

REGULAR MEETING

Oceanport, NJ
November 7, 1996

REGULAR MEETING

The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on November 7, 1996 at 8:02 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Councilpersons McGee, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe, Silkworth and Mayor Cavanagh.

MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilwoman Filippone.

OFFICIALS PRESENT:

Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.

INVOCATION:

Col. Berry gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Cavanagh led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on October 17, 1996 had been made available for review by the Mayor and Council, Councilman Wolfe moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and approved by Council.

Mayor Cavanagh opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions with regard to the Borough's recent submission of a grant and loan application to Green Acres for "Coastal Blue Acres" funding to purchase Block 107, Lot 2 located on Horseneck Point Road.

Mrs. Dwyer, 124 Horseneck Point Road asked if the property would remain in its natural state, or if the Borough had plans to develop this area, to which Mayor Cavanagh stated that the Council was in agreement that this property remain in its natural state. He also explained that the application funding would be 75% from a grant and 25% as a loan and we are all very much in favor of keeping as much open space as possible.

As no one else from the public wished to be heard on this subject, Councilman Wolfe moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS: NO REPORTS.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: Councilman McGee reported under Police that we have received an award from the AAA Central West Jersey Pedestrian Safety Achievement Award for 1995 to the Borough and this award gives recognition to communities with outstanding pedestrian safety program activities which include evaluation of their accident record systems, specific pedestrian control legislation, enforcement of pedestrian and driver behavior, traffic engineering service for pedestrians, community traffic safety coordination, school traffic safety and public information and

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education. He also reported that the Borough also was awarded a plaque by the AAA known as the Pedestrian Safety Citation Community Traffic Safety Program for a fatality free pedestrian safety record which is a six year achievement and he thanked Chief Joyce and his department for all their fine efforts in that regard.

Councilman McGee offered his congratulations to the Shore Regional Field Hockey Team on their 4-0 victory last Saturday over Manasquan and it was quite an exciting contest and now they go on to the State Championships and he wished them all the best of luck.

Councilman McGee advised that last Monday he attended Old Timers Night at the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company and he congratulated the honorees, especially to William Fleckner for his 75 years of service to the Port-au-Peck Fire Company and he was glad to be there and thanked the hosts for their hospitality and for a wonderful evening.

Councilman McGee was pleased to hear that Councilwoman Filippone was on the mend and feeling better and he looked forward to her return to the Council.

Councilman McGee offered his congratulations to Councilman Gary Wolfe and Gordon Gemma on their victories on Tuesday and wished them both the best of luck in the future.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: ABSENT.

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COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller called for the second reading and public hearing of an amendment to the Fire Department ordinance with regard to Special Memberships and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED THE "FIRE DEPARTMENT ORDINANCE" OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT PASSED AND APPROVED DECEMBER 2, 1920.**

Mayor Cavanagh opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions on this subject only.

As no one from the public wished to be heard, Councilman Miller moved to close the public portion on this matter. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and approved by Council.

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

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons McGee, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe and Silkworth.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Filippone.

ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Miller reported that on October 25 we held the annual Flu Shot Clinic and although Councilwoman Filippone was unable to attend, her volunteers came through, headed by Connie Savarese, President of the Board of Health and the program went very smoothly and he and Councilman Wolfe were on hand to help out with this event. He reported that there were 160 participants who took advantage of the flu shots.

Councilman Miller advised that there would also be a pneumonia shot clinic at the Old Wharf House on December 9 from 10-11 A.M.

Councilman Miller reported that the Oceanport Library, which is a branch of the Monmouth County Library system, will be placed On-Line in 1997 with access to the Internet and we will start off with at least one terminal and depending upon the use, we may have up to four terminals maximum. He stated it will cost the Borough \$175 per month for the phone lines, which comes to approximately \$2,100 per year, but all the hardware and software, as well as the installation, will be paid for through the County and will give our children opportunities they might not have in their homes.

Councilman Miller commented that on Halloween, the Recreation Committee went around to all the parks in the Borough giving out over 600 bags of candy and it was very successful with the members dressed in their costumes.

Councilman Miller also advised that we have had a very successful Recreation Soccer Program with 325 participants from first through eighth grades.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR: Councilman Taylor reported that under the Clean Communities Program, there will be a park clean up on Saturday at 9:00 A.M. and anyone interested should be at Blackberry Bay Park by that time and the Boy Scouts and Water Watch members are going to be involved with this project and hoped other people would turn out to help.

Councilman Taylor advised that Myra's Amazing Puppets would be again coming to Wolfhill School for Mission Planet Earth Part I which is an education program for our young children paid for through the funds we receive from the Clean Communities Grant and it will be held on November 19 at 1:00 P.M.

Councilman Taylor announced that the Veteran's Day ceremonies will be held on November 11 at 11:00 A.M. in the Borough Hall and he invited everyone to attend and he will be filling in for Councilwoman Filippone.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe wished Councilwoman Filippone a speedy recovery and he spoke with her yesterday and she sounded very good and hopefully she will be back shortly.

Councilman Wolfe thanked the voters of Oceanport for turning out on Tuesday.

Councilman Wolfe stated that there was a fire alarm that went off at the Wolfhill School the other day early in the morning and he was still in town and saw the trucks going and by the time he arrived at the scene, it turned out to be a minor gas leak, but the school was evacuated for safety purposes and the amount of equipment that was surrounding the school was quite incredible with the Police Department, all the Oceanport Fire Companies, volunteers from the First Aid Squad, Fort Monmouth sent over their ladder truck and it was quite an outstanding show of manpower and he commended our Fire Chief, Tom Crochet and all the members of the various departments who participated in this emergency.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: Councilwoman Silkworth stated that she is very sorry that Councilman McGee will not be with us next year, but she was sure he would remain involved in other areas in the community.

Councilwoman Silkworth extended her congratulations to Councilman Wolfe and Mr. Gemma on their elections.

Councilwoman Silkworth commented that she was particularly pleased that the Open Space Referendum passed and was sure that the Mayor would comment further on this, but our Freeholders, especially Harry Larrison had a great deal of foresight in seeing that our vacant land is protected for public use for both passive and private.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh announced that on November 21 in Atlantic City at the NJ League of Municipalities Convention, Tom Crochet, who is in the audience this evening, will be graduating under the NJ Public Works Association and receiving his certification and he offered Tom his congratulations on behalf of the entire Council and commented that we expected him to do well, but we are quite pleased that he has persevered and is now effectuating control in the Public Works Department and is doing an excellent job for the Borough and we look forward to him being with us for many years.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that every member of this Governing Body are all quite partial to the Open Space Referendum and after looking at the results, he thinks we were right on this issue and in the Borough, it received 75-80% of the votes needed to pass and was the highest tally in the County in percentage of winning as well as over the other two environmental questions. Mayor Cavanagh stated that the residents have again reinforced their position that we are going to invest in our children's and grandchildren's future by giving them this type of surrounding and he thanked everyone who voted for this issue because we will all profit from this and everyone who voted in favor of this referendum will certainly be repaid for their kindness when the County completes its overall plan.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that as our good Chaplain pointed out earlier in her Invocation, there were elections this week and there were people who won and people who lost and we have a variety of people who were elected or re-elected and it is always a little bit uncomfortable because we are partisanized, but when we sit up here, we are all part of one group. He continued that when one of us is not re-elected, in a non-partisan way, he wanted to thank Councilman McGee for all the things he has done and the time we have spent together and the efforts he has put forth and the residents have profited from all the things he has accomplished and expressed his appreciation to Councilman McGee.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that in terms of the campaign, unlike Oceanport where he thinks we run a very civil, high minded exchange of ideas, neither the State nor National level has decided to emulate our policy and this was one of the worst campaign seasons with the terrible advertisements and he meant this as a bi-partisan comment because neither side conducted themselves very well, such as the campaign finance fiascoes and the negative personal fiascoes. He further stated that it was not a surprise that we now have a President who has not received 50% of the vote yet nor has been able to get 50% of the people out to vote. Mayor Cavanagh continued that if anyone wanted to know why, all you had to do was examine what we give the people to look at and listen to and it makes you wonder why you would run for office at all because if you believe the ads, there should be a string of investigations that would go on forever.

Mayor Cavanagh stated he was very proud of what went on in Oceanport and what happened in our campaign should be a model to others.

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

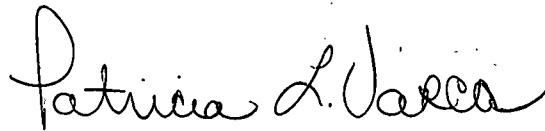
PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills listed on the Voucher Register dated November 7, 1996. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and approved by Council. TOTAL 1995 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$201.60. TOTAL 1996 VOUCHERS \$224,591.96. TOTAL 1996 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$41,369.83. TOTAL 1996 OPERATING FUND \$265,961.79. TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE II ACCOUNT \$280.00. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY ACCOUNT \$19.80. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT \$148,750.00. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$9,788.96. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - COUNTY TAXES \$515,528.51. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - LIBRARY TAXES \$25,144.29. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - OPEN SPACE TAX \$11,046.65. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - HEALTH TAX \$10,001.91. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL \$174,879.60. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - GARDEN STATE ELECTRICAL INSPECTION \$1,228.00. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER - FIRE PREVENTION \$20.82. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER).

At 8:20 P.M. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled for November 21, 1996 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK

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