

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
November 4 , 2004

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on November 4, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Gatta stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with law.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson, Briscione and Mayor Gatta.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Deputy Borough Clerk, Kimberly A. Jungfer and A/Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann, Jr.
- INVOCATION:** Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gatta led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on October 21, 2004 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilwoman Chaump moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon and approved by Council.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. The Deputy Clerk reported she was in receipt of an application for "special membership" to the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company for Nichols Berse. She stated that the required back round check has been completed and Mr. Berse is eligible for membership. Councilwoman Kahle moved the application be approved. Councilman Mahon seconded the motion which was approved by Council.
2. The Deputy Clerk reported she was in receipt of an application for "special membership" to the Port-Au-Peck Chemical Hose Fire Company for Robert T. Marra. She stated that a letter was received from the Monmouth Beach Fire Department stating the Mr. Marra was a member in good standing of that Department since 1984. Councilwoman Kahle moved the application be approved. Councilwoman Chaump seconded the motion which was approved by Council.
3. The Deputy Clerk asked for the approval of a raffle application for an on premise merchandise raffle to be held on November 26th and 27th at Monmouth Park Racetrack for Family & Children's Services of Monmouth County Inc., stating all the paperwork was in order. Councilwoman Chaump moved the application be approved. Councilman Briscione seconded the motion which was approved by Council.
4. The Deputy Clerk asked for the approval of a raffle application for an on premise 50/50 to be held on December 4, 2004 at Maple Place School for the Oceanport PTO stating all paperwork was in order. Councilman Briscione moved the application be approved. Councilman Mahon seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle stated that at the last meeting the Council approved a resolution awarding the sanitation and recycling contract to DeLisa Disposal and the calculations were wrong leaving out the 11 stand alone businesses in town. Councilwoman Kahle asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-86**, amending the contract amount to include those 11 stand alone businesses, after which she moved it be approved. Councilman Mahon seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilwoman Kahle reported that the Fire Department had 7 calls from the end of September through October totaling 26 man hours. She added that the Hook and Ladder's Ladies Auxiliary is having a spaghetti dinner on November 6th from 5 to 7 p.m. and a Chinese auction beginning after dinner and she urged everyone to attend.

Councilwoman Kahle reported that she and Councilwoman Chaump attended a seminar on Pay-to-Play and will be discussing that with Council.

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-87**, authorizing the Tax Assessor and Collector to cancel the assessments and taxes on Block 88, Lots 26.02 and 26.04 after which he moved to approve same. Councilwoman Kahle seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Deputy Clerk to read resolution **R-04-88** transferring funds after which he moved to approve same. Councilwoman Kahle seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon reported under Finance and Administration that he along with the Mayor, the Borough Clerk and the Deputy Borough Clerk completed the employee evaluations and those evaluations will be scored and used in this year's budget preparation.

Councilman Mahon stated that with regard to 2005 budget preparations, the CAP this year is 2.5% and this will have an impact on our flexibility as a municipality on the 2005 budget so he has asked Council at previous workshops and it is important that the Department heads are on board with this, is that budgets be level funded in 2005. Salary and insurance increases are more than likely going to absorb a large part of that 2.5% CAP. Any items that are above and beyond and cannot be managed within last year's budgeted amount will need to be justified separately so that Council can focus its attention on what is above and beyond what was previously approved.

Councilman Mahon reported under Public Works that last evening there was a meeting with the residents of Summerfield Avenue, the Borough Engineer, the Mayor and himself regarding concerns about drainage on Summerfield Avenue and today, he along with the Superintendent of Public Works went to Summerfield Avenue and after reviewing the situation, think there is a solution to the problem which will be addressed with the Borough Engineer. Funds in the budget have been identified to take care of the problem. He noted that this road is also one of the top ten roads on the Road Evaluation Program to be reconstructed, and has asked the Engineer to do an estimate for reconstruction for the 2005 Road Program.

Councilman Mahon stated he is in receipt of a Monthly Activity Report from Tom Crochet. One of the obvious things is that leaves are falling and to date Public Works has picked up 890 cubic yards, 480 in the last month alone. The leaf pickup is on schedule and will continue.

Councilman Mahon said he has received positive feedback on the Public Works staff attendance on Saturdays at the soccer fields to assist with the parking and safe guard the children from traffic. He thanked Tom Crochet for having them there.

Councilman Mahon reported that the irrigation system at Blackberry Bay Park is up and running and Tom Crochet has received programming instructions and it is being run on a daily basis to allow the germination of the seed.

Councilman Mahon stated that the Monmouth County Mosquito Commission has also completed the excavation on that creek the runs along side Blackberry Bay Park and are currently working on an outfall behind Algonquin Avenue and Bayview Place.

Councilman Mahon reported that there are 3 road repairs that need to be addressed, three quotes for the work are in place and it will hopefully be done before winter.

Councilman Mahon said that all proposals have been received on the feasibility study for the renovations to Borough Hall and there will be a meeting next Wednesday in the Library of the Building Committee for review of the proposals with a recommendation to Council as to the award.

Councilman Mahon stated that the entire Mayor and Council were invited to Shore Regional High School last Wednesday evening for the dedication of the Russell Olvadotti Library. Russell Olvadotti has served 34 years on the Shore Regional School Board and prior to that he served 12 years on the West Long Branch Board of Education which Councilman Mahon felt is very impressive and has been a Board member in some capacity four or five years longer then Councilman Mahon has been alive and he has done a great job, not only serving the children of West Long Branch, but also the children of Oceanport on the Shore Regional Board and perhaps the Council can do a Resolution acknowledging his years of service. He continued that the new Olvadotti library/media center is state of the art and is great for the students.

COUNCILMAN HOLDEN: Councilman Holden reported on the Police Department stating initial interviews are being conducted for a probationary officer.

Councilman Holden congratulated the volunteers for the passage of LOSAP and was glad to see that the voters of Oceanport passed the referendum, as it is the right thing and will go a long way in ensuring the stability of our volunteer services.

Councilman Holden reported that the organizational meeting of the County Community Development was yesterday at 10 a.m. and though he and his back up were unable to attend because of the hour of the meeting, he has contacted the agency and been assured that Oceanport will not be excluded from participation but we do have to fax over the Table of Needs by next week and will leave that to the rest of the Council to look at because it will dictate where the funds are used.

Councilman Holden announced that we have signed the Interlocal agreement for the Impound Yard passed at the last meeting and it has been forwarded over to Eatontown.

COUNCILWOMAN CHAUMP: Councilwoman Chaump stated she was very happy to see that LOSAP passed having worked on the committee with First Aid, Fire and Fire Police.

Councilwoman Chaump asked the Deputy Borough Clerk to read resolution **R-04-89** authorizing the removal of debris from Block 88, Lot 26.02 as per the contract of sale after which she moved to approve same. Councilman Mahon seconded the motion which was approved by Council.

Councilwoman Chaump said as Councilwoman Kahle had mentioned they both attended a seminar on Pay-To-Play and will be reporting on that at the workshop meeting.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Councilwoman Johnson asked the Deputy Borough Clerk to read resolution **R-04-90** authorizing the agreement with Statewide Insurance Fund for the last year of the three-year contract in a joint insurance fund of the State of New Jersey after which she moved to approve same. Councilwoman Chaump seconded the motion which was approved by Council with Councilmen Holden and Mahon abstaining.

Councilwoman Johnson reported that the Capital Improvement Committee met on October 28th with Public Works, Recreation and Buildings and Grounds in attendance and each presented their five year plan and their concerns. The Public Safety Committee will be coming before Capital Improvement on December 6th and will be discussing their five year plan.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione said he was also very happy for the volunteers in town that LOSAP was passed by the voters.

Councilman Briscione commended Public Works for their work at the soccer fields, the personnel there has been fantastic both in direction and in their relationship with the public.

Councilman Briscione reported that the Master Plan Review Committee met on October 26th to discuss the Master Plan Re-Examination and the next meeting will be involving the planner for the Borough.

Councilman Briscione stated that the local Oceanport Racetrack Advisory Committee met this past week in response to the article in the paper regarding Senator Codey's comments about night racing at Monmouth Park. A letter was drafted to the Racing Commission addressing the Borough's opposition and concerns. The letter was read on the record today at the Commission hearing at which requests for 2005 racing dates were submitted. The tentative dates for Monmouth Park for 2005 are May 14th, 15th, 21st, 22nd, 28th, 29th, and 30th, and then June 2nd thru September 25th. The request by the Sports and Exposition Authority was for day racing.

Councilman Briscione reported that he and the Mayor had met earlier in the day with Peter Cammarano, Chief of Staff for Senator Codey, and the Mayor will report on that meeting.

MAYOR GATTA: Mayor Gatta congratulated Wolf Hill School for receiving the Governor's School of Excellence Award, they were one of three schools in Monmouth County who received this award. They also got a stipend of \$25,000.00 from the New Jersey Department of Education.

Mayor Gatta reminded everyone about the Veteran's Day Program on Thursday, November 11th at 11:00 a.m. here in the Council Chambers. The Wall of Honor will be unveiled at the end of the ceremony and she invited everyone to come. Students from both Maple Place and Wolf Hill will also participate in the program.

Mayor Gatta reported on the meeting held earlier in the day with Peter Cammarano, Chief of Staff for Senator Codey. Both she and Councilman Briscione felt it was a very productive meeting. The Mayor brought the letter that was sent to the Racing Commission along to the meeting and the

Senator's staff said there was a certain amount of miscommunication and assured the Mayor and Councilman Briscione that in the future the Senator and his staff would work closely with the Borough.

Mayor Gatta continued that the Senator's staff asked if there was something in particular that they could do and the Mayor thought it would be a good idea to invite them to the Town Meeting to be held on November 22nd. The Mayor encouraged everyone to come out because a high profile member of Senator Codey's staff will be there to address the concerns of residents.

Mayor Gatta stated that the impression she and Councilman Briscione took away from the meeting was that night racing is not in the near future for Monmouth Park, while Mr. Cammarano did not say it was something that would never happen, at this time it is not on the fast track.

Mayor Gatta further stated that this meeting also gave them a chance to speak with Mr. Cammarano about some of the current concerns that have been addressed with the race track and we all want to work cooperatively and are all there for the same goal, to make the race track a viable entity for our town. Also mentioned were some Breeders Cup concerns as well.

Councilman Briscione added that he too felt it was a great meeting and thinks the night racing was just a miscommunication and the intent is to work closely with the Borough over the next few years to see that improvements are made to the race track. He feels it is Senator Codey's intent to restore Monmouth Park to what he feels it should be in the northeast racing scene.

Mayor Gatta encouraged the volunteers who have not yet done so, to schedule the free heart screening.

Mayor Gatta reminded everyone of the Town Meeting on November 22nd and while the race track will be discussed, the Mayor and Council will be addressing any other issues that come forth.

Mayor Gatta encouraged everyone to support the Hook and Ladder's Ladies Auxiliary at their spaghetti dinner on Saturday, November 6th.

Mayor Gatta was heartened by the overwhelming response of the residents for LOSAP and congratulated Hugh Sharkey and Ricky Gallo on their election and looked forward to working with them towards the betterment of Oceanport.

Mayor Gatta then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might wish to make.

Peter Deller, 1262 Turf Drive, congratulated Jay, Ricky and Hugh on the election. Mr. Deller then spoke with regard to the Fireman's Fair and that there was a rumor that only \$1,300.00 was made and he just wanted to set the record straight that the Hook and Ladder Fire Company made \$13,000.00 from the event minus \$450.00 dollars for overhead.

Mayor Gatta apologized for the oversight but congratulated Jay Briscione on his election to a full term on Council.

Councilman Holden felt it was appropriate to comment from the public and not from the dais, and congratulated Hugh Sharkey and Mr. Gallo as well.

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

Councilman Mahon moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated November 4, 2004. It was seconded by Councilwoman and approved by Council. Capital Trust Total \$26,270.75. Escrow Trust Total \$6,512.00. Total 2003 Vouchers \$69,797.91. 2004 Vouchers Paid \$12,704,765.83. 2004 Voucher Paid This Meeting \$1,494,820.38. Total 2004 Vouchers \$14,199,586.21. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 8:40 p.m. Councilman Mahon moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on November 18, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kimberly A. Jungfer', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

KIMBERLY A JUNGFER
DEPUTY BOROUGH CLERK