

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
SEPTEMBER 27, 2011**

**A.) OPENING CEREMONIES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 8:00 PM by **Cncl. Vice-Pres., Frank Caligiuri** in the Court Room of the Municipal Complex located at 125 Virginia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey.

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (NJSA 10:4-6 thru 10:4-21). Notices were placed in the official publications for Monroe Township (i.e.: Gloucester County Times, the Courier Post and the Sentinel of Gloucester County). A copy of that notice is posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex.

*Cncl. Vice-Pres., Frank Caligiuri stated the Clerk has placed a sign in sheet at the rear of the Court Room. If anyone would like to address Council during the Public Portion, please sign in and you will be asked to come forward to the microphone. Kindly state your name for the record.*

**SALUTE TO FLAG - INVOCATION**

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and offered the Invocation.

**ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Cncl. Walter Bryson	Present	
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri	Present	
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. William Sebastian	Present	
Cncl. Daniel Teefy	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Marvin Dilks		Excused
Mayor Michael Gabbianelli	Present	
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present	
Business Adm., Kevin Heydel	Present	
Engineer, Chris Rehmann	Present	
Dir. Finance, Jeff Coles		Excused
Dir. Of Code Enforcement, George Reitz		Excused
Dir. Of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. Of Community Affairs, Cassandra Dilks		Excused
Municipal Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

**PRESENTATIONS - None**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Work Session Meeting and Regular Council Meeting of September 13, 2011. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Walter Bryson** and approved by all members of Council in attendance with the exception of **Cncl. Rich DiLucia** who **Abstained**.

**B.) CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - PUBLIC PORTION**

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to open the Resolutions Scheduled-Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Rich DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak **Cncl. William Sebastian** made a motion to close the Resolutions Scheduled-Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Walter Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

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C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - PUBLIC PORTION (cont'd)

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to bracket Resolutions R:161-2011 and R:165-2011 through R:173-2011. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Rich DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA  
RESOLUTIONS R:161-2011 AND R:165-2011 THROUGH R:173-2011

**R:161-2011** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing A Taxpayer's Agreement Concerning Delinquent Taxes Between The Township Of Monroe And Marta M. Quinones For Block 9.0206, Lot 28

**Solicitor Fiore** advised a minor change would be made to Section II of the taxpayer agreement, as the specific statutory interest rate of 18% was not included and would be added. He explained during the last meeting the applicability of the Truth in Lending Act was discussed and that issue has been resolved as it applies to the taxpayer agreement.

**R:165-2011** Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

**R:166-2011** Resolution Authorizing Membership In A Mutual Aid And Assistance Agreement With Participating Units

**R:167-2011** Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Change Order # 1 For Don Rogers, Inc. In The Decreased Amount of \$6,071.47 For The Extension Of The Bike Path In The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey

**R:168-2011** Resolution Authorizing The Acceptance Of A Maintenance Bond In The Amount Of \$24,853.88 For The Monroe Township Bike Path Extension

**R:169-2011** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the New Jersey Department of Transportation FY2012 Safe Streets to Transit Application for Services Associated with the Bluebell Road Sidewalk Extension Project

**R:170-2011** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the New Jersey Department of Transportation FY2012 Bikeways Application for Services Associated with the Monroe Township Bike Path Extension Phase II Project

**R:171-2011** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute the New Jersey Department of Transportation FY2012 Municipal Aid Application for Services Associated with the Winslow Road, Phase IV Project

**R:172-2011** Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of September 27, 2011

**R:173-2011** Resolution Canceling Grant Receivable And Appropriation (NJDEP - "Timber Lakes Water Main")

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Resolutions R:161-2011 and R:165-2011 through R:173-2011. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Daniel Teefy** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

D.) ORDINANCES

**Cncl. Vice-Pres., Caligiuri** turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Committee Chairman, Cncl. William Sebastian**. **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to open the Public Hearing for Ordinances O:23-2011 and O:24-2011. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak **Cncl. Rich DiLucia** made a motion to close the Public Hearing.

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D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**O:23-2011** Bond Ordinance Providing For The Purchase Of Emergency Services Air Pack Breathing Equipment By The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey Appropriating The Sum Of \$20,000.00

**Second Reading:** The above ordinance was published in an official publication for the Township of Monroe. This portion was opened to the public.

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:23-2011 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:23-2011 - 6 AYES, 1 ABSENT (Dilks)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance O:23-2011 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:24-2011** An Ordinance Vacating And Extinguishing All Public Rights In And To A Certain Dedicated Public Street Or Roadway In The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey To Wit: A Portion Of A Certain Unimproved And Dedicated Road Known As Existing Birch Lane Between Block 8812, Lots 110 And 111 And Lot 16 And The Remaining Birch Lane And Reserving Any Easements Currently Held By The Township And Other Persons/Entities

**Second Reading:** The above ordinance was published in an official publication for the Township of Monroe. This portion was opened to the public.

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:24-2011 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Rich DiLucia**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:24-2011 - 6 AYES, 1 ABSENT (Dilks)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance O:24-2011 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

**Cncl. Walter Bryson** reported the Historical Society would like to expand the School Board of the Hall Street Little School. Residents who previously attended or had children that attended the Hall Street School and are interested in being a part of the school board should contact Susanne McKee at 629-3368. **Cncl. Bryson** reported the Little School Garden Train Show was rained out on the original date and has been rescheduled to Saturday, October 1<sup>st</sup> and that the people from the train show will be in attendance at the Little School Open House on Saturday, December 18<sup>th</sup>. The South Jersey Ghost Research has been investigating the Little School and the Ireland Hofer House and will be reporting on what was found. **Cncl. Bryson** urged residents to visit the historical sites in the township. He spoke of the Freedom Medal Presentation in Philadelphia, of Bob Gates receiving a medal and giving a speech about polarization in this country and urged residents to question political candidates knocking on their doors what they are going to do to stop polarization.

**Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** reported attending the Environmental Commission Meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup> where many issues were discussed with the most principal one being the Windshield Survey that was performed by members of the Commission. The survey found that all the trees appear to be in good health, which is a very good thing for a Tree Community. He noted a Redevelopment Committee Meeting was held September 20<sup>th</sup> regarding the Economic Development Incentive Program the commission is working on with a developer. The Committee will make a report to the full Council on this matter. He also reported attending a

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**E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)**

meeting at the NJ Department of Environmental Protection Dam Safety Division in Trenton along with Senator Madden on September 22<sup>nd</sup>. During the meeting discussion took place regarding the dams in Monroe Township and the damage that occurred as a result of the recent hurricane. The NJDEP provided a great deal of cooperation and progress came about because of this meeting. Cncl. Caligiuri reported attending the Planning Board Meeting on September 22<sup>nd</sup> where Summer Field West submitted an amendment to their application to include a sign to their entranceway on the Black Horse Pike. The developer of Justin Commons also requested the Board grant relief from the requirement for a bus shelter since there is no bus currently running in that area. The Board also reviewed the Pinelands requirement for the township to develop a Pineland Comprehensive Management Plan. The due date for that plan has been extended to March 2012.

**Cncl. Rich DiLucia** noted some of the statistics regarding unemployment over the last few months have been staggering but if you take into consideration the people who have run out of unemployment, cannot find a job and have given up it makes the unemployment rate between 15% and 17%. He noted statistics regarding the poverty levels being at 20%, or one out of five people in this country live in poverty. We also have the highest level of delinquent school loans, which means college graduates are having a very hard time finding employment and cannot pay their loans. Bank failures in this country are increasing and home foreclosures are at a rate that have not been reached since the great depression. Cncl. DiLucia noted whether you are a democrat, republican or independent voter we must conclude the reason for our economic woes is because there is not enough meaningful employment in this country to support our families and pay our bills like we did after World War II. He noted seniors have not received an increase in Social Security in the last two years and are supposed to get one this year but that will be eaten up by their Medicare contribution. He expressed his concerns that no one wants to tackle insurance companies and he urged residents to send an e-mail or letter to senators, congressmen, assemblymen and freeholders and tell them it is time to take action and work in a by-partisan manner to find a solution to correct the economic problems in this country.

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** reported attending the Library Board Meeting on Wednesday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. The Library attendance was 18,331 in June and as of August the attendance continued to grow to 25,829. The programs offered by the Library are free and include "Conversations in Italian Language" on Wednesday nights running through October 5<sup>th</sup> through November 9<sup>th</sup>, a seminar regarding Social Security Benefits on Wednesday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 2:00 PM and the Jersey Chorus will present an informational program about choral singing on Wednesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM. Cncl. Garbowski extended his appreciation to the Library staff for putting these free programs together. He also reported the gazebo donated by the Democrat Club has been installed in the Library garden.

**Cncl. William Sebastian** reported the Monroe Township Ambulance and Rescue Association took 1<sup>st</sup> Place in the 1960's category in the New Jersey State Firemen's Convention for their antique rescue vehicle # 2946. An ambulance was not entered in the competition this year as one of our four in-house ambulances was having mechanical problems and the squad did not want two ambulances out-of-service.

**Cncl. Daniel Teefy** reported the Williamstown Fire Department will hold their annual Open House on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> and Parks and Rec will hold Oktoberfest and the Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 15<sup>th</sup>. There will be pie eating contests, food vendors and hayrides at Oktoberfest and the parade will consist of three string bands, over 30 floats, the Eagles Pep Band and walkers in costumes. The floats and costumes will be judged and prizes will be given out at the end of the parade. Those entering the parade should meet at St. Mary's parking lot at 6:30 PM. On October 12<sup>th</sup> candy bags for the parade will be made up and anyone interested in helping that night should come to the Pfeiffer Center. Cncl. Teefy spoke of campaigning with Congressman, Rob Andrews and Freeholder candidate Adam Taliaferro and noted he discussed with them township issues that need to be addressed. He noted there are no local elections this year but he urged residents to make sure their voices are heard by voting for the county and state candidates.

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**E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)**

**Mayor Michael Gabbianelli** reported attending the POW/MIA Ceremony at the Pfeiffer Center on Friday, September 16<sup>th</sup>. He also noted the township has always had trouble with trash pickup in November due to the number of holidays during that month. He reported bulk trash pickup for November is Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> for the Monday and Thursday trash days and Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> for the Tuesday and Wednesday trash days.

**Solicitor Charles Fiore** spoke of Congressman Rob Andrews administering the oath of office to him when he was elected as a Councilman. At that time his son was two years old and held the Bible for him. Mr. Fiore explained his son, who is mentally challenged is 19 years old and a senior at Bankbridge High School, which is part of the Gloucester County Special Services District. He is involved in a year round program and goes to school from Monday through Thursday during the summer. Mr. Fiore noted he asked the Mayor and Business Administrator if his son, Chuck, could volunteer his services on Fridays in the maintenance department because he is enamored by maintenance workers. He noted he wanted to extend a special thanks to Mannie Tursi, the maintenance employee in the municipal building, who worked with Chuck from 9:00 AM until 2:00 PM on Fridays. He noted we always hear about the darker side of politics and municipal government but employees like Mannie are the ones who make towns.

**Director of Public Safety, Jim Smart** reported a proclamation will be issued on October 10, 2011 for "Brakes on Fatality Day", that Williamstown Fire Department will hold their annual Open House on Tuesday, October 11<sup>th</sup> and Cecil will hold their Open House on Wednesday, October 12<sup>th</sup>. He also reported during Fire Prevention Week, October 9<sup>th</sup> through October 15<sup>th</sup>, a lot of activity will be taking place throughout the township when the fire equipment travels to each school.

**F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

**Cncl. Walter Bryson** made a motion to open the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. William Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**Hank McCloskey**, of the Chestnut Green Development approached Council to express his concerns regarding speeding traffic along Ames Road. He suggested installing 3-way stop signs at Maidstone and Longfellow Drive or purchasing an alternative device from Optotraffic that records speed, time and takes pictures like those taken by traffic cameras. Mr. McCloskey noted the township does not have the personnel to manage all the speeding issues and that device could be placed in other locations where there are speeding problems. **Mayor Gabbianelli** noted he just received the traffic survey done on Ames Road and would contact Mr. McCloskey to review the report. **Cncl. Teefy** noted last year the police were sent out there and it was the school buses, the local people and teachers speeding. He felt the police should issue tickets to everyone speeding, as that would get the message out and resolve this problem. Mr. McCloskey also spoke of the time it takes for the Public Works Department to maintain the open space areas around Chestnut Green. He noted the equipment being utilized is too small to maintain the area in an efficient way and suggested the township consider contracting out to a private contractor for this work. He also spoke of trash trucks driving through his development not picking up trash and suggested GPS systems be placed in the trash trucks so the township knows where the trucks are and what type of work is being done. **Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel** advised he has researched GPS systems for the trucks and explained the trucks Mr. McCloskey saw may have been going to a specific location to pick up bulk trash that was scheduled for pickup. Mr. McCloskey commended Candy Mauger of the Public Works Department for always responding to his phone calls and e-mails in a timely and efficient manner.

**W. Larry Cooper, Sr., 373 Blue Bell Road**, spoke of the memorial services of 911 and of how he was at a meeting in the School Superintendent's Office regarding the two football organizations at the time the planes hit the towers. He spoke of what has transpired over the last ten years between the two organizations and expressed his concerns that the issues still have not been resolved. He noted the Warriors never place signs at Owens Park but the other

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

organization put signs up at the Church Street field. He spoke of rumors about people from the Warriors stealing money and noted to his knowledge, no one has ever misappropriated money, gone to jail or been forced to quit the organization. Mr. Cooper noted charges were also made that the Warriors had out of town players. He explained 15% of players are permitted to be from out of town and the Warriors never exceeded that number. Most players live within the area and walk to the field. He noted the names and addresses of all the players were requested to make sure they all go to Williamstown schools. Mr. Cooper noted none of these players have parents with police cars but some have been visited by someone in a police car and that was very intimidating. He noted people used to be able to park on the grass but now that is blocked off and visitors must be told where to park so they do not get in trouble. He expressed his concerns that these things have been ongoing for ten years and questioned why Rodney King's, statement "can't we just all get along" cannot be done here. Mr. Cooper also expressed his concerns regarding television news networks calling President Obama Mr. Obama instead of respecting him and calling him President Obama. He noted whether people like him or not he is the President and deserves respect. Mr. Cooper indicated he has contacted the NAACP and they have done nothing about this and he urged residents to write to their senators and congressmen about this issue.

**Melissa Guzman**, approached Council regarding the flooding/drainage issues on Prince Avenue that was caused when the retention pond on the school board property over flowed. **Mayor Gabbianelli** advised the township is aware of the problem, is pumping out the high school basin and will scarify it to address the problem. He noted the State was also contacted regarding the problems with their basin

**Leslie Myles, 1584 Blue Bell Road** approached Council regarding an on-going problem she has had since January with her overflow trash not being collected. She explained she calls for pickup, is told it will be picked up but no one comes and the trash sits there for weeks at a time. Tires she had called for were thrown into the wooded area on her property instead of being picked up. She also complained about her regular trash container being placed in the middle of her driveway after it is dumped. She noted she has called on numerous occasions to speak to Candy about this but the truck driver continues to put the can in the driveway. She noted this employee should be terminated for non performance of his job. **Mayor Gabbianelli** indicated he would look into this matter, as it is the first time he has heard about it.

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. William Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

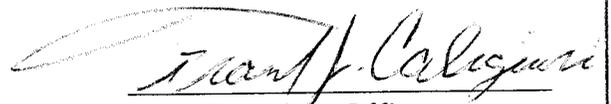
G.) ADJOURNMENT

**Cncl. Walter Bryson** made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of September 27, 2011. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan McCormick, RMC  
Municipal Clerk

  
Presiding Officer

*These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting of September 27, 2011 and serve as only a synopsis of the proceedings. The official tape may be heard in the Office of the Township Clerk upon proper notification pursuant to the Open Public Records Law.*

Approved as submitted Am Date 10/25/11  
Approved as corrected \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_