REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
December 4, 2008

The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on December 4, 2008 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Mahon stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with the law.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Briscione, Gallo, Irace and Mayor Mahon

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilpersons Ibex, Kahle, Johnson

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer and Borough Attorney, John O. Bennett, III

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Robert Mills gave the invocation.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Resolution authorizing the payment of bills. **R-08-164**
2. Resolution accepting the 2009 DOT grant for sidewalks on Port-Au-Peck Avenue **R-08-161**
3. Resolution appointing a Special Class II Officer **R-08-162**
4. Resolution waiving permit fees for demolition of storage shed. **R-08-163**
5. Approval of two Raffle Applications for the Monmouth Park Charity Fund.
6. Approval of the Workshop meeting minutes of November 6, 2008.
7. Approval of the Regular meeting minutes of November 6, 2008

The Clerk stated there were 7 items listed on the consent agenda. Councilman Irace requested that Item # 1 be removed. Councilman Briscione made a motion to approve the remaining items on the Consent Agenda, which was seconded by Councilman Irace and approved by the Council.

The Clerk asked for a motion on Item #1. Councilman Gallo requested that PO#s 07-06136, 08-01229, and 08-01247 be removed from the Bill List. Councilman Irace requested that PO#08-01224 for Bank of New York Mellon be removed from the Bill List.

Councilman Briscione moved to approve the remaining items under Item #1, which was seconded by Councilman Gallo and approved by Council.

The Clerk asked for a motion on PO#08-01224 for Bank of New York Mellon. Councilman Briscione moved to approve the invoice payment for Bank of New York Mellon which was seconded by Councilman Gallo and approved by Mayor and Council with the exception of Councilman Irace who abstained.

The Clerk asked for a motion on PO#s 07-06136, 08-01229 and 08-01247. Councilman Irace moved to approve the invoice payment for PO#s 07-06136, 08-01229 and 08-01247, which was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Mayor and Council with the exception of Councilman Gallo who abstained.

CLERK'S REPORT: The Clerk stated she was in receipt of the Police Report for October 2008, which had been distributed and would be posted.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione reported on Public Works and that leaf pickup continues throughout the Borough and that Leaf Pickup Schedules are available on the website and in the Clerk's Office and in November 28th, 2880 cubic yards of leaves were picked up including 400 cubic yards on November 20th which was a department record. Maple Place and Wolf Hill Schools were cleared as well

as Evergreen Park. He reported that the sprinkler system at Blackberry Bay Park had been winterized and that all snow plows and salt spreaders have been serviced and are ready.

COUNCILMAN GALLO: Councilman Gallo reported on that the Recreation Committee had approved a conceptual design for the rebuilding of the Borough's storage building at Blackberry Bay Park as the old building had been destroyed by fire last spring and then described the new improvements being incorporated. Councilman Gallo thanked Jim Monteforte, an architect in town, who donated his time to draw up the conceptual drawings and that the drawings are available for the public to view after the meeting.

Councilman Gallo provided details on the upcoming Holiday Tree Lighting for Dec. 2nd and the First Aid's Bazaar for Dec. 13th and that all are welcome.

Mayor Mahon commented for the public that no action is required but that competing proposals will be sought from the 2 engineering firms serving the Borough.

Mayor Mahon also advised that Councilman Ibex and Councilwoman Kahle had informed the Clerk and Council of conflicts and that they were unable to attend that evening.

COUNCILMAN IRACE: Councilman Irace called for the introduction of **AN ORDINANCE TO CREATE THE POSITION OF MUNICIPAL HOUSING LIAISON FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADMINISTERING OCEANPORT BOROUGH'S AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE FAIR HOUSING ACT** and asked the Clerk to read it by title only, after which Councilman Briscione moved to approve the Ordinance upon first reading, which was seconded by Councilman Gallo.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES:	Briscione, Gallo, Irace
NAYES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Ibex, Kahle, Johnson

Councilman Irace called for a motion to hold the public hearing on the proposed ordinance at the Council meeting of December 18, 2008 and to advertise same in accordance with the law which was moved by Councilman Briscione and seconded by Councilman Gallo.

The Clerk called roll:

AYES:	Briscione, Gallo, Irace
NAYES:	None
ABSTAIN:	None
ABSENT:	Ibex, Kahle, Johnson

Councilman Irace reported on meetings with the Insurance Committee and that they hope to have recommendations for Council shortly and that the Capital Improvement Committee met to review requests by the individual Borough departments and that no decisions have been made, however, 2009 will be a tough budget year and any spending programs would have to be on an urgent need basis only.

Councilman Irace reported that he and Councilwoman Kahle met with the Quality of Life Committee and provided details on 2 subcommittees that were formed and issues that they were working on including holiday lighted decorations on the poles in the downtown area.

Councilman Irace reported on attending the League of Municipalities convention and conferences that were attended including one on COAH, a Mayor's conference and a panel on Governor Corzine's tenure.

Councilman Irace also reported that he along with Mayor Mahon and Councilwoman Kahle attended the Senior Citizen's holiday party and congratulated those that were elected as officers.

Councilman Irace completed his report with comments regarding the Governor's proposed pension deferral program that was brought up at the convention. He stated that the matter was discussed amongst the Finance Administration Committee and all were unanimous that the program was not a direction that the Borough wants to take.

Mayor Mahon advised Councilman Johnson had informed the Clerk and Council of conflicts and that he was unable to attend that evening.

MAYOR MAHON: Mayor Mahon gave an update on FMERPA and its focus on forming an agreement with the Council of Affordable Housing and the Borough's commitment for affordable housing under the Fort Monmouth Redevelopment Plan and that the majority of the Borough's concerns were addressed successfully in the agreement. Mayor Mahon also discussed that he along with the Senator Bennett, the Borough's Attorney and the Borough's COAH Committee have been active in crafting solutions that everyone can live with. He also announced that the Borough would be releasing and holding a public hearing on December 18th regarding the Borough's Affordable Housing and Fair Share Plan which is in compliance with legislation known as A-500 which created a deadline by which the Borough had to submit a plan by December 31, 2008. He explained the importance of the plan and how it protects the Borough and welcomed the public to attend the public hearing as well as view the plan which is available in the Clerk's office.

Mayor Mahon gave a Proclamation declaring December 2008 as the Drunk and Drugged Driving Month in Oceanport.

Councilman Briscione asked the Mayor if there had been any feedback from FMERPA regarding his letter about the sensitivity analysis for the financial projects. Mayor Mahon stated he has not received anything in writing but that the letter had been forwarded to the consultant's that would be working on those issues.

PUBLIC:

The Mayor then opened the meeting for anyone from the public who wished to be heard.

Rick Strollo, Sagamore Avenue, passed a handout to the Mayor and Council and members of the public and then asked the Mayor for an update on the police contract negotiations.

Mayor Mahon stated that he is not permitted to give specifics however, they are meeting with an arbitrator and that both parties have informed the arbitrator of their position and that another meeting is scheduled for January 15, 2009 in Borough Hall. Mayor Mahon gave an explanation of the ongoing process and where they are at in the process.

Mr. Strollo referred to his handout and asked if it compared with anything that Oceanport is arbitrating with the police department. Mayor Mahon answered that some of the items on their list would be evidence submitted by the PBA as a comparative salary to support their claim for the same.

Mr. Strollo stated that he did not want to find out what the Mayor and Council arbitrate with the police department in the newspaper as a small public notice and that he thinks the public should know ahead of time and offered additional comments regarding his concerns on the matter.

Mayor Mahon explained why the negotiations had to be held in executive session and when and how the information would be provided to the public with an opportunity to attend and express their comments.

There was additional discussion at length on the issue between Mr. Strollo, Mayor Mahon and Mr. Bennett including some of the budgetary issues that the Borough was facing for the upcoming year and how the entire process works.

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

Bill List: Capital Trust $96,686.69. Ad Hoc Trust $421.56. Escrow Trust $2,294.00. Fireworks Trust $500.00. Public Defender Trust $200.00. Trust Other $140.00. Water Watch Trust $268.02. 2007 Vouchers Paid $162,979.00. 2007 Vouchers Paid this Meeting $18,400.00. Total 2007 Vouchers Paid $181,379.00. 2008 Vouchers Paid $17,540,656.71. 2008 Vouchers Paid this Meeting $1,198,722.57. Total 2008 Vouchers Paid $18,739,379.28

At 8:52 p.m. the Clerk read a Resolution authorizing the meeting to enter Executive Session on a motion made by Councilman Irace and seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council.

At 9:51 p.m. the Council returned from Executive Session and re-opened the Regular Meeting on a motion by Councilman Briscione which was seconded by Councilman Gallo and approved by Council.

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:51 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Briscione which was seconded by Councilman Gallo and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

KIMBERLY A JUNGFER
BOROUGH CLERK