

**MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
SEPTEMBER 25, 2012**

**A.) OPENING CEREMONIES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 8:01 PM by **Cncl. 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. 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. William Sebastian** led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and **Jim Hallman** of Our Lady of Peace Parish offered the Invocation.

**ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

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

**PRESENTATIONS**

- **Environmental Commission - Tree City USA**

**John Imperatore**, of the Monroe Township Environmental Commission, noted through the efforts of the Commission in April the Arbor Day Association in cooperation with the USDA Forest Service and the Association of State Forestry designated the Township as a Tree City USA. This important milestone will be communicated to the community and to those driving through by four signs that will be strategically located on major arteries in the township and by a plaque installed in the lobby of the Municipal Building. Mr. Imperatore extended his appreciation to the Mayor, Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri the Environmental Commission Liaison along with the other members of Council for their support and to Mike Calvello of the Road Department for installing the signs. He also thanked Dan Kozak for his leadership and support and all the other members of the Environmental Commission for their hard work in obtaining this designation. Mr. Imperatore invited the residents to attend the Environmental Commission meetings held on the third Monday of each month at 7:00 PM in the Municipal Building.

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Council Work Session, Regular Council Meeting and Closed Executive Session of September 11, 2012. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Walter Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**B.) CORRESPONDENCE**

• **CY2012/SFY2013 Best Practices Inventory Questionnaire**

**Director of Finance Jeff Coles** explained for the past three years the State has required each municipality to complete a Best Practices Questionnaire. Through this municipalities are placed on certain grades/levels for State aid and when the grade/level is not met aid is reduced. The township lost no aid last year or this year based upon how he (*Mr. Coles*) and the BA answered the survey. Mr. Coles explained some questions were answered no and they have been discussing things that could be done to change those answers to yes in the future. Mr. Coles spoke of attending a Government Finance Officer's Association Conference where representatives from the State were asked why certain questions were included on the questionnaire, as the State is getting tougher and more direct on what they want municipalities to do. The first year the questions did not pertain to every municipality but this year the questions are more direct and deal with such things as shared services, policies, education and what organizations do to save money. Mr. Coles noted he and the BA would be giving some suggestions on how ordinances can be modified to provide more yes answers to this questionnaire in the future.

**Cncl. Daniel Teefy** made a motion to approve the CY2012/SFY2013 Best Practices Inventory Questionnaire. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Rich DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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

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

**CONSENT AGENDA**

**Cncl. William Sebastian** made a motion to bracket Resolutions R:163-2012 through R:172-2012 and R:174-2012. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:163-2012** Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

**R:164-2012** Resolution Requesting Approval Of Items Of Revenue And Appropriation N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 Wal-Mart Police Grant

**R:165-2012** Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of September 25, 2012

**R:166-2012** Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The New Jersey Department Of Transportation FY2013 Municipal Aid Application For Services Associated With The Winslow Road, Phase V Project

**R:167-2012** Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The New Jersey Department Of Transportation FY2013 Bikeways Application For Services Associated With The Monroe Township Bike Path Extension Phase II Project

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

**R:168-2012** Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The New Jersey Department Of Transportation FY2013 Safe Streets To Transit Application For Services Associated With The Bluebell Road Sidewalk Extension Project

**R:169-2012** A Resolution Consenting To The Proposed Water Quality Management (WQM) Plan Amendment Entitled: Gloucester County Non-Consolidated District Wastewater Management Plan (WMP) Proposed Amendment To The Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan (WQMP)

**R:170-2012** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township of Monroe Supporting Fully Restored Open Space PILOT (Payment-In-Lieu-Of-Tax) Funding Indexed To The Level of Inflation

**R:171-2012** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township of Monroe In Support Of Assembly No. 2023

**R:172-2012** A Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing A Waiver And Reimbursement Of Construction Permit Fees For The Road Company Theatre Group, Inc.

**R:174-2012** Resolution Amending The Contract Award For Professional Services To Omni Recycling LLC, For The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey Pursuant To R:63-2008 And R:138-2010

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Resolutions R:163-2012 through R:172-2012 and R:174-2012 for adoption. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marvin Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R-173-2012** Resolution Releasing The Performance Guaranty Posted For "Candlewood I" (A/K/A Crossings At Spring Hill), Subdivision #1549, Block 13601, Lot 33 And Substituting A Maintenance Guaranty In The Amount Of \$44,539.05

**Cncl. William Sebastian** made a motion to approve R:173-2012 for adoption. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Rich DiLucia**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE R:173-2012 FOR ADOPTION - ALL AYES**

**Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent.** Resolution R:173-2012 was duly approved for adoption.

**R:175-2012** Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township of Monroe To Discuss Active Litigation Matters (*Active Litigation Matters - Simmermon V. Monroe Township, Amberleigh Performance Bond Issues and Potential Litigation - Kanady*)

**REMOVED FROM AGENDA BASED UPON THE ADVICE OF THE SOLICITOR**

D.) ORDINANCES

**Cncl. Pres., Caligiuri** turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Committee Chairman, Cncl. William Sebastian**.

**Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri** made a motion to open the Public Hearing for Ordinances O:24-2012 and O:25-2012. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Daniel Teefy** and unanimously approved by all members of Council. With no one wishing to speak **Cncl. Marvin Dilks** made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**O:24-2012** An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 267 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe Entitled "Vehicles And Traffic" (No parking Virginia Avenue)

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D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

**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:24-2012 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Rich DiLucia**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:24-2012 FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING - ALL ALYES**

**Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent.** Ordinance O:24-2012 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:25-2012** An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 74 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Fees" (Police documents)

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:25-2012 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Daniel Teefy**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:25-2012 FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING - ALL ALYES**

**Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent.** Ordinance O:25-2012 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:26-2012** An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 4 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Administrative Code" (*Division Of Police*)

**First Reading:** A copy of this ordinance was posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve O:26-2012 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**O:27-2012** An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 69 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Police, Division Of"

**First Reading:** A copy of this ordinance was posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

**Cncl. Rich DiLucia** made a motion to approve O:27-2012 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Walter Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**O:28-2012** An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 4 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Administrative Code", Article XIA, Department Of Parks And Recreation, Section 94, Criminal History Background Checks Concerning Township Sponsored Or Co-Sponsored Recreation And Sports Programs (N.J.S.A. 15A:3A-1 Et Seq.)

**First Reading:** A copy of this ordinance was posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

**Cncl. Marvin Dilks** made a motion to approve O:28-2012 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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**E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

**Mayor Michael Gabbianelli** reported the POW/MIA Ceremonies held on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup> at the Pfeiffer Center was very well attended. The Winslow Road Paving Project that began this week includes from this side of Malaga Road to Buckhorn Drive. He suggested everyone avoid using Winslow Road if possible since there is also gas work being done there causing the road to be very hectic. The Mayor referred to R:166-2012 and explained that was adopted by Council to request additional grant money from the DOT to complete the Winslow Road Project. In the past the township has been successful in getting approximately \$200,000.00 a year in grant money to revamp that roadway. The sidewalk project on North Main Street, which will bring sidewalks from Rachel Lauren Way up to Durness Drive went out to bid this week. Once that project is completed there will be sidewalks from Scotland Run to Holly Glen School for kids to safely walk to school. The township was successful in getting new heating and air conditioning units for the municipal building through an Energy Grant and finally after patching the building roof for many years the bid for a new roof was opened last week and that project will be moving forward shortly.

**Cncl. Daniel Teefy** reported the Parks and Recreation Commission will hold their annual fall festivities on October 20<sup>th</sup>. The Fall Festival will begin at 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM and this year things will be a little different, as the music will be revamped, the Monroe Township Braves 70 pound team will be playing football at 1:00 PM and that organization will be handling the concession stand. The Fall Festival will shut down right at 2:00 because everyone running that must leave to get ready for the Halloween Parade, which begins at 7:00 PM. Anyone interested in entering a float or participating in the parade should contact the Parks and Rec Department. Cncl. Teefy noted last year's parade judges are being brought back again so there will be experienced people judging the floats.

**Cncl. William Sebastian** reported the Monroe Township Ambulance and Rescue Association took 1<sup>st</sup> Place for their rescue truck at the Firemen's Convention in Wildwood. The truck has been entered at the convention eight years and has taken the 1<sup>st</sup> Place award for seven years and the Special Judge's Award one year.

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** reported on September 17<sup>th</sup> the Economic Development Commission held a meeting with members from the business community to see if there was any interest in starting a Businessmen's Association. Approximately fifteen business people were in attendance and the Commission would like to invite anyone else interested in creating an association to attend their next meeting on October 15<sup>th</sup>. Cncl. Garbowski reported the Library Board met on September 19<sup>th</sup> and they will be scheduling interviews early in October for a new Library director. The Library is sponsoring the "Spot of Teal Quilt Show" on Friday, September 28<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 to 7:00 PM and on Saturday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM and a lecture on Tuesday, October 2<sup>nd</sup> on the national music of France and Germany. On Wednesday, October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM the Library will host "Genealogy 101" where residents can learn to research their ancestry. "The Paranormal" will hold a lecture at the Library on Wednesday, October 17<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM for residents 18 years old or older. Residents must register to attend both of these free events. The movie "Pumpkin Head" will air Monday, October 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM for those 18 years old or older. Cncl. Garbowski reported he also attended the POW/MIA Ceremony on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>. He noted there was a good turnout and he urged all residents to support our men and women in uniform.

**Cncl. Rich DiLucia** reported he also attended the POW/MIA Ceremonies along with the Mayor and members of Council and the thing he was most impressed with was the commitment this organization has for locating people lost in action and released POW's. Currently there are 47 service men/women from New Jersey in that category. Last year they located three people and hand delivered their dog tags to the families, which provided closure to those families. Cncl. DiLucia was very moved by this and commended the organization for doing a tremendous job. Cncl. DiLucia also reported attending the Board of Education Meeting on Thursday, September 20<sup>th</sup>. During the meeting the Board assigned trouble shooters that will go throughout the school system to assist teachers with children that need additional help in certain areas. Cncl. DiLucia spoke of residents expressing their concerns to him regarding the red light camera and how he tried to clarify what the New Jersey law requires when turning on red. He explained the law requires vehicles to come to a complete stop behind

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**E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

the white line and then when no traffic is coming the turn can be completed. Citations will be issued if vehicles go over the white line or if they make a rolling stop. Cncl. DiLucia went on to speak of New Jersey deregulating electric and gas and how residents were previously compelled to purchase both the service and supply of gas and electric from New Jersey Gas and Atlantic City Electric. Since deregulation companies have been aggressively soliciting and trying to convince people they have better rates. He cautioned residents that the solicitors going door to door or telemarketers calling have no legal responsibility when presenting this and will try to entice people by giving such things as debit cards to use at restaurants. He noted through his research he has found people need to be very careful when agreeing to a variable rate, as it could be a teaser rate. Some companies are offering 9.2 cents per kilowatt hour but within six months that rate creeps up over the cost from Atlantic City Electric. He recommended people stay away from variable rates and urged them to watch their bills to make sure they have a set rate, as it takes a couple of months to get out of contracts due to the process involved when changing electric and gas supply companies. He urged residents to be careful especially the elderly, who have been easy prey to these companies.

Cncl. Walter Bryson reported the Municipal Alliance Commission is sponsoring the program "Fifteen Minute Child Break", a free parent education program that covers topics such as talking to kids about drugs and alcohol, the affects of specific drugs, strengthening parenting skills and the influence of media and pop culture on children. Cncl. Bryson also reported the Historical Society will be hosting a ghost seminar on November 10<sup>th</sup>; more information about that will be reported as the event gets closer. He reported the Historical Society recently learned this town had a Quaker origin when it was first settled plus many Indian settlements from the Delaware Tribe. Their community was very unique from others because the settlers and Indians got along very well for many years. Cncl. Bryson invited residents to attend the Historical Society Meetings held the first Thursday of each month in the Ireland House at 7:30 PM and also to visit the Ireland House, which will be open during the Halloween Parade. Cncl. Bryson urged residents to drive carefully through developments for the safety of the children waiting for school buses. He spoke of how New Jersey inspection laws have changed and he expressed concern that in the inspection process only emissions are being checked. He felt the State should go back to the old laws that required safety checks of brakes, tires and other safety equipment. He also spoke of how New Jersey freeways no longer have stop or yield signs on any of the entrances and of how that may have contributed to a serious accident he saw on the North/South Freeway. He noted these are issues that are very important to everyone's safety and he urged residents to send a letter to Trenton to change those things. Cncl. Bryson noted the township has a great recycling program but does not pickup TVs or computer monitors; homeowners must dispose of those items at the Public Works Department.

Director of Public Safety, Jim Smart reported the Williamstown Fire Department will hold their annual open house on Tuesday, October 9<sup>th</sup> at the Main Street Fire House.

Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri reported attending the September 13<sup>th</sup> Planning Board Meeting where the MMUA came in for a site approval for Well # 13 on Jackson Road. Cncl. Pres., Caligiuri advised residents that are unable to vote on Election Day can obtain a request for a Vote By Mail Ballot through the Clerk's Office. Cncl. Pres., Caligiuri extended his appreciation to Council for supporting R:171-2012, which supports New Jersey Assembly Bill # 2023 and Senate Bill # 1976 that prohibits the slaughter and transport of horses for human consumption. The bill passed both the Assembly and the Senate with an overwhelming majority but sat on the governor's desk for quite some time. Cncl. Pres., Caligiuri noted he felt the township should take the initiative and spread the word about this to all the other municipalities in New Jersey, however the governor signed it into law on Friday, September 21<sup>st</sup>.

**F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski made a motion to open the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Marvin Dilks and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

Michael Kretschmer, Chairman of the Economic Development Commission noted on behalf of the Road Company Theater Group he wanted to extend their appreciation to Council for adopting the resolution waiving permit fees for the Grand Theater. This will not only benefit the group to get the work done faster but hopefully in the future it will benefit the township as well. Mr. Kretschmer spoke of the Economic Development Commission meeting with business owners of the community regarding creating a Businessmen's Association and noted the Commission will be holding another meeting besides its regular monthly meeting and will be sending out formal invitations to local businesses to try to get them involved. He noted he and Cody Miller of the Municipal Alliance Commission are organizing the third Call To Service, as there are approximately fourteen vacancies on various boards/commissions. Since the past events held at the Library were successful they are trying to arrange for a room to hold this event there on November 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>.

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

G.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss Cncl. Walter Bryson made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of September 25, 2012. 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 25, 2012 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 SM  
Approved as corrected \_\_\_\_\_

Date 10/9/12  
Date \_\_\_\_\_