117, Lot 27.074
- #2025-40** 3. Resolution authorizing refund of overpayment Block 110.15, Lot 1.037
- #2025-41** 4. Resolution authorizing refund of overpayment Block 110.02, Lot 43
- #2025-42** 5. Resolution approving tax exemption for Robert R. Stair
- #2025-43** 6. Resolution appointing Robert Berg to a permanent full-time position in the Public Works Department
- #2025-44** 7. Resolution setting revised salary and hours for John Palmer as Plumbing Sub-Cod Official
- #2025-45** 8. Resolution appointing Anthony Vecchio as Fire Inspector and Acting Fire Subcode Official
- #2025-46** 9. Resolution authorizing a salary increase to Gianna Tafuri as per employment agreement
- #2025-47** 10. Resolution committing to the Borough's 4th round present need affordable housing obligations
- #2025-48** 11. Resolution authorizing submittal of FEMA Assistance to Firefighters Grant
- #2025-49** 12. Resolution authorizing a contract with Foveonics Document Solutions
- #2025-50** 13. Resolution authorizing submittal of a grant application through the NJDCA Local Recreation Improvement Program.
- #2025-51** 14. Resolution authorizing payment of the Bill List
- #2025-52** 15. Resolution authorizing the appointment of Kimberly Jungfer as part time Borough Clerk
- #2025-53** 16. Resolution adjusting the salary of Borough Clerk, Jeanne Smith

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	Patricial Cooper, Council President
SECONDER:	Richard Gallo, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Cooper, Keeshen, O'Brien
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Salnick

IX. Council Standing Committee Report

- 1. Councilman Deerin reported that Parks and Rec is quiet right but there are a few new things coming this year. Music in the park which will be at Old Wharf Park. On June 19th a local band the Solsters and then on August 14th Living Proof another local band. Kelly Burrough has been in charge of this and doing a great job. There is also a Farmer's Market next to Borough Hall on April 26th. There will also be the usual movie in the park, mini golf and the egg scramble with is coming up April 5th at 11:00 am at the Community Center.
- 2. Councilman Gallo reported that he visited Public Works and had the opportunity to see how we are ready for the snow with 4 large dump truck for plowing in addition to 4 regular pick up trucks. Mr. Briskey have salt and also brine. He also welcomed Robert Berg to full time status.
- 3. Councilman Keeshan stated that departments are getting ready for budget cycle both operating and capital. He also wanted to remind everyone there is no street parking during a snow event. It not only helps with planning but also public safety.
- 4. Council O'Brien reported as it is a slow period for Finance he has no report.
- 5. Councilman Salnick: Absent
- 6. Council President Cooper congratulated Bob and is glad to have him on full time. She reported that the Shade Tree Committee has been meeting and the tree ordinance is the first thing on their to do list.

X. Mayor Tvrdik's Report:

Mayor Tvrdik explained that there have been numerous water main breaks not just in Oceanport but around the State and are triaging them based on the impact to customers. He asked residents to be patient while crews are trying to repair the breaks.

Mayor Tvrdik announced that Graydon Pito is going for his Eagle Scout and when he came before Council, Council approved mile markers for the walking trail at Gatta Park. Mr. Pito realized after crunching the numbers the trail markers would be very expensive. He would as an alternative like to put trash collection buckets that you could grab when walking and then dump it in the garbage. There would be signage with this explaining what to do. Council felt they needed more information so they would like him to come another meeting.

Mayor Tvrdik stated that the sports are again gearing up and will be having fund raisers and looking for sponsors so please support our local teams. Mayor also wanted to congratulate local resident Liam Boyle a member of the St. James Pop Warner team that competed in Florida and won the championship there.

Mr. Tvrdik said that he along with Kelly Burrough, Roseanne Letson and members of the Historical Committee attended the 250th summit with the County as they are working with all the municipalities on the semi-quincentennial celebration. We passed a resolution supporting this event and will be looking for members for that committee spoke with Jim Whitson and would like to get the Board of Ed and bring to the kids to get them involved.

Mayor Tvrdik reported on a request from Lunch Break regarding funding for their application to construct 24 affordable housing units and turned it over to Borough Attorney Andrew Bayer to speak about it. Mr. Bayer stated that 46 affordable units were displaced in the 400 area of Ft. Monmouth as a result of the Netflix approval. He discussed it would be a replacement project located where the County emergency shelter is located and asking for a letter of support. There was a lengthy discussion regarding funding zoning and planning approvals and it was decided to do a resolution authorizing the Mayor to send a letter in support of the project that would be read at the end of the meeting.

Mayor Tvrdik next discussed a request for bathroom facilities at Old Wharf Park and it was decided a port a john could be placed there for the summer months. Public Works would be tasked with its location away from the street and out of site of the neighbors.

The next item Mayor Tvrdik next spoke of a request from the firm doing the dredging off of Morris Avenue. The project should be wrapping up January 20th and with the work on the Sea Bright bridges they don't know if they can get the equipment up river to off load and as a fail safe would like to use the Blackberry Bay boat ramp. It was agree to ask first to see if they can get the equipment up river and if not have Mr. White there to take photos and inspect after so if any damage they would be responsible and if police are needed they would have to pay for it.

Mayor Tvrdik said the last item he had was the 1991 KME fire truck which is out of service since the arrival of the new pumper. It could go to auction but it was suggested that it be donated to Monmouth Park. There was discussion on the benefits of the donation and also the liability if the Borough allowed them to use it.

XI. Public Comments: Mayor Tvrdik opened the meeting to comments from the public. The following persons appeared:

1. Mark Patterson, 48 Itaska Place stated he was here as a resident not a member of the Board of Education asked that with regard to any decision regarding 24 Units with Lunch Break, other partners in the Borough especially the Board of Education be included in the discussions. He also asked if there was a way for residents to get the full package of the meeting. Ms. Phelps said she would email a packet to him and it would also be posted on line.
2. Roseann Letson 50 Deer Path Court, Tinton Falls echoed the Mayors earlier comments on the meeting with the County. There was discussion on how to get residents, students and business owners involved in the 250 year celebration of Monmouth County.

As no else from the public wished to be heard Council O'Brien moved to close the public portion which was seconded by Councilman Deering and approved by Council..

Adjourn to Executive Session at 7:50

#2025-54 Resolution

RESULT:	ACCEPTED [5 TO 0]
MOVER:	William Deerin, Councilman
SECONDER:	Richard Gallo
	, Councilman
AYES:	Deerin, Gallo, Cooper, Keeshen, O'Brien
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Salnick

XI. Adjournment: At 815 PM the Council returned from executive session and at 8:16 PM the meeting was adjourned on a motion by Council President Cooper, seconded by Councilman O'Brien and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Donna Phelps
DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK