

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
NOVEMBER 24, 2014

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., Ronald Garbowski 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., Garbowski 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. DiLucia led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and Cncl. Pres., Garbowski 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. William Sebastian	Present
Cncl. Daniel Teefy	Present
Cncl. Pres., Ronald Garbowski	Present
Mayor Michael Gabbianelli	Present
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present
Business Adm., Kevin Heydel	Present
Engineer, Chris Rehmann	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

PRESENTATION

- **MTPD-Accreditation Program - New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police -**

Harry J. Delgado, Ed.S, Accreditation Program Manager for the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police explained achieving accreditation status represents a significant professional achievement. It acknowledges the implementation of policies and procedures that are sound and effective causing a police department to be more efficient and effective in the way they deliver police services. There are potentially 478 police departments in the State that would be eligible for accreditation but there are only 123 to date that are actually accredited and that is because the process is very rigorous requiring support and time. Today the Monroe Township Police Department can be counted as one of this elite group. Police agencies seek accreditation as a way of assuring the public that the agency meets the high standards of professionalism, training and discipline. Accreditation is a progressive time proven way of helping law enforcement agencies calculate and improve overall performances. The foundation of accreditation lies in the adoption of standards containing a clear statement of professional objectives. Participating agencies conduct a thorough self-analysis for up to two years to determine how existing operations can be adapted to meet these objectives. It is a certification and many agencies refuse to allow an outside agency, which is in this case the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police, to come in and review and carefully measure their department against an established set of state and national standards. The Monroe Township Police Department has met and has exceeded the accepted best practices in the field of law enforcement.

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PRESENTATION

There are many financial advantages to an accredited Police Department. Research provided by insurance companies tells us that accredited agencies have 11% fewer liability claims, 18% fewer workmen's compensation claims and 31% fewer auto liability claims causing those municipalities a substantial insurance discount. Beyond the financial advantages there are tangible advantages as well, as accredited agencies are better able to defend against law suits and citizen complaints. Accreditation provides objective evidence of an agency's commitment to excellence in leadership, resource management and service delivery. Government officials can be more confident in the agency's ability to operate efficiently to meet the community's needs. Accreditation embodies the process of community policing, which is the relationship that is forged between every police officer in this township and the community they so proudly serve. It creates a form in which police and citizens work together to prevent and control challenges confronting law enforcement and provides a clear direction about community expectations. Accreditation standards give the chief a proven management system of written directives, sound training, it clearly defines lines of authority and routine reports to support decision making and resource allocation. Accredited organizations are able to take pride in that they have been objectively recognized for their professionalism and adhering to the highest standards. Mr. Delgado noted while going through the report he found one very significant achievement above and beyond what many agencies receive when they achieve accreditation and that is, during the last part of the two years of self-assessment we, the assessors come in and do a very thorough review of all the files and approval of all the symbols of the police department. This is a very meticulous process and it raises the level of stress but it also holds them accountable for everything in their documents that they stated they do. Usually we find issues during the final assessment that won't stop a department from receiving accreditation, as it is anticipated that the issues will be resolved within the following year. The Monroe Township Police Department has one identified issue that resolved right then and there so in effect they received a perfect score. That is incredible and for that they deserve additional accolades from the New Jersey Associations of Chiefs of Police and the New Jersey Law Enforcement Commission. He congratulated **Chief John McKeown, Accreditation Manager Capt. Stephen Farrell and Assistant Accreditation Manager Patrolman Derrick Jacobus, the staff of the Monroe Township Police Department, the Mayor and Council and the citizens** that they so proudly serve for achieving accreditation joining a very exclusive group of law enforcement agencies that have made this important commitment to excellence in policing. Mr. Delgado presented Chief McKeown with the Accreditation Certificate in recognition of the Monroe Township Police Department fulfilling all of the accreditation standards as established by the New Jersey State Association of Chiefs of Police. **Chief John McKeown** extended his appreciation to the Mayor and Council for the assistance and support given to the Police Department throughout this process. He spoke of having a great team, a great group of people within our agency, of how this process forced the department to change from the chief position all the way down to hiring the newest patrolman and of how things are now documented more thoroughly. This process caused a tremendous change in our agency and it wasn't just one person's job, it really took a team effort. Chief McKeown extended his appreciation to Kevin Heydel for being a tremendous supporter right from the beginning not only making sure that we got it done, but that we stayed within budget. The Chief noted he was misquoted in the newspaper as saying accreditation was just a phase when what he actually said was this is just one phase in the process, as we are on a journey with still a lot yet to accomplish as a department and as a township. This is just one part of the process to make us learn and grow to make this a better department to serve our citizens better.

Cncl. Pres., Garbowski extended appreciation to Mr. Delgado for his presentation and to Chief McKeown and the entire Monroe Township Police Department for attaining accreditation.

- **Spotlight on Business - Mom Mom's Coffee House - Mr. George Baines**

George Baines extended his appreciation for being invited to spotlight his business, Mom Mom's Coffee House located at 305 South Main Street. Mr. Baines noted his business specializes in a variety of homemade pound cake. This is a family recipe that has been turned into a business since 2012. The hours of operation are from 8:30 AM to 11:30 AM Monday through Friday, Saturday from 9:00 AM to 2:00 PM and Sunday from 3:00 PM to 7:00 PM. Mr. Baines noted he also operates a website *georgespoundcake.com*, is on Twitter and Instagram at *mom mom's café* and is looking forward to a bigger and better Main Street

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APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve the minutes of the Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of October 27, 2014, the Work Session, Regular Council Meeting and Closed Executive Session of November 10, 2014 and the Ordinance Committee Meeting of November 12, 2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Teefy** and approved by all members of Council with the exception of **Cncl. Dilks** who **Abstained** from the October 27th minutes and **Cncl. Sebastian and Garbowski** who **Abstained** from the November 10th minutes and **Cncl. Bryson** who **Abstained** from the Ordinance Meeting of November 12th.

B.) CORRESPONDENCE

- Junkyard Licenses
 - AA Auto Salvage, Inc.
 - Auto Express
 - Blue Bell Auto Parts, Inc.
 - Midway Auto Parts
 - Schultz Enterprises, Inc.
 - South State Auto Parts, LLC
 - Tuckahoe Road Auto Sales, LLC

Township Clerk, **Susan McCormick** advised a report was received from **George Reitz, Director of Code Enforcement** and all paperwork is in order for those junkyards listed on the agenda. **Mr. Reitz** added the seven on the agenda were good and the other one was in good shape and should be done by December 1st if their taxes are paid.

Cncl. Teefy made a motion to approve the Junkyard Licenses for the above listed facilities. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - PUBLIC PORTION

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

R:193-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Awarding Bid To Granturk Equipment Co., Inc. For Supply And Delivery Of Parts And Accessories For Labrie And Leach Refuse Collection Vehicles For The Township Of Monroe, Department Of Public Works, Gloucester County

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolution R:193-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:194-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, New Jersey, Authorizing And Approving The Township's Participation In The Municipalities Continuing Disclosure Cooperation Initiative Of The Securities And Exchange Commission; And Authorizing And Approving Certain Actions In Connection With The Foregoing **REMOVED FROM AGENDA**

R:195-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Denying The Request For A Reduction Of The Letter Of Credit For Summeffields West, Site Plan #392-SP, Block 3901, Lots 31 & 32, Phases 1B & 1C For Certain Site Improvements **REMOVED FROM AGENDA**

R:196-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Acceptance Of A Maintenance Bond In The Amount Of \$12,518.10 For The Lois Drive Drainage Improvements Project Within The Township Of Monroe

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

Cncl. Teefy made a motion to approve Resolution R:196-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:197-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Final Change Order For Neri's Construction & Rental, Inc. For Services Associated With The Lois Drive Drainage Improvements As Specified In The Bid Specifications For The Township Of Monroe, Gloucester County

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolution R:197-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Teefy** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:198-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Acceptance Of A Maintenance Bond In The Amount Of \$32,282.38 For The Winslow Road Resurfacing - Phase V Project Within The Township Of Monroe

Cncl. Teefy made a motion to approve Resolution R:198-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:199-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Final Change Order For South State, Inc. For Services Associated With Winslow Road Resurfacing Project - Phase V As Specified In The Bid Specifications For The Township Of Monroe, Gloucester County

Cncl. Teefy made a motion to approve Resolution R:199-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:200-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Project Agreement Between South Jersey Gas Company And The Township Of Monroe

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve Resolution R:200-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:201-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing A Taxpayer's Agreement Concerning Delinquent Taxes Between The Township Of Monroe And Jesus And Ethel Marrero For Block 2003, Lot 30

Cncl. Bryson made a motion to approve Resolution R:201-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:202-2014 Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of November 24, 2014

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolution R:202-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:203-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Transferring Funds For The Budget Year 2014

Cncl. Dilks made a motion to approve Resolution R:203-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:204-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Planning Board Of The Township Of Monroe To Review The Redevelopment Plan Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40A:12A-1 Et Seq. For The Acme Side Of The Black Horse Pike

Cncl. Bryson made a motion to approve Resolution R:204-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:205-2014 Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Discuss Guim V. Monroe Township And Simmermon V. Monroe Township Litigations

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

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolution R:205-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:206-2014 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Place To Place Transfer For The Unsited License For The Plenary Retail Consumption License Number 0811-33-005-012, Apple New Jersey LLC T/A Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar

Cncl. Caligiuri made a motion to approve Resolution R:206-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

D.) ORDINANCES - None

E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Mayor Gabbianelli reported attending the Holiday City Veteran's Day Ceremonies on Saturday, November 1st and the township ceremonies on Tuesday, November 11th at 6:00 PM. He noted this year a wonderful crowd turned out at the township ceremonies to honor the veterans. On November 18th, 19th and 20th he attended the New Jersey League of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City and on November 22nd the Monroe Township Ambulance Association Banquet. The Mayor extended his appreciation to the Boy Scouts for holding a food drive on Saturday, November 22nd. He noted through their efforts the food pantry is full. He also extended his appreciation to the residents of Jefferson Village who donated multiple tubs of food including frozen turkeys, the 4th and 5th grade students from Oak Knoll, the students of Williamstown Middle School, Kid Academy, the Little Braves, and Century 21 for their donations of food. He also reported the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary received their 501C3 non-profit designation from the State and they will be co-sponsoring the food pantry, which will enable us to get more food from the South Jersey Food Bank. Tonight Council approved a resolution authorizing him to sign an agreement with South Jersey Gas Company that will provide \$36,000.00 towards the Winslow Road Project. The money will be used to cover the cost of repairing the forty holes the gas company put on that road. The Mayor requested the Director of Public Works to contact the gas company, as they were supposed to be repaving Winslow and Washington two weeks ago and that needs to be completed before the weather changes. The Mayor reported the township just received a JIF dividend for \$138,498.00, which means Christine Scola and Kevin Heydel are doing a very good job controlling and reporting our claims.

Cncl. Teefy spoke of his wife Linda working with students from the Middle School to get turkeys for people in need and he extended his appreciation to everyone who donated to this program. He urged residents to donate to the food pantry in order to help residents in need. The Mayor added that the Police Department assisted Holly Glen School in delivering food baskets for Thanksgiving. **Cncl. Teefy** noted he is proud to be a public official and see the Police Department become accredited. Monroe has had a very good Police Department for many years but now, how good they are, has been certified and as the chief said, this is just the first phase. They are not done with this first accreditation, they are going to move forward to keep their accreditation by providing better public safety to the township. **Cncl. Teefy** also reported the Tree Lighting Ceremonies will be held on Saturday, December 6th at 6:00 PM at the Ireland Hofer House.

Cncl. Sebastian congratulated the Police Department for their accreditation and spoke of the time it took to achieve this designation. He reported attending the Zoning Board Meeting of November 18th, which was postponed by the applicant as he wanted to have seven members present for the use variance vote. A special meeting will be held for this on December 9th. **Cncl. Sebastian** reported attending the Ambulance Association Banquet at Paris Caterers on Berlin Cross Keys Road (formerly Venus Caterers) and noted it was enjoyed by all.

Cncl. DiLucia reported he also attended the Ambulance Banquet on November 22nd and watched as the new officers were sworn into office. It was a very nice time and he extended his appreciation to the Ambulance Association for inviting him. **Cncl. DiLucia** reported attending

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

Holiday City's Veteran's Day Ceremonies, which was very well attended even though it was a very rainy day. Some of the veterans in attendance were well into their 90's. Cncl. DiLucia urged residents to acknowledge during Thanksgiving the men and women serving in the armed forces that allow us to continue the freedom that we enjoy in this Country. He extended best wishes to those serving and their families. Cncl. DiLucia noted the leisure/dog park that Council adopted an ordinance for a couple of months ago is still in the process but a grant, which can take six to eight months to receive was requested. Hopefully we will get some grant money but as he understands it, we do have the money in a dedicated fund in the event grant funds are not received so hopefully in the future we will be enjoying a leisure/dog park.

Cncl. Dilks extended best wishes for a Happy Thanksgiving and a big Eagles win over Dallas on Thanksgiving Day.

Cncl. Caligiuri reported attending the Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting on November 3rd. The Committee requested a response from Council regarding the Board's recommendations last year on the use of Open Space money and also some direction from Council as to how the Board can direct its energy in the upcoming year. He reported attending the Planning Board Meeting on November 13th where the Blaze Mill Development, which was a court awarded development, located at corner Fries of Mill Road and Route 322 was discussed. This development consists of 250 townhomes and commercial frontage. The applicant is requesting reconsideration of the proposed design amidst some scrutiny from the Planning Board as to the way the infrastructure was laid out. Cncl. Caligiuri also reported attending the Trade Show at the League of Municipalities Convention in Atlantic City.

Cncl. Bryson reported the Historical Society met to discuss plans to complete the renovations to the Ireland House, the Reading Room, the Little School and the Train Station. All are headed for completion by year end or early spring in 2015. Some events for the 2015 calendar year were discussed such as the 2nd Annual British Car Show, which will be held on May 9th. The intent for next year's events is to include activities along Main Street. The Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremonies will take place outside of the Ireland House on December 6th at 6:00 PM. Other activities included in this will be Santa's arrival by fire truck and his visit with children inside the winter wonderland at the Pfeiffer Center. Cncl. Bryson noted now that the election is over it is his and the hope of many others that everyone involved will find a way to put aside the grudges, personal disagreements and bad feelings and come together within their own parties as well as across the aisle in the different levels of government. Everything pertaining to government at all levels works much better when all its participants have courteous, meaningful conversation, discourse and ultimately compromise. It is also important to keep our citizens of all ages at the top of their priority list, as they still need jobs and good economic opportunities and they need to know that their leaders are trying to again bring business back to this great USA. Specifically, State and Federal leaders we want you to do something for our seniors who are discriminated against all the time in hiring and we want you to do something for young professionals to help them so they do not have a lifetime of debt. We also want you to help all of our men and women who were born in the USA and are citizens who have decided to take up the trades. We want them to have preference in getting jobs that are now going to illegals all over the country because of politics, unfair wage completion and disregard for the construction trade in regards to existing laws. He urged legislators to make it a goal to pass and demand enforcement of laws that protect our citizen's safety and our Country's solvency and honor the spirit of our founding statesmen and our great constitution, which never stood for one way open borders. As a member of this Council returning in 2015 he welcomed the new Mayor-Elect and the three new Councilmembers and noted he hopes to have a good working relationship with all of them throughout their term. He also extended best wishes for warm loving and memorable Thanksgiving, Christmas and Hanukkah.

Director of Public Works, Bob Avis reported Public Works is approximately one week behind in leave collection.

Cncl. Pres., Garbowski extended his appreciation to the Police Department for two years of diligent work while working towards their accreditation. He reported the Economic Development Committee held a meeting on November 17th and discussed the future of Main

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

Street. Mayor Elect Teefy and owners from several Main Street businesses were in attendance providing input. Hopefully in the future we will be able to revitalize that area. The Committee approved a purchase order for signs and banners that will designate the Historic Main Street District and also directional signs to the Main Street business district. Cncl. Pres., Garbowski thanked the committee for all their efforts in the past several years and a special thank you to Aileen Chiselko and Jared Valdez who are the work horses of that committee. He reported attending the Library Board Trustee Meeting on November 19th, that the Library will be closed for Thanksgiving on November 27th, 28th and 29th and that the Gloucester County Department of Health, Senior and Disability Services is sponsoring Yoga and Tai Class on December 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th, and January 5th from 2:00 PM to 3:00 PM for older adults. Also on December 1st the Shades of Harmony, women's group will perform a Holiday Concert at 7:00 PM and they are requesting those attending to bring a non-perishable food item for the Monroe Township Food Pantry. Cncl. Pres., Garbowski noted he wanted to thank the Library Board of Trustees who he has worked with for the past six years. The trustees have put a lot of work into the Library, which is second to none. It is a great asset for this township as it continues to grow every month with new programs and new members. Cncl. Pres., Garbowski also extended best wishes for a happy and safe Thanksgiving.

F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Cncl. Dilks made a motion to open the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Caligiuri and unanimously approved by all members of Council. With no one wishing to speak Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to close the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Sebastian and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

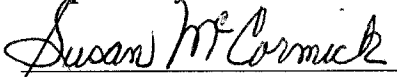
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Fiore noted Council just concluded a Closed Executive Session where two items were discussed, Guim V. Monroe Township and Simmermon V. Monroe Township. No formal action will be taken this evening but resolutions will be prepared for the next Council Meeting in order for Council to take formal action.

G) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss Cncl. Caligiuri made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of November 24, 2014. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Sebastian and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

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 November 24, 2014 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 _____ AW _____
Approved as corrected _____

Date 12/8/14
Date _____