

MINUTES  
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
MAY 11, 2015

**A.) OPENING CEREMONIES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Regular Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 8:12 PM by **Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri** in the Court Room of the Municipal Complex located at 125 Virginia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey.

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (*NJSA 10:4-6 thru 10:4-21*). Notices were placed in the official publications for Monroe Township (i.e.: 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., Caligiuri** stated the Clerk has placed a sign-in sheet at the rear of the Court Room. If anyone would like to address Council during the Public Portion, please sign in and you will be asked to come forward to the microphone. Kindly state your name for the record.

**SALUTE TO FLAG - INVOCATION**

**Cncl. Heffner** led the assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and **Kevin Karcher** of the **Cross Keys United Methodist Church** offered the Invocation.

**ROLL CALL OF TOWNSHIP OFFICIALS**

Cncl. Walter Bryson	Present	
Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Bob Heffner	Present	
Cncl. Bart McIlvaine	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Frank Caligiuri	Present	
Mayor Daniel Teefy	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		Excused
Deputy Mayor Andy Potopchuk		Excused
Township Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Cncl. DiLucia** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of April 13, 2015 and the Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of April 27, 2015. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Bryson** and approved by all members of Council with the exception of **Cncl. Dilks** who **Abstained** on the **April 13, 2015** minutes.

**B.) CORRESPONDENCE**

- **Amusement Licenses**

A.J. Miller's Pub House	John & Doug's Liquors
Devone's Tavern	Mirachi's Williamstown Inn
Geets Diner Restaurant	Sharky's Sports Bar & Grill
Hospitality Creek Campground	Trio Tavern

**Cncl. Miler** made a motion to approve the Amusement Licenses for the above listed facilities. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heffner** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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**MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT**

Mayor Teefy noted Manny Bermudez has done a great job over the last few years for the Economic Development Commission and his resignation was received with regret. The Mayor then appointed Ernie Carbone to fill the position vacated by Mr. Bermudez.

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

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

**R:63A-2015 Amendment To The 2015 Municipal Budget**

Cncl. Dilks made a motion to approve Resolution R:63A-2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Heffner.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION R:63A-2015 - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Resolution R:63A-2015 was duly approved for adoption.

**R:63B-2015 Adoption Of The 2015 Municipal Budget**

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve Resolution R:63B-2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. McIlvaine.

Cncl. Bryson noted the top of this resolution says the 2015 Municipal Budget was approved on March 23, 2015 and that was not the case. He questioned whether that is the way it is spelled out by law on the budget document. Solicitor Fiore explained that wording is used for the introduction of the budget.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION R:63B-2015  
6 AYES, 1 NAY (Bryson), 0 ABSTAIN, 0 ABSENT**

Tally: 6 Ayes, 1 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Resolution R:63B-2015 was duly approved for adoption.

**R:91-2015 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Consenting To The Proposed Tri-County Water Quality Management Plan Amendment Entitled "Crystal Lakes Area Sewer Service Expansion"**

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve R:91-2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. McIlvaine and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:92-2015 Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records**

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve R:92-2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. DiLucia and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:93-2015 Resolution Authoring Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Discuss Potential Litigation From Barclay Glen At Cross Keys**

Cncl. Bryson made a motion to approve R:93-2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Dilks and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:94-2015 Resolution Authorizing A Reduction In The Performance Guaranty For "Carriage Glen" Subdivision, Section 5, Subdivision # 1696, Block 10301, Lot 16 For Certain Site Improvements**

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve R:94-2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Bryson and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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

**R:95-2015** Resolution Releasing The Performance Guarantee Posted For "Cross Keys Pavilion (Apartment Improvements)", Site Plan #444-SP, Block 101, Lots 3-6 And Substituting A Maintenance Guaranty In The Amount Of \$218,258.00 For Certain Site Improvements

**Cncl. Miller** made a motion to approve R:95-2015. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:96-2015** Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of May 11, 2015

**Cncl. Miller** made a motion to approve R:96-2015. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McIlvaine** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:97-2015** Resolution Authorizing Award Of Contract For The Provision Of Electric Generation Supply Service For The South Jersey Power Cooperative

**Cncl. Miller** made a motion to approve R:97-2015. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:98-2015** Resolution Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Sale Of A 1993 Dodge Power Wagon To The Collings Lakes Fire Department

**Cncl. Miller** made a motion to approve R:98-2015. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McIlvaine** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**R:99-2015** Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Shared Services With The County Of Gloucester, New Jersey (*County Wide Registration Program*)

**Cncl. Bryson** made a motion to approve R:99-2015. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heffner** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

D.) ORDINANCES

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

**O:23-2015** An Ordinance To Amend Section 175-135 Of The Zoning Ordinance Of The Township Of Monroe Regarding Signs

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

**Cncl. DiLucia** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:23-2015 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and approved by all members of Council with the exception of **Cncl. Heffner** who voted **Nay**.

**O:24-2015** An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 239 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe Entitled "Refuse Collection And Recycling"

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

**Cncl. Bryson** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:24-2015 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**O:25-2015** An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 175 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe Entitled "Land Management"

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**D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)**

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

**Cncl. Miller** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:25-2015 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres., Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

**Cncl. Bryson** reported the Historical Society held two meetings prior to May 9<sup>th</sup> to discuss and finalize the plans for the British Car Show and the reopening of the little school. The Historical Society also discussed holding a "Celebration of Life" for Sandy Hoffman, a longtime member of the Historical Society who recently passed away. The Celebration of Life will be held on May 30<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to noon to showcase some of Sandy's creations, as she worked on just about everything the Historical Society did and she is truly missed. **Cncl. Bryson** reported the British Car Show and the re-opening of the Little School took place on Saturday, May 9<sup>th</sup> and he extended his appreciation to Pokey Ward and the Buildings and Grounds crew for setting everything up early that morning. The weather was iffy and only about twenty cars showed up but there was a tea garden with tasty pastries and Mom-mom's Coffee House served coffee and pound cake. Unfortunately the weather did not hold off and the event broke up about two hours early. **Cncl. Bryson** advised the Sanitation Department does not pickup television sets from the curb so residents must take them to the township yard on Route 322 for disposal. He explained the reason he voted no on the budget was because he believed it could have been reduced even more since additional revenue will be coming in due to new laws dealing with vacant properties. However, because of State law revenue that did not appear in the previous year's budget cannot be forecasted so that or any other new revenue cannot be included in the budget. He went on to say how at a Special Council Meeting held to discuss the budget he also voted no because he felt more could be taken out. Another Councilman also voted no but he voted no to keep the increase at the higher rate of 2.9%. The approved reduction that reduced the budget to the cap number of 2.5% was a compromise suggested by **Cncl. DiLucia** and accepted by four other councilmembers. A 2.5% increase compounded after five years is 12.5%, which amounts to a lot of money and many residents have not had a 2.5% yearly increase to cover that cost, which is why he took the position he did on the budget this year and he will take that position again next year. Currently in New Jersey there is something called the "flight" and that is because people are leaving this state because our taxes across the board are higher than anywhere else except possibly California. The Mayor and Council do a great job in trying to reduce taxes and an example of that is how the budget was brought down to 2.5% but the County and State need to have the courage to stand up against some special interest groups. **Cncl. Bryson** reported there will be no second Council Meeting in the month of May due to the Memorial Day holiday so he wanted to extend best wishes to all residents for a safe and happy summer.

**Cncl. DiLucia** recognized the veterans that gave their lives, those that served and their families for their sacrifices and commended them for everything they did for this country because the democracy that we enjoy is a direct result of their service. He noted he read a number of articles, which confirmed that although it looks like things are getting better it is not a true measure of the economy. In fact one article stated out of every thirty new jobs created twenty-nine are in the service industry and one is in the manufacturing industry. The service industry does not compensate what the manufacturing industry does so you begin seeing a shift in income and although the number of jobs being created looks good because the unemployment rate is coming down you must look at what types of jobs are being created and what they are replacing. A person who previously earned \$50,000.00 in a manufacturing job will not earn that in a service job. The government reported one out of every three people in Atlantic County is receiving some type of subsidy either Federal or State so that means they are receiving food stamps, welfare, unemployment or such and those statistics if even close to being true are very alarming. Another article stated the reason the unemployment rates are down is because hundreds of thousands of people have been taken off the rolls, as they are no longer looking for jobs. If you factor in those people that have given up finding a job it tells you that this county is going in the wrong economic direction. Things are not what the politicians say they are. Ten people from the Republican Party are running for president and we will hear many politically motivated things but the things

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

that affect us are the economy, our ability to get jobs and send our children to school. Cncl. DiLucia noted he does not see those issues getting resolved, he sees them going in the opposite direction. Wall Street is happy and fat while Main Street is hurting. Hopefully there will be a turnaround in the near future but he felt that will not happen unless we get back to manufacturing to what we consume as opposed to buying everything from another country. We need to put the mechanist, electricians, carpenters, plumbers and all the tradesmen that were able to make decent livings in the 1950's through the 1980's back to work so they can live the American dream but that seems to be fading quickly.

Cncl. Heffner reported he could not attend the Zoning Board Meeting on May 5<sup>th</sup> due to his work schedule. He reported on May 9<sup>th</sup> his day started out with the Arc Run, which was also attended by Mr. Smart and a couple other Councilmembers. From there they went to the second annual Dobleman Memorial Scholarship Basketball Tournament and then to the Historical Society's British Car Show. He noted he is not a British car guy but it was cool to see and there was a nice crowd and the weather was nice. The day was finished at the Williamstown Fire Department to cheer on the Police Unity Tour, which consisted of approximately eighty police officers biking to Washington, DC. Eight Monroe Township police officers participated and it was quite a sight to see them come in and they were tickled to death to see the crowd cheering them on. Cncl. Heffner noted he hoped everyone enjoyed Mother's Day on May 10<sup>th</sup> because no one could have asked for a better day. The Memorial Day Parade is scheduled on Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> and he urged all residents to come out and support our veterans, as they deserve to be recognized for their service. The Huddle Club is holding a fund raiser for the Williamstown High School Football Program by holding a carnival from May 27<sup>th</sup> to May 30<sup>th</sup> at the Williamstown Shop Rite. The date for this event was moved this year so it would not coincide with the Township Music Festival on June 6<sup>th</sup>. The average number of people attending the Music Festival has been 5,000 to 7,000. This event will be held at Owens Park beginning at 5:00 PM and will include vendors, food and some great bands.

Cncl. McIlvaine noted every year he is in one of the fire trucks during the Memorial Day Parade and he has observed that there are less and less people attending the parade each year but they come out in droves for the Halloween Parade. He noted the reason everyone can go to the Halloween Parade is because of veterans putting their lives on the line and some making the ultimate sacrifice so that we can enjoy these traditions. Cncl. McIlvaine urged everyone to come out and support the veterans on Memorial Day.

Cncl. Miller reiterated what Cncl. Heffner said in regards to the Police Unity Tour. He noted he wished all the officers, Mike Doran, Craig Monahan, Jim DeHart, Ryan Borkowski, Derrick Jacobus, Kevin Bielski, Donny Darcangelo and Jon Rumpf safe travels. He reported a Drug Reality Forum will be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 PM at the Williamstown High School to let people know what resources are available in the community to help get them the assistance they need. On June 11<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM a Health Care Education and Enrollment Seminar will be held at the Library. This ties into what the Municipal Alliance Commission is trying to accomplish, as some people still do not have health insurance and do not have money to pay for treatment at a rehab facility for drug addiction. This organization is trying to get them the resources they need by seeing if they can qualify for Medicaid. Cncl. Miller expressed his appreciation for those who served in the military and noted he has service members in his family and wouldn't be sitting on Council today if it wasn't for their sacrifice.

Mayor Teefy recognized Boy Scouts Joseph and Isack Hoffman who were in attendance to learn about a township meeting to earn a merit badge. The Mayor reported some May events were posted on Facebook but May is a very busy month and somethings did not get posted. Loyalty Day was held on Saturday, May 2<sup>nd</sup> at the VFW. Next year we need to work on that to get more people out, as he, the Chief and other Councilmembers there noticed that event was not celebrated well enough by the residents. May 5<sup>th</sup> the Williamstown High School Girls Softball Team played on the Church Street field under the lights. The school and township worked together to put on a very nice event for the girls who grew up playing on that field. The boy's high school team played Hammonton that day at Owens Park under the lights. The Mayor pointed out to Chris Rehmann that Hammonton did lose the game. The school and the township put on a really nice event, which included the 11 Year Old 2014 State Champs being honored.

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

The Mayor noted he was asked to throw out the first pitch but instead of the catcher his son, a senior on the baseball team, caught the ball. The boy's baseball team captured the Tri-County Royal so they are the division champs and are heading into the playoffs. May 4<sup>th</sup> a Special Council Meeting was held for the municipal budget and he expressed his appreciation to Council for approving the budget this evening. He added they did an outstanding job in working through the budget and didn't make cuts that were overly drastic to strap us. With this budget we will have some flexibility in future budgets. He reported on the evening of May 7<sup>th</sup> he met with a developer regarding a property on Blue Bell Road and then went to the Board of Education Meeting to review their budget. He noted he tries to meet on Friday mornings with the professional staff and during those meetings they have been concentrating on the Route 322 and Fries Mill Road intersection. They were able to get all four property owners of that intersection together to discuss an agreement for all parties to pay for the intersection improvements. The plans, which we have been waiting for about two years are to be sent to the State this week so we are starting to move on that project and hopefully by the end of this year we will see some real movement. The Mayor reported on Saturday he did a three mile walk for Camp Sun 'N Fun at 8:30 AM and at 10:00 AM went to the high school for the 3 on 3 Mike Dobleman Memorial fund raiser, which gives scholarships to one boy and one girl. At 11:00 AM he went to the Hall Street School for the re-opening. The Mayor noted there is a lot of great history there and he wants to work at getting more rooms open for people. He added he is trying to stimulate Main Street so people can walk through these places to see the history. From there the Mayor went to the Williamstown Fire Station for the Police Unity Tour, which is going from Haddonfield to Washington, DC in three days. He then went to the British Car Show and toured the Ireland Hoffer House, which also has a lot of good history. The Mayor reported flags were put up on some of the poles along Main Street and additional brackets will be installed so flags can be hung on the other poles before Memorial Day. The flags will remain up until after July 4<sup>th</sup>. The banner poles along Main Street will be painted and the Economic Development Committee has purchased new banners that will be hung. The banners will say "Welcome To Historic Main Street The Heart Of Williamstown" and the one by the Grand Theatre will say "Welcome to Historic Main Street Theater District The Heart Of Williamstown". These banners will help to improve the look of Main Street and the Road Department is working on painting the curbs and restriping the street. The Mayor reported each year Keller and Williams Realty holds an annual "Red Day" on which their employees get together and choose a project to help a community. This year they chose the Forest Hills playground as their project. The Mayor thanked Tom Duffy and John Clidy for arranging this in our town and the Public Works and Buildings and Grounds Departments for working with them to get that done on Thursday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Teefy urged residents to please come out and support the veterans and show pride for the town on Memorial Day, Monday, May 25<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM. He also reported a Ride for Silence will take place on May 20<sup>th</sup> beginning at 7:00 AM at the Williamstown High School. This is an eleven mile ride to honor those injured or killed while cycling on public roadways. Leaf collection is underway and Public Works is ahead of schedule. The Mayor requested residents to check the township website for the leaf collection schedule for their area. On Wednesday, May 27<sup>th</sup> the Library IV Restaurant will donate 10% of the cost of dinner to the Monroe Township Public Library and on that night the Mayor noted he has been asked to cut the ribbon for the Shop Rite Carnival, which will benefit the Williamstown Football Huddle Club. The Monroe Township Music Festival will be held on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 PM to 10:00 PM at Owens Park. The Band FM will be performing on the main stage and other bands will be performing on two other stages. There will also be food, vendors and fireworks at 10:00 PM. The Dennis Spera Scholarship Fund 5K Run and Walk will be held Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at Owens Park. The Mayor reported the municipal budget will allow four new police officers to be hired to begin replacing the seven that will be retiring within the next couple of years. The background checks for new police officers is going to be extended even more so the hiring process will take even longer. He explained in 2016 he would try to hire additional officers because he would like to maintain the number of officers in the upper 60's to give the police department the tools they need instead of always trying to play catchup when officers retire. The Mayor reported that the budget did not cut the public celebrations, which are big in the township and the Business Administrator has scheduled a meeting to address employee health benefits.

Director of Code Enforcement, George Reitz reported the issues with the Country Motel should be wrapped up within the next three weeks.

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Director of Public Safety Jim Smart reported the Police Department shut down the Tuckahoe Road intersection and kept the shoulder of the road safe for the participants of the ARC Run. EMS were also involved and did a great job and it was nice to see the Williamstown High School Band getting involved as well. He also reported officers from the Monroe Township Police Department received eight/nine unit citations during the Gloucester County Chief's Meeting.

F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

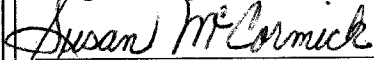
**CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Cncl. Pres., Caligiuri noted Council concluded a Closed Executive Session at 9:20 PM. The matters discussed pertained to potential litigation for Monroe Township. No decisions were made during the Closed Executive Session.

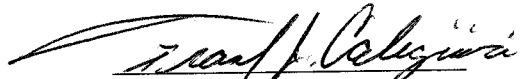
G.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss Cncl. Miller made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2015. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Heffner 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 May 11, 2015 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 AMW  
Approved as corrected \_\_\_\_\_

Date 6/22/15  
Date \_\_\_\_\_