

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
November 19, 1998

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on November 19, 1998 at 8:00 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann Silkworth and Mayor Gemma.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.
- INVOCATION:** The invocation was given by Borough Chaplain Berry.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gemma led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on November 5, 1998 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Silkworth moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman McGann who abstained from voting since he was not present at that meeting,

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of OCTOBER, 1998 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN APRUZZI: Councilman Apruzzi welcomed the Clerk back and commented that the Deputy Clerk did a great job during her recuperation, but he was glad to have Patti back.

Councilman Apruzzi announced under Recreation, that the Annual Tree Lighting ceremony would be held on Sunday, December 6, 1998 at 5:00 P.M. in front of Borough Hall and there will be a chorus from the local school, a visit from Santa, followed by refreshments at the Port-au-Peck Firehouse and he hoped everyone would come out and enjoy this event.

Councilman Apruzzi reported that the tennis courts at Trinity Place Park have been resurfaced and that project is complete.

Councilman Apruzzi announced that on December 16, 1998 at 7:30 P.M. the Momouth County Parks System will be conducting a public hearing in this Borough Hall to receive input from the residents of the Borough as to what types of recreational facilities they would most like to see at the Wolfhill Farm property and he hoped that everyone would come out and voice their feelings on this project.

Councilman Apruzzi wished all the Councilmembers, Borough Employee and residents of the Borough a Happy Thanksgiving.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone stated that as the longest serving Councilperson sitting on the dais, it was really nice to have Patti back and after fifteen years it was very strange without her here and she wished her continued good health.

Councilwoman Filippone reminded all the residents of the Borough that there will be a Blood Drive on Monday, November 23, 1998 at the Oceanport First Aid Squad from 6:00-8:30 PM and she urged anyone who is able to donate blood, because there are shortages at this time. She also reminded everyone that even if you are unable to donate blood, because we have this program, which is run by Donnie Ross and Doris Agaman, any Oceanport resident can receive blood from the Oceanport Blood Bank at no charge.

Councilwoman Filippone announced that the Senior Citizens meeting on December 16, 1998 at 7:30 P.M. has been changed to 1:30 P.M. at the Old Wharf House, in order to allow the seniors to attend the public hearing being held by the Monmouth County Parks System.

Councilwoman Filippone thanked Rhonda Cuniff for the very nice article in the Atlanticville about her and Councilman Miller and their tenure on the Borough Council.

Councilwoman Filippone reported on the Oceanport First Aid Squad's Captain's report for October stating there were 43 calls; 4 motor vehicles; 12 mutual aid calls; 1 fire; 1 other for a total of 215 man/woman hours. She also advised that the Paramedics were called out 3 times; there were 3 calls to Monmouth Park, 6 calls to West Long Branch; 2 calls to Monmouth Beach and 1 call to Little Silver. She commented that we are very lucky to have such remarkably dedicated people on our Squad and continued that the Oceanport Lions Club donated \$2,500 to the Squad for their assistance at the Fair and they are going to purchase a new stretcher with this donation.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller wished all the Councilmembers and residents of the Borough a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

Councilman Miller reported that the water samples taken on November 7 by the Water Watch Committee show some improvement in the water quality with the oxygen content up and the nutrient levels down and the water clarity was much better.

Councilman Miller stated that he recently saw a landscaper in his neighborhood who was attempting to crush branches down into a storm drain and he stopped and explained to the individual that the only substance that goes into a storm drain is water. He has spoken with Chief Bebout and his men are going to check on all the landscapers in town to make sure they have a permit as well as that they understand they are to put nothing down the storm drains and if they are caught, they will receive a summons.

Councilman Miller stated as a Marine, he is used to handling guns and understands what a gun can do when it is not handled in the proper manner and he is pleased that the Council have approved the resolution wherein new designs of the guns can make them only usable by authorized persons.

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 #R-98-66 Councilman Miller then asked the Clerk to read resolution #R-98-66 regarding hand gun safety, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

#R-98-67
COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution #R-98-67 transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe reported that he has been in contact with Donna Clark, the Borough's Chief Financial Officer and he and Councilman Apruzzi will be meeting with her to review the 1998 budget and make sure everything is in order to close our this year's budget.

Councilman Wolfe stated he was pleased to announce that the Borough was recently notified by the NJ Department of Transportation that our grant application for the reconstruction of Pocano Avenue has been approved in the amount of \$91,000. He continued that this includes drainage and curbing and will be done in 1999, following the Sewer Authority's work in replacing the sewer lines on that street as well.

Councilman Wolfe wished all the residents and members of the Governing Body a happy and healthy Thanksgiving.

ORD.#
 708 **COUNCILMAN MCGANN:** Councilman McGann called for the second reading and public hearing on an ordinance regarding connections to the sanitary sewer system and he asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only, as follows: **AN ORDINANCE REGULATING CONNECTIONS TO THE SANITARY SEWER SYSTEM LOCATED IN THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, COUNTY OF MONMOUTH AND STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AND FIXING PENALTIES FOR THE VIOLATION THEREOF.**

Mayor Gemma opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have on this subject, but hearing none, Councilwoman Filippone moved to close the public hearing on this matter. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman McGann then moved to adopt this ordinance on second and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Miller.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Apruzzi, Filippone, Miller, Wolfe, McGann and Silkworth.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman McGann stated that several months ago the Borough took the lead and adopted a resolution urging the clean up and maintenance of Route 36 and asked surrounding communities to do the same, which West Long Branch, Eatontown and the Shore Regional Board of Education have done as well. He also advised that he and Mayor Gemma sent a letter to the DOT advising them of the terrible conditions that presently exist due to the lack of maintenance and a meeting is going to be held on Tuesday, November 24 with representatives from the DOT in charge of landscaping and maintenance to try and improve the conditions on Route 36.

Mayor Gemma advised that we have notified the Boroughs of West Long Branch and Eatontown of the meeting date and asked that they send a representative from each community.

Councilman McGann also announced that the Borough has decided to have the streets swept twice a year instead of once and as soon as the leaf pick up is over, we are going to have the streets swept and we will be using some of our grant monies under the Clean Communities Program for this purpose.

Councilman McGann wished the members of the Borough Council and the residents of the Borough a Happy Thanksgiving.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilwoman Silkworth advised that the new carpeting ordered for Old Wharf House should be installed within the next few days.

Councilwoman Silkworth complimented Councilpersons Filippone and Miller on the nice article in the recent Atlanticville.

Councilwoman Silkworth welcomed back the Borough Clerk, Patti Varca and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

MAYOR GEMMA: Mayor Gemma advised that the work shop and regular meetings scheduled to be held on December 3, 1998 are being changed to Tuesday, December 1, 1998 in order to allow the Council to review the garbage bids and meet our contractual obligations and this notice will be published in accordance with law.

Mayor Gemma reported that the Sewer Authority will be working on the system along Port-au-Peck Avenue and he advised residents to be careful, since part of the street at the intersection of Algonquin and Port-au-Peck Aves. is partially closed off with pipes and other equipment and this will be in place for approximately 4-6 weeks with a by pass line above ground for the sewers while the work is being done.

Mayor Gemma commented that he was pleased we had adopted the gun safety resolution because he had spoken to Maureen King recently and she was urging the passage of this safeguard and he will be contacting her to advise that Oceanport has adopted the resolution as she requested.

Mayor Gemma wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Gemma then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might have.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Betty Berry, 25 Hiawatha Ave. asked when the light at the intersection at Monmouth Blvd. and Myrtle Ave. was going to be installed, because the traffic situation was getting worse.

Mayor Gemma advised that we had been promised that the light would be installed in the Fall of 1998 after the race track closed, but recently we have been informed that the light will now not be installed until the summer of 1999, which does not make any sense and Chief Bebout is speaking

with the County about this matter and he will also be contacting them to find out what the problem is with the installation.

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills as listed on the Voucher Register dated November 19 1998. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Apruzzi who abstained from voting on the bills due Lucent Technology. TOTAL 1998 VOUCHERS \$1,137,338.73. TOTAL 1998 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$36,324.22. TOTAL 1998 OPERATING FUND \$1,173,662.95. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY ACCOUNT \$155.00. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$493.33. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-GARDEN STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTION \$516.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL \$189,108.70. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER).

At 8:30 P.M. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on December 1, 1998 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Apruzzi and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK