

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
July 17, 1997

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on July 17, 1997 at 8:18 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 June 23, 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. Police report for the month of JUNE, 1997 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN GEMMA: NO REPORT.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: Councilwoman Filippone called for the introduction of an amendment to the fee ordinance and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND SUPPLEMENT AN ORDINANCE ENTITLED THE "BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT FEES ORDINANCE" PASSED AND APPROVED APRIL 16, 1981.**

Councilwoman Filippone moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Miller.

The Clerk called the roll:

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

Councilwoman Filippone then moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on August 21, 1997 beginning at 8:00 P.M. and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Miller.

The Clerk called the roll:

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

Councilwoman Filippone gave the Captain's Report for the Oceanport First Aid Squad for the month of June stating there were a total of 16 emergencies; 12 motor vehicle calls; 5 mutual aid calls; 5 fire calls and 18 other for a total of 310 miles traveled and 425 man/woman hours. She also reported there were a total of 6 advance life support calls and 4 calls to Monmouth Park, so the Squad Members have been extremely busy, as always.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller reported that there was a ribbon cutting ceremony at the new playground at Blackberry Bay Park which was attended by Mayor Cavanagh and Councilwoman Silkworth as well as Tom Crochet, Superintendent of Public Works and Don Hansen, who is our Public Works Consultant. He extended his congratulations and appreciation to Tom Crochet and the employees in the Public Works Department for the many hours they spent putting this playground equipment together and commented that they did an excellent job and the children were already putting the new equipment to good use.

Councilman Miller reported under the Police Report for June, that Steven Cioffi had completed a course in Basic Fingerprint Processing at the Monmouth County Police Academy as well as a course on Basic Fire Investigation given at the Camden County Fire Academy.

Councilman Miller commented that under the Water Watch Committee, the quality of the river has been pretty good until we got all of the very hot weather in June without any rain and there has been a great amount of growth of aquatic plants, which are now dying due to the warm temperatures in the river, which are 80+ and this is causing a lack of oxygen in the water, which is causing problems for the fish and crabs. He stated if the weather conditions do not improve, we will continue to have problems and possibly some fish kills because of the lack of oxygen in the water.

Councilman Miller also advised that last Sunday, the Waterways Committee went out in the Litterbug looking for floatables and trash in the river and he stated they were very pleased that the river was relatively free of these types of materials and debris.

Councilman Miller stated that the Water Watch Committee has noticed the increase in professional crabbers in the Shrewsbury River and they are allowed, under the law, to place 400 traps per crabber, outside of the Channel and he stated that these traps are very dangerous at low tide, since they are out of the water quite a bit and the Committee felt this is a serious hazard to people on boats and jet skis on the River. He commented that these crab traps have been prohibited from being used in the Chesapeake Bay in Maryland because of the dangerous conditions they cause and obviously the crabbers have moved north.

There was a brief discussion regarding the traps and where and how they are set, etc. with Mayor Cavanagh suggesting that Councilman Miller speak with Richard Gruskos of the Water Watch Committee, who is very familiar with this situation and have him get a copy of the Legislation which outlawed these traps in Maryland, since Councilman Miller advised that the Water Watch Committee has written to Assemblyman Corodemus asking for his help with legislation for our waterways.

COUNCILMAN TAYLOR: Councilman Taylor asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-97-55** regarding the proposed expansion of the NJ Transit rail service for southern New Jersey, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by Council.

R-97-55

Councilman Taylor reminded residents that there is a dump truck at the Recycling Drop Off Center for phone books and asked everyone to please put them in the truck and not in the junk mail receptacle and advised that the truck will be there till the end of July.

Councilman Taylor reported that he is in receipt of correspondence advising the Borough that we will be receiving \$3,385.64 for our 1995 Recycling Grant, which is the end of this program and we should be receiving the money in the very near future.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-97-56** waiving building permit fees for work to be done on Borough properties, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

R-97-56

Councilman Wolfe moved to advance Herbert Wolfe of the Public Works Department from the position of Helper III to Helper II, which will include maintenance and mechanical work on the Borough vehicles in the Public Works Department, at an annual salary of \$21,000. It was seconded by Councilwoman Silkworth and unanimously approved by Council.

Councilman Wolfe reported that he had a request from Tom Crochet, Superintendent of Public Works to begin working at 6:00 AM rather than 7:00 AM during the extreme hot weather we have been experiencing, so the men can begin work while it is still a bit cooler and be done by the hottest part of the day. He stated he felt this was a good idea and the men will still be working a 40 hour week, but it will be left up to Tom Crochet to change the work schedule when we go through a period of extreme hot weather and felt it was a very good idea.

Councilman Wolfe stated he had received a request from the Recreation Committee to have the pilings checked at the dock located at Old Wharf Park and unfortunately, the wood that had been used was not the proper type for this purpose and several of the pilings are rotten and the dock area has been fenced off for safety reasons.

Councilwoman Filippone asked if the Senior Citizen Committee had been advised of this, since they are planning some functions at the Old Wharf House, but it was explained to her that it is not the deck in back of the building, but the dock itself and the Clerk was requested to contact Mrs. Iamello, President of the Senior Citizens Committee, and advise her of what is taking place at the dock area in case she receives any inquiries.

Councilman Wolfe also advised that Tuesday evening he attended a meeting at the Monmouth County Landfill with the Borough Attorney regarding the new Legislation stating that garbage contractors can now go to any approved dumping site and the concerns that the County has and what steps they are going to take to keep the contractors using this facility. He advised that there will be a full report given at the next work shop meeting.

Councilman Wolfe moved to temporarily appoint Councilman Taylor to the Finance Committee, since he had signed the Vouchers at the work shop meeting on July 14, 1997 in the absence of Councilwoman Filippone. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by Council.

COUNCILWOMAN SILKWORTH: NO REPORT.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh wished Councilwoman Filippone a successful trip, which she is taking to Alaska and leaving this Saturday.

Mayor Cavanagh also reported that former Mayor Baxter is recuperating after surgery and he had lunch with him today and he is doing well and felt that within the next week or so, he would be back to his old self.

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

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 as listed on the Voucher Register dated July 17, 1997. It was seconded by Councilman Taylor and unanimously approved by Council. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS \$163,431.49. TOTAL 1997 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$49,717.29. TOTAL 1997 OPERATING FUND \$213,148.78. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT \$994.44. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT \$8,336.00. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT \$1,612.11. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY ACCOUNT \$57.60. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER-FIRE PREVENTION \$69.64. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER)

At 8:45 P.M. Councilwoman Silkworth moved to adjourn the meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on August 21, 1997 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Gemma and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK