REGULAR MEETING

Oceanport, New Jersey
June 7, 1990

REGULAR MEETING: The regular meeting of the Oceanport Mayor and Council was called to order on June 7, 1990 at 8:14 P.M.

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilpersons Terra, Miller*, Rodman, Wolfe and Mayor Cavanagh.

* Councilman Miller arrived at 8:35 and no matters requiring votes were taken until he was present.

MEMBERS ABSENT: Councilpersons McGee and Filippone.

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Borough Clerk, Patricia L. Varca and Borough Attorney, Francis A. Margalotti.

INVOCATION: The invocation was given by Rabbi Daina.

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 May 17, 1990 had been made available for review by the Governing Body, Councilman Terra moved to waive the reading of same and approve the minutes as presented by the Borough Clerk. It was seconded by Councilman Rodman and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

CLERK'S REPORTS:

1. Police report for the month of MAY, 1990 a copy of same will be posted on the Bulletin Board.

2. Taxi license renewal made by Paramount Cab Co. and the Clerk reported that the required fees had been paid and the vehicle had been inspected and approved by the Police Department.

Councilman Miller moved to approve the taxi license. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

3. Raffle applications made by the following:

a] Monmouth Park Charity Fund, to be held 8/30/90, prize: Mink Coat.
b] Monmouth Park Charity Fund, to be held 7/21/90, various prizes.
c] Monmouth Park Charity Fund, to be held 7/21/90, various prizes.
d] Mon. Pk. Charity Fund, to be held 7/21/90, 50/50 cash on premise.
e] Mon. Pk. Charity Fund, to be held 7/28/90, 50/50 cash on premise.

As all raffle fees had been paid and the paperwork was found to be in order by the Clerk, Councilman Rodman moved to approve the raffle license applications. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

COMMITTEES:

COUNCILMAN MCGEE: ABSENT.

COUNCILMAN TERRA: Councilman Terra reported the final numbers are in for the first quarter of 1990 and the Oceanport residents and businesses recycled an all time high of 416 tons and that number includes 301 tons of newspapers, white paper and cardboard; 63.5 tons of co-mingled glass and metal; 4.6 tons of plastic material. He complimented our residents and businesses for doing so well in recycling.

Councilman Terra moved to reject the bid received for a fire truck and to return the bid bond and to authorize the Borough Engineer to re-advertise and receive bids for the fire truck. It was seconded by Councilman Wolfe and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

COUNCILWOMAN FILIPPONE: ABSENT.

COUNCILMAN MILLER: Councilman Miller commented that the bocce league can now operate during the evening because the lights have been installed and are now operational and anyone interested in participating in the bocce league, should contact Mr. Briscione of the senior citizens group or John Kerwin of the Recreation Committee.

Councilman Miller commented that the reason he was late this evening was that he came from a very nice function at Shore Regional High School where they were honoring the new inductees to the National Honor Society. He stated that one of the things they have been doing over the last several years is that each one of the students is asked to honor a teacher who has made a contribution in their life and he noted that five members of the group were from Oceanport and they recognized Mrs. Connie Falvo who is a Gifted and Talented teacher in the Oceanport School System and he offered his congratulations to her as well as the Oceanport School System for having a such a program and a teacher that has made a difference in at least five children's lives.

COUNCILMAN RODMAN: Councilman Rodman reported we have been following with a great deal of interest the court decision of Abbot vs. Burke concerning school funding and while he thinks many people would applaud the concept of trying to assist the educational opportunities afforded to the people in our urban areas, unless someone has some very bright ideas for some legislation this is going to be a real tax problem, particularly for residents of towns like Oceanport and for members of constituent districts like Shore Regional. He continued that the legislation right now is unfortunately on what seems to be a very fast track in the Legislature and he has spoken with Senator Palaia's office and he has assured Councilman Rodman that he is wholeheartedly against this situation as it stands now and Councilman Rodman has thanked Senator Palaia for that stand. Councilman Rodman commented that his only hope is that this legislation will slow down a bit so that we do not within a span of approximately 15 days consider how we are going to fund the largest single portion of the State budget, which is State Aid to education.

Councilman Rodman felt that a lot of thought and input needs to go into this legislation and he is hopeful that it can be derailed from a fast track to one where a little more thought can be given as to maybe a more equitable application of the tax situation, which although it has

been proposed that this would provide significant property tax relief it does not appear that this will be the situation for towns like ours.

Councilman Rodman then asked the Clerk to read resolution **R-90-39** urging all municipalities to join together to restore the State DEDR funding for drug and alcohol abuse, after which he moved to approve same. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

Mayor Cavanagh commented that he just received a letter this week from the County indicating that the Borough's Alliance Committee has passed all of the required criteria and we are now a formally recognized Substance Abuse Alliance just in time for the State to cut the funding. He commented that we have been working on this matter for over two years between ourselves and the Board of Education getting people involved and assisting with some financing.

COUNCILMAN WOLFE: Councilman Wolfe stated he has a letter received from our insurance agent, Ron Gillaspie of Boynton & Boynton confirming some reviews that had been done over the past several months on some of our policies and due to a request we had made to Crum & Forster who is the insurance company and the Borough has now received two checks totalling $4,418. workmen's compensation polices.

Councilman Wolfe stated he had received some informal bids for line striping for various street striping within the Borough and he is in the process of awarding a contract to the low bidder for these services and this is a very comprehensive program being undertaken this year and it is the first time in at least 6 years that this type of line striping has been done. He stated it will include the major cross streets in the Borough and reminded the Borough residents to be careful when they see the line stripe workers out performing this work and should begin within the next three to four weeks.

Councilman Wolfe reminded all Borough residents that school will be ending within the next few weeks which means there will be more youngsters out and around on the streets and asked everyone to drive carefully while driving in the Borough.

Councilman Wolfe stated on behalf of himself and Councilman Terra he offered their thanks to all the residents of the Borough for their outstanding recycling efforts and support of the program. He commented that the Public Works Department is presently picking up the recycling at curbside because of some problems with our contractor, but it is really a great service for everyone and you can see this by the numbers exceeding the goals set by the County quarter after quarter. He did ask the residents to please try and crush down the plastic containers, because they take up a lot of room.

Councilman Terra asked Councilman Wolfe to extend his thanks to Mike Giordano and the Public Works Department employees our appreciation for their hard work and efforts in picking up curbside until our contractor gets through his present financial difficulties.

Councilman Rodman also offered his compliments to Mike Giordano and his staff for the nice job they have done over at Kimberly Woods.

Mayor Cavanagh stated he felt if we could figure out a per capita analysis of how much we recycle on the budget that we have, he believed we would be the least expensive municipality in the County, if not the State and the amount of recycling material we collect in this Borough is truly outstanding.

Councilman Wolfe called for the introduction of an ordinance amending the Interlocal Services Agreement between the Monmouth County Community Development Program and the Borough and asked the Clerk to read the proposed ordinance by title only as follows: **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND MUNICIPAL CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH MONMOUTH COUNTY FOR COOPERATIVE PARTICIPATION IN THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM PURSUANT TO THE INTERLOCAL SERVICES ACT.**

Councilman Wolfe moved to approve this ordinance on first reading. It was seconded by Councilman Terra.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Terra, Miller, Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: Councilpersons McGee and Filippone.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Wolfe then moved to hold the public hearing on this ordinance at the next meeting scheduled to be held on June 21, 1990 and to advertise same in accordance with law. It was seconded by Councilman Terra.

The Clerk called the roll:

AYES: Councilpersons Terra, Miller, Rodman and Wolfe.
NAYS: NONE.
ABSENT: Councilpersons McGee and Filippone.
ABSTAIN: NONE.

Councilman Wolfe moved to temporarily appoint Councilman Miller to the Street Lighting Committee for the purpose of signing some vouchers. It was seconded by Councilman Terra and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance.

MAYOR CAVANAGH: Mayor Cavanagh reported for the record he received a very nice letter from the Oceanport First Aid Squad thanking the Council for appointing Councilwoman Filippone as their Liaison and apparently their relationship has been very good with Councilwoman Filippone since they took the time to write a letter and thank us for her interest.

Mayor Cavanagh reported he has some good news and stated that approximately one month ago we adopted a resolution which was generated by a newspaper article which indicated that a spoke's person for the horsemen had published a press release that he would be requesting Senator Codey to introduce legislation aimed at benefiting the industry and one of the prongs of this supposed legislation was an element that would allow race tracks to have their land assessed as farmland rather than the present assessment. He stated we passed the resolution to alert the Legislature that would certainly be something we would strenuously oppose and the implications would be staggering and for the

other towns in the Shore Regional School district and he would even dare say for the County, since it would be one less rateable on the County level.

Mayor Cavanagh had spoken with Senator Codey directly as well as the offices of Assemblymen Villapiano and Jacobson for some clarity on what the story really was and he read a press release which was issued on June 5, 1990 by the Assemblymen, stating that they have secured a commitment from a key State Senator to remove Monmouth Park from his proposal to give tax breaks to race tracks by changing the property assessment to farm land, which would be very costly to the Borough as well as the other towns in the Shore Regional district. He continued that there was also a letter which was sent to the Assemblymen from Senator Codey who states in the letter that if he decides to introduce a constitutional amendment to change the assessment of race tracks to farmland, he will have an exemption for public tracks including Monmouth Park.

Mayor Cavanagh stated as Councilman Rodman had pointed our earlier, since there appears to be a potential assault on the tax dollar of local residents in this town as well as many others, as a result of the school decision and the implementation of that through the plan currently pending and since there has been an on going assault for many years as it seems to him by the various State programs that have been mandated, it is at least somewhat refreshing to see that the municipal voice can be heard when perhaps raised in time. He felt it was always easier to ask people not to introduce something rather than asking them not to vote on it or to remove it from Legislation. Mayor Cavanagh commented with this commitment from Senator Codey, he would believe that the Governing Body and our Legislative Delegation have discharged at least our responsibility at the present time and will continue to keep an eye on the situation and certainly speak out even when there is a potential for this type of a problem.

Mayor Cavanagh stated as mentioned earlier by Councilman Rodman, the school situation is a perplexing problem and quite candidly commented that it seems that the taxpayers of this State have said at every opportunity they have been given that they have had enough and it must stop and the thought of increasing their burden further with the kinds of numbers they are speaking about and as he recalls from reading the story, the State is short 440 million dollars from what the formula would require and that is money they will have to raise and there is a deficit in this year's budget.

Mayor Cavanagh then opened the meeting to the public for any comments they might wish to make.

PETITIONS FROM THE PUBLIC:

Ms. Judy Luger, 73 Horseshoe Court stated she wanted to continue the Mayor's discussion a bit on the school issue and as a professional educator, she is a school principal in Edison and they will be losing four million dollars with this new issue. She continued that unfortunately what is going to happen is that it is going to really have an impact on the quality of education and she stated that many of the people involved with education are very frustrated so it does behoove the Governing Body to become very creative in taking a look at what is actually going to happen to the quality of education and how we can impact and make a difference there. She felt this would be a very

challenging issue over the next several months and she felt there is enough ability and intelligence State wide to come up with some really creative solutions and also commented that she felt we have been stuck in a method of doing things in the area of education and it is time to get down to business and grind out some answers.

Mayor Cavanagh stated it is no secret that at least half the tax dollar goes to education at least in this town and probably in most, so that the concern is shared by all of us as residents, parents, tax payers, government officials, etc. He stated that this is a situation that is going to touch everyone and everyone is very aware that the tax implications of this situation are staggering and unless there is some other solution than the present one, he has no idea how this is going to work without substantially impacting people who are already under siege and he shared Ms. Luger's hope that the people who are going to give us the solution are creative.

Mr. Caparn, 34 Wardell Circle commented that the increase in taxes are going to make the older people consider many things including relocation to places where the taxes have not become so ridiculous as yet, although he felt it would happen everywhere.

Mayor Cavanagh stated he has noticed a continuing increase in the number of seniors who are moving south because of the tax situation.

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

Councilman Wolfe moved to amend the Voucher Register to include a bill from AMTEC INC. in the amount of $450 for some emergency work that had to be done and to approve the Voucher Register with this amendment dated June 7, 1990. It was seconded by Councilman Miller and unanimously approved by those Councilpersons in attendance, with the exception of Councilman Terra who abstained from voting on the vouchers due himself for reimbursement of monies he had put out for Borough expenses. TOTAL 1989 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $11,400.00 TOTAL 1990 VOUCHERS $64,237.08. TOTAL 1990 VOUCHERS PAID THIS MEETING $44,621.68. TOTAL 1990 OPERATING FUND $108,858.76. TOTAL PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TRUST ACCOUNT $168.00. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT-LEEWARD COVE $400.00. TOTAL TRUST ACCOUNT-SUE $2,158.00. TOTAL RECREATION TRUST ACCOUNT $353.74. TOTAL CAPITAL ACCOUNT $62,644.85. TOTAL DOG REGISTRY ACCOUNT $429.20. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER MISC. $462.99. TOTAL GENERAL LEDGER DWI FUND $54.00. (SEE VOUCHER REGISTER).

At 8:50 P.M. Councilman Terra moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular meeting scheduled for June 21, 1990 at 8:00 P.M. It was seconded by Councilman Rodman and unanimously approved by Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia L. Varca

PATRICIA L. VARCA
BOROUGH CLERK