

MINUTES  
REGUAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
JUNE 24, 2013

**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. Pres., Daniel Teefy** 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.: South Jersey 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., Daniel Teefy** 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. Rich DiLucia** led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and **Deacon, Jim Hallman** of Our Lady of Peace Church, offered the Invocation.

**ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Cncl. Walter Bryson	Present	
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri	Present	
Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. William Sebastian	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Daniel Teefy	Present	
Mayor Michael Gabbianelli	Present	(Excused 8:10 PM)
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present	
Business Adm., Kevin Heydel	Present	
Engineer, Chris Rehmann	Present	
Dir. Finance, Jeff Coles		Excused
Dir. Of Code Enforcement, George Reitz	Present	
Dir. Of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. Of Public Works, Bob Avis		Excused
Township Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

**Mayor Michael Gabbianelli** reported the following. Prior to the Council Meeting police promotions were held and the new Police Department Administration is Chief John McKeown, Deputy Chief Howard Wiemer, Captain Jon Rumpf and Captain Stephen Farrell. The Music Festival held on June 1<sup>st</sup> at Owens Park was a great success and is getting better every year. The Williamstown Fire Company along with Cecil Fire Company held a joint truck housing on June 8<sup>th</sup> at the Williamstown Fire House for three new fire apparatus. A parade was held along Main Street and then the fire departments provided entertainment and a party for the public. The flags at the Library are at half mast in respect of long time Library Board member Barney Corrigan who passed away this week. The Mayor also reported the Public Works yard is open on Saturdays from 8:00 AM to noon through September 28<sup>th</sup>.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Council Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of May 13, 2013 and the Special Council Meeting of June 11, 2013. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Walter Bryson**. The minutes of the May 13, 2013 meetings were unanimously approved by all members of Council. The minutes of the June 11, 2013 Special Council Meeting were approved by all members of Council with the exception of **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** who **Abstained**.

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**B.) CORRESPONDENCE**

• **Carnival Permit - Faith Temple Baptist Church**

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski made a motion to approve the Carnival Permit for Faith Temple Baptist Church. The motion was seconded by Cncl. William Sebastian and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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

Cncl. Rich DiLucia made a motion to open the Resolutions Scheduled - Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. William Sebastian and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cheryl Ognassanti approached Council to oppose renewal of the Trio Tavern Liquor License (R:125-2013); noting during the last two public Council Meeting she voiced her very serious concerns regarding this license renewal and she hopes the entire Council considers all the public records that were submitted. Clearly this bar has operated freely, as there has been a lack of containment and control causing her and certain members of her community to suffer for seven years. The Trio Tavern thinks this is a numbers game but it isn't it is about laws being broken and stop work orders being issued because they didn't obey procedures, building codes and proper protocols. Not only did they not obey them, but the first time they built an illegal outside bar that they continued to operate without going through the Pinelands. They were flagged many times in many Pineland letters and one letter even said to remove the illegal outside structure or apply to Pinelands. Seven years later they finally, after a stop work order, had to obey the law. Petitions and number games have nothing to do with setting a precedence that all township business owners need to obey the law of the building practices that were put in place to prevent anarchy and free-for-alls. Trio was allowed to get out of hand because the Monroe Township Zoning Office, Construction Office and Fire Marshall did not enforce what was needed seven years ago. She noted the Fire Marshall conducts yearly inspections and she questioned how he could pass an illegally constructed building that had no electrical or plumbing permits, no drainage system and no environmental standards. That building needed a Certificate of Occupancy with occupancy seating charts and occupancy standards to ensure the safety of the patrons and the community. Mrs. Ognassanti noted tonight she was requesting firmly that swift action be taken to prevent further perpetuation of hate, harassment and intimidation against her and her family because she spoke out against Trio to protect her residence and the people who have voiced their concerns to her. She noted the reason proper permits are issued is to ensure public safety, proper fire inspections for tents, extension cords, stages and outside music and to tract parties so Uncle Sam knows what is going on and the Board of Health inspects vending carts selling hotdogs and hamburgers. She requested Council to vote as if they were residing in her home and as if they were after the quiet, peaceful environment that homeowners are entitled to by law. Numerous complaints were received as evidenced by 800 police reports and that many complaints warrant a label of nuisance. She noted Council's vote will be setting a precedence of whether other people that were fined, flagged, issued penalties, closed down etc., have been discriminated against because the same laws and penalties have not been imposed here. The paperwork does not lie. Council's job is to consider everything and she requested they consider there has been a reckless disregard for the public safety and health evidenced by the illegal bar having explosive and flammable content due to having CO tanks and flammable alcoholic beverages. When the arson occurred at this building those CO tanks could have blown through a motorist windshield and killed someone. She requested Council consider the serious past that has been enabled for seven years. This is not a numbers game in on-line petitions; this is about laws being followed and held to standards so everyone is on board doing the right thing. Mrs. Ognassanti spoke of being harassed and going to the Police Department to file a complaint. No charges were pressed but she did report that a woman at WAWA told her people from Trio Tavern knew where she lived, took pictures of her home and hoped she was ready because they are coming for her. She noted she has had several ride-bys, gangs of motorcycles stop in front of her home and threats and hate crimes done to her family. This has been perpetuated simply because rules, laws, penalties and fines have not been enforced and this has not been taken seriously. She questioned when this will stop and when there will be a consequence and accountability for the way these bar owners have run their business. This is not simply about partying and drinking,

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this is about people doing what they want and feeling entitled to do that because there have been no consequences. She requested Council vote with a clear conscience and consider all evidence, public records and what she has gone through the last seven years. The endangerment factor is increasing because that building is being allowed when according to Pineland records it should have been removed seven years ago. It has been allowed despite all the complaints and police reports and on top of that, the Fire Marshall inspected and renewed the license. She urged Council to do the right thing and not let political influence, political muscle, the numbers game or intimidation or harassment influence their decision, which will set precedence for the community.

Solicitor Fiore explained his job as the township attorney is to advise the governing body what their scope of review is tonight. The scope of review is very, very limited and it is regulated by Alcohol Beverage Control Regulations and New Jersey State Statues. A lot of issues have been brought to the forefront and Council has been provided with a lot of documentation regarding construction issues, Pineland issues, alleged violations of codes etc. and he was directed by the governing body to review that. Tonight the scope of review and any action the township is going to take is regarding an approval of an inactive liquor license. Right now it is currently inactive because the structure has been deemed uninhabitable; it cannot be utilized and must go through the local coding process and the Pineland approval process. Council by whatever action they take tonight are not voting upon the structure, not voting or approving any improvements to the property they are simply taking action upon the renewal of the inactive liquor license. As he explained in the Caucus Meeting, which is also a public meeting, the scope of review Council looks at is very, very limited. He paraphrased what the items are and noted these items are contained in a public document and can be Goggled under ABC regulations where page 40 sets forth what those regulations are. The governing body must look at basically three things. Under the law the governing body or investigators from ABC investigate not only the renewal of this license but the other licenses in town as well. The scope of review is number one whether the paper renewal application is complete. This year's application is different from last year's, as an active liquor license was being sought then while this year, it is an inactive liquor license. Mr. Fiore explained liquor licenses are identified to specific properties and since Trio does not have an approved structure the business cannot currently operate so the license is considered inactive. Number two is whether the applicant is qualified or licensed under the ABC standards to hold the license and in fact this applicant has satisfied that burden. Number three is whether the applicant has disclosed all sources of income, who owns the property, who rents the property etc. The limited review for the purposes of Council's action tonight is whether or not the applicant has satisfied those three items. The ABC regulation defines what a licensed premise is, it talks about the process if in fact there are violations that the license holder would be convicted of either through ABC or some other court system. At this point in time before Council for consideration no ABC action has been taken that led to any type of civil or criminal conviction. There are police reports associated with complaints regarding the bar of which no one has been convicted. He added Council is not voting upon Trio opening tomorrow or the deck opening tomorrow. Council is only being asked by the applicant to continue the license in its inactive status, they cannot operate the business. It was explained to the applicant during the Caucus Meeting that when and if they move forward, they must come back to Council to request the license go from inactive to active and when it goes from inactive to active they have to identify the structure within which they are going to operate their business. That structure would have to go through both the Pinelands and Construction approval process and the deck would need to go through that approval process as well. Mr. Fiore noted that is the extent of what the review is this evening. If Council votes affirmatively they are not allowing the business to open tomorrow they are only saying that Trio Tavern, your license is inactive and we will renew it for this year and it will remain inactive until all approvals are granted. Mr. Fiore noted we cannot correct what happened in the past and all the issues that Mrs. Ognassanti brought up. Council cannot take punitive action against this applicant or any other applicant if something was not done properly, as ABC does not allow that. He explained the township would be open to liability if he recommended Council vote no on renewal of this license to punish Trio for what was alleged to have been done. Even if it was done we cannot do that. This is a very complicated process and we are over regulated, which is probably a good thing for health and safety reasons. Inspections and other reviews are just trying to protect the public. People get permits for a deck

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to ensure the steps are not too high, that people will not fall through or be electrocuted. He noted he could go on and on about the history of Trio but that is not his job; he is just here to advise Council what their scope of review is and that is very limited. If the applicant is successful tonight it was made very, very clear that they must come back before Council to approve the license going from inactive to active.

**Cncl. Pres., Teefy** noted hopefully Solicitor Fiore's explanation explained a lot to those in attendance. Council has been looking at this issue for awhile and is looking at it in terms of moving forward from today and ensuring that everything is done right and inspected correctly.

**Joseph Elentrio**, co-owner of Trio Tavern introduced himself to Council and the people watching this meeting on television. He noted we are tired of being slandered repeatedly and portrayed as two sleazy bar owners who are prejudice, dishonest, sneaky liars without a care for people's health, welfare or well being by a person whom we have never met until she walked into our bar about seven or eight years ago and applied for a job. She seemed to be ok, we interviewed her and everything was alright until she asked to be paid under the table, which met we had to pay her cash and not take out taxes. We informed her that we didn't and couldn't do that and if anything changed in her position to give us a call and that was the last we saw of her and the first time we ever met her. Mr. Elentrio noted he is a veteran of the United States Army with an honorable discharge and over the last fifty years has owned three bars, three boxing gyms, a motel in Wildwood and has managed the multi-million dollar dealerships of Sheehy Lincoln Mercury, Ourisman Chevrolet, Dart Cars and Chapman. He noted he is proud that in the last fifty years he has never had a problem with a neighbor, never been sued, never been fired and never been convicted of a crime. He spoke of being most proud of his three grown children, one of which was born medically and physically handicapped, and of his four grandchildren. He noted when she first started the issues with Trio Tavern it was because the police were not doing their jobs, then it was the inspectors not doing their job and on occasion, it was the committee not doing their job. He noted in his dealings with the police he found they were always being professional, honest and caring whenever they came to our establishment. A couple of times when they thought the music was too loud they told us to lower it, we complied and that was it. In dealing with the inspectors they have always acted professional and shown to be honest and caring and never gave us a break starting when we first opened and during the remodeling and building of the deck. We were red flagged when it was appropriate with the deck and the remodeling but always in the end when the job was done, we were approved. They never showed favoritism. At times they were too stringent but we complied. On the new project we learned a lesson and hired a better local contractor who employs Williamstown residents and we were never red flagged or stopped by the township. The committee has always been professional, honest and caring and he is proud to say the Mayor and some of the committee have constantly shown support for small businesses and on numerous occasions have brought their family and friends to our establishment to enjoy our company and the company of our customers. He noted we are good caring people who hire ten to fifteen employees of which half are Williamstown residents, we patronize numerous businesses in Williamstown, have spent more than \$5,000.00 a year in permits, tens of thousands of dollars in taxes every year and we support many local residents less fortunate than ourselves and many charities. In short we support everyone who supports us first and that is a few thousand people, as charity begins at home. In the beginning when we first purchased this business we discussed with the previous owner about cleaning up some dead trees and debris out back and he said he would do a little of that for us but we would have to do the rest. We did that and graded our lot, which may have been a mistake but I can honestly say whatever was done with the cleaning and the grading outback was done with good intentions. One of the biggest worries is that some of the committee members and some of the people watching on TV might have started believing her repetitive lies and slanderous ravings. An example is she was the only one to speak for over thirty minutes at the last committee meeting, which is her right. The first time she took us to court we went in front of Judge Lacovara and she started out by saying she represents the community when in fact she doesn't represent anyone but herself and her boyfriend. She does not have the right to speak for the entire community but continuously states before Council that she does. Judge Lacovara stated that the bar has been there for decades and he recalls hearing shot guns during the turkey shots on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. The judge's finding was that we should all try to live together and as far as we are concerned we have held up our end of the bargain. Due to her

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continuous lies my employees went out and tried to prove who in the community she represents and what they really want. They got over a thousand signatures from residents here and in other local townships. Over 350 are Williamstown residents, fifty of them are within a mile of Trio Tavern, which is within ear shot of anything that goes on in the bar and within those fifty is the head of the Diamond Lake Association. She represents no one but herself but she gets up here and rants and raves about what we do wrong. For the first time in seven years she changed her topic when she questioned the committee about the proposal for new liquor licenses in Williamstown. The reason for questioning that was because she implies again that she is worried about more liquor licenses because of all the things Trio Tavern does wrong. Mr. Elentrio noted we want this committee to judge us openly and objectively not based on one person, Cheryl Ognassanti who grandstands and says she represents the community, which in fact she does not. She goes as far as to say our property brought down the value of her home that has been without siding for years and her driveway looks like a junkyard. Some of the community has complained to us about that and something should be done about what she did with her asbestos siding. In closing he noted he wanted to thank everyone for listening to him and hopes that this issue, which Judge Lacovara already ruled upon, can be resolved once and for all. He noted he hoped this committee will support all small businesses in Williamstown and does the right thing in supporting Trio Tavern.

With no one else wishing to speak **Cncl. Marvin Dilks** made a motion to close the Resolutions Scheduled-Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:125-2013** Resolution Authorizing The Renewal Of Certain Plenary Retail Consumption, Plenary Retail Consumption Licenses Within The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey.

**Cncl. Marvin Dilks** made a motion to approved Resolution R:125-2013. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. William Sebastian**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION R:125-2013 - ALL AYES**

**Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent.** Resolution R:125-2013 was duly approved for adoption.

**R:126-2013** Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

**Cncl. Walter Bryson** made a motion to approve Resolution R:126-2013. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:127-2013** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Awarding Bid To VCI For Two (2) 2013 Ford E450 Type III Class I Remount/Refurb Emer Med Vehicles And One (1) Refurbishment Unit For 2001 Ford E450 XL Type III Class I Ambulance As Specified In The Bid Specifications For The Township Of Monroe, Department Of Public Safety, Gloucester County And Authorizing The Proper Township Officials To Execute The Required Documentation

**Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Resolution R:127-2013. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Walter Bryson** and approved by all members of Council with the exception of **Cncl. William Sebastian** who **Abstained**.

**Cncl. Walter Bryson** explained this resolution will enable the refurbishment of ambulances we already have in order to put better equipment on the road.

**R:128-2013** Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of June 24, 2013

**Cncl. Rich DiLucia** made a motion to approve Resolution R:128-2013. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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**R:129-2013** Resolution Awarding A Contract For Professional Services To Emergency Training & Consulting For Services Associated With The Designation Of A Medical Director For The Monroe Township EMS Within The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey

Cncl. **Marvin Dilks** made a motion to approve Resolution R:129-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **William Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:130-2013** Resolution Awarding A Contract For Professional Services To Adams, Rehmann & Heggan Associates, Inc. For Services Associated With The Preparation Of A Preliminary Assessment To Be Utilized As Part Of The Submission To The NJDEP For The Genova Tract Within The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey

Cncl. **Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Resolution R:130-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **Walter Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cncl. Pres., **Daniel Teefy** explained R:130-2013 allows the engineer to prepare specification to construct indoor recreation on the Genova Property in the future. In order to do that a portion of that Green Acres land will be transferred to the Petro Kyirk property on Blue Bell Road.

**R:131-2013** Resolution Appointing An Alternate Member To The Monroe Township Board Of Health

Cncl. **Walter Bryson** made a motion to open nominations for an Alternate Member to the Monroe Township Board of Health. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **William Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cncl. **Walter Bryson** nominated **Barbara Chamberlain** as Alternate Member to the Board of Health. The nomination was seconded by Cncl. **William Sebastian**.

With no on other nominations Cncl. **William Sebastian** made a motion to close nominations. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **Ronald Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON NOMINATION OF BARBARA CHAMBERLAIN AS AN  
ALTERNATE MEMBER TO THE BOARD OF HEALTH - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **Barbara Chamberlain** as an Alternate Member to the Board of Health was duly approved.

**R:132-2013** Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Change Order For Adams, Rehmann & Heggan Associates, Inc. In The Decreased Amount Of \$4,500.00 for the 2012 North Main Street Sidewalk Extension Project Within The Township Of Monroe

Cncl. **Ronald Garbowski** made a motion to approve Resolution R:132-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **William Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:133-2013** Resolution Releasing The Irrevocable Standby Letter Of Credit Posted For "Summerfields West", Site Plan #SP-392, Block 3901, Lots 31 And 32 And Substituting A Maintenance Guaranty In The Amount Of \$69,310.00 For Site Improvements

Cncl. **William Sebastian** made a motion to approve Resolution R:133-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **Walter Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:134-2013** Resolution Authorizing A Reduction In The Performance Guaranty For "Cross Keys Pavilion" Subdivision, Site Plan #SP-444, Block 101, Lots 3, 4, 5 And 6 For Certain Off-Site Improvements

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Cncl. Marvin Dilks made a motion to approve Resolution R:134-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Rich DiLucia and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:135-2013** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Developer's Agreement With "Barclay Glen" At Cross Keys, LLC For Site Plan #444-SP, Block 101, Lot 3 "Apartment Improvements"

Cncl. Walter Bryson made a motion to approve Resolution R:135-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Rich DiLucia and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:136-2013** Resolution Authorizing The Acceptance Of An Irrevocable Standby Letter Of Credit For Apartment Improvements In The Amount Of \$2,310,190.00 For "Barclay Glen" At Cross Keys, LLC For "Cross Keys Pavilion", Site Plan # SP-444, Block 101, Lot 3

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolution R:136-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. William Sebastian and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:137-2013** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Join The National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolution R:137-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Marvin Dilks and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:138-2013** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Purchase Of 96 Gallon-EVR II Universal/Nestable Roll Out Carts From Toter, LLC Under The National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance Program

Cncl. William Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolution R:138-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Rich DiLucia and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cncl. Pres., Teefy explained Resolution R:137-2013 allows the township to join the National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance in order to purchase trash containers at a lower cost. The Business Administrator added due to Resolution R:137-2013 the township will no longer need to go out to bid to purchase the containers and that saves a lot of work. The cost is going from \$52.00 for a 96 gallon container to about \$45.00 and a savings of \$7.00 per container adds up when purchasing 600.

D.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Pres., Teefy turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Chairman, Cncl. William Sebastian**. Cncl. Ronald Garbowski made a motion to open the Public Hearing for Ordinance O:10-2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Rich DiLucia and unanimously approved by all members of Council. With no one wishing to speak Cncl. Marvin Dilks made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Walter Bryson and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**O:10-2013** Bond Ordinance Providing For The Purchase Of Emergency Services Turnout Gear And SCBA Gear By The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey Appropriating The Sum Of \$25,000.00

**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:10-2013 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Frank Caligiuri.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:10-2013 FOR SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING - ALL AYES**

**Tally:** 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance O:10-2013 was duly approved for adoption.

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E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

**Cncl. Walter Bryson** reported the Music Festival at Owens Park was great this year with three stages of entertainers and a fireworks demonstration at the conclusion of the event. He also reported attending the Williamstown High School Graduation Ceremonies and extended best wishes to Monroe Township as well as private school graduates. He noted young people coming out of high school along with their parents help are trying to determine whether to go to college or to go into a trade while Washington legislators are contemplating what to do with immigration in this country. At this point in time most Americans are not as concerned about immigration as they are about jobs and when he saw those young people graduating he thought what we are giving them in the future. He spoke of how laborer jobs are no longer the same because people crossing our southern border illegally have networks to find them jobs and our children do not have that. Both sides of the aisle in Washington have their own reason for doing what they are doing. The "D" side wants more voters so that they can get re-elected. The "R" side's reason is to keep businesses and labor rates lower. This is America and we are all immigrants but years ago when immigration was established, it was done so that no one denomination, race, creed or religion could dominate this country. However, leaders since Ronald Regan's amnesty program have allowed people to come in from the southern borders illegally. We are being told there are approximately eleven million illegally in this country but from the number that can be seen at construction sites chances are that number is probably more like twenty million and something needs to be done. He felt the borders should be closed in order to give our children opportunities to work. Our troops coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan could be placed across the border to seal it from one end to the other. That will give a signal to our neighbors to the south that we really mean business and are going to think of Americans for a change. Washington is arguing whether they want to close the border in the new immigration bill when that is the first thing that that should be done. That bill is two to three thousand pages long and those legislators will never read it. He felt they should resolve this issue by addressing things one step at a time. He spoke of Boeing, which is involved in our fighter, Stealth and missile projects moving six hundred engineers to Russia because it's cheaper there. He felt we are giving away the store again because by the engineering program moving offshore they will be giving away access to our computers, which will make it easier for those in other countries to break in and get our information. He noted our children have rights too and as Americans we have a right to sovereignty, a right to protect our borders, a right to give our children as much, if not more than what we had as children. He noted he would like to see something happen in this County to put some controls in place such as "e-verify" that verifies where a person is from. He noted he is only one person and will write to his congressmen and senators promoting these immigration policies and he urged every American to do the same thing because the viable policy we once had, has been violated.

**Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** reported attending the Pineland orientation seminar on May 30<sup>th</sup> where he learned about upcoming events and policies that are being developed for Pineland areas to facilitate commercial growth along the major thoroughfares. On June 5<sup>th</sup> Cncl. Caligiuri attended a closed meeting with a group from the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission to get up to speed on some of the history of economic development. Cncl. Caligiuri again mentioned on December 12, 2012 he sent an email to Mr. Jerry White, Deputy Administrator for Gloucester County requesting information updates on the proposed county communications tower that was to be located in Ward 4. After receiving no response a copy of that email was faxed on January 28, 2013. He has not received a response except for the telephone call on April 15<sup>th</sup> from Freeholder Larry Wallace who indicated he would look into it and get right back to him. To date he is still waiting for an answer from all of the above.

**Cncl. Marvin Dilks** reported two months ago he reported the South Jersey Transportation Authority would be closing Malaga Road in Monroe Township over the Atlantic City Expressway for six weeks. Approved detours and message signs have been set up to let people know the road will be shut down around July 8<sup>th</sup>. He urged residents to respect speed limits on the alternate routes, as there will be much more traffic on those roads. Cncl. Dilks congratulated and extended best wishes to all Monroe Township high school graduates. He also congratulated his granddaughter, who is a freshman in Williamstown High School for being second in her class of 495 students. He noted along with her mom and dad he is very proud of her and knows his wife would have been proud of her too.

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

Cncl. Rich DiLucia echoed Cncl. Bryson and Cncl. Dilks' sentiments and wished the graduates luck noting in his opinion we have one of the best school systems in this State and Country and that is a tribute to our teachers. He noted he disagrees with Governor Christie's comments made for political purposes, that teachers are overpaid, underworked and don't care about the students. He noted he feels teachers work hard for their money and do a good job, which is evident from how the kids in our town turn out. Cncl. DiLucia noted he previously spoke of the consumer price index and people have been questioning him because of the terminology of it. He explained the consumer price index is a measurement that has been created to track inflation so the number we hear about is supposed to represent the increased cost of goods and services to all of us. They take that CPI number from the third quarter of last year and match it against the inflation number from the third quarter of this year and that represents an increase in the cost of living. Two years ago senior citizens, the disabled, children of deceased parents and disabled veterans were affected, as they did not receive one penny increase due to the government contending based on their calculations that the cost of living did not go up. Cncl. DiLucia noted the cost of gas, homeowner and car insurance and healthcare premiums have gone up. There is now a big squabble in Washington about controlling costs and finding money to include in the budget and they have come up with an idea to save some money by using a different CPI calculation for those receiving Social Security and disabled veteran benefits. They are renaming it "Chain CPI" and that calculation of tracking inflation in effect will be lower so if the cost of living goes up "X" those people will get "minus X". He noted he is angry over the government taking a program, which has been fully funded by people now collecting and those that will be collecting in the future, and saying that it is underfunded, because that is a lie. That program has never taken one cent of taxpayer money other than the money that was paid for the purpose of Social Security and Medicare. They would have us believe that we as the people have squandered that money and we need to be reined in and controlled on how much money we are wasting. If the truth be known they stole money out of that fund to plug every hole they could plug and now an actuary says we are underfunded. He noted they should start looking at more ingenious ways to balance their budget. AARP says this is a fraud on the American public, it is something that should not be happening and if they want to make that fund solvent there are easy ways to do it. One is to remove the cap where millionaires do not pay anything over \$100,000.00 of income. That cap should be removed so millionaires pay into Social Security on their income, as that would eliminate the problem right there. Plus there are many other ways to balance the budget such as reigning in insurance. When insurance companies are allowed to do what they do to us without the government intervening there is something wrong. He gave the example of the insurance increase on his 2011 Ford Edge. He explained when he purchased the car new he paid a premium and the following year, when the car value depreciated 15% and replacement cost went down, his insurance increased 7%, which in his eyes gave the insurance company a 22% raise. He noted there is something wrong with that as well as the medical costs, which are totally out of control but no one is saying anything about that. Those people that were elected because they promised Social Security or Medicare would not be cut have bold faced lied to us beginning with the President. Cncl. DiLucia noted he voted for the President because he clearly stated he would not cut Social Security or Medicare but now, he is suggesting that as a way to compromise with the other side they are going to partially balance the budget on the backs of people who can least afford a reduction in their income and somehow, that is going to resolve all the problems we have in our county. Cncl. DiLucia noted he wrote letters to the President and legislators but unfortunately the senator who would have been at the forefront of this fight passed away and he doesn't know where Senator Menlendez or Congressman Rob Andrews stands on this issue. He noted this will not only decrease income for those people but it will also increase taxes for everyone else. The reason for that is the calculation, which establishes tax deduction write-offs, goes up proportionate to income. They estimate people making under \$20,000 a year, which is the income of seniors that retired ten years ago, are going to take the biggest hit while millionaires will pay the least according to the income tax calculation. Cncl. DiLucia noted he feels betrayed because the President, who is not running again, said during his last campaign that he would not cut those programs and if he supports this and signs it into law, he is a liar. Cncl. DiLucia suggested people educate themselves on this issue and if they agree with him, he urged them to write letters to their senators, congressmen and to the President.

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Cncl. **Ronald Garbowski** reported attending the Library Board Meeting on June 19th. He noted the Board is looking for input from the public regarding future improvements to the Library and has listed numerous summer programs for children on their website. Cncl. Garbowski extended condolences to the family of Barney Corrigan, a long time Library Board member, who passed away. He also extended congratulations to all the 2013 graduates of the Williamstown School District.

Cncl. **William Sebastian** reported attending the Music Festival along with the other members of Council and noted it was an excellent event attended by approximately 5,000 people. He reported attending the Fire Truck Housing on June 8<sup>th</sup> and expressed his appreciation to Mayor Gabbianelli for extending an invitation for the Monroe Township Ambulance and Rescue Association to participate in the parade. Three ambulances were sent but unfortunately just prior to the start of the parade three ambulance calls came in within five minutes of each other so they were all dispatched and unable to participate in the parade. After they returned from the hospital they did station around the fire house to aid for that evening. Cncl. Sebastian reported attending Monroe Township Ambulance and Rescue Association Car Wash and Hoagie Sale, which had a good turnout. On June 16<sup>th</sup> he attended the Economic Development Commission Meeting and reported the first two Welcome to Monroe Township signs will be installed within ten days; one on Sicklerville Road and one on Main Street in Cross Keys at the entrances to the township. He also reported attending the Williamstown High School graduation on June 19<sup>th</sup> and noted it was very well attended, the ceremony was beautiful and the weather was nice. Unfortunately, the Middle School graduation on June 18<sup>th</sup> had to be held indoors because of the rain. He reported at the high school graduation it was announced that over \$2.5 million dollars was awarded to the senior class in scholarships and awards and the class had a high GPA average of 3.1. Cncl. Sebastian also congratulated the police officers who were promoted and all high school graduates on their graduation.

**Engineer, Chris Rehmann** reported all four developers of the Route 322 and Fries Mill Road intersection have provided their financial shares and additional plans will be submitted to the Department of Transportation within 90 days. The improvement to this intersection is important for the township, as the people utilizing it during peak hours know. Mr. Rehmann noted the developer of the 300,000 square foot Williamstown Square Shopping Center, which all members of Council have been promoting through redevelopment, has been reluctant to move forward. He noted he is hoping the new economic times will induce the developer to move forward but we may need the solicitor to determine whether he is in conformance with the agreement he signed. Mr. Rehmann reported the township is receiving an additional \$60,000.00 reimbursement for Winslow Road and we will be working on the \$220,000.00 grant received for the next phase of that project. Cncl. Pres., **Teefy** questioned whether the movement on Route 322 and Fries Mill Road is the first movement we have seen in a year. Mr. Rehmann replied yes, we have a two million dollar grant from the Department of Transportation that we may lose if we do not get the developers to move forward. That has been made perfectly clear to them and finally they put their share of the money up to finish the design of that roadway. Cncl. **Sebastian** questioned whether the County kicked in any money. Mr. Rehmann advised not yet and explained the plans need to be finalized so we have a final construction estimate and then we will sit down with the County, the Department of Transportation and the developers to make sure we have enough money to do that construction, as taxpayers will be kept out of that project. A portion of the cost is a County responsibility and we will be working with them to get their share. Cncl. Sebastian referred to the Williamstown Square Project and questioned whether the Benderson Group is dragging their feet on the highway work. Mr. Rehmann replied yes, just in getting the approvals. He explained we have stopped work because their escrow money has been used and they need to put additional money into that account. DOT is concurrent with what we want to do so we want to get the final plans done even if they are not going to be submitted today because it takes nine months to a year to receive final DOT approval. Hopefully, by that time, the developer will have an anchor for their shopping center. Cncl. Sebastian questioned whether they need to put money into their escrow account first in order to get the plans finalized for submission to the State. Mr. Rehmann advised that is correct, as the objective is not to involve any taxpayer dollars in that project and so far we haven't.

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Cncl. Pres., Daniel Teefy reported he was the emcee at the Music Festival. He noted that event was tremendous success due to the work the Parks and Rec Commission did in putting it together. He encouraged everyone who did not attend this year to try to come out next year on the first Saturday in June as there is a lot of good food, vendors and music. The event is held between 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM so it is not too hot and at the conclusion even though the parking lot was full the crowd dispersed very quickly. Megan Knight a freshman from the high school sang two sets of country/pop music and since she is a big fan of Foo Fighters she did one of their songs. She has completed six tracks on her first album that she is recording in Mussel Shoals, Alabama, where some very famous recording artists have a history of recordings. This young lady is so good that after her last set she handed out CD's and the Animal House Band asked her to sign them. Cncl. Pres., Teefy reported the Joint Fire Truck Housing on June 8<sup>th</sup> for the Williamstown Fire Department and the Cecil Fire Department went very well and lasted until approximately 11:00 PM. He noted over the last few years the two departments have worked together very well and that is a tribute to the two chiefs because in the past those department sometimes were like the Hatfields and McCoys. Cncl. Pres., Teefy spoke of attending the Williamstown High School graduation, of being alumni of the school and how he has held the basketball events at Project Graduation for the last seventeen years. He commended the parents for doing a good job, as the kids he deals with are terrific. He noted there were over 400 kids at Project Graduation at Rowan University and he urged everyone to either donate their time or attend the different fund raisers, as this event keeps kids safe on graduation night.

F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Christine Hollybrook, spoke of her Associate's Degree in the paralegal field, Bachelors' Degree in legal studies and of graduating summa cum laude with a 3.8 GPA and noted when someone suggests that she has no respect for the legal system and law enforcement she finds it very offensive, as she has a great deal of respect for the law. She noted she has worked in the hospitality industry for twenty-four years and for the Trio Tavern since it opened in 2005 and can honestly say she has not worked for better bosses than Joe and Mike. They are fair, reasonable and run a no nonsense establishment. They have implemented a policy for all customers whether they patronize Trio Tavern once a month, once a week or everyday and that is if a person acts inappropriately they are given a warning, if it happens again they are given a 30 day suspension from the bar. After that if they repeat the behavior they will be asked not to return. The customers that come there are an amazing group of people and that started because of the respect, personal and professional relationship Joe and Mike generate with their customers. Mike and Joe both have three children each and fifteen grandkids between the two of them. All these family members live locally and their grandchildren attend local elementary schools around our area. When Cheryl Ognissanti suggests that these gentlemen have no regard for their community it is not only highly insulting, but totally unreasonable and doesn't make sense leaving doubt to the validity of her chronic complaints. Mike and Joe have contributed to the Cecil Fire Department, the Susan B. Komen Walk for Breast Cancer, Save the Tatas Breast Cancer Run, a fund raiser for fallen soldier Dave Bent, Animal Welfare, unfortunate families in Williamstown and the list goes on, as they have truly been exemplary in their efforts to support this community. They also donated to benefits held in local competitor's bars and restaurants just to give back to the community. She also noted the June 18<sup>th</sup> petition had more than a thousand signatures within three days. Those people expressed heartfelt concerns and interest in attending this meeting but the building does not have the capacity to handle that many people so we expressed our gratitude and told them the signatures would hopefully be enough. Other than Cheryl Ognissanti there has not been one complaint filed against the Trio Tavern by a member of this community and in light of that fact it is obvious that she has a personal vendetta against Joe and Mike in an attempt to deprive them and their employees of making a living. She went on to address the police reports Ms. Ognissanti's spoke of at the last Council Meeting. The first was a man passed out. She explained that gentleman comes to the Trio because he likes to dance to the bands. He drinks Coke and one afternoon,

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possibly because of the heat he had an episode so an ambulance was called and he went to the hospital. He was back the next weekend and was requested to bring a family member with him as he is somewhat disoriented and possibility diabetic. He did that and it has never happened again. The next was a car parked in the parking lot all night and that was because the Trio arranges cabs for people when needed and allows their cars to stay there overnight. The woman was hit in the head with a piece of equipment and the ambulance was called but she was fine and her and her husband actually signed the petition and can't wait for Trio to reopen. The purse stolen was found after the police were called as it turned out the woman had just misplaced it and the report about the alarm going off went off because after a birthday party we forgot to take down one of the balloons and it set off the motion detector. Ms. Hollybrook noted if these incidents constitute a crime or actions that should deprive a business of its operation, not only is it unjust, it is a true disgrace. Ms. Ognissanti states the business operates in her backyard when her property line is greater than two heavily wooded football fields from our business. Nothing has ever happened in her backyard from anyone from the Trio Tavern. We even purchased two sound decibel readers and tested it by walking down the street during events and it read nothing. Ms. Hollybrook extended her appreciation to Council for listening and noted she hoped they would support Trio Tavern.

**JoAnne Ferguson**, noted she worked for Joe Elentrio for ten and a half years and for Mike for eight, she was born in Williamstown and moved back sixteen years ago with her husband, who is chief of the Cecil Fire Department. She spoke of having five children, one of which graduated from Williamstown High School with honors and another who has Autism and is being sent to Bankbridge School in Sewell by the Monroe Township School District. She noted she is here on behalf of Trio Tavern, as the owners are the best bosses to work for and she takes offense to everything that Ms. Ognissanti said. She explained how her husband and daughter were the first responders to the bar fire and how difficult it was for her to watch the establishment burn. She spoke of being the one Ms. Ognissanti referred to at WAWA and stated she did nothing wrong, which is why no charges were pressed. She also extended her appreciation to Council for all they have done.

**Danielle Sproul**, spoke of being an employee of Trio Tavern from opening day and how people are happy with overly accommodating owners, friendly staff, great food and service. Trio is a family, not just the employees and the owners but all the amazing customers who continue to support us when we are not even open. She noted everywhere she goes in Williamstown people ask when Trio will reopen and she wants it back not only for herself but for all those that call Trio a second family. Through the years she has celebrated all their joys, sorrows, has laughed and cried with them and made friendships that continue to this day. She noted through the years she has always felt safe at Trio and her bosses would not have it any other way, as they look out for her like a daughter and she appreciates that relationship. They have helped her with the volunteer activities she is involved in to raise money for various charities, homeless shelters and at Christmas have held programs for homeless children and all the big, bad bikers, which are always brought up, asked if they could do more. Ms. Sproul expressed her appreciation for Council allowing her to speak on how important Trio is to many people of the community.

**Tim Derriault** noted he and his family are well known in Williamstown and Cecil. He spoke of living catty-corner to Trio and of growing up watching Jack and Betty's from his front yard. What Trio has done to that area and community has brought it together where Jack and Betty's pushed it apart a little. He noted he has worked in other bars but never saw them run by owners like those at Trio that care for their employees and customers and respect the everyday working people who chose to spend their money at their establishment. He urged everyone to back Trio and extended his appreciation to Council for allowing him to speak.

**Mike Marsh**, co-owner of Trio Tavern, noted he was born in Philadelphia, raised in Washington Township and has lived in Franklin Township for the last forty years. He owned Coles Mill Tavern for over thirty years, met Joe, who owned a bar in Franklinville and they both sold their bars to buy Trio Tavern in 2004. The bar didn't open until 2005 because they were cleaning and updating the building during which time they did get the proper permits. He noted he was here tonight to debunk the untruths of their friend from Sharps Road. Mr. Marsh

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referred to the minutes of the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Council Meeting regarding the comments Mrs. Ognissanti made pertaining to the deck being an illegal structure and noted he had copies of zoning, building, electrical and plumbing permits and approvals along with the application that was submitted to ABC and Council, which included a diagram of the building with a 30' by 40' deck with a 20' by 10' bar. The work was performed by local contractors and they pulled all the permits so not having permits is untrue. Mr. Marsh referred to Ms. Ognissanti speaking about her community suffering from the noise nuisance and explained he tried to find out whether the complaint was about the base, noise from cars etc. so he requested the police give the person complaining his phone number but we never got a response for over a year. We didn't know what we were doing wrong because the police would go to the complainant's house first and then come to us. When we asked if the policeman heard anything he said he told her that he was standing on her step and heard nothing and she told him the police were calling Trio Tavern to tell us to turn the noise down before they arrived. Mr. Marsh noted he doesn't know of any cops calling him with any favors. He spoke of calling the township to see if anyone could do a decibel reading to see if they were doing something illegal but found no one is qualified in the township to do that. Mr. Marsh bought his own decibel reader and since he didn't know where the complaint was coming from he went down Spencer Avenue, across Monroe and back up Sharp, which is the road that surrounds the entire neighborhood but did not go on the other side of the lake because he figured that was too far away. He took Gil Miller, retired captain from the NJ State Police and twice elected Gloucester County Sheriff, with him to take decibel readings in front of the bar, next to the bar, up and down the streets but got no readings except on Sharp Road when it picked up the noise from tractor-trailer tires going down the Black Horse Pike. He does not have a license to do that but requested Gil Miller to come tonight to verify what they found. He noted what Ms. Ognissanti is saying is just not true and he gets upset when people lie about him. She stated at the April meeting that she was the spokesperson for twenty people in her community but they were from the petition she had signed when she took us to court. He explained before we went to court we went around the neighborhood with a petition and the people who signed her petition said they only did it because she was a neighbor, they wanted to be nice and they wanted to get her off their front step. No one came to court except her but we had over a hundred people there. She called our customers riffraff because she doesn't like them but these customers are active members of the State Police, lawyers and doctors. She noted at the meeting that by requesting documents she found that Monroe Township was well aware of Trio illegally clearing wetlands for additional parking and of the illegal structure. Mr. Marsh noted the deck was built on an asphalt parking lot, no trees or wetlands were cleared. The Pineland letters states that someone told them about this and after three or four letters going back and forth Mr. Marsh and his partner met with the Pinelands and were shown a Google satellite photo from 2002 that showed six trees on the property. We told them we did not buy the property until 2004 and Jack and Betty had turkey shoots for twenty years where the trees were supposed to have been but they are requiring us to put them back, which is the whole delay with the Pinelands; it has nothing to do with the deck. She said the Pinelands sent letters to Trio in 2006, 2007 and 2008 and never received a response or if they did it was without proper documentation. Mr. Marsh noted if she would have read the Pineland letters she got from OPRA she would have seen they all referred to my letters telling them that we did not chop those trees down, so it is documented. She said she has video evidence showing that it is not a deck but in fact an enclosed pole barn structure built on asphalt with an outside bar, refrigerators and sink with waste disposal systems that contaminate the wetland areas. He explained they only have an outside hand sink that was required by the Board of Health and a three bay sink to wash glasses. We had an electrical permit but didn't get a plumbing permit because the water was already available outside the building. The drain in the middle of the asphalt was capped off and we tapped into that to run the drain through that pipe under the asphalt to a sump pump, which pumped it in to our septic system so nothing was polluted. She spoke of occupancy violations from expanded seating and tables beyond the outside structure. Mr. Marsh explained when the outside bar is open the inside bar is closed because they found no one wants to sit inside when they can be outside and we were running the air conditioner for nothing. The roof is a pavilion style roof with ten feet between the poles and we built railings similar to porch railings around the bottom. One year we had a bad fly infestation from the woods so we installed screening, it was not an enclosed structure, it was wide open and was not attached to the building, it is a deck with a roof and no more. He referred to her comments about continuing to pursue peace and

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tranquility that she and her neighbors enjoyed when it was Jack and Betty's Tavern. Mr. Marsh noted when they went to court the judge who grew up in that area told her that at least she was listening to music, when he grew up there on Sundays he heard gun shots all day long from the Turkey Shoots. The judge also told her to get our phone number and call us when there was a problem. Mr. Marsh gave her his number and she did call once and actually came over about a month later and thanked him for shutting the noise down. He noted bands are outside on Sunday from 2:00 PM to 6:30 PM because we told the judge to resolve the issue we would have nothing outside after 7:00 PM on the weekends and at 10:00 PM would close every door and window in the building so the band inside would not be heard outside and the judge told us to do that. She said they did not want to take the issue to court. Mr. Marsh noted there is no "they", it is she and she alone doing this. She indicated the owners of Trio are going to do what they want to do and were arrogantly bragging that they know the system and will put up an outside bar again and worry about the consequences later. Mr. Marsh noted she has never hung around with him so how she ever hard him bragging is beyond him. She spoke of the Pinelands being concerned with the preservation of the water system and how in July of 2005 the Health Department was not aware of this bar or the plans to install drainage systems for sinks and septic capacities for over occupancy. He noted we did not put in for the deck permit until 2006 and we have our septic pumped out once a month because we sit close to the water table in Diamond Lakes. We have our water tested quarterly as required by the State and the Board of Health inspects us at least once a year, sometimes twice and more if they would receive a complaint. We have never had a failure and have passed every inspection and if not we corrected it on the spot. She said the two bar owners tell everyone they are doing everything legally under an entertainment permit when actually the permit simply states that they are allowed to have pinball machines and gaming electronic devices from a vending company. Mr. Marsh noted the entertainment permit is actually the amusement permit. We pay \$500.00 to the township for that so we can have two pool tables and a video game on the bar. She stated we were supposed to apply to Pinelands and Wetlands prior to putting up a new structure but didn't. Mr. Marsh explained when the bar was burnt down we asked Fred Weikel what we needed to do to rebuild and he told us what was needed and those permits cost \$7,000. Six months later we received a letter stating we needed a permit from the Pinelands. If we would have known that was needed we would have gotten one but that is now in the process and we have given the Pinelands everything they wanted. They were supposed to give us an answer last week because they have thirty days but to date we have not received that. When we went to the Pinelands they said there would be no problem building the existing bar but if we wanted to go with an outside bar there would be a different permit process so we said, drop the outside bar just to get this building open due to the number of people without incomes. He extended his appreciation to Council for the time and noted he would be back next month to address her comments from the May Council Meeting.

Cheryl Ognissanti noted she wanted to clarify a false rumor. She stated the God's honest truth is she has never, ever applied to work at the Trio Tavern. The perpetuation of rumors, harassment, intimidation and targeting her and her family have again been the premise of how the Trio owners operate. Good people do not violate building codes, ordinances and jeopardize the lives of others. Good people follow laws and standards and do things properly with respect for their community. She spoke of going to mediation, contacting Mr. Bryson and Mr. Caligiuri on numerous occasions to try to resolve this problem and of going to court where the judge told us to communicate. The judge facilitated that and at the end of court, the owners rushed over to her and let her know that they donate a lot of money to the police station, the fire company, all the political people in town and have held charities and benefits for them. She took those comments as back off they were paying to do what they wanted. Ms. Ognissanti noted the only time she ever stepped foot into that business was prior to taking them to court because she didn't want to go that route but he didn't tell his patrons that, he only told them that she applied for a job and because she didn't get one this is a personal vendetta to shut the Trio down. She noted that is ridiculous and a cheap tactic to discredit her. No one here lives in her residence, she lives there and knows what she hears, the children have been awakened on school nights from music and that is a blatant disregard for people living there that have to get up and function. She noted she has tried everything from mediation, to town council, to court to try to resolve this and she feels she has been pretty patient and very understanding. After court she did contact the owner on numerous occasions

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and when he did the right thing by shutting the music down she thanked him. She noted the law is the law and that illegal structure, which had no occupancy certifications or proper Pineland approvals, should never been built and she has yet to receive copies of the permits he stated he has. That bar operated without Pineland approval and for seven years she suffered and went through every channel to get something resolved. She noted she has been patient, fair and never slandered anyone but she has experienced ride-bys by both owners stating they were concerned about my daughter's safety. Their patrons have rode by and she was threatened by the fire chief's wife at the WAWA but didn't press charges because the police officer said her husband was very apologetic and said it would not happen again. She felt she has shown utmost understanding and fairness during this entire ordeal but she gets the cheap tactics of running her into the ground. She noted she does not begrudge them running their business or making money but they will do it within the confine of the laws set up to protect people from suffering. Laws are not made to skate around and she questioned why the Monroe Township administration allowed that to happen. Cncl. Pres., Teefy noted the past is past; we are taking this issue from today on and getting the proper approvals to move forward. Ms. Ognissanti noted the past dictates the future and they did not do things by the book and Monroe Township did not do their job to shut them down and make them remove the structure. Cncl. Pres., Teefy noted there was nothing to cause ABC and Monroe Township police or the Zoning Office to shut them down. Ms. Ognissanti noted the Pineland letter said that structure needed to be removed or an application needed to be made to the Pineland Commission. Solicitor Fiore noted the action Ms. Ognissanti is asking the township to take is punitive in nature; right wrong or indifferent whatever happened in the past, happened and we are now moving forward with a clean slate. They are rebuilding the building and he questioned whether Ms. Ognissanti was suggesting the township punish them in some way for something they did or didn't do in the past. Ms. Ognissanti replied no, what she is saying is that she suffered for seven years and is continuing to suffer from worrying because they did not go through the Pinelands to rebuild. She is also worried about what they are going to rebuild and the noise issues from their massive parties on weekends during all hours of the night. Solicitor Fiore noted Ms. Ognissanti was speaking of a bunch of different issues and he analyzed each one. The first was the structure and permit issue and that is being dealt with. Number two, prospectively, the parties and loud noise happened in the past but have not happened yet so with that she is talking about what will happen futuristically and we can deal with structure issues, Pinelands issues and the reissuance of the license, but we cannot deal with what may happen in the future. Everybody here has heard the complaints and they are being addressed from the structure standpoint and the construction code standpoint. Mr. Fiore noted even though it is upsetting Ms. Ognissanti needs to disregard what happened in the past because all issues have been brought to the forefront and now we are moving forward. Both owners are here stating they are moving forward, they put up the money for the proper permits but they cannot address what happened in the past. They said they were not aware of it and we are not a court to analyze it, this is a Council doing what they think and taking the appropriate steps. If Ms. Ognissanti disagrees with what they do there is no appeal process here something will need to be filed in Superior Court, as this is a civil issue between her and the Trio owners or through ABC. Mr. Fiore noted he can assure her from being Monroe Township solicitor for twenty years, there has only been one time that ABC took action and that was for allegations of drug abuse and prostitution and nothing came of that. ABC is their own entity and they only take action if someone is convicted of a crime. We have no control over what they do. The ABC regulations talk about lewd and lascivious conduct and that is such an antiquated term. He noted if she is suggesting that Council should punish Trio or anyone else, that is not what they do. Ms. Ognissanti replied no, she wanted to clear her name with the Council because she does not slander anyone. She has come to the meetings with facts, paperwork and documents and has never said anything against the owners. She has been swift and firm about pulling public records because of the concern of what she went through for the last seven years. Mr. Fiore noted it is not up to Council to determine whether Ms. Ognissanti or the owners of Trio are telling the truth, their review is whether or not they are going to approve the Liquor License Application. Ms. Ognissanti noted she has not slandered anyone or done anything inappropriate and the reason people are not coming to court and these council meetings is because they are frightened of the clientele and they would rather sign and support her because they do not want the nonsense.

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

She noted she used the word "riffraff" in response to what went on there; she never called people riffraff. At this point after those comments people in attendance began making comments that she did call them riffraff. Cncl. Pres., Teefy questioned how close Ms. Ognissanti's house was to the Trio Tavern. She was not sure of the exact distance but felt it was a couple hundred yards but the property line is right behind hers. She noted Cncl. Caligiuri rode by during one of their massive parties and said he reported it. She noted she would like to enjoy her weekends and has no personal agenda other than getting peace and quiet where she lives just as all these people get when they go home. Comments were being made from those in attendance while Ms. Ognissanti was speaking and Cncl. Pres., Teefy requested everyone to remain quiet. Ms. Ognissanti noted the comments, the smart remarks, the degrading is exactly what she is taking about. She noted she has no personal agenda or does not want to take their living away but laws are made to protect people and she is adamant and will continue until she gets peace and quiet and will go through the proper channels in order to get it.

**Danielle Dolgos**, a resident of the back portion of Diamond Lake noted she is appalled at the comment Ms. Ognissanti said about the owner of Trio approaching her after the court hearing because she walked out of court with Joe and that did not happen, as God is her witness. Ms. Dolgos noted Ms. Ognissanti said numerous times that she is speaking on behalf of the entire Diamond Lake community however she found that is not the case after speaking to half of the fifty-four residents. Twenty neighbors signed Ms. Ognissanti's petition but a few did to get her off their property because she kept nagging them. Others do not agree with her but are not afraid to come here. Ms. Dolgos noted she has never approached us and never once knocked on my door or my neighbor's doors. Ms. Dologos noted a few days after she spoke at a meeting on behalf of Trio Mr. Ognissanti actually stopped her and her husband when they were walking through the neighborhood with their small child and dog and was very nasty because she (Ms. Dolgos) stood up for Trio. Mr. Dolgos tried to intervene but she told Mr. Ognissanti that she believed what she said and would not discuss this any further in front of her child. She felt that was harassment. Ms. Dolgos noted she supports Trio, has never heard any complaints about it and didn't hear anything when she walked passed Mrs. Ognissanti's house to get to Trio until she got to the corner of Sharp Road where she could hear the music. In closing Ms. Dolgos extended her appreciation to Council for listening to her.

**John Robinson**, 904 Upper Dam Drive, an active resident of Williamstown for forty years, as President of the Cecil Athletic Association, member of the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment, member of the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission and currently the Vice-President of Timber Lakes Community Association. For the last two years he has been involved in the rebuilding of the Timber Lakes Dam and knows what the owners of Trio are going through with the Pinelands because after speaking with them for ten minutes you want to beat your head against a cinderblock wall. These two gentlemen took two businesses out of Franklinville and probably brought most of their life savings to Monroe Township. They took a bar that employed the person who owned it and cleaned it up and turned it into a nice business establishment that employs quite a few people from Monroe Township. He noted he can attest to the kind of neighbors they are to people in Monroe Township because when his son was sick a fundraiser was held for him and they were the first two there, not only buying tickets but donating as well. Last year their business was burnt down and they have gone through tough times and now it's time to help them out and if it is in Council's power he would appreciate anything they can do.

With no one else wishing to speak Cncl. **Walter Bryson** made a motion to close the public portion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. **William Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

MINUTES  
REGUAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
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G.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss Cncl. William Sebastian made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of June 24, 2013. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Marvin Dilks and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan McCormick, RMC  
Township Clerk



Presiding Officer

*These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting of June 24, 2013 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  
Approved as corrected \_\_\_\_\_

Date 7/22/13  
Date \_\_\_\_\_