

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

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., Cody Miller** 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 and also on the Monroe Township website.

Cncl. Pres., Miller stated the Clerk has placed a sign-in sheet in the meeting room. If anyone would like to address Council please sign in and you will be recognized during the Public Portion. Kindly state your name for the record.

SALUTE TO FLAG

Cncl. McIlvaine led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and **Cncl. Pres., Miller** offered the invocation.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Walt Bryson		Excused
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri	Present	
Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Rich DiLucia		Excused
Cncl. Bob Heffner	Present	
Cncl. Bart McIlvaine	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Mayor Daniel Teefy	Present	
Solicitor Charles Fiore	Present	
Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel	Present	
Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth	Present	
Dir. Of Code Enforcement, George Reitz		Excused
Dir. Of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. Of Public Works, Michael Calvello	Present	
Deputy Mayor Andy Potopchuk	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

PRESENTATION

• **Main Street Minute**

Ernie Carbone, Chairman of the Main Street Committee spoke of how Mayor Teefy created the Committee that consists of approximately thirty volunteers to work towards the redevelopment and revitalization of Main Street. The committee has been divided into four subcommittees; Pubic Safety and Development, Marketing and Real Estate, Historical and Communications and Legal and Financing. This enables the subcommittees to work independently and the entire committee to meet once a month. A mission statement was developed focusing on making Main Street a destination for residents, businesses and visitors. Safety is paramount so the Police Department is involved and is now providing a higher level of police presence within a half mile radius around Newfield Bank and a foot patrol will be reinstated next summer. The Committee was instrumental in a zoning change enabling a commercial base at the street level and residential on the second/third floor. We were responsible to install and maintain the "*Heart of Williamstown*" banners and the directional signs on the Black Horse Pike and Route 322. We suggested and obtained changes to the Refuse Ordinance to enable us to control the display of trash cans up and down Main Street. Tenants and landlords were notified of the ordinance and enforcement will begin shortly. The Committee was instrumental in attracting three new businesses to Main Street in 2015; the Thrift Specialist, the Williamstown Ballet Theatre, which interacts with the Grand Theatre and the Guitar Specialty Shop and those

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

PRESENTATION *(cont'd)*

businesses are all doing very well in their first year. We are actively working with the owner of a microbrewery to locate on Main Street and with two BYOB restaurants that at this point are contingent upon the brewery, although if the brewery doesn't happen they may still be a viable option for us. Marketing efforts are ongoing to try to attract unique businesses, as we want this to be a destination we are not trying to compete with the big box stores. We developed a parking plan and that is being prepared for submission to the township in February. The target for that project to be completed in early spring or summer 2016. We were instrumental in forming the very first Williamstown Chamber of Commerce and held our first board meeting today. The first annual Scarecrow Event was successful and we partnered with Parks and Rec and the Historical Society during the Christmas events. The Main Street Committee is working in concert with the Economic Development Commission and the township stakeholders on an economic development plan for the entire township. Our focus is on Main Street but we are interfacing our committees together as we do not want to overlap our efforts. An example of what came from that interface was the Doctor's Express Urgent Care facility that will open on the Black Horse Pike and Poplar Street in the third quarter of 2016 and an interest free loan program to improve facades of small businesses along Main Street. Natalie Wentz of the Economic Development Commission will give more details about that and our public relations campaign. By merging with the EDC we as a committee were able to obtain membership in the Gloucester County Chamber of Commerce, which is one of the strongest Chamber of Commerce in New Jersey. That enables us to network not only in the County but beyond. We are developing two studies to ensure positive economic development on Main Street with an impact to the entire township. One is a public relations and marketing campaign and the other is to collect and analyze community and economic data for Williamstown/Monroe Township with an emphasis on Main Street and the Black Horse Pike commercial districts. All events and projects on Main Street are planned around the Grand Theater and the businesses coming in. We recently applied to the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for an associate tier to the Main Street New Jersey Program, which is a national program that will enable us to act like a business. This is the forerunner to actually becoming a Main Street of New Jersey and when we do that we become a separate entity and will run exactly like a business. The timing for this is perfect because we are bringing on a redevelopment attorney and with his planning and the assistance from Main Street of New Jersey we can move forward very quickly. In the first quarter of 2016 two new businesses will open; an art center and an architect. We are putting together a partnership with Rowan University to prepare a public relations and marketing campaign in the spring of 2016, a beautification project will begin on Main Street and a community video project is planned with the Williamstown High School and the Economic Development Commission. Mr. Carbone reported an Art Festival will be held on Main Street on April 30th and he introduced Gina Martucci, an artist and co-chair for the project to give some information about the festival.

Ms. Martucci noted Paula Verran's, vision and purpose of the Arts Festival is to bring residents and the general public to Main Street for the following reasons:

- To increase awareness and traffic to the businesses and organization on Main Street
- To establish Main Street as an arts and business district of the community
- To generate a new and positive reputation for Main Street
- To further entice more business to move and open in the Main Street area
- To educate the residents, public and business owners of the importance of art in their lives

The Main Street Arts Festival is a celebration in the arts including fine arts, music, dance and theater. The event is open to the community, residents and general public for them to stroll along the street visiting from one artist to another while listening to street musicians and learning information regarding enrichment in the area. Visitors will have the opportunity to meet and speak with the artist and designers and purchase art work. In addition to the artist on the street people will have the opportunity to participate in art workshops given at various business locations during the event. There will also be a food court at the Pfeiffer Center where people can order food and listen to music while they are enjoying the food.

Mr. Carbone noted he wanted to quantify that the Main Street Committee is all volunteers, no one is paid and what he learned while attending the Main Street New Jersey Committee Meeting was that there is a factor used to calculate the value of time for volunteers working

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

PRESENTATION (cont'd)

towards their goals. He explained the calculation and noted when using that the number of hours the Main Street Committee has worked and attended meetings amounts to over \$86,000.00. He noted the volunteers are making a difference in Monroe Township and he thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to speak.

Cncl. Pres., Miller thanked Mr. Carbone and all the members of the Main Street Committee for their work, as we are now seeing a difference.

Mayor Teefy also thanked Mr. Carbone and the Main Street Committee for doing an excellent job this year to get the ball rolling in the right direction. The Mayor reported he, Mr. Carbone and Mrs. Flaherty met with the New Jersey Director of Main Street, Jeff Buehler from the DCA, who stated we were past the kick start point and were ready to be a member and he wanted to get involved. A New Jersey DCA presentation "Revitalizing and Designating Downtown Main Street" will be held in our courtroom on Thursday, March 3rd at 7:00 PM. The public is invited to attend the presentation and the question and answer session afterwards. The Mayor noted Jeff is a vital tool for us to use and this will help kick start events in 2016

- **Williamstown Sunrise Rotary Club**

Vickie Beyerle, President of the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary Club Foundation was in attendance to speak regarding their donation of playground equipment for the Mary Mazza Duffy Field. She thanked the Mayor and Council for their partnership in this community project to build a handicap accessible playground for two to five year olds at the Mary Duffy Field. The playground will be located next to the Sunrise Rotary pavilion once it is returned to its original position. For the next year and a half the Rotary will be raising money for the equipment and the playground should be built by the spring of 2017. The Sunrise Rotary will continue to sponsor the Monroe Township Food Pantry, which we have done for the last year after our donation of the new freezer and we are also involved in the Music Festival and other community projects. Hopefully the community will continue to support our events such as the upcoming comedy night and golf outing. She noted it was once said "it takes a village" and we are asking for everyone in the community to support our efforts. The Sunrise Rotary meets at Geets Diner at 7:30 AM on Wednesdays and she urged everyone to come out and have breakfast to see what we are doing for the community. The Comedy Night will be held at Anthony and Cleopatra's on Friday, February 19th. Tickets are \$40.00 prior to February 10th and are available by calling 856-318-9811. The golf outing will be held on June 8th. All money raised will go towards the playground, which will cost \$80,000.00. **Mayor Teefy** reported that Jim Bonder is looking into getting a barn to house his tractors so the pavilion can be returned to its original location.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Heffner made a motion to approve as submitted the minutes of the Council Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of December 28, 2015, the Reorganization Meeting of January 4, 2016 and the Special Council Meeting and Closed Executive Session of January 16, 2016. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McIlvaine** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

B.) CORRESPONDENCE

- **Limousine License - Cross Keys Coach, LLC**

Cncl. Dilks made a motion to approve the Limousine License for Cross Keys Coach, LLC. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heffner** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - PUBLIC PORTION

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

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016

C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. McIlvaine made a motion to bracket and approve by Consent Agenda Resolutions R:33-2016 through R:60:2016. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heffner** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA

R:33-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Mayor Of The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With Township Physicians For Workers' Compensation For The Year 2016 (*Advantage Occupational Medicine & Reconstructive Orthopedics & S.J. Center for Orthopedics & Sports Medicine*)

R:34-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Mayor Of The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With The Township Physician For The Year 2016 (*Dr. George Scott*)

R:35-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With The Solicitor Of The Township Of Monroe For The Year (*Charles A. Fiore, Esquire*)

R:36-2016 Resolution Authorizing the Mayor Of The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract For An Alternate Township Physician for the Year 2016 (*Life Care Medical Centers*)

R:37-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Contract With Brown & Connery, LLP As Special Labor Counsel for the Township Of Monroe For The Year 2016

R:38-2016 Resolution Awarding A Contract For Professional Services To A Municipal Bond Counsel for the Township Of Monroe For The Year 2016 (*Parker McCay, P.A.*)

R:39-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Contract For A Prosecutor Of The Municipal Court Of The Township Of Monroe Commencing January 1, 2016 (*Charles A. Fiore, Esquire*)

R:40-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of A Contract For A Public Defender Of The Municipal Court Of The Township Of Monroe For The Year 2016 (*Timothy D. Scaffidi, Esquire*)

R:41-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Appointment Of Conflicts Prosecutor Of The Municipal Court Of The Township Of Monroe For The Year 2016 (*Gary Lomanno, Esquire*)

R:42-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A settlement Agreement With Bond Safeguard Insurance Company For Completion Of Site Improvements At "The Arbors" A/K/A Amberleigh

R:43-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With Special Counsel For Redevelopment Of The Township Of Monroe For The Year 2016 (*M. James Maley, Jr., Esquire*)

R:44-2016 Resolution Awarding A Contract For Professional Services To The Municipal Engineer For Landfill Compliance Monitoring For The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, For The Year 2016 (*Adams, Rehmann & Heggan Associates, Inc.*)

R:45-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Execution Of A Contract Between The Township Of Monroe And Val Associates Laboratory, Inc. 2016 Groundwater Analysis And Reporting Associated With The Monroe Township Landfill Within The Township Of Monroe

R:46-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Developer's Agreement With Francis E. Schultz, Jr. For Site Plan # 460-SP, Block 11301, Lot 2.01

R:47-2016 Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

R:48-2016 Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of January 25, 2016

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

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

R:49-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Execution Of An Agreement With The Williamstown Sunrise Rotary Foundation, Inc. Regarding Construction Of A Community Playground At Mary Duffy Field Within The Township Of Monroe

R:50-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of Change Order Number - 1 For Arawak Paving Co., Inc. In The Decreased Amount Of \$3,500.16 For Services Associated With The Winslow Road Resurfacing Project - Phase VI

R:51-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Participate In The Safe And Secure Communities Program Administered By The Division Of Criminal Justice, Department Of Law And Public Safety

R:52-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With The Substitute Public Defender For The Monroe Township Municipal Court For The Year 2016 (*Ralph A. Paolone, Esquire*)

R:53-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Agreement Between The Township Of Monroe And The Monroe Township Board Of Education For The Remediation Of The Williamstown High School Basin

R:54-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Releasing Performance Bond In The Amount Of \$118,113.00 For "Serenity Woods" Subdivision, Subdivision # 1666, Block 128.0203, Lot 21 For Certain Site Improvements

R:55-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Releasing Performance Bond In The Amount Of \$1,343,645.00 For "The Arbours" Multi-Family Section, Block 11001, Lots 10, 15 & 16 For Certain Site Improvements

R:56-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Releasing Performance Bond In The Amount Of \$189,579.00 For "The Arbours" Multi-Family Section, Block 11001, Lots 10, 15 & 16 For Basin Improvements

R:57-2016 Resolution Authorizing The Execution Of The Amended Resolution To Participate In The State Health Benefits Program To Provide Health Insurance Coverage And Benefits To The Township Of Monroe Employees, Retirees And Their Families

R:58-2016 Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Discuss *Simmermon V. Monroe Township* Litigation

R:59-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Appointing Emergency Management Coordinator (*Police Chief John McKeown*)

R:60-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Acceptance Of A Maintenance Bond In The Amount Of \$30,479.98 For The Winslow Road Resurfacing - Phase VI Project Within The Township Of Monroe

Cncl. Heffner made a motion to approve Resolutions R:33-2016 through R:60-2016. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McIlvaine** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

D.) MAYOR APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Teefy made the following appointments:

Open Space Advisory Committee	<u>Len Fritz</u>	3 Year Term - 12/31/18
Environmental Commission	<u>Patrick McDevitt, Jr.</u>	3 Year Term - 12/31/18
	<u>Tim McWilliams</u>	3 Year Term - 12/31/18
	<u>Beth Davis</u>	3 Year Term - 12/31/18

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

D.) MAYOR APPOINTMENTS (cont'd)

Mayor Teefy also appointed **Sandy Keen** as Chairman to the Environmental Commission.

Cncl. Heffner made a motion to accept the Mayor's appointments. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

E.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Pres., Miller turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Chairman, Cncl. Heffner**.

O:01-2016 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 4, Article X Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe Entitled "Department Of Code Enforcement"

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. Dilks made a motion to approve Ordinance O:01-2016 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:02-2016 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 132 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe Entitled "Emergency Management"

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. Pres., Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:02-2016 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:03-2016 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 69 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Police, Division Of"

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

Cncl. Pres., Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:03-2016 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

At this time **Cncl. Pres., Miller** apologized for not previously announcing **Natalie Wentz** of the Economic Development Commission who was in attendance to speak.

Natalie Wentz of the Economic Development Commission named all the members of the commission and noted the commission's momentum has shifted from a commission that was constantly trying to come up with viable ideas to help the community's economic development to that of a commission that is on the brink of implementing many ideas. 2015 was a very exciting year and we are looking forward to getting a lot more completed in 2016. Ms. Wentz noted in 2015 the commission taped interviews and started production of a professional video by TV One Productions. This will be a three minute video highlighting the assets of our town from a local business perspective. We also designed and commissioned the banners on Main Street and the directional signs located on the Black Horse Pike that directs travelers to historic Main Street. The Commission spearheaded a write-up of Monroe Township/Williamstown entitled "Looking Forward" in the September edition of the South Jersey Biz Magazine. In 2015 thirty new businesses opened in Monroe Township and more are expected to open in 2016. The EDC is also seeking to implement the Property Tax Card Rebate Program, which has been very successful in Glassboro and Voorhees. Ms. Wentz explained the program and noted local businesses have

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016**

signed a letter of intent saying they are interested in participating in this program and the EDC has secured some outside funding to implement the program and is hoping to get this program up and running with the help of the township. A new loan façade program will be in place that will allow businesses to receive an interest free loan of up to \$5,000.00 for a period of five years for the purpose of upgrading their facades. The EDC has also engaged the services of Suasion Communications Group, which is a full service communication agency that offers a variety of ways to help towns improve their images and get their positive messages out. We are also working with a company to develop a township map. That project requires no funding from the township or the EDC. It will be a map for residents to use and will list all local businesses. Letters were sent out to local businesses and hopefully by next month the EDC will have more details about that project. Ms. Wentz noted the EDC is working very hard for the economic development of the township and she hopes to give the Mayor and Council monthly updates on their progress. **Mayor Teefy** thanked the EDC for their hard work and he questioned where businesses would go for a façade loan. Ms. Wentz explained the EDC is currently working on the application and once it is completed it will be placed on the township website.

F.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Cncl. Caligiuri reported attending the January 7th and 14th Planning Board Meetings but there is nothing significant to report from those meetings. He also attended a Redevelopment Committee Meeting on January 14th with Stuart Wainberg, the owner of Williamstown Square to review what he felt was feasible based on the demographics in the area. We are now going back to our planner to see how the plan for that site and the RD Management site can be restructured.

Cncl. Dilks thanked all the Public Works and MUA employees for the work they did clearing twenty plus inches of snow over the weekend. These employees worked all weekend clearing roads and then had to go home to dig out around their own homes. He also thanked the Williamstown and Cecil Fire Companies, the Police Department, Ambulance and Rescue Association and the Office of Emergency Management for the work they did to make everything run safely.

Cncl. Heffner reported attending the Reorganization Meeting of the Parks and Rec Commission on January 13th and after that meeting he and Cncl. Dilks attended the Eagle Scout dedication for Chris Palazzo who built a fire pit to properly dispose of American Flags. On January 19th he attended the Zoning Board Meeting where three minor variances were approved. Cncl. Heffner also thanked all the departments for doing a good job over the weekend during the snow storm. He added our roads are not perfect but are in good shape compared to some neighboring towns. Cncl. Heffner reported a Special Election will be held on March 8th for a school bond referendum in the amount of \$15,000,000.00 and he urged everyone to get all the information they can about this because everyone is concerned about their taxes and if approved this will result in a tax increase. He explained this is not the normal tax increase this is different, it is a bond so everyone needs to get as much information as they can and they need to get out and vote.

Cncl. McIlvaine also thanked the Public Works Department, the fire companies, the police, ambulance and OEM for putting their efforts together to do a great job during the snow storm. He urged residents to have patience during snow storms as there are 250 miles of roads for a few guys to take care of and it's more difficult when cars are parked on the street. He urged residents to get cars off the street if they hear a storm is coming to make it easier on the guys plowing the snow. He noted Mr. Calvello does his best to make sure streets are plowed in a timely fashion but everyone can't be first so there will be people taken care of later in the storm.

Mayor Teefy noted we received 15 to 17 inches of snow, making it the largest storm to impact this area in the last few years. He commended OEM, all the volunteer groups, the Police Department and the Public Works Department for meeting on Friday night to discuss the plan of operation that would be executed during the storm. OEM opened the EOC at 6:00 AM and it was opened until 11:00 PM when things calmed down. There were no major incidents, which was great. The Mayor thanked the Public Works Department and the Parks and Rec Department. Thirty guys worked on Saturday from 5:00 AM to 6:00 PM when we sent them home to eat and for some sleep. They came back in at midnight Sunday and worked until 6:00 or 7:00 PM Sunday night. The Mayor also thanked the MUA for sending three trucks out to help plow.

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016

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

He spoke of complaints received through social media regarding certain areas of the township. One area was in the Glen Eyre Development and that has now been done. Another problem area was Holiday City because their private contractors were throwing the snow back into the street, which slowed down our efforts. Public Works was in Holiday City again today trying to clear the streets and they will be back there again tomorrow to get this straightened out. He spoke of how hard it is to move snow in a cul-de-sac and thanked the fire and EMS departments for a job well done. The Mayor noted all departments would be getting together later in the week to review the plan that was executed and discuss how it can be improved, as our goal is always to improve our snow removal process. The Mayor spoke of the Comedy Night sponsored by the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary and the March 3rd presentation regarding Main Street. He also spoke of a letter the new zoning officer sent out to some of the residents on Main Street to introduce herself and explain the rules for rubbish pickup. The letter was positive and he thanked the Zoning Official for sending it out. He also spoke of the school referendum and noted it is very important as Cncl. Heffner said to be informed about the questions. He added fourteen meetings will be held through the month of February to discuss the two separate questions. Question # 1 deals with improvements to facilities amounting to \$11,000,000.00. Those improvements cannot be placed in their operations budget. If the question passes they will get about 36% State funding. The average tax increase would be \$41.18 for question # 1, which must pass for question # 2 to pass. Question # 2 is separate but it cannot pass on its own, it must be passed together with # 1. Question # 2 deals with turf for the fields and that amounts to \$3.9 million. It is important for residents to be informed about what they are voting for. The second question will cost the average taxpayer \$20.21 annually so the total tax increase will be \$61.39. The election will be held on March 8th at the Williamstown Middle School from 4:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Director of Public Safety Jim Smart reported during the snow storm both fire departments and EMS were staffed during the duration of the storm. The ambulance had two full crews on the entire day with two complimenting crews for rescue and they were 100% volunteer during the entire weekend. The good thing was nothing happened other than the snow. He spoke of people throwing snow back into the street after the plows have gone through and noted it makes more sense to throw it on front lawns because when the plow comes back it just pushes it back into driveways again.

Director of Public Works, Mike Calvello noted it is very difficult for Public Works to keep up with thirty hours of continuous snow. Some areas are good while others still need some cleanup and those areas will be worked on. Mayor Teefy questioned what the priority areas are during this type of snow storm. Mr. Calvello explained for safety purposes the priorities are the main roads such as Radix and Winslow so ambulances, police and fire trucks can respond in emergency situations. Once the main roads are done we go into developments. Courts and cul-de-sacs are usually last. We would like to get the roads open for two way traffic, which means we need to get close to the curb and that causes a lot of snow to go back into driveways so if residents wait until the plow goes through basically they will only need to shovel once. Mayor Teefy noted this is Mr. Calvello's first storm as director of the Public Works Department and he did a fantastic job during the storm.

Deputy Mayor Potopchuk noted he rode with Mike two/three nights during the storm and the township is privileged to have him, as he is a really good leader. He noted people need to move their cars from the street so the plows can move the snow properly. The Public Works Department did an outstanding job for the manpower they have and the MUA did an awesome job in Forest Hills.

Cncl. Pres., Miller reported attending the Municipal Alliance Commission Reorganization Meeting the beginning of January and he is happy to say that Michelle Perez will continue as chairperson of the commission. Michelle and the commission were very active during 2015 and going into the new year were invited to the Washington Township Municipal Alliance Commission Meeting as they were amazed at all of the ways we are being proactive in Monroe Township. We are trying to establish a relationship with them and with Gloucester County to address the issue of substance abuse to take a more holistic County approach. By working together we will pull our resources together and that would not have happened without

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016

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

Michelle's leadership. Cncl. Pres., Miller also extended his appreciation to all the Public Works employees, the Director of Public Works, the Williamstown Fire Department, Cecil Fire Company, the Police Department, Office of Emergency Management, the MMUA and the Williamstown Ambulance and Rescue Association for the phenomenal job they did over the weekend. He noted not only did they spend time away from their families but they worked tirelessly to get the job done and he was proud to take part by running a shift with the Williamstown Fire Department. He noted all the volunteer organizations were staffed over the weekend and everyone worked well together. The men and women of Public Works do not receive enough credit for the work they do and we are lucky to have these employees. He noted he has friends living in other municipalities and some of their roads have not been plowed yet so kudos go out to our employees for all the work they do.

G.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Cncl. Heffner made a motion to open the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Dilks and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Grafton Davis approached Council and the Mayor to address his concerns regarding the rubber tire crumb used on the township recreation areas. He explained the rubber is the waste product from ground up tires and some argue that the material is okay and others say that it is harmful especially to children who play in it. Mr. Davis noted Channel 10 News reported at least three times on the hazards of rubber tire crumb materials and his grandchildren go to Owens Park and he is concerned about this material. He is also concerned that the Board of Education is holding an election for people to vote on spending an enormous amount of money to purchase more of this material for the school recreation fields. Mr. Davis spoke of Monroe Township being the first Blue Ribbon School in Gloucester County, of his son and daughter graduating from the Monroe Township School System and of his daughter now proudly serving in the United States Airforce First Fighter Group. He noted he heard the township has an ordinance that prohibits cars from sitting on grass because the runoff from tires can contaminate the ground but yet we use this material in recreation areas. Mr. Fiore advised Monroe Township does not have an ordinance like that. Mr. Davis went on to say the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary is donating playground equipment and they have ruled out rubber tire crumb to protect the children and Gloucester County has begun to remove that material from the Scotland Run Park and will begin to remediate the soil because of rubber tire crumb. Mr. Davis expressed his concerns regarding the school wanting to purchase more of this material when a majority of people say it causes cancer as well as other diseases because at least a third of the many chemicals in tires are known to be carcinogens. Alternate materials such as recycled cork or sand could be used by the township but because rubber tire crumb is so cheap we have decided to use that. Mr. Davis noted he was not here to demand anything he just wanted to bring it before Council and the Mayor because they are the wisdom of the township. He felt this issue needs to be looked into to instead of waiting until the EPA does. The township needs to be proactive instead of reactive, as the cost of litigation from a sick child would cost much more money than what is be saved by using this cheap material. One article he read said 186 athletes have contracted cancer from playing on rubber crumb turf and he questioned whether we really want to be in that position. Cncl. Pres., Miller thanked Mr. Davis for bringing this to the attention of Council. He added this is a concern to him and it is something that Council will look into. Mr. Davis noted the people that represent the rubber tire crumb industry are lobbying to get positive information out, not the bad stuff so it is up to Council to find out what is going on as we may need to abate the use of that material in our parks and prohibit its use in the future.

Renee Luke approached Council on behalf of Karl Hodges Jr. owner of 814 South Main Street, a duplex attached to 812 South Main Street, which is in disrepair and affecting 814. She noted she spoke to the people who inherited that dwelling and they want nothing to do with it and for the past three years a bank has been paying taxes on that property. Mr. Hodges home is being damaged because of the disrepair of 812 and rodents are trying to get into his home from the other unit and if these issues are not addressed Mr. Hodges' home will be condemned as well. Cncl. Pres., Miller advised tomorrow he will contact the Code Enforcement Officer who will inspect the property and if it is bank owned and not being maintained they can be cited and fined. Ms. Luke noted there is a truck/van in front of the home so it appears someone lives there and

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 25, 2016

G.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

that is why this issue has not been addressed. Mr. and Mrs. Thomlinson the previous owners are deceased but their two sons and two daughters know about the house. Last year there were squatters living there and recently cigarette smoke was coming from the home. Cncl. Pres., Miller assured Ms. Luke that this issue would be addressed.

Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel advised our Buildings and Grounds Department have gone to that property to clean it up but we cannot legally remove the unregistered vehicle from the property because the owner is deceased. **Solicitor Fiore** explained all we are legally required to do is send notice to the last known owner of the vehicle at that address and once that is done the vehicle can be towed and the tower can get a junk title to dispose of it.

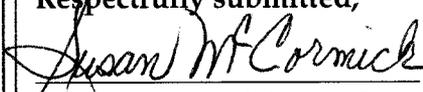
With no one else wishing to speak **Cncl. Heffner** made a motion to close the General Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

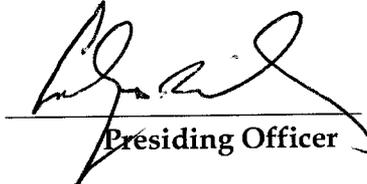
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Fiore reported a Closed Executive Session was just concluded. During the Closed Session he updated Council and the Mayor regarding the Simmermon v. Monroe Township matter. No formal action is being taken at this time.

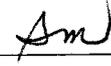
H.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss **Cncl. Heffner** made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of January 25, 2016. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McIlvaine** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

Susan McCormick, RMC
Township Clerk Clerk


Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting of January 25, 2016 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 _____  _____
Approved as corrected _____

Date 2/18/16
Date _____