

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Oceanport, New Jersey  
September 18, 1997

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on September 18, 1997 at 8:13 P.M.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Gemma, Filippone, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe, Silkworth and Mayor Cavanagh.
- 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 Cavanagh led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the regular meeting held on September 4, 1997 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, 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 unanimously approved by Council.

**CLERK'S REPORTS:**

1. Raffle application made by the Oceanport PTO to be held on 12/6/97, 50/50 on premise raffle.

The Clerk advised the Mayor and Council that the paperwork was found to be in order, after which Councilman Miller moved to approve said raffle application. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

**COMMITTEES:**

**COUNCILMAN GEMMA:** Councilman Gemma reported that last week he attended a seminar at the Statewide Worker's Compensation Fund regarding safety in the work place and based upon that meeting, the company will be setting up a date to come in and review the claims that have taken place since their last visit as well as speaking with the employees in the Public Works Department with regard to continued safety matters and this will be set up through our Borough Clerk, Patti Varca.

Councilman Gemma also reported that he received a telephone call from the Monmouth County Planning Board with regard to several meetings dealing with Cross Acceptance and he has notified the Planning Board Chairman, Jim Slattery with the meeting schedule and invited any interested members of the Council who would like to attend any of these meetings, to let him know and he would advise them of the schedule.

**COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE:** Councilwoman Filippone called for the second reading and public hearing on an ordinance with regard to an amendment of the vehicle and traffic ordinance and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED THE "BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC ORDINANCE" PASSED AND APPROVED APRIL 1, 1993.**

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

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

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

The Clerk called the roll:

**AYES:** Councilpersons Gemma, Filippone, Miller, Taylor, Wolfe and Silkworth.  
**NAYS:** NONE.  
**ABSENT:** NONE.  
**ABSTAIN:** NONE.

Councilwoman Filippone reminded all residents that on November 13 between the hours of 9-11 AM at the Old Wharf House, flu shots will be given at a cost of \$5.00 and pneumonia shots will be given at a cost of \$10.00 and if you are under Medicare B, there will be no charge. She also stated that pre-registration is not required and the clinic will open at 8:30 A.M.

Councilwoman Filippone recognized Ed Anderson in the audience and commented that he has been one of her volunteers for programs like the flu and pneumonia shots for the past fourteen years and she thanked him for all his assistance with the various programs run in the Borough.

Councilwoman Filippone commended the quick response of our First Aid Squad, the school nurse, Mrs. Screen and Patrolman VanBrunt who responded to an emergency at the Wolfhill School, where one of the teachers was taken very ill and everyone did a great job, especially from keeping this tragic emergency away from the children and as far as she knew, the teacher had lived through the night, but she had no further updates on her condition.

Councilwoman Filippone gave the First Aid Squad Captain's Report for the month of August stating there were 17 emergencies; 1 motor vehicle; 15 mutual aid calls, which shows that other towns are experiencing problems with their volunteers being available; 4 fires, which turned out to be only alarms going off; 8 advance life support calls and 22 calls to Monmouth Park. She commented that everyone hearing these monthly reports can see how busy they are and they have now only received 51% of donations from the town, totaling approximately \$27,000 which is about where they were last year, which is not good, since costs go up and their donations are remaining the same. She urged anyone who has not yet donated to their fund drive and are able to contribute, to please do so and to remember that they are always there for you every day.

Councilwoman Filippone read a letter from a resident who had fallen out of a tree, some 23 feet to the ground and commended the quick response of the First Aid Squad and their excellent care in getting him to Jersey Shore where he was hospitalized for approximately one month. He ended the letter by stating without their quick response and know how, he would not be able to be writing the letter commending all of the volunteers who assisted him in this emergency.

**COUNCILMAN MILLER:** Councilman Miller also offered his appreciation to the First Aid Squad and had reason to call them when he had first moved here and someone in his family became ill.

Councilman Miller reported under Water Watch he wanted to thank Chris Widdis and his granddaughter, Lindsey Widdis for undertaking the water sampling in Branchport Creek from last May to December, sampling eight various sites for the Borough. He advised that what we have found is that the numbers regarding the fecal coliform counts have not changed over the past three years, even though the track is now hooked up to the NMCRSA system and the Mayor is going to set up a walk through for us in order to see what is wrong to keep these types of numbers elevated.

Councilman Miller advised that he has received correspondence from Detective Sgt. Sutton regarding meeting schedules for the PBA and Police Committee to begin contract negotiations and hopefully this can be quickly resolved.

Councilman Miller commented that we had experienced some parking problems at Blackberry Bay Park when the Roller Hockey Rink was first put up and they were taken care of quickly, but now with the new soccer season approaching and over 300 children playing on 27 different teams, plus traveling teams, we are experiencing problems again. He reported that after speaking with Chief Joyce, Captain Bebout and Tom Crochet, Superintendent of Public Works, they have worked out a plan that hopefully will end the parking problems for the trailers and fencing will be put up and there will be officers at the Park on Saturdays directing traffic and handing out parking plans so everyone understands where they should be parking.

Councilman Miller reminded everyone that the Roller Hockey Committee will be conducting a Casino Night fund raiser on Saturday, September 20 from 7-11 PM at the Shrewsbury Sailing Club and tickets can be obtained from Patrolman Tagerty.

**COUNCILMAN TAYLOR: NO REPORT.**

**COUNCILMAN WOLFE:** Councilman Wolfe reported that he had attended the last Recreation Committee and received a list for minor repairs at the Old Wharf House from Charles Schanck, which he has forwarded on to the Public Works Department to take care of them.

**COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: NO REPORT.**

**MAYOR CAVANAGH:** Mayor Cavanagh read a proclamation proclaiming the week of October 5-11, 1997 as Fire Prevention Week in the Borough of Oceanport and stated that this year's theme is "Know When to Go: React Fast to Fire!" and we will post this in the Borough Hall.

Mayor Cavanagh also advised that he is in receipt of a letter from a resident of Serand Avenue thanking the Public Works Department for repairs to that street, which had a lot of pot holes and the resident hoped that the street would be repaved sometime in the future and the Mayor will bring this to the attention of the Borough Engineer and see where this street falls in the Borough's continuing five year street plan.

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

### **PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Mrs. Sacco, 56 Seneca Place asked what the ordinance dealt with that was adopted earlier this evening, to which the Borough Attorney explained that it allows the Court Administrator to accept fines for parking violations rather than making the person come to Court and go before the Judge to have the fine set.

Mrs. Sacco then asked why a stop sign had been recently installed on Itaska Place at the intersection of Seneca Place and this did not make any sense to her because there are only one or two houses on Itaska Place and maybe two other driveways and she felt the sign should be on Seneca Place.

Mayor Cavanagh asked Mr. Crochet, who was in the audience, to comment since he installed the sign and Mr. Crochet stated that a request had been received from residents in the area because there are many young children there and he also had reviewed the Vehicle and Traffic ordinance, which requires a stop sign at that location.

Mr. Margalotti, Borough Attorney, also explained to Mrs. Sacco that any installation of traffic signs are approved by the DOT and they had reviewed this ordinance prior to the Council adopting same and commented that Seneca Place was considered to be a through street.

Mrs. Sacco complained about the number of cars speeding on Seneca and stated that one afternoon she counted over 50 cars speeding and had begun taking down their license plate numbers, but it became too much because of the amount of cars speeding.

Mayor Cavanagh suggested that Mrs. Sacco should contact the Police when something like this happens and the Chief could have a patrol car in the area to check on this type of matter, to which Mrs. Sacco stated it was not her job and she felt that if everyone else could speed on this street, then so could she.

Mayor Cavanagh stated that this would be something she would have to take up with the Court Judge, if she were to receive a speeding ticket and stated that he would have the Clerk advise the Chief of the speeding on the street as well as to inquire why the Stop sign was installed and if she cared to contact Mrs. Varca next week, she could advise her of what the Chief had to say, but again, he reiterated that the Chief is available most days and she could always speak with him directly about any problems that occur in her neighborhood.

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve the bills as listed on the Voucher Register dated September 18, 1997. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$38,084.41. TOTAL 1997 OPERATING FUND \$38,084.41. TOTAL RECREATOPM TRUST ACCOUNT \$3,550.50. TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE II ACCOUNT \$1,617.00. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

Mayor Cavanagh stated for the record that he will be out of town from Sunday, September 21 until Wednesday, October 1, 1997 and Council President Taylor will be in charge.

At 8:40 P.M. Councilman Miller moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on September 29, 1997 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Patricia L. Varca". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

PATRICIA L. VARCA  
BOROUGH CLERK