

**MINUTES
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
DECEMBER 9, 2013**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES & ROLL CALL

The regular scheduled Work Session Meeting of the Monroe Township Council was called to order by **Council President, Daniel P. Teefy** at approximately **7:00 PM** in the Conference Room on the first floor 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, Courier Post and the Sentinel of Gloucester County). A copy of that notice has been posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex.

SALUTE TO OUR FLAG – **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** led the Assembly in the Salute to Our Flag.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Walter Bryson	Present	
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri	Present	
Cncl. Marvin Dilks		Excused
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. William Sebastian	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Daniel Teefy	Present	
Mayor, Michael Gabbianelli	Present	
Business Admin., Kevin Heydel	Present	
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present	(Arrived 7:10PM)
Engineer, Chris Rehmann, ARH	Present	
Dir. of Finance, Jeff Coles		Excused
Dir. of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. of Code Enforcement, George Reitz		Excused
Dir. of Public Works, Bob Avis	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

• **Inspection Summary – Towing Companies**

Cncl. Pres., Daniel Teefy advised that **Director of Public Safety, Jim Smart** had reviewed all the applicable towing applications/documentation submitted. He then questioned if he had anything to add regarding the inspections that were performed. Mr. Smart indicated he had nothing to add, only to say it was a job well done by Officer Mark Burton with respect to his handling of the applications/inspections.

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C.) PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Dominic Burgese - B&B Auto questioned the number of qualified applicants for inclusion on the towing list. **Cncl. Pres., Teefy** indicated that currently we have seven (7) qualified towing companies. Mr. Burgese then questioned how council was going to set up the rotation. **Cncl. Pres., Teefy** responded this would be done in lottery form, with names being drawn. **Director of Public Safety, Jim Smart** advised the rotation switches at midnight on New Years' Eve, he noted the rotation always ends on a Tuesday (midnight). **Mr. Burgese** requested to be notified when any changes to the existing towing ordinance will be discussed and if council will be receiving input from the towers. **Cncl. Pres., Teefy** advised any review on this matter would be at the Ordinance Committee level (*meetings on 1st Wednesday of each month*) and he (*Mr. Burgese*) would be advised of the meeting date when any discussion would take place.

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

At this time, the names were drawn for inclusion/rotation on the Towing List for 2014. The results were as follows:

**B&B Auto Repair
A-Jack's Towing & Recovery
Cecil Collision
Clark's Auto Repair
Lake Avenue Auto Repair
A&A Auto Salvage
B&H Auto Repair**

Formal action/approval on the list will take place under the Correspondence section of the Regular Council Meeting agenda.

D.) NEW BUSINESS - None

E.) OLD BUSINESS - None

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F.) COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski referred to a memo generated from the Open Space Advisory Committee with regard to recommendations for Acquisition and Preservation of Open Space. **Cncl. Pres., Teefy** noted a response on this matter was received today from **Cncl. Caligiuri** and he tended to agree with his position on Wagner Field. **Cncl. Caligiuri** then noted that Wagner was not part of our Park Plan and he was waiting on a explanation from Open Space on what their plan/justification was. **Cncl. Garbowski** noted their plan was to expand that area and do something with it, they felt it was ridiculous to have it sitting there doing nothing. **Cncl. Caligiuri** noted he would agree with that, the problem is the high tension wires are kind of intimidating and at one point we even offered the site to Monroe Township Youth Soccer to use on a temporary basis and no one wants to touch it, apparently everyone is afraid of the wires. **Mayor Gabbianelli** noted that at one time, we built a men's softball field at the location and they showed no interest. Even they did not want to use it. **Cncl. Garbowski** noted there was talk of possibly installing walking trails, a dog park and even community gardens at the location. There was continued discussion on the content of the memo and the recommendations made by the Open Space Committee.

Engineer, Chris Rehmann advised council that we are in negotiations with Green Acres on a diversion of five (5) acres of ground that we would like to take from Open Space to indoor recreation. The cost associated so far is in the area of \$30,000.00 to meet any of the regulations. Mr. Rehmann stressed, if you put any land on an Open Space report and this council accepts it, whether you meant to dedicate it or not, it *will be dedicated* in the eyes of Green Acres, Sierra Club, Pinelands Preservation Alliance and everyone associated with it. He urged council to let us (*ARH*) take a look at anything/everything before anyone takes formal action. He added consideration on the bike path is probably a good idea, the county is taking the bike path through what we have going west a long distance out through Glassboro. It would be a great thing to tie that in further, as you would probably get support from both the county and Green Acres in help with purchasing land. **Mr. Rehmann** then went to explain that we are fighting a comment, made by a councilman seven (7) years ago. He added our Township Clerk has researched all the files to determine that no formal action was taken and there was an affidavit submitted to Green Acres on this. He stressed that is how far Sierra Club went back, in your records, to determine whether, in fact, the Petro Kiryk site was dedicated.

Cncl. Walter Bryson referred to a letter received from Dawn Farrell relative to a parcel on Violet Avenue (*Block 9506, Lot 11*). The citizen was requesting some relief from or some guidance on how to best handle the situation. **Cncl. Bryson** questioned if there was something we could do to assist the resident. **Mayor Gabbianelli** advised he spoke with the lady personally. It seems her father purchased the parcel some forty years ago and her father has just recently passed away, her mother now is looking into selling the land but the land has become unusable and unsellable. They were looking into the proper procedure on possibly giving the land back to Monroe Township. He noted you could tell her not to pay the taxes on the property and the township will then get it, the only problem he had with this is the money it would take to go through the courts (*foreclosure process*). Discussion on this took place as to the exact location, etc. It was noted the taxes

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on the property were \$184.00 with a \$5,900.00 assessment. **Cncl. Pres., Teefy** noted the solicitor would look into this matter to determine what might be feasible.

G.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED

Cncl. William Sebastian questioned Resolution R:211-2013 *Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Transferring Funds for the Budget Year 2013*. He requested clarification on the entry for O&E and S&W for Monroe Ambulance. **Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel** explained the O&E is for the volunteers and the S&W entry is for the paid part time personnel.

H.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED - None

Cncl. Pres., Teefy noted the next regular scheduled council meeting is for Monday, December 23rd at 8:00PM. He requested council members input on possibly moving the meeting time to 7:00PM and cancelling the work session. All were in agreement, notices will be sent cancelling the work session scheduled for December 23, 2013 at 7:00PM and rescheduling the regular council meeting time to 7:00PM.

Cncl. Pres., Teefy advised that the Reorganization Meeting is scheduled for Monday, January 6, 2014 at 7:00PM.

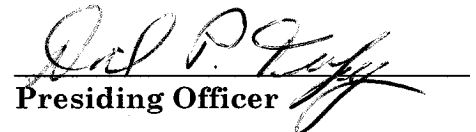
I.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further for discussion, **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** made a motion to adjourn the Council Work Session of December 9, 2013. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** and was unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



**Susan McCormick, RMC
Municipal Clerk**


Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from the tape-recorded proceedings and the hand written notes of the Council Work Session of December 9, 2013 and serves only as a synopsis of the proceedings. Portions of the official tape may be heard in the Office of the Township Clerk upon proper notification pursuant to the Open Public Records Law.

Approved as submitted Am Date 12/23/13
Approved as corrected _____ Date _____