

Oceanport, New Jersey
November 7, 1991

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on November 7, 1991 at 8:03 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller, Rodman, Wolfe and Mayor Cavanagh.

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

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Rabbi Daina.

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

Mayor Cavanagh stated that before we get into the regular agenda he asked Councilman Miller to give his initial report at this time.

Councilman Miller advised that one year ago, representatives from the Waterways Committee, the Environmental Commission and the Health Department got together and brainstormed what we could do to help with the quality of water in the Shrewsbury River. He continued that out of that meeting, the Oceanport Water Watch Committee was formed and that night there were approximately ten members and we presently have over forty members. He stated that at the initial meeting, we set up an agenda which was that we wanted to do a water non point source pollution analysis of the river, we wanted to do some clean up projects along the shore fronts, we wanted to somehow help with the education of our elementary school students and we wanted to invest responsibility to our residents who live on the shoreline to be water watchers. He commented that their non point source pollution project began in April and ran every other Saturday until October and we were monitoring, specifically, ten representative storm drains in the Borough and they ran it as a research project and they came up with the problem which was to see if there were any contributing factors as far as the effluent from our storm drains was concerned. Councilman Miller stated that they now have collected the necessary data which is broken down by each individual storm drain and next week each group that worked on a particular site will receive the booklet containing the data for their review and they will come up with a conclusion. He stated that following that step, the Committee will come together and try to theorize from our conclusions, what the contributing facts are to the data that we have received.

Councilman Miller reported that Mayor Cavanagh entered the Water Watch Committee in a contest for different kinds of recognition awards that are put out by the Monmouth County Water Resources Commission and this was the first year these awards were made available and our Oceanport Group won an award. He commented that it is always nice to hear from the County that we are doing a good job and stated that just like any coach that has a winning team, there is a new season coming up and new challenges to be met and they will be meeting in February to discuss their projects for the new year.

Councilman Miller also advised that in addition to the Committee's regular members, they also had members from the Boy Scout and Cub Scout

Troops, #58 that helped out during our clean up projects and we had three clean up projects which began last October and just completed a clean up of the shoreline at Charles Park and we had approximately 30-40 adults, cub scouts and boy scouts and we have representatives here with us this evening.

Mayor Cavanagh stated on behalf of the Governing Body and the residents of the Borough he wanted to extend everyone's appreciation to all the people in the audience and commented that this is a totally volunteer project, which represents an entire cross section of the Borough in age groups, etc. and it is the kind of thing that makes the town a great place to live when people will spend the time and energy to undertake this type of project and he also commended Councilman Miller for captaining this effort and stated that he is well aware of the kind of energy it takes to put this type of program together. Mayor Cavanagh stated that next year is another year and we have always said that the future of this town is somehow bound up with the future of the river and we are serious about that and we are a water town and if we do not continue to pay attention to our greatest resource, it will not pay attention to us and he again thanked the Committee for all they have done and for what they will continue to do in the future.

Mayor Cavanagh then asked the Committee members to come forward and accept the award and have a photograph taken.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on 10/17/91 had been made available to the Governing Body for their review, Councilman Miller moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of OCTOBER, 1991.
2. Application for membership to the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Co. made by Brett E. Brummer.

As the paperwork was in order, Councilman Terra moved to approve said application. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: Councilman McGee reported under Buildings & Grounds the new telephone system phase has been installed in Borough Hall and the system ties together all the offices and lines within the building and in the long run the new system will save taxpayers money because the old system was leased and this new system will be owned by the Borough.

Councilman McGee advised under Community Development we were unsuccessful in our attempt to secure funds for the Hillcrest section for the street improvements project and unfortunately there were other projects presented that were more deserving of funding and there were 28 projects up for consideration and only 14 were actually funded.

Councilman McGee stated on Monday, October 21, the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company hosted their annual "Old Timer's Night" and he thanked them for their kind invitation and their gracious hospitality and he offered his congratulations to the honorees.

COUNCILMAN TERRA: Councilman Terra called for the second reading and public hearing of an ordinance requiring the licensing of cats within the Borough and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **CATS.**

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments with regard to this matter only.

Mrs. Rosalie Johnston, 6 Burnt Mill Circle, stated that she has been reading the ordinance and pointed out to the Council that a cat is a clean animal and when they dirty, they cover it up and she questioned who is going to track a cat down to find out where they have buried their business? She also commented that regardless of what the license fee was, an irresponsible person is not going to take proper care of their animals and she felt in these economic times, it was unfair to make the residents pay more money, when many of them are having a hard time getting by paying their taxes, etc. Mrs. Johnston also pointed out that Oceanport is a river community and the cats help in keeping down the rodent population. Mrs. Johnston felt that the Council members were not familiar with the ways of cats nor had a proper understanding of the animal.

Mrs. Helen Peaff, 8 Pocahontas Ave., asked the purpose of this cat licensing ordinance.

Mayor Cavanagh responded stating that the purpose comes about from the recommendation of the Monmouth County Health Department on the basis of the fact that, as everyone may have noticed, each town within the County, one by one, is adopting this same ordinance, in an attempt to prevent the spread of rabies, which is being brought easterly by raccoons.

Mrs. Peaff asked how many cats had rabies in New Jersey last year, to which Councilman Rodman answered that there were 27 rabid cats and we do not know how many of them were domestic and how many were wild and he added that there were 1,061 rabid raccoons.

Mrs. Peaff asked what was going to be done about the rabid raccoon problem, which Councilman Rodman stated was a question he asked to the representative from the County Board of Health and he felt he received an unsatisfactory answer. Mrs. Peaff commented that she is a walker and walks in the early evening because she works during the day and she can no longer walk on Port-au-Peck Avenue because of the number of raccoons coming out of the storm drains, three at a time and she has also had problems with them getting into her chimney and have killed possums in her back yard. She wanted to know why we are worrying about the cats, when it is the raccoons that are the problem and she wanted to know what action the Council plans to take regarding the raccoon problem.

Mrs. Carole Seeley, 476 Branchport Ave., stated she read about the proposed ordinance in the Bulletin and had not been aware that the cat owners were now going to have to go around picking up after cats and felt that this regulation was totally unenforceable and raised several questions as to where would the complaint be made, who would investigate the complaint, who is going to prove which cat in the neighborhood it was, and she felt this should be addressed in the ordinance.

Mrs. Seeley stated she did not hear anything mentioned about a leash law and asked if she was correct that this was not required, to which the Mayor stated it was not contained in the ordinance.

Mrs. Seeley asked what the fee breakdown was and was concerned about the cost of a replacement tag, since cats lose their collars frequently and she was advised it was the same as a replacement tag for a dog, which is \$1.00.

Mrs. Seeley asked if any thought was given to perhaps having a per household charge for cats, rather than a license fee per cat since most people have more than one cat and Mayor Cavanagh answered her that yes there had been some discussion about that subject, but the majority of the Council felt this was the appropriate cost. Mrs. Seeley asked if there was a particular reason, since she understands that there is paperwork involved, but once the information is entered into a computer, the data is stored and on file.

Mayor Cavanagh pointed out that we do not have computerized records for the licensing procedures.

Mrs. Seeley asked how this will be enforced, since she understands that if there is a stray dog in the neighborhood, you contact the Police and someone comes out, but cats do wander around and the neighbors know usually which cats belong to which households, but if there is a strange cat in the neighborhood, would they contact the Police Department?

Mayor Cavanagh stated that they would begin with the Police Department if there was a stray cat, to which Mrs. Seeley commented it seemed this would be unenforceable, since it would mean taking a Patrolman from his regular duties to come and investigate a matter of a stray cat and try and locate the animal which can disappear in a matter of minutes and unlike a dog, cats are not approachable by strangers and cats do not normally try to bite anyone either as compared to a stray dog who could become vicious when approached.

Councilwoman Filippone stated she had to dispute Mrs. Seeley's last remarks since her granddaughter was recently bitten by a neighbor's cat who came into her own yard several weeks ago. Councilwoman Filippone also commented that she has been the Council representative to the Board of Health for this Borough for the past 8 years and she stated that she has never seen anyone who is in the audience tonight attend one of those meetings, but she also wanted to say that we have been seriously talking about this matter for many years and each year it was never carried through for the simple reason that the majority of the people on the Board of Health felt that it was not necessary. She continued that this year because of the enormity of the problem with the rabies situation and it is coming to the eastern section of the County rapidly and it is already in the western section of Monmouth County and is right on the border of the southern section and it is carried by the raccoons to the cats and this is a fact. She stated we cannot do anything about the raccoons because they are protected because they are wildlife and we therefore have no right to touch a raccoon even if you trap a problem one.

Councilwoman Filippone pointed out that as far as the cats are concerned, the specific reason for licensing cats is because of the rabies epidemic and we are in a crisis situation and our County Board of Health, which up until two years ago, always said no to cat licensing, has now strongly recommended we license cats. Councilwoman Filippone also commented that as far as the cost for the licenses is concerned, her neighbor has three dogs and how can it be fair to have each dog licensed, but not each cat and she added that the licensing helps to pay for the

free rabies clinic which is held each year and until now, the dog owners of the Borough have been paying for the cat owners to take advantage of the free rabies clinic and that is not fair.

Mrs. Seeley thanked Councilwoman Filippone for her explanation of the fees and reasons for the licenses and she agreed that cats should be vaccinated against rabies, but she did not feel that this ordinance was enforceable, nor did she think the Police Department should be taking time from their duties to try and catch stray cats and she also felt that this ordinance would only create problems between neighbors, if someone who owned cats had a neighbor who didn't like cats.

Councilman Terra stated that what we are trying to do is to raise the level of responsibility and continued that having a cat in the old days, it was okay to let the cat run wild, but we would like that to stop and would like cat owners to understand that it is not appropriate to allow this animal to go out in the wild and possibly have an altercation with a rabid animal and then bring that infection back into the home.

Mrs. Seeley explained to the Council that you cannot make a cat understand that they must only stay in your yard and she has even fenced in her yard with a six foot high fence, but the cats still jump the fence and wander around the neighborhood, which is natural for cats to do.

Councilwoman Filippone commented that Mrs. Seeley loves cats, but she has to understand that there are people who don't like cats and the cats come into their yards and she felt that cat owners have to be as responsible as dog owners, whether she likes it or not, she must understand that her cat is her responsibility and her cat has no right to go into her neighbor's yard and if she can't keep it out of the neighbor's yard then it should be kept in the house.

Mrs. Seeley did not agree with the statements made by Councilwoman Filippone and commented that since none of the Council members are owners of cats, they do not understand the nature of the animal and hoped that the Borough would not come up with a law that states that cats must be kept inside, because it would not be fair.

Mayor Cavanagh explained that the ordinance states that you cannot allow your cat to run into someone else's yard and winds up in your neighbor's yard, why should your neighbor be imposed upon to have someone else's cat in their garden because that is not fair.

Mrs. Seeley commented that cats by nature are exploring type animals but Mayor Cavanagh explained again that complaints are received on a regular basis about residents finding cats in their yards that do not belong to them and that is not fair and that is the point he is trying to make.

Councilman Miller commented that what we are trying to stop is people who let their cats out during the night time hours and then let them in the house in the morning, because the raccoon is a nocturnal animal and they get into fights and this situation is prime for that cat fighting with the raccoon to get bit and develop rabies therefore, if the cat is inoculated, there is much less chance of the rabies virus spreading and this is the largest part of the ordinance. He also stated that he hoped that this ordinance would educate the residents to a greater degree to take care of their cats in a fashion that does not offend their neighbors and keep them healthy.

Councilman Rodman stated that he is the only Councilperson who voted against this ordinance and had stated previously that he favored an ordinance mandating the inoculation against rabies for felines in the Borough but he thought this ordinance goes much too far and felt that we are getting into a realm where it is neighbor relations and when you begin to tell people that cats cannot wander, it is simply silly because it is not going to happen. He stated that the licensing of the cats, paperwork involved and the fees, in his opinion, are not necessary. Councilman Rodman advised that the imminence for this has come from the Monmouth County Board of Health and they are looking at the wrong thing and should be taking care of the problem with the raccoons and leave the cats and if the raccoons are wildlife and you cannot touch them, then there is something wrong with our priorities in this State, where you cannot take care of 1,061 rabid raccoons, but will channel your energies into licensing cats because of 27 cases.

Councilman Terra pointed out that you cannot get in touch with the raccoons as easily as you can the cats and he stated that he had a problem with raccoons and had to hire a private company, who set up traps and they caught a raccoon the first night, a household cat the second night and raccoons the third and fourth night and it shows that they are sharing the same environment and the possibility of contact is quite strong.

Mayor Cavanagh summarized the situation as follows stating that for several years in a row we have looked at this problem and each year we have stated we are not going to get involved with this, until this year because the County Board of Health came to us and basically said to us that if you don't institute a procedure to help with this problem, you are in essence acting in an irresponsible fashion because of the problem and the way it is coming toward us. He does not disagree with Councilman Rodman about controlling the raccoons, however, if in fact the State is not going to control the raccoons, we are going to wind up with the problem and he is willing to bet that next year when the statistics come out, there will be many more rabid cats than there were last year by proliferating the rabies through the raccoons. Mayor Cavanagh stated the point we are all trying to get to is that we are balancing rights; Mrs. Seeley has rights, but so does her neighbor and the greatest right we are discussing here is the right of the public to be free of rabies infected animals and what we are doing is taking a step, which may not be perfect, but it is a step that meets the requirements of the times. He stated that Councilman Rodman may be correct that in six or ten years that the rabies outbreak will abate and hopefully the wisdom of the people sitting on the Council then, will be to go back to the way it used to be and rescind the ordinance, but for the present time it seems necessary and if it impacts anyone to a certain degree, he apologized, but also again explained that it is balancing rights and the most severe danger must be addressed.

Mrs. Seeley agreed that rabies inoculations for cats should be mandated but also felt that once that cat was inoculated against rabies, that animal is no longer a threat to anyone and should be allowed outside.

Mayor Cavanagh stated we first introduced the ordinance to mandate only the rabies inoculation back in September, but after hearing from the representative of the Monmouth County Health Department stated that it made no sense to not include the licensing aspect, because the Borough

would have no way to monitor the situation. Mayor Cavanagh stated most of the surrounding towns, with the exception of Rumson, have adopted ordinances mandating the rabies inoculation and licensing of cats.

Mrs. Seeley once again stated she felt that the Council was infringing on an animal's instinctive right to be outside, to explore, etc. and felt that this ordinance goes much too far.

Mrs. Seeley asked what the fine was in regard to this ordinance, which Mayor Cavanagh stated was listed on the ordinance which was available in the back of the meeting room.

Mrs. Peaff asked if the Board of Health had recommended the \$250 fine as listed in the ordinance, which Mayor Cavanagh stated is the same as the dog ordinance and that was the recommendation of the Board, to make the cat licensing ordinance the same as the dog ordinance.

Mrs. Johnston stated that Avon has been licensing cats for 14 years and they have more stray cats than ever before because people are not licensing them and they just dump them out on the street and don't bother to either license them or inoculate them.

Councilman Terra stated he felt this was due to the high number of summer residents they have in that town and when the people get ready to leave and go back to where they live, they leave the animals behind.

Mrs. Seeley asked if the public hearing on this matter could be held over for one more meeting because she wanted to get a petition together to see how many people in this town really want this type of regulation and she felt that since she had only recently read this in the Bulletin, felt that many of the residents probably were not aware of this taking place.

Mayor Cavanagh stated for the record that we have had it at two public meetings, published it in the newspaper twice, took the additional step of putting it in the Bulletin, which is not required by law, but something that we did as a courtesy to the residents and it has been reported in the newspaper two or three times and felt that in all honesty, there has been no attempt not to proliferate the information and when the vote is called for the Council will have an opportunity to vote for Mrs. Seeley's suggestion. Mayor Cavanagh also advised Mrs. Seeley that if she wanted to get a petition together and bring it back to the Council, they would certainly reconsider their actions if there were an overwhelming number of people having a problem with it.

Councilman Terra moved to close the public portion of the meeting on this subject. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Rodman who voted no.

Councilman Terra 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 McGee, Terra, Filippone, Miller & Wolfe.
NAYS: Councilman Rodman.
ABSENT: NONE.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Terra wished to comment on the recent storm that we recently experienced in town and congratulated the Office of Emergency Management headed by Jim Slattery for the outstanding work that they performed and stated that Jim and his son Kerin were available during that time and they stayed up all night during the expected high tide along with Joe Feiter and were prepared to handle any emergency that might have arisen. He commented that they did in fact handle several evacuations that were necessary as well as transporting some of the children home from school, due to flooding in their areas. He offered his thanks for their public service and commended them as well as members of the Police and Fire Departments who did an outstanding job.

Councilman Terra also commended the Oceanport First Aid Squad and the Public Works Department for their work and efforts during this storm.

Councilman Terra stated that both Fire Departments were on stand-by and the Oceanport Hook & Ladder Fire Company did a considerable amount of work in pumping out many basements that were flooded.

Councilman Terra stated that it was a wonderful experience to be so closely affiliated with these groups that are so dedicated to public service.

Councilman Terra reported that the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company Captain's report was given to him this evening and he was astounded to read that during the month of September 202.8 man hours had been expended to help maintain equipment and respond to fires and this is just another example of how much time and effort the Fire Department puts in for this Borough.

Councilman Terra also reported in the Police Report for the month of October again demonstrated their excellent patrolling capabilities with 11,000 miles put on the vehicles this past month and this really means that on every shift, they drive approximately 100 miles over the town which means they are constantly patrolling the Borough, which is the main reason our crime rate is so low.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone offered her thanks to Councilman McGee for the fine job he did as the Community Development Representative and it certainly was not due to a lack of effort that we did not get any funding for our project and unfortunately there was just a small amount of money to go around and we really didn't have a chance and commented that Councilman McGee did a great job.

Councilwoman Filippone reminded the Oceanport residents that Monday is Veteran's Day and we will be having our annual ceremony and it will begin promptly at 11:00 A.M. and we would appreciate if anyone who will be involved with the ceremony be at Borough Hall by 10:45 A.M. at the latest.

Councilwoman Filippone offered her thanks to the First Aid Squad for the fine job they did during the recent storm as well and they were on watch for the entire time for two days and they had moved the ambulances so that there was one on each side of town and stored them in private driveways so they would be available in case of emergencies and she commended Carol Connor and her group of volunteers who do an excellent job not only during a storm emergency, but every day all year.

Councilwoman Filippone congratulated Kevin Yamka who is a young man in town who just turned fourteen and recently attained the rank of Eagle

Scout and she and the Council attended his ceremony on Sunday and it was a fine event and Mr. Zigler and Dr. Parker who are the Scout Leaders should be commended not only for the part they play in having helped Kevin attain his Eagle Scout rank, but on a day to day basis with the Boy Scout Troop in this Borough.

Councilwoman Filippone congratulated Larry Taylor and Sol Clark on having won the recent election and looked forward to working with them next year and also congratulated Mayor Cavanagh on his re-election.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller also thanked the members of the Port-au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company for a delightful evening at Old Timers Night and they also congratulated the Fire and First Aid volunteers for the fine job they did during the recent storm.

Councilman Miller congratulated Councilwoman Filippone on her recent campaign, as well as both Larry Taylor and Sol Clark on their recent election to the Borough Council and the Mayor on his re-election.

Councilman Miller reported the Oceanport Soccer Program has just ended with a fine job done by all our volunteer coaches and officials and we had 225 youngsters involved with 16 volunteer coaches.

Councilman Miller stated that many of the things we do on the Council are at times a bit controversial and he just wanted to point out that they do not happen just on whims, but one of them that we just discussed was the cat ordinance and another ordinance that was passed a short time ago was an enlargement of the Police as far as an alcoholic beverage ordinance is concerned, which allows the police a little bit more leeway as far as stopping basically large parties of teenagers from drinking themselves into oblivion. He commented that he is very happy that we passed that ordinance every time he reads in the newspaper where someone is killed or injured due to teenage drinking and he related a recent story which took place in Ocean Township, where a twenty four year old was knifed and kicked and left. He commented that sober people would not do something like that and added that alcohol was responsible for this situation and he is pleased that we now have this ordinance in place in our Borough. He hoped that the other sending districts of Shore Regional High School would adopt similar ordinances so that we would have the surrounding towns included.

COUNCILMAN RODMAN: Councilman Rodman thanked Councilman McGee for his efforts with the Community Development application and commented that many of the towns involved are represented in these all day sessions which you are required to attend, by Borough Administrators and nearly every other town that applied for funding had a full time paid person sit out at these meetings which are time consuming. He also stated that Councilman McGee is not on salary like many of us since he works on a commission basis and gave up two full days to sit and listen to these presentations while we came up short and again, thanked him for his efforts in this matter.

Councilman Rodman reminded everyone that we will probably have to be talking about the early retirement incentive situation at the next work shop meeting and he stated that both he and the Borough Clerk are trying to get some information on this situation.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution R-91-61 R-91-61 transferring funds, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by Council.

R-91-62 Councilman Wolfe then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-91-62** regarding an emergency appropriation concerning the sewage infrastructure grant and the Borough's share in the amount of \$550, after which Councilman Wolfe moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

R-91-63 Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-91-63** regarding the return of excess taxes due to the reduction in a recent tax assessment appeal, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Filippone and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe reported that we had discussed at the last work shop meeting about the final time table on certain construction projects for road improvements in the Borough and he spoke with our Borough Engineer, Tom Rospos, today and was advised that the contractor will be in on Monday and do the final repaving of Shrewsbury Avenue from Comanche Drive to Werah Place and the final paving of Milton Avenue from Monmouth Boulevard to Asbury Avenue and during that day on Monday he will be doing the milling and profiling of Bridgewaters Drive and on Tuesday he will start the final paving work on that project and weather permitting, the project should be completed as far as the paving is concerned and complete a pretty extensive road improvement program, which combines grants by the Dept. of Transportation Trust Fund and the Borough's own Road Improvement Program.

Councilman Wolfe also wanted to commend the Oceanport Emergency Management volunteers and commented that they did an outstanding job this past storm with the severe flooding which occurred over an extensive period of time and it was a total team effort by various Departments in this town and actually each and every Department was involved in some aspect, right down to the front office Administrative Staff that was answering phones and at one point the Borough Hall became an island when the water came up and Diane Super never left post and manned the phones and it was quite a trying time for everyone but with their dedication and competence we pulled through the storm and he felt it is a re-enforcement for the time when New Jersey is met with a major hurricane and although this storm did not have the rain and winds, it did have a lot of serious flooding and we know that we will be taken care of properly and protected by the various Departments in the Borough.

Councilman Wolfe congratulated our Mayor on his re-election and also Sol Clark and Larry Taylor on their elections to the Council and looked forward to working with them all next year.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh commented the night before the storm he met with the Chief at Borough Hall and spoke with Jim Slattery, our Emergency Management Coordinator via telephone and as always, Jim was totally prepared and an excellent job was done by all of the departments and our emergency management vehicle was a great help in getting the children home from school, since many of the streets were under water due to the flooding. Mayor Cavanagh stated that until you go through one of these storms, you don't recognize all the things that go through your mind when it is about to happen. He also stated that it is also very comforting knowing that we now have a fully integrated plan, approved by the County and about to be submitted for approval by the State and it works extremely well and is a testament to the people who are involved.

Mayor Cavanagh offered his congratulations to Sol Clark and Larry Taylor on their recent election to Borough Council and looks forward to working with them next year.

Mayor Cavanagh also expressed his appreciation to Councilpersons McGee and Filippone for the time they put in with regard to the Community Development application and unfortunately when you do as many things as we do with volunteers, the kind of time that Councilman Rodman was speaking about earlier, is often required and it is an imposition but it is appreciated. Mayor Cavanagh stated that he feels badly that we did not receive funding for the project and felt that we deserved it and it was a tremendously necessary project and we have been looking at this for several years and we will probably apply again next year and hope for the best.

Mayor Cavanagh commented as we head for the new year, we will begin our budgetary thoughts in two months and he recently sent a memo to all Department Heads advising them that they should begin to figure out how they are going to get along with the budgeted amounts they had this year because we will not be putting any increases in our expenditures if we can help it and that is the message that everyone who voted on Tuesday sent to wherever it is going that the tax situation is such that they are going to expect elected officials to prioritize the problem and we will continue to do that here in Oceanport and continue to look around for ways to cut the spending aspect in order to hopefully strike a stabilized tax rate again next year.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments anyone might wish to make on any subject.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

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

Councilman Rodman stated he neglected to congratulate the two Councilmen and the Mayor on their victory and stated in all sincerity it is an honor to be selected by your fellow Oceanport residents to sit on this Council and wished them all good luck.

Councilwoman Filippone commended the Water Watch Committee headed by Councilman Miller and all the volunteers who were here earlier. She stated that as a riverfront homeowner, she has seen a drastic change in the quality of the river this year and a couple of weeks ago she could actually see the bottom of the river bed which is something that has not happened in quite some time.

Mayor Cavanagh stated as a follow up to Councilman Rodman's comments, he expressed his appreciation to the people of the town who have selected him to serve a third term and it is a job that he has enjoyed, although it brings with it some interesting ramifications and we will continue to do what we have been doing and hoped that we can still generate the same enthusiasm which results in the kind of attendance we saw tonight and the kind of activity that went on and it is what he has been about since he first became Mayor and he appreciates all the people around him who contribute to that and make it possible for us to go on as we do and that is why we are pictured as a desirable place to live and he is very proud of that and he will do his best as he has done in the past when he starts his third term.

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills listed on the Voucher Register dated November 7, 1991. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Rodman who voted no on the voucher due the Mayors Commission on Incineration and Councilman

Wolfe abstained from voting on the bills due Clayton Block. TOTAL 1991 VOUCHERS \$102,693.18. TOTAL 1991 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$15,360.94. TOTAL 1991 OPERATING FUND \$118,054.12. TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST ACCOUNT \$210.00. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT 3,320.49. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$7.00. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY ACCOUNT \$5.40. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-SHORE REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL \$148,425.20. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-TAX OVERPAYMENT \$2,864.25. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-COUNTY TAXES \$454,413.15. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-LIBRARY TAXES \$19,325.65. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-OPEN SPACE TAX \$11,228.23. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-HEALTH TAXES \$31,891.66. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-FIRE PREVENTION \$9.75. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

Mayor Cavanagh explained for the record that the voucher to the Mayors Commission on Incineration was not related to himself, but it is a Commission on Incineration to which a contribution is being given by the Environmental Commission.

At 9:24 P.M. Councilwoman Filippone moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held on November 21, 1991 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Varca

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK