

**BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE**

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

June 26, 2024

Minutes of a Council Meeting of the Borough of Ocean Gate held on the above date at the Municipal Building, 801 Ocean Gate Avenue, Ocean Gate, N.J.

The Mayor Curtin called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm and announced that in compliance with the "OPEN PUBLIC MEETING LAW" P.L. 1975 C231 notice of this meeting had been advertised in the Star Ledger issue of September 20, 2023 posted in the Municipal Office Building, Adrian Hall and the Ocean Gate Post Office.

Following a salute to the flag roll call was taken with the following members present; Curtin, McGrath, Nicastro, Cox, Fry, Zieser. Absent: Haug

Verification that all members received copies of the following minutes and notes of any errors or omissions: Council Workshop Meeting of May 8, 2024.

**A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve minutes. Second to the motion made by Council President McGrath. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

ORDINANCE 695-24 AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND AND REPEAL ORDINANCE 692-24 ENTITLED "AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AFFIXING AND DETERMING THE SALARIES, WAGES AND COMPENSATION OF THE OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE"

**A motion was made by Councilman Cox to introduce ord. 695-24. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate in the County of Ocean and the State of New Jersey as follows:

The following annual salary and wage range of the officials and employees enumerated below shall be as follows:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
Borough Administrator	\$ 1.00	\$ 50,000.00
Administrative Assistant	\$ 1.00	\$ 40,000.00
Senior Administrative Assistant	\$ 1.00	\$ 45,000.00
Chief Financial Officer	\$ 15,000.00	\$ 90,000.00
Treasurer	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 72,000.00
Fiscal Officer	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 72,000.00
Finance/Tax Clerk	\$ 13,000.00	\$ 50,000.00
Borough Clerk	\$ 23,000.00	\$ 70,000.00
Tax Collector	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
Deputy Tax Collector	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Water & Sewer Collector	\$ 1.00	\$ 15,000.00
Tax Assessor	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Chief of Police	\$ 52,000.00	\$ 170,000.00
Lieutenant	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 125,000.00
Sergeant	\$ 45,000.00	\$ 125,000.00

Patrolman	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 105,000.00
Detective	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 120,000.00
Superintendent of Public Works	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 75,000.00
Public Works Supervisor	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 65,000.00
Recycling Coordinator	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 10,000.00
Animal License Clerk	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Assessment Search Officer	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$ 1.00	\$ 11,000.00
Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Local Assistance Director-Workfirst NJ	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Local Board of Health Secretary	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Control Clerk-Ocean Co. Construction Insp.	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Tax Search Officer	\$ 500.00	\$ 1,000.00
Purchasing Agent	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Zoning Officer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 8,000.00
Code Enforcement Officer	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 20,000.00
Building Sub-Code Official	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Fire Protection Sub-Code Official	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 9,000.00
Construction Official	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 39,000.00
Fire Official	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Fire Inspector	\$ 500.00	\$ 3,500.00
Flood Plan Manager	\$ 1.00	\$ 15,000.00
Judge Municipal Court	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 15,000.00
Municipal Court Administrator	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 30,000.00
Mayor	\$ 1.00	\$ 5,000.00
Council Member	\$ 1.00	\$ 2,000.00
Public Defender	\$ 1.00	\$ 7,500.00

**SECTION 3.** The hourly wage of the employees enumerated below shall be as follows:

<u>OFFICE</u>	<u>MINIMUM</u>	<u>MAXIMUM</u>
Equipment Operator/Mechanic	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00
Public Works Laborer	\$ 10.00	\$ 25.00
Public Works/Seasonal	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
Beach Supervisor	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
Badge Checkers	\$ 10.00	\$ 17.00
Lifeguards	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
Tax Clerk	\$ 10.00	\$ 18.00
Clerical	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
Clerk-Typist	\$ 10.00	\$ 15.00
Deputy Court Administrator	\$ 10.00	\$ 17.00
Special Police Officer	\$ 10.00	\$ 22.00
Part-Time Regular Patrolman	\$ 10.00	\$ 17.00
Boardwalk Guards	\$ 10.00	\$ 17.00
School Crossing Guard	\$ 10.00	\$ 17.00
Rental Inspector	\$ 10.00	\$ 20.00
Deputy Code Enforcement Officer	\$ 13.00	\$ 20.00
Deputy Zoning Officer	\$ 13.00	\$ 20.00

All ordinances or parts of ordinances of this municipality inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

This ordinance shall take effect immediately upon its final passage, approval and publication, as required by law.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

The items listed below are considered to be routine by the Borough of Ocean Gate and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no formal discussion of these items. If discussion is desired, this item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered

**A motion was made by Councilman McGrath to add resolution 2024-159, 2024-160 and 2024-161 to the Consent Agenda. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

**A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve the Consent Agenda. Second to the motion made by Councilwoman Nicastro. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

### **RESOLUTION 2024-153 APPOINTING VAN CLEEF ENGINEERING FOR NJDEP AND I-BANK WATER METER REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ocean Gate has filed a loan application with the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (the NJDEP) and the New Jersey Infrastructure Bank (the I-Bank) for the financing of Water Meter Replacement; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ocean Gate desires to have Van Cleef Engineering lead this project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Van Cleef Engineering Associates, LLC has been awarded the Planning and Design Services in the amount of \$29,680.00 for the I-Bank funded Removal and Replacement of Potable Water Meters Project S340151-02”.

### **RESOLUTION 2024-154 BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE HAS NO OBJECTION TO THE RENEWAL OF CLUB LICENSE NO. 1521-31-001-001**

WHEREAS, The Ocean Gate Yacht Club, 1 Ocean Gate Avenue, Ocean Gate New Jersey has applied for a renewal of their Club License No. 1521-31-001-001 and

WHEREAS, Robert Curtin, Bruce Cox, Joella Nicastro, James Fry, James McGrath, Richard Zieser are members of the Ocean Gate Yacht Club; and

WHEREAS, Robert Curtin, Bruce Cox, Joella Nicastro, James Fry, James McGrath, Richard Zieser are members of the Governing body of the Borough of Ocean Gate, which also acts as the ABC Issuing Authority, the subject license is a “conflict” license. Accordingly, said renewal license application will be forwarded to the Director of the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control for consideration pursuant to NJSA 33:1-20 and NJAC 13:2-4.1; and

WHEREAS, NJAC 13:2-4.6 requires the issuing authority to submit to the Director a certified Resolution setting forth that the issuing authority has no objection to the renewal of the subject license and consents thereto and furthermore, is not aware of any circumstances or provisions of law or local ordinance which would prohibit the renewal of the subject license; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean and State of New Jersey:

That the Mayor and Council has no objection to the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License No.1521-31-001-001 and consents thereto, and furthermore is not aware of any circumstance or provisions of law or local ordinance which would prohibit the renewal of the subject license.

RESOLUTION 2024-155 RENEWAL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE LICENSES

WHEREAS, the following applications have been received for renewal:  
Ocean Gate Hospitality LLC License number 1521-33-002-010; and Golda’s Anchor Inn, 400 Ocean Gate Ave. – License #1521-33-003-001; and

WHEREAS, the submitted application forms were complete in all respects, including the Tax Clearance Certificates, and the applicant is qualified to be licensed according to all statutory, regulatory and local governmental laws and regulations; and

WHEREAS, the applicants have disclosed that no additional financing has been obtained in the previous license period for use in the licensed business; and

WHEREAS, no complaints have been received protesting issuance by the Borough or the Alcoholic Beverage Control of this renewal license;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that the renewal of the foregoing license is hereby approved for the period of July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the foregoing licenses are subject to the following “special conditions”, which shall run for the term of the renewal licenses;

- a. No “Go-Go Girls” shall be permitted at anytime. For the purpose of this resolution, a “Go-Go Girl” is defined as a scantily clad person or persons, who performs in a suggestive, lascivious, wanton and salacious manner;
- b. No “Male Fantasies” or “Go-Go Males” shall be permitted at any time. For the purposes of this resolution, a ”Male Fantasy” or “Go-Go Male” is defined as a scantily clad person or persons, who performs in a suggestive, lascivious, wanton and salacious manner.
- c. The parking lots and building areas must be properly illuminated during business hours.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED, that the Municipal Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to issue the license as received from the Alcoholic Beverage Control to the aforesaid licensees.

RESOLUTION 2024-156 RESOLUTION OF THE BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, ACCEPTING DONATION OF VOLLEYBALL NETS FOR THE 2024 SUMMER SEASON

WHEREAS, Mr. Nicastro requested the opportunity to donate the use of Volleyball Nets near the Narragansett Avenue Beach; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the donation is to enhance the experience of beach goers of the Borough Beach; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council believes the Volleyball Nets will enhance the experience of the Borough Beach during the 2024 Summer Season; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council desires to accept the donation of Mr. Nicastro provided the he meets certain requirements, which are outlined below.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Mr. Nicastro shall be responsible for all maintenance and upkeep of the volleyball nets.
2. The Borough shall be held harmless from any liability associated with the volleyball nets.
3. The nets will be removed on or before October 1, 2024.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the following:

1. Mr. Nicastro
2. Mayor and Council;
3. All other parties interest.

RESOLUTION 2024-157 AUTHORIZATION TO EXTEND THE HOURS FOR THE SPLASHPARK AND WAIVE FEES FOR THE EVENING OF JULY 13, 2024

**A motion was made by Councilwoman Nicastro to approve resolution 2024-157. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, desires to extend the hours of operation for the Splashpark on July 13, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, desires to waive the fee for the Splashpark for the evening on July 13, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Ocean Gate is permitted to adjust municipal charges pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-99, and that in accordance to N.J.S.A. 54:4-110, "Municipal Charges" can be defined as Splashpark Fees; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, in the County of Ocean, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Extend hours of operation for the Splashpark
2. Waive the fee of admission during the extended hours

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Mayor and Council
2. Fred Ebanue, CFO
3. Julie Loftus, Beach Supervisor

RESOLUTION 2024-158 AUTHORIZATION FOR PAYMENT OF BILLS

**A motion was made by Councilman Cox to approve resolution 2024-158. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has carefully examined all vouchers presented to the Borough for payment of claims; and

WHEREAS, after due consideration of said vouchers, the Borough Council has approved the payment of same; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has certified that the bill list has been audited and is in order for payment and funds totaling \$193,572.47 available in the respective accounts as set forth below;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, as follows:

1. The said approved 2024 vouchers amounting to the sum of \$193,572.47 the same are hereby authorized to be paid on June 26, 2024.

RESOLUTION 2024-159 DESIGNATING OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES TO SIGN CHECKS AND MAKE DEPOSITS

BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, that any three (3) of the following officers of the Corporation to wit:

Mayor Robert Curtin  
James McGrath, Council President  
Joella Nicastro, Councilwoman  
Ileana Vazquez-Gallipoli, Municipal Clerk  
Kammie L. Verdolina, Tax Collector (Signature on Tax Redemption Account)  
Kristen Hudnut, Fiscal Officer  
Frederick Ebanue, Chief Financial Officer

are hereby authorized to make, collect, discount, negotiate, endorse, assign and deposit in the Corporate name, all checks, drafts, notes and other negotiable paper payable to or by this Corporation, and that all checks of the Corporation signed as aforesaid, including checks drawn to cash bearer, or to the individual order of the officer signing said checks, shall be honored and paid by said bank/trust company designated by the Borough of Ocean Gate, without further inquiry, and charged to the Corporation's account, the Corporation hereby ratifying and approving all that said bank/trust company designated by the Borough of Ocean Gate may do or cause to be done by virtue hereof.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate that all payroll checks shall be signed by any two (2) of the following six (6) officials:

1. Robert Curtin, Mayor
2. James McGrath, Council President
3. Joella Nicastro, Councilwoman
4. Ileana Vazquez-Gallipoli, Municipal Clerk
5. Kristen Hudnut, Fiscal Officer
6. Frederick Ebanue, Chief Financial Officer

RESOLUTION 2024-160 APPOINTING FISCAL OFFICER

WHEREAS, there exists a need for a Fiscal Officer in the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean and State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, Kristen Hudnut holds all the appropriate certificates and meets all statutory requirements to fulfill the duties of said office;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. Kristen Hudnut is hereby appointed as the Fiscal Officer for the Borough of Ocean Gate, County of Ocean and State of New Jersey effective June 26, 2024 to December 31, 2024, at a salary of \$67,100.00 and;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution be forwarded to the following:

1. Frederick Ebenau, Chief Financial Officer
2. Kristen Hudnut, Fiscal Officer

RESOLUTION 2024-161 AUTHORIZING THE BOROUGH OF OCEAN GATE TAX COLLECTOR TO PREPARE AND MAIL ESTIMATED TAX BILLS IN ACCORDANCE WITH P.L. 1994 C.72

WHEREAS, The Ocean County Board of Taxation is unable to certify the Borough of Ocean Gate tax rate at this time and the Borough of Ocean Gate Tax Collector will be unable to mail the Borough 2024 tax bills on a timely basis; and

WHEREAS, in order to meet statutory obligations to the County and School Districts along with the sustaining Municipal operations in meeting its financial obligations, maintaining the tax collection rate, providing uniformity for tax payments and save the unnecessary cost of interest on borrowing, the Chief Financial Officer in consultation with the Tax Collector have computed an estimated tax levy in accordance to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3 and have both signed a certification attesting to the calculation;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Borough of Ocean Gate Tax Collector is hereby authorized and directed to prepare and issue estimated tax bills for the third installment of 2024 based upon an annualized levy analysis totaling \$1,905,718.97. The Tax Collector shall proceed and take such actions as are permitted and required by P.L. 1994, c.72 (N.J.S.A. 54:4-66.3).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that in accordance with the law, third quarter installments of the 2024 taxes shall not be subject to interest until the later of either; August 10, 2024 or twenty-five days after the date estimated bills were mailed. Contained on the estimated bill shall specify the date on which interest may begin to accrue.

Councilman Cox explained that the 2024 Public Hearing on the budget was already advertised we are legally obligated to move forward with the public hearing tonight, therefore if anyone wants to make a public comment, they are welcome to do so but the budget has been rejected and an amended budget is being prepared. He suggests questions be held until the amended budget is introduced. As stated at the Council workshop on June 12, 2024, the 2024 budget that was scheduled for public comment this evening was rejected by the county due to numerous documentation and procedural errors. Once all the issues are resolved, the amended budget will be introduced, resubmitted to the county and another public hearing will be scheduled.

**A motion was made by Councilman Cox to open the Municipal Budget Public Hearing. Second to the motion made by Councilman Fry. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug.**

**A motion was made by Councilman Cox to close the Municipal Budget Public Hearing. Second to the motion made by Council President McGrath. All in Favor. Motion Approved. Absent: Haug**

**Seeing no one else wishing to be heard the Mayor asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Councilman Cox. Second to the motion made by Councilman Zieser. All in Favor. Motion Approved.**

Respectfully Submitted:

Ileana Vazquez-Gallipoli