

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Oceanport, New Jersey
June 17, 2004

- REGULAR MEETING:** The Regular Meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on June 17, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. with Mayor Gatta stating the meeting had been properly advertised in accordance with law.
- MEMBERS PRESENT:** Councilpersons Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson, Briscione and Mayor Gatta.
- MEMBERS ABSENT:** Councilwoman Kahle.
- OFFICIALS PRESENT:** Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and A/Borough Attorney, Martin A. McGann.
- PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Gatta led the audience and members of the Council in the flag salute.

Mayor Gatta stated for the record that the Governing Body had gone into Executive Session at the workshop meeting held on June 14, 2004 to discuss ongoing police negotiations.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of MAY, 2004 and a copy will be posted on the bulletin board.
2. Resolutions regarding liquor license renewals for the 2004/2005 licensing period:

The Clerk read resolution **R-04-52** renewing the license for Oceanport Spirits, Inc. effective July 1, 2004 after which Councilwoman Johnson moved to approved same. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon and approved by Council.

The Clerk read resolution **R-04-53** renewing the license for Olde Wharf Inne effective July 1, 2004 after which Councilman Mahon moved to approved same. It was seconded by Councilman Holden and approved by Council

The Clerk then read resolution **R-04-54** renewing the pocket license of Arthur & Alvina, Inc. (formerly operating as The Dug Out Tavern) effective July 1, 2004 after which Councilman Mahon moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILWOMAN KAHLE: Absent.

COUNCILMAN MAHON: Councilman Mahon asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-55** awarding a contract to RFP Solutions, Inc. for a new phone system for the Borough Hall after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon moved to authorize the Borough Engineer to advertise and receive bids for the collection of garbage, trash and recycling materials. It was seconded by Councilwoman Chaump and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon moved to authorize the Borough Clerk to advertise and receive bids for agriculturally treated salt for the Public Works Department. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon moved to authorize the Superintendent of Public Works to open the access road to the new park located on Port-au-Peck Avenue in accordance with recommendations from Birdsall Engineering and the Traffic Safety Officer in the Oceanport Police Department. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council.

Councilman Mahon reported that Tom Crochet has been following up with the street openings and has recently met with representatives from the various utility companies and he is making good progress in this area.

Councilman Mahon reported that Gooseneck and Cayuga work was supposed to begin this week but the contractor has advised that bonding requirements took additional time and as a result the contractor will be arriving next week to begin mark outs and surveying but has assured that the project will be completed in a timely manner.

Councilman Mahon advised that the 2004 road program continues to be evaluated by the Governing Body and prioritized and the final list of streets and engineering estimates are being fine tuned for Borough funding and for inclusion in the DOT grant applications which are due the end of this month.

Councilman Mahon stated that the Public Works Department is now back to full staff and several projects that have been scheduled to be undertaken will begin shortly such as street sweeping, parks maintenance, building and grounds issues that have been put on hold will begin.

Councilman Mahon also advised under the Activity Report submitted by Tom Crochet, Superintendent of Public Works, the interior roadway at the soccer fields on Port-au-Peck Avenue which are now owned by the Borough, has had the pot holes repaired and he is also looking into getting inmates from the Corrections Department for debris clean-up and he is working on signage with the assistance of the Borough of Eatontown and it will be posted shortly as well as working with soccer to get the layout for the fields within our property lines. He continued that the Hustler Lawn Mower, which has been in for repairs, is back in service and additional garbage cans will be put out on this property.

Councilman Mahon reported that the Environmental Commission has notified us that work requested by the Borough will commence next week at several locations around town in particular at the area parallel to Pemberton Avenue between Gold and Center will be looked at.

Councilman Mahon explained that we are incorporating recycling pick up into our bid specification for the garbage and trash collection and we will further consider this option once we have the cost involved. He also explained that the garbage specifications have to be advertised for sixty days prior to receiving bids under the law and we will be reviewing the bids when they are received to see if we can include this service in our new contract.

Councilman Mahon reported under the Building Committee for the modernization of the Borough Hall, the Committee met last night with our Architect, Erik Wagner, who presented a draft schematic for a modern Oceanport municipal complex and the Mayor and members of the Borough Council will be getting a first look at this potential drawing as well as the Borough employees. He advised that it is a good first look at what the potential is for this building and we will be sharing this with the Council and employees for feedback and input as we go forward. He stated the next step at the meeting scheduled for July 7 is to consider recommending to Council a feasibility study proposal and this will be submitted by Mr. Wagner and we will have competing quotes from other architects and this study will guide the Committee further along on the process and give us the tools for budgeting and guidance in the next phase.

COUNCILMAN HOLDEN: Councilman Holden reported that the Shade Tree Committee met June 7th and reported that the Wardell Circle trees have already been dug out and they are waiting for a mark out from the utility companies and will then begin planting with good weather, so that should begin very shortly and they have asked that our Public Works Department assist in digging out some of the trees in the Borough's nursery and plant them around the tennis courts at the Community Center and he has discussed this with Tom Crochet and it should be completed shortly. He continued that also suggested along with the purchase of the tractor for the soccer fields, that we also purchase a 24" auger/post hole digger, which will assist both their efforts and the Borough's and discussed this with Councilman Mahon and it seems to be a good idea.

Councilman Holden stated that there has also been some discussion pertaining to dogs in the park and there is a thought that perhaps if there is a certain time when the dogs can run loose in the parks, it might help to control the geese problem and we are looking into this possibility.

Councilman Holden reported that the Police Report for May indicates that the Department answered 1,047 calls and officers responded to 677, there were 308 summonses issued by the Department and they used 846.2 gallons of fuel consumed and 277 motor vehicle stops which is a clear sign that the Police are out there doing a good job for the Borough. He continued that Patrolman Briskey completed a course on bicycle training for police and also a course on counter terrorism and strategic analysis and Sgt. Tagerty has completed a course in investigator safety and security and Diana Panigrosso and Thomas Pullar have completed the basic course for Class I Special Officers.

Councilman Holden stated he will be meeting with Chief Bebout shortly with regard to correspondence he received from the Chief pertaining to an interlocal services agreement possibility for an impound yard with Eatontown.

Councilman Holden reported that because of the establishment of the Public Safety Committee this year, it is going to incorporate the normal meetings of the Police, fire, first aid and OEM before the Capital Improvement Committee and will necessitate changing the meeting schedule so we have canceled the meeting on the 27th and a new meeting date of the Capital Improvement Committee will be out shortly.

COUNCILWOMAN CHAUMP: Councilwoman Chaump reported that the First Aid Squad has 60 calls for the month of May.

Councilwoman Chaump reported under senior citizens that the gutters at the Olde Wharf House have been cleaned out which should take care of the problems they were experiencing from water backing up and Tom Crochet and his men took care of that.

Councilwoman Chaump advised that the Action Camp has 221 children signed up so they are full and Youth Program #1 has 11 children and Program #2 has 16 children.

Councilwoman Chaump reported that she attended the Coastal Alliance meeting last week and they are going to be applying for a grant for years 2005-2007 in the amount of \$40,000 and we now have four municipalities in on this grant: Monmouth Beach, West Long Branch, Oceanport and Long Branch, so we will be applying for that and there will be a meeting next week to begin work on the grant and there will be some new programs added and other programs were only a one shot activity and will no longer be used.

Councilwoman Chaump then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-56** approving the grant application and membership for the Alliance, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

Councilwoman Chaump stated that we had our bid opening on Friday, June 11th for the Blackberry Bay Park improvements and there were three bidders and stated the low bidder was RWV Land & Livestock South in the amount of \$340,844.22 and the alternates are for a sun shade system, a batting cage and net and fertilizer and seed for the fields. She also advised that the well, which was an additional \$89,844 and already awarded, is almost completed and the entire project is on schedule.

Councilwoman Chaump then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-04-57** awarding the bid for Blackberry Bay Park improvements to RWV Land & Livestock South, after which she moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council.

COUNCILWOMAN JOHNSON: Councilwoman Johnson reported there was a question raised about our insurance at the last meeting and she spoke with Ted Wardell of Grinspec after the meeting and asked that he go out and get other insurance quotes for the Borough and at this point, she has received a copy of a letter from Oxford declining to quote on the Borough's insurance. She commented that we are still looking for further quotes at this time and she also advised everyone that our broker, Ted Wardell, has been working with the Borough for the past nine years and he works to get the best coverage at the lowest price for the Borough and we must also remember this is part of our Police contract negotiations. She stated we are currently awaiting other quotes to come in and she will report back when they are received. She also reported that the Board of Education in Oceanport also utilizes the services of Grinspec and are pleased with their service and coverage.

COUNCILMAN BRISCIONE: Councilman Briscione called for the introduction of an ordinance amending the open space dedicated trust ordinance and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 11-2 (UTILIZATION OF FUNDS) OF CHAPTER 11 (OPEN SPACE DEDICATED TRUST FUND) OF THE CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEANPORT.**

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

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Kahle.

ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on July 22, 2004 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon.

The Clerk called the roll:

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

Councilman Briscione called for the introduction of an ordinance appropriating funds to purchase equipment for the maintenance of property purchased with open space monies and asked the Clerk to read 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.**

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

The Clerk called the roll:

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

Councilman Briscione moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on July 22, 2004 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

The Clerk called the roll:

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

Councilman Briscione called for the introduction of an ordinance amending bond ordinance #769 changing the line item for a pick up truck and plow to public works department equipment and asked the Clerk to read 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.**

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

The Clerk called the roll:

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

Councilman Briscione moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on July 22, 2004 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Kahle.

ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione called for the introduction of an ordinance amending the municipal court fines and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only, as follows: **AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE FINES AND PENALTIES FOR VARIOUS MUNICIPAL OFFENSES.**

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

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Kahle.

ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the regular meeting scheduled to be held on July 22, 2004 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Mahon, Holden, Chaump, Johnson and Briscione.

NAYS: None.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Kahle.

ABSTAIN: None.

Councilman Briscione reported that the NJ Sports & Exposition Authority will continue their application before the Planning Board for preliminary and final site plan approval for the Village Center development, which is a proposed mixed use, residential, and retail development. He advised that the plans have been revised and the number of upper floor residential units have been reduced and they will be before the Board on June 23rd.

Councilman Briscione advised that he attended the senior citizens meeting last night and the guest speaker was Bernard Olsen of Little Silver and the topic was the contribution of NJ residents in the Civil War and continued that Mr. Olsen is also the author of On the Tented Field which is a collection of soldier's letters which tells the real story of the Civil War and books were available, signed by Mr. Olsen and the presentation was very well received and informative. Councilman Briscione added that the seniors have also scheduled a trip to Huntington Hills in November.

Councilman Briscione reported as everyone has probably ready by now, the Breeder's Cup Board of Directors has granted approval for the Breeder's Cup Officials to begin developing a contract with the NJ Sports & Exposition Authority for Monmouth Park to host the 2007 Breeder's Cup World Thoroughbred Championships. He explained that the Breeder's Cup is a series of races that brings together horses and people from all over the world to compete in 8 championship races

with purses totaling some \$14 million. He continued that as he previously mentioned, a study performed by the Roosevelt University Walter E. Heller College of Business Administration estimated that the 2002 Breeders Cup hosted by Arlington Park had an economic impact of \$57 million and total new tax revenues for the State and local government also exceeded \$4 million with an estimated 580 new jobs. He commented that he has begun contacting officials in two communities that have hosted Breeder's Cup events to ask for their assistance and how we approach the event from a planning and coordination standpoint from the community's perspective.

Councilman Briscione advised that this morning he participated in the backstretch inspection with Councilwoman Kahle, Dr. Kaloss of our Environmental Commission, Connie Savarese from the Board of Health, Gregory Schussler from the DEP and Kim Simpson and Dave Sorenson from the County Board of Health and Bob Juliano from Monmouth Park conducted the tour. He stated that it is apparent that the policies implemented by the DEP a few years ago, regarding the collection and disposal of manure, have been effective in curtailing runoff that affects the water quality in Troutman's Creek and in Branchport Creek. He stated they will continue to remind track officials about water conservation and Mr. Schussler reported that the facility operates under a concentrated animal feed operation and is compliant with the new storm water regulations.

MAYOR GATTA: Mayor Gatta offered the following names to fill vacancies on the Recreation Committee: Mike Tober to fill the term expiring December 31, 2005 and Laura Hornung to fill the term expiring December 31, 2004.

Councilman Holden moved to approve these appointments to the Recreation Committee. It was seconded by Councilman Briscione and approved by Council.

Mayor Gatta reported last week they had their Public Safety Committee meeting and there was discussion on the 2005 budget requests for capital improvement projects and discussion about combining the overlapping of the various emergency services such as water rescue, cold water and ice rescue and extrication and there will be team representatives from both the first aid and fire along with Harold Sutton, the OEM Coordinator, who will be talking about protocol about responding to these situations and they are going to draw up response guidelines and report back to the Committee who will in turn report the findings to the Council. She added they are also working on a fixed assets list and the CERT program and another meeting will be held next month.

Mayor Gatta stated with regard to the bridge situation she spoke with Ted Giannechini today and this past week they have completed the major concrete floor and they had some concerns about the steel railing because of the recent steel shortage, but that is there and he feels they are on schedule and on the 28th the final paving and other completion items will be done and barring any adverse weather conditions, they are on target for the July 2nd opening of the bridge. She also urged everyone to continue supporting the local businesses.

Councilman Mahon advised that Tom Crochet informed him this afternoon that the steel rail had been installed today.

Mayor Gatta advised that one of the projects she would like to embark upon after the Veteran's Day and Memorial Day ceremonies, where we are reminded so much of the sacrifices that many citizens of this country as well as Oceanport residents have given, by serving in the Armed Forces, that looking to next Veteran's Day she would like to begin work on what she is calling a "wall of honor" which will be photographs of service people associated with our Oceanport family and she will be asking residents to come forth with pictures and Tom Crochet has offered to help her with this project and we will have names of the individuals, where they served and what that relationship is

and she is hoping to have this completed by Veteran's Day, since we have the school children involved with these services and she sees this as a good thing to teach our children that what they read in history books there are real names associated and may turn out to be their neighbors.

Mayor Gatta stated she has just learned today of another Oceanport resident going to Iraq and his name is James Maudlin and his parents live in Oceanport and this is his second tour of duty in Iraq and he is a recent graduate of West Point and she hoped everyone would keep all our service people in their prayers.

Mayor Gatta reported that we have scheduled our second town meeting to be held on Tuesday, August 17th at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Hall and notices will be put out as far as the agenda items are concerned.

Mayor Gatta stated that as we heard earlier from the ordinances being proposed, the date for the public hearings on these matters is July 22nd because we have changed our meetings for July from the scheduled workshop meeting date of July 12th to July 19th at 7:00 p.m. and the regular meeting on July 15th to July 22nd at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor Gatta advised that prior to coming to the meeting this evening, she attended the Maple Place graduation and publicly congratulated all the students and this coming Tuesday, Shore Regional will be holding their graduation and she wished them success in their future endeavors.

Mayor Gatta then opened the meeting to the public for any comments or questions they might wish to make, but seeing none, closed the public portion of the meeting.

Councilman Mahon moved to approve the vouchers on the Bill List dated June 17, 2004. It was seconded by Councilwoman Johnson and approved by Council with the exception of Councilman Holden who abstained from voting on the bills due Pat Menna. TOTAL CAPITAL TRUST \$21,010.60. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY \$66.00. TOTAL ESCROW TRUST \$150.00. TOTAL 2003 VOUCHERS \$69,797.91. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID \$6,939,832.76. 2004 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING \$196,178.68. TOTAL 2004 VOUCHERS \$7,136,011.44. (SEE BILL LIST)

At 8:42 p.m. Councilwoman Chaump moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled to be held on July 22, 2004 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Mahon and approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,



PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK