REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
July 22, 2004

REGULAR MEETING: The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on July 22, 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: Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and A/Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann.

INVOCATION: Borough Chaplain Berry gave the invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Gatta asked the Boy Scouts who were in the audience to come forward and lead the Council and the audience in the flag salute.

As copies of the minutes from the Special Meeting held on May 13th and the regular meetings held on May 20th, June 3rd and June 17th, 2004 had been made available to the members of the Governing Body, Councilman Holden moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Mayor Gatta stated for the record that at the work shop meeting held on July 19, 2004 the Governing Body went into Executive Session to discuss contract negotiations.

Mayor Gatta then stated that she wanted to recognize a young woman who is the recipient of the Girl Scout Gold Award which is the highest achievement in Girl Scouting and it is earned by Girl Scouts who act on determination, commitment and a desire to help others and focuses on an age group between 14 and 17 year olds, Girl Scouts interests and personal journey through leadership skills, career exploration, self improvement and service. She continued that achieving the Girl Scout Award builds self-confidence while developing leadership skills and a sense of responsibility and also allows girls to make a dramatic contribution to their community. Mayor Gatta advised that there are actually five parts to a Girl Scout Gold Award and she believed it was equivalent to the Eagle Scout award in Boy Scouts and stated that the requirements are that you need to earn four cadet and senior Girl Scout interest projects awards on topics related to your goal project award; you earn the Career Exploration pin; the senior Girl Scout Leadership Award; you earn the senior Girl Scout Challenge pin and then you plan and implement a Girl Scout Gold Award project that includes at least 50 hours of work and she felt it most likely exceeds the 50 hours.

Mayor Gatta then asked Alexandra Scholtz to come up and receive the proclamation from the Mayor offering the congratulations of the entire Governing Body and citizens of the Borough on this most impressive achievement and she asked Alexandra to tell everyone about her project. Ms. Scholtz explained that her project was entitled "A Day at the Races" and she put in over 200 hours on this project and it was interacting with the elderly in nursing homes and wheelchair bound persons

and brought games and liveliness to the nursing home and spent the afternoon playing games with the seniors in the nursing home.

Mayor Gatta stated everyone was very proud of her accomplishment and asked Alexandra to explain her vest to which Ms. Scholtz showed the Girl Scout Gold award pin and explained several of the many badges that she has earned during her time in scouting.

Mayor Gatta then stated our next acknowledgement this evening goes to Jean Mangold who has given so much of her time and talent to all of us in Oceanport and we are all deeply appreciative of all her fine work for the Borough and she asked Dr. Kaloss to come forward and give us a little history.

Dr. Kaloss, Chairman of the Water Watch Committee stated he wanted to introduce Steve Collins who is the Vice-Chairman of the Committee and Ed Miller who helped begin the Oceanport Water Watch Committee and he thanked the Governing Body for allowing them time to make their presentation.

Dr. Kaloss stated he wanted to give a little history about what this Committee does and asked Mr. Miller to come forward and explain the workings of this organization. Mr. Miller stated that after being elected to the Council, he and then Councilwoman Filippone saw the need for a concerted effort to bring to the attention to Monmouth Park with regard to the manner in which they were maintaining the stable and backstretch areas. He continued that one of the wonderful things about being a part of the Water Watch Committee was that he was able to reach out to many of his students and former students over a nine-year period to volunteer with the testing. He stated that the testing was very difficult until he found out that one of his former students, Jean Manigold, was the lead of the lab at the sewer authority and she was a big part of getting the analysis done and at a reasonable cost, since that was also a concern of the Committee and as a result of all of the years of testing, the track did clean up their act expending over a million dollars in the process which has cleaned up the Shrewsbury River for all of us and he thanked both Ms. Manigold and Dr. Kaloss for inviting him to attend the meeting tonight.

Dr. Kaloss explained that no one has any idea of what it takes to get a group of volunteers together to take samples from the Shrewsbury River and do it monthly and then to contact Jean at the Two Rivers Water Reclamation Authority and to coordinate this entire process and she was always so helpful and willing to help us in any way she could and she has since retired and the Committee misses her very much.

Dr. Kaloss and Steve Collins presented her with a plaque thanking her for her assistance over the years to the Water Watch Committee and expressing the appreciation of the Committee.

Mayor Gatta also expressed her thanks and appreciation to Ms. Manigold on behalf of herself, the members of the Governing Body and all the residents of the Borough for all she has done.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of JUNE, 2004 and a copy will be posted on the Bulletin Board.
2. Raffle applications made by the following:
   A} Special Olympics of NJ, Inc. to be held on 9/4/04-on premise merchandise raffle.
   B} Middlesex County Bar Foundation to be held on 8/6/04-50/50 on premise cash raffle and on premise raffle for merchandise raffle.

The Clerk advised that all the paperwork was found to be in order and the appropriate fees had been paid, after which Councilman Mahon moved to approve the raffles. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

3. Resolution **R-04-58** granting approval for games of chance to be held at Monmouth Park regarding Haskell Day, which the Clerk read followed by Councilwoman Johnson who moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump and approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Councilwoman Kahle asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-59** awarding a bid to Wilcox Roofing for repairs to the Borough Hall roof, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Holden who abstained from voting.

Councilwoman Kahle reported under Water Watch that the Committee is continuing to test the Oceanport waters and reported an elevation at Site 7 which is at Old Wharf Park due mainly to the amount of geese in this area. She continued that at their meeting they also discussed the 7 mile slick noted off of Sandy Hook and continuing down to some of our beaches and plastic, wood, syringes and the like washed up on our shores and the cause was never determined even though they had a helicopter review, but there were no beach closings. She continued that the State has also changed their water testing protocol and have switched from the fecal coliform, which is what we use, because the State feels that their new procedures are a better indicator of human pathogens and the Water Watch Committee is taking this under advisement and looking into changing their testing as well.

Councilwoman Kahle reported that Buildings & Grounds has been very busy this past month with the lighting at Borough Hall updated to a more energy efficient fluorescent lighting and we expec to see a savings of approximately 50% on our lighting bills and we will be monitoring these savings as the bills come in and the Community Center is getting a face lift with the help of Public Works painting, replacing the gutters and now we are researching replacing the flooring and she thanked them for all their hard work. She noted that as stated in the resolution just approved, we are going to make some repairs to the roof on Borough Hall and this was an unforeseen expense so the money had to be taken from the recycling center project we had planned and that will be hopefully done next year.

Councilwoman Kahle noted that the Fire Department has been updating their equipment and taking inventory and doing some repairs this month. She continued that they had nine calls for the month of June with five of them being fire alarms, one motor vehicle accident, one an animal rescue, one drill and one smoke condition. She also noted that the Department wished to thank Anthony Forlini for his generous donation of the hydraulic extrication tool and this tool will make the firefighter's job easier when they enter a burning building as well as using it for auto extrications.

Councilwoman Kahle advised that the Bulletin Deadline was July 7 and it should be in everyone's mailboxes the beginning of August and the next deadline for articles will be September 7 and reminded everyone to please submit their material in a timely manner.

Councilwoman Kahle commented that the Environmental Commission held their poster contest the end of May entitled Birds in the Oceanport Environment and there were many wonderful entries and some of the winning posters are on display in the glass cases as you enter Borough Hall.

Councilwoman Kahle ended her report by asking everyone to continue to keep Larry Seymour and Joe Wolf in their thoughts as they are still in Iraq.

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-60** authorizing a DOT grant application be filed by the Borough Engineer for Evergreen Lane, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-61** authorizing a DOT grant application be filed by the Borough Engineer for Port-au-Peck Avenue, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-62** authorizing a DOT grant application be filed by the Borough Engineer for Sagamore Avenue, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-63** authorizing a DOT grant application be filed by the Borough Engineer for Horseneck Point Road, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-64** authorizing additional payments to Mr. & Mrs. Alan Schneider regarding Blue Acres funding after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-65** approving a grant agreement between the Borough and the DEP for a grant in the amount of $8,468 for storm water regulations after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon moved to authorize the Borough Engineer to advertise and receive bids for the 2004 road program. It was seconded by Councilman Holden and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon explained that Evergreen Lane is a connecting road to Burnt Mill Circle and this is a project that we have received grant money from the DOT Trust Fund last year and we are tying both roads in with another grant, but we cannot confirm success in the additional grant for Evergreen at this time, but it is a transfer of funding from one project to another and we anticipate success in receiving $35,000 in grant monies for Evergreen. He continued that we will bid those two jobs together and once approval is received from the DOT, we will be able to begin construction some time in October.

Councilman Mahon stated the other resolutions were authorizing grant applications to be submitted for funding for Port-au-Peck Ave., Sagamore Ave. and Horseneck Point Road and explained that as we evaluate our road program each year, it is a toss up as to what the priorities of the road in terms of condition and the ability of the Borough to fund the repairs we try to apply for the grants for the roads would we feel would be good candidates for the DOT funding allowing the Borough to make renovations on the other roadways that have a lesser chance of being approved. He continued that we are also doing additional work on Manitto Place and several other streets that we are paving which were not candidates for the grant program.

Councilman Mahon stated with regard to the resolution on Blue Acres funding, that it relatively self-explanatory and what was worked out when the Schneider's sold that property to the Borough, there was an agreement that if there were additional funding made available from the State, after the

Borough deducted their expenses that had not been reimbursed at the time, the balance due the Schneider's would be paid.

Councilman Mahon stated with regard to the storm water regulations grant, this is a surprise and as some of the public may know, over the last several years on the Federal level, there have been storm water regulations that were part of legislation on that level and it was up the individual States to implement that legislation into rules and the State has done that and issued the regulations in the first quarter of this year. He continued that as a municipality we have to begin to comply with those regulations and we have to identify catch basins that empty directly into the river or within 100 feet from another basin that empties directly into the river, we have to implement an ordinance which covers our responsibility in terms of the program that we are going to establish to clean and maintain all the catch basins within that criteria each year and how we are going to go about, if its going to be a shared service with the County or with the Sewer Authority or if we are going to purchase a three in one type vehicle to handle that work. He continued that this grant is to help us move along in achieving compliance with those standards and it will be a help.

Councilman Mahon reported on Cayuga and Gooseneck Point project and advised that these projects began around the last week in June and the underground drainage work is near completion and he pointed out that the catch basins are low because if we have rainfall now when the roads are raised, there will be no where for this water to go so the castings for those drainage inlets will be raised as the road surface is raised and prior to final paving and we anticipate that the curbs will be in place in the next two weeks on Cayuga followed closely with the curbs completed on Gooseneck Point. He explained that they are two different designs, but they both are there to trap the water and guide it to the catch basins. He asked the residents to be patient a bit longer and the projects should be completed by the middle of August and the contractor appears to be doing a very good job.

Councilman Mahon advised that he is in receipt of the Superintendent of Public Works monthly activity report and commented that Tom Crochet and his crew have been doing a great job this year and continued that we have taken on a lot of additional duties which include the soccer fields at Port-au-Peck Avenue and they have been out there along with Marty McGann, Borough Attorney, Police Department and Engineer to effectively takeover that property and some new signs have gone up and an old entrance closed and a new entrance opened on Port-au-Peck Ave. He continued that in the near future we should have a prisoner detail out there from the County to perform a thorough clean up of the area and then we will look at the soccer program for the fall, since Blackberry Bay Park will be closed.

Councilman Mahon commented that the Monmouth County Mosquito Commission has been out with the Public Works Department and have started work behind Pleasant Place which runs to Gold St. and they are clearing some of the debris away so we can have water flow when it rains.

Councilman Mahon stated we have also been performing street inspections on utility street openings and we have gone through electric and water and are presently waiting for the water company to come back and make their repairs to previous openings.

Councilman Mahon advised that the Borough wide street sweeping is underway and we are now back at full staff so we are able to get to some of the projects that we had to put on hold, such as the Community Center project and trimming some trees in the parks.

Mayor Gatta asked Councilman Mahon to report on the Building Committee with regard to the modernization of the Borough Hall. Councilman Mahon stated that along with Councilwoman Kahle, he chairs the Building Modernization Committee made up of Borough employees and volunteers who

have been put together to review the status of the Borough Hall and point us in the right direction of wants and needs and feasibility for the future expansion of this building to meet Borough needs for two to three decades. He continued that we have a volunteer architect, Erik Wagner, to help us out and guide us and he has gotten us to the point where we are have already begun seeking proposals for professionals in the architectural area to provide us with a feasibility proposal and what that will do is to give the Committee and Governing Body a look at what kind of budget and what our space requirements are and what they need to be, what it will cost, etc. He stated we have received one back already, which will be reviewed by our Borough Engineer, and at that point, the Engineer and Committee will make a recommendation to the Borough Council as to which architectural firm to hire to complete the study. Councilman Mahon stated this gets us to the next stage of the project to know and understand how much it is going to cost us and how we are going to pay for it and that process should be complete within the next couple of months.

COUNCILMAN HOLDEN: Councilman Holden reported that the Police Report for the month of June shows that the Dispatchers answered 1,077 calls with patrols responding to 686 calls, 278 summonses issued, 8 criminal mischief summonses issued and one weapons violation. He also noted that during June, Patrolman VanBrunt completed the Law Enforcement Supervision course; Patrolman Ray Ciani completed the Beretta Factory Armorer Training course; Patrolman Mike Chenoweth completed the Traffic Engineering For Police course and the Trucks and Terrorism Seminar/Workshop and Dispatchers Diana Panigrosso and Thomas Pullaro completed the Basic Course for Class One Special Law Enforcement Officers.

Councilman Holden commented that he felt it was worth noting that month after month he reads off the training activity of the patrolmen and the other officers in our Police Department and he felt that they are really going above and beyond the call of duty and giving us a very professional Department.

Councilman Holden announced that there have been additional security procedures approved by the security of the Municipal Court and we are also looking into an Interlocal Agreement for an impound area, which we hopefully will be able to formalize at the next meeting and he indicated under Community Development, with the assistance Councilpersons Briscione and Chaump, an application has been submitted on behalf of the Oceanport First Aid Squad and he also added his thanks and appreciation to Mr. Monteforte, an architect, who has given much of his time to help with this project on a volunteer basis.

Councilman Holden reported that both the Shade Tree Committee and the Capital Improvement Committee have been active through the summer and he will have a full report with respect to both committees after their next meetings.

COUNCILWOMAN CHAUMP: Councilwoman Chaump asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-66** amending the previous Coastal Alliance resolution regarding membership to include members of the Governing Body, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilwoman Chaump stated before going forward with the next resolution, she wanted to give some background and explained that it is a resolution regarding a referendum question on the November ballot, which has to do with LOSAP, which stands for Length of Service Award Program. She continued that a Committee of Jim Slattery, Dale Burd and Joe Lombardo met with the Council at the last workshop meeting and the first step in approving this program is to approve a resolution; the second step will be an ordinance and the final step will be to be put on the ballot as a referendum question in the November election for the Oceanport citizens to decide. She stated that before the

ordinance is finalized, the three Council Liaisons from Fire, Police and First Aid will meet with the Committee just mentioned and review the ordinance and come up with a point system, the amount and move forward from there.

Councilwoman Chaump then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-67** regarding a referendum question on the November ballot regarding Length of Service Awards Program (LOSAP) after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council with the exceptions of Councilpersons Mahon and Johnson abstaining from the vote.

Councilwoman Chaump reported at the First Aid meeting in June it was reported there were 31 calls and have a new member, Amanda Sutton who will be going off to college, but she will be volunteering her services in the summer when she is home. She continued that the First Aid Squad is in the process of their fund drive and she urged everyone to give generously.

Councilwoman Chaump announced that the circus is coming to town and the First Aid Squad is having a fundraiser and it is the Cole Brothers Circus on August 18, 19 and 20 with two shows each day at 4:30 and 7:30 p.m. at the Monmouth Park parking lot.

Councilwoman Chaump also advised that the First Aid Squad recently gave CPR courses to the teachers at Maple Place and Wolfhill Schools, the Lions Swim Club life guards, the Summer Action Camp counselors, the Port-au-Peck and Hook & Ladder fire companies.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under Recreation that the bid was awarded last month for the Blackberry Bay Park renovations and work should be begin some time next week and the well is dug and it is 390' deep and the electric will be completed in conjunction with the reconstruction of the park. She also announced that Summer's End will not be held this year as well as the fireworks due to Blackberry Bay Park being closed for the construction and we were unable to find another location, but we are still taking donations for the fireworks and will have a bigger and better show next year.

Councilwoman Chaump advised she attended the Senior meeting and there was a program on Identity Theft and she also informed the seniors about the Senior Property Tax Freeze application and the deadline is August 2, 2004 and there are new ceilings to qualify including being a resident of New Jersey for the last ten consecutive years and a resident Oceanport for three years.

Councilwoman Chaump commented that the Oceanport Library Association has 11 applicants for their scholarship and it was awarded to Kelly Gram.

Councilwoman Chaump stated that she received several calls from people regarding the bridge opening and she wanted to publicly thank Mayor Gatta for her persistence concerning the bridge and getting it opened a day early.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Councilwoman Johnson reported that she attended the Board of Health meeting held on July 7th and there was also a dawn patrol at Monmouth Park, which is done annually and there were concerns about the garbage cans which were overflowing in the backside of the track and Rich Englert of the Monmouth County Board of Health was advised of this situation and it had been picked up later in the morning.

Councilwoman Johnson also advised that Dr. Kaloss is urging Borough residents not to blow leaves and debris into the roadway when cutting their lawns since it causes a problem because the debris goes into our storm drains and we are hoping that everyone will comply and we are asking residents to remind their lawn service people to not blow grass and leaves into the storm drains in the

Borough but back onto your lawns. Councilwoman Johnson stated she will also be putting a notice in the Bulletin regarding this matter.

Councilwoman Johnson reported on West Nile virus stating that the Health Department has advised that there was one dead crow picked up in Oceanport and there have been less than half a dozen crows that have been picked up in Monmouth County and she advised all residents that if you find any dead crows to contact the Health Department immediately so they can come out and check and test for the virus.

Councilwoman Johnson commented that plans for the flu and pneumonia clinic, which is usually held in October, are being worked on and as soon as a date has been arrived at she will announce same.

Councilwoman Johnson reminded everyone that the medical cards are here at Borough Hall and everyone should fill one out and post it on their refrigerator since it lists all medications and allergies and is a great help to the First Aid Squad members during an emergency, since all of the important information is right there for them to review.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione called for the introduction of an ordinance renewing the lease between the Borough and the Lions Swim Club, Inc. and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT TO RENEW A LEASE WITH THE OCEANPORT LIONS SWIM CLUB, INC.**

Councilman Briscione moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Councilman Briscione then moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the meeting scheduled to be held on August 19th and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the 2nd reading and public hearing of an ordinance amending the open space trust fund and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 11-2 (UTILIZATIN OF FUNDS) OF CHAPTER 11 (OPEN SPACE DEDICATED TRUST FUND) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public for any questions or comments on this subject only, but hearing none, Councilwoman Chaump moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council.

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on 2nd and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the 2nd reading and public hearing of an amendment to bond ordinance #769 regarding public works equipment and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE #769 ENTITLED "BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING $484,228. AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $460,016. BONDS OR NOTES OF THE BOROUGH FOR VARIOUS IMPROVEMENTS OR PURPOSES TO BE UNDERTAKEN BY THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT, IN THE COUNTY OF MONMOUTH, NEW JERSEY.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public on any questions or comments on this subject only but hearing none, Councilwoman Chaump moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on 2nd and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the 2nd reading and public hearing of an ordinance appropriating monies under the open space trust fund for the purchase of equipment to maintain property acquired through this fund and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING MONIES FOR THE PURCHASE OF EQUIPMENT FOR THE MAINTENANCE OF THE PROPERTY ACQUIRED UNDER THE OPEN SPACE TAX FUNDS.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public on any questions or comments on this subject only but hearing none, Councilwoman Chaump moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Kahle and approved by Council

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on 2nd and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the 2nd reading and public hearing of an ordinance amending the court fines and penalties and asked the Clerk to read the Affidavit of Publication and the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VARIOUS MUNICIPAL OFFENSES.**

Mayor Gatta opened the meeting to the public on any questions or comments on this subject only but hearing none, Councilman Mahon moved to close the public hearing. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council

Councilman Briscione moved to adopt this ordinance on 2nd and final reading and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Holden.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Kahle, Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.
NAYS: None.
ABSTAIN: None.
ABSENT: None.

Councilman Briscione reported with regard to the Planning Board on July 14th they granted preliminary and final approval for the development of the Village Center which is a mixed use project containing 36 residential units and approximately 25,000 sq. ft. of office and ground floor retail space, which was proposed by the NJ Sports & Exposition Authority.

Councilman Briscione stated the Racetrack Advisory Committee met on July 12, 2004, which is our local racetrack committee and the current members include Mayor Gatta, David Gruskos, Bernie Dowd, Joe Henderson and Karen D'Agostino and himself. He continued the discussion involved the purpose of the committee, which is to assist the Borough Council in assuring that Monmouth Park remains a racetrack and our major tax ratable and that there are adequate measures to insure growth and development of the site. He stated additionally, the Committee will assist the Mayor and himself in our meetings with the Monmouth Park Stakeholders Committee and we will also attempt to develop a plan of action should a contract be signed for the 2007 Breeder's Cup.

Councilman Briscione stated with regard to the Monmouth Park Stakeholders Committee, on July 15th they met at the Library at Monmouth Park and enabling legislation has been passed by the Senate and the Assembly and was awaiting the signature of the Governor. He continued that this Legislation will allow the State to lease Monmouth Park and the Meadowlands and will guarantee the number of racing days and the purse structures in 2007. Councilman Briscione stated that attendance and handle have been up thus far at the meet at Monmouth Park.

Councilman Briscione advised that Lehman Brothers is in the process of soliciting indications of interests from prospective parties and the fundamental considerations in addition to price, will be preserving the racetrack as a racetrack, maintaining close mutually beneficial relationships with the local communities, promoting and improving the thoroughbred and standard bred racing and

breeding industries, and protecting full-time, part-time and union authority employees. He continued that the NJ Sports & Exposition Authority will not recommend a lease for these facilities unless the interests of these constituencies are served.

MAYOR GATTA: Mayor Gatta read a letter from Dale Burd, Captain of the Fire Police, indicating that Joseph W. Sherman had successfully completed the requirements to become a member of the Oceanport Fire Police.

Mayor Gatta then asked for a motion to appoint Joseph W. Sherman as a member of the Oceanport Fire Police for a five-year term, expiring July 22, 2009.

Councilwoman Kahle moved to approve this appointment. It was seconded by Councilman Holden and approved by Council.

Mayor Gatta reported that the Borough has been notified that we received a $50,000 property tax relief check as our share in the $32 million municipal homeland security police assistance aid program and this is part of the $1.8 billion in municipal property tax relief in this year's budget and this aid recognizes that local officials have spent precious local property tax dollars to meet local homeland security police needs. She continued that this money directly went into property tax relief as an offset to that local spending so with this in mind, the municipal portion of your tax bill will show that the municipal portion came in flat and is the same as last year.

Mayor Gatta advised that she received a letter which she read from Peter A. Dellera, Jr., Chairman of the Lions Strawberry Festival in which he stated that according to the most recent Lions' Treasurer's Report, total donations for the benefit of the Oceanport First Aid Squad, Fire Department and Police PBA from past Oceanport Lions' Fairs from 1996 to 2003 has been as follows: Oceanport First Aid $12,046.35; Oceanport Fire Department $9,925.87 and it excludes the fire truck proceeds retained by the Department, which it is their understanding have averaged $1,000 per year; the Police/PBA $6,556.13 and it excludes pay for police work at the fairs with the donations totaling $28,528.35 from past fairs which are recapped in the letter because it has come to the attention of the Lion members that there are individuals with certain groups mentioned above that have said that they have little or no knowledge of the extent to the support received from the Lions Club. She continued that the letter went on to say that the Lions have set aside an additional $11,500 from the Strawberry Festival proceeds to hopefully be utilized for the benefit of the above groups in the Borough and in a manner yet to be determined that relates to public safety and if there is an agreement on this matter, it would bring the total donations benefiting these groups from all past Strawberry Fairs to $40,028.35. Mayor Gatta stated the letter asked that we keep in mind that these figures do not in any way reflect the donations made from fair proceeds to other groups or individuals within the Borough.

Mayor Gatta stated on behalf of the Borough, acknowledged the fine work and contributions that the Lions have given throughout the years to the Borough and we certainly are extremely pleased that the Lions have set aside an amount of $11,500 from this year's Fair and she will be writing a letter back, again thanking them, as we have many times in the past and also acknowledging that this money will be put to good use.

Mayor Gatta stated she hoped everyone has taken a ride over our new bridge on East Main Street and she thanked the County for their cooperation in getting the bridge done and adhering to the needs of Oceanport and she also reminded all our residents to support our businesses in town and they went through a very difficult time these past nine months with the bridge closed and she hoped everyone would support them.

Mayor Gatta stated as many of you may have seen in the hallway entering Borough Hall, there are flyers talking about the Oceanport Wall of Honor and this is an effort to recognize the sacrifices that our families, friends and neighbors have made in the Armed Services, not only yesterday but are currently doing so today and it is, to her, very important that we recognize these individuals and their sacrifices and contributions, because in reality freedom is not free and it comes with a great price. She continued that she is hoping to have this project completed by Veteran's Day and asked the residents to share their family pictures with us and not only their own photos, but those of relatives who have served in the Armed Services. She asked that the photos be dropped off at her office at Borough Hall not later than October 1st and asked that they be labeled with the name, relationship to the Oceanport resident, years of service and if they have paid the ultimate price of serving their country.

Mayor Gatta reported on Tuesday, July 20th we had another Public Safety Committee meeting with Det. Sgt. Baldanza speaking about the Haskell Day and the role that all our emergency services will be asked to perform and we also talked about establishing uniform procedures and protocols for water rescue, cold water and ice rescue and extrication. She continued that Capt. Sutton will be meeting with two members of Fire and they have been designated as Kerin Slattery and Arno Kohler as well as two members of First Aid, Jane Ciani and Alan Johnson to work on combining the overlapping of various services. She advised that they also reviewed and discussed the Public Safety Committee's five-year capital improvement plan and we did touch upon the donation from the Lions Club. She stated the next meeting would be held in September.

Mayor Gatta hoped everyone would support the First Aid Squad's fundraiser with the circus coming to town and the dates again are August 18th, 19th and 20th at Monmouth Park Racetrack.

Mayor Gatta stated she received a note from Evelyn Larson who lives on Wardell Circle thanking the Council for the quick replanting of the trees and stated that everyone in the area was impressed with the professional job done by Bahr's Nursery.

Mayor Gatta advised that we will be holding another town meeting on Tuesday, August 17th at 7:00 p.m. and there are flyers also in the hall asking for topics of interest from our residents and will also discuss some of the concerns brought up at the first meeting.

Mayor Gatta reported as far as our pay to play ordinance is concerned, Councilwomen Kahle and Chaump are working on that and in September this Council will be getting ready to go out for bid for professional contracts for 2005.

Mayor Gatta thanked the Boy Scouts for attending our meeting tonight.

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

Ed Miller, 94 Hiawatha Ave. stated that with regard to the DEP water regulations, ten years ago they came down with a very similar type of mandate and it might help speed up the process and suggested that Councilman Mahon speak with the Borough Engineer, Tom Rospos, since he should already have a mapping out of all the storm drains in the Borough which was done through a grant and also some grant funds for our initial testing.

Councilman Mahon stated that the grant is just under $9,000 and the price tag on the truck that we would need to undertake these requirements was $164,000.

Mr. Miller commented on the Length of Service Award Program and hoped that all the citizens who could vote would vote for this program because during the last week in January he experienced an angina attack and within minutes help was there and he was taken care of and out into the rig immediately and to the hospital.

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 July 22, 2004. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Holden abstaining from voting on the bills due Pasquale Menna. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST $76,365.76. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY $233.40. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST $3,454.75. TOTAL AD HOC $1,145.00. TOTAL OPEN SPACE $507.50. 2003 VOUHERS PAID $69,797.91. 2003 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $1,875.00. TOTAL 2003 VOUCHERS $71,672.91. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID $7,367,659.95. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $1,008,186.72. TOTAL 2004 VOUCHERS $8,375,846.67. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 9:20 p.m. Councilwoman Kahle moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on August 19, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Varca

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK