

**MINUTES
REORGANIZATION MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 6, 2014**

A.) OPENING CERMONIES

The Reorganization Meeting of the Council of the Township of Monroe was called to order by **Township Clerk, Susan McCormick** at 7:00 PM in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Complex as 125 Virginia Avenue, Williamstown, New Jersey.

This meeting was advertised pursuant to the New Jersey Open Public Meetings Act (N.J.S.A. 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 was posted on the bulletin board at the Municipal Complex.

SALUTE TO FLAG AND INVOCATION

Cncl. Walter Bryson lead the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and **Pastor Michael A. Schneck, of the Williamstown Assembly of God Church** offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Walter Bryson	Present
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri	Present
Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present
Cncl. William Sebastian	Present
Cncl. Pres., Daniel Teefy	Present
Mayor Michael Gabbianelli	Present
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present
Business Adm., Kevin Heydel	Present
Engineer, Dave Cella	Present
Dir. Finance, Jeff Coles	Present
Dir. Of Code Enforcement, George Reitz	Present
Dir. Of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present
Dir. Of Public Works, Bob Avis	Present
Township Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present
Deputy Clerk, Sharon Wright	Present

B.) NOMINATION & ELECTION OF PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Cncl. Bryson made a motion to open nominations for President of Council. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Cncl. Ronald Garbowski** as President of Council. The nomination was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian**.

With no one else wishing to make a nomination **Cncl. Sebastian** made a motion to close nominations. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council

**ROLL CALL VOTE ON NOMINATION OF RONALD GARBOWSKI
AS COUNCIL PRESIDENT - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. **Cncl. Garbowski** was duly approved as Council President.

Senate President, Stephen Sweeney administered the oath of office to **Cncl. Pres., Garbowski** while his wife **Kathy** held the Bible.

Outgoing **Cncl. Pres., Teefy** presented **Cncl Pres., Garbowski** with the gavel **Mary Mazza Duffy** donated in 2001 to all future Council Presidents.

Cncl. Pres., Garbowski presented Township Clerk, **Susan McCormick** and Deputy Clerk, **Sharon Wright** with bouquets of flowers.

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C.) NOMINATION & ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to open nominations for Council Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Teefy and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cncl. Bryson nominated Cncl. Rich DiLucia as Council Vice-President. The nomination was seconded by Cncl. Dilks.

With no one else wishing to make a nomination Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to close nominations for Council Vice-President. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Caligiuri and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE NOMINATION OF RICH DILUCIA
AS COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Cncl. DiLucia was duly approved as Council Vice-President.

At this time Senate President, Stephen Sweeney administered the Oath of Office to Cncl. Vice-Pres., DiLucia while Township Clerk, Susan McCormick held the Bible.

D.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Cncl. Dilks made a motion to open the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Bryson 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.

E.) MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

<u>Prosecutor</u>	(Advice & Consent of Council)	<u>Charles Fiore</u>
<u>Public Defender</u>	(Advice & Consent of Council)	<u>Timothy Scaffidi</u>
<u>Conflict Public Defender</u>	(Advice & Consent of Council)	<u>Ralph Paolone</u>
<u>Township Engineer</u>	(Advice & Consent of Council)	<u>Chris Rehmann of ARH</u>

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve the above listed Mayor appointments. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Sebastian and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

Environmental Commission	<u>Jennifer Lewis-Gallagher</u>	3 year term	12/31/16
	<u>Colleen Reitz</u>	3 year term	12/31/16
Library Board	<u>Joyce Samoyan</u>	5 year term	12/31/18
Municipal Alliance (Advice & Consent)	<u>Jeanette Remsen</u>	3 year term	12/31/16
Open Space Advisory	<u>Christina Trzeciak</u>	3 year term	12/31/16
Parks & Recreation (Advice & Consent of Council)	<u>Sherri McIlvaine</u>	5 year term	12/31/18
	<u>Tina Heffner</u>	5 year term	12/31/18
	<u>Irene Stiles</u>	5 year term	12/31/18
(Vacant unexpired term)	<u>Kwan Hui</u>	5 year term	12/31/15

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E.) MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS (cont'd)

Planning Board - Class II	<u>Dan Kozak</u>	1 year term	12/31/14
Class IV	<u>Craig Masterson</u>	4 year term	12/31/17
Senior Commission	<u>Jeanette Remsen</u>	3 year term	12/31/16
	<u>Clorinda Scarfo</u>	3 year term	12/31/16
	<u>Philip Scarfo</u>	3 year term	12/31/16

Mayor Gabbianelli advised there are openings on the Municipal Alliance Commission, Environmental Commission, Open Space Committee and an Alternate position on the Planning Board and anyone interested in serving in those positions should contact his office.

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointments to the Municipal Alliance Commission and the Park and Recreation Commission. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Bryson** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

F.) PUBLIC PORTION - RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED

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

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to bracket Resolutions R:01-2014 through R:09-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:01-2014 THROUGH R:09-2014

R:01-2014 Resolution Adopting Temporary Budget Appropriations For The Year 2014 For The Township Of Monroe

R:02-2014 Resolution Authorizing Interlocal Services Participation Between The Township Of Monroe And The County Of Gloucester, For Cooperative Purchasing For The Year 2014

R:03-2014 Resolution Authorizing Contracts With Certain Approved State Contract Vendors For Contracting Units Pursuant To *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12a*

R:04-2014 Township Of Monroe Cash Management Plan

R:05-2014 Resolution To Establish A Petty Cash Account For The Township Of Monroe In Gloucester County For The Year 2014 "Various Departments"

R:06-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Chief Financial Officer To Refund Certain Escrow Balances And Various Other Revenues On Deposit With The Township Of Monroe For The Year 2014

R:07-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Tax Collector To Include Municipal Liens From Various Departments Of The Township Of Monroe In The Annual Tax Sale

R:08-2014 Resolution Designating Official Publications Of The Township Of Monroe, Gloucester County

R:09-2014 Resolution Authorizing Use Of U.S. Government General Services Administration Supply Schedules For Reprographic Equipment Or Services Pursuant To *N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12b And N.J.A.C. 5:34-9.6*

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

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolutions R:01-2014 through R:09-2014 for adoption. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to open nominations for all board and committee appointments scheduled by Resolution R:10-2014 through R:21-2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:10-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Board Of Health

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Barbara Chamberlain** as a member to the Monroe Township Board of Health. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks**. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE BARBARA CHAMBERLAIN AS A MEMBER TO THE
MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **Barbara Chamberlain** as a member to the Monroe Township Board of Health was duly approved.

R:11-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Board Of Health

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Rennie Pandola** as a member to the Monroe Township Board of Health. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri**. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE RENNIE PANDOLA AS A MEMBER TO THE MONROE
TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **Rennie Pandola** as a member to the Monroe Township Board of Health was duly approved.

R:12-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Board Of Health

Cncl. Bryson nominated **John Fitzgerald** as a member to the Monroe Township Board of Health. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian**. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE JOHN FITZGERALD AS A MEMBER TO THE
MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF HEALTH - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **John Fitzgerald** as a member to the Monroe Township Board of Health was duly approved.

R:13-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Economic Development Commission

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Jared Valdez** as a member to the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian**. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE JARED VALDEZ AS A MEMBER TO THE
MONROE TOWNSHIP ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **Jared Valdez** as a member to the Monroe Township Economic Development Commission was duly approved.

R:14-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Chuck McGlynn** as a member to the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Garbowski**. No other nominations were made.

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

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE CHUCK McGLYNN AS A MEMBER TO THE MONROE
TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **Chuck McGlynn** as a member to the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was duly approved.

R:15-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee

Cncl. Bryson nominated **John Garbowski** as a member to the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia**. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE JOHN GARBOWSKI AS A MEMBER TO THE
MONROE TOWNSHIP OPEN SPACE ADVISORY COMMITTEE - ALL AYES**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **John Garbowski** as a member to the Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee was duly approved.

R:16-2014 Resolution Appointing Alternate # 2 Member To The Monroe Township Open Space Advisory Committee

No nomination was made at this time.

R:17-2014 Resolution Appointing Member Of Council To The Monroe Township Planning Board (Class III)

Cncl. Pres., Garbowski recommended **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** be appointed as the Class III member to the Monroe Township Planning Board. **Cncl. DiLucia** seconded the recommendation.

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** as a Class III member to the Monroe Township Planning Board. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks**.

Cncl. Caligiuri nominated **Cncl. William Sebastian** as a Class III member to the Monroe Township Planning Board. **Cncl. Sebastian** declined the nomination. No other nominations were made.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE CNCL. FRANK CALIGIURI AS A CLASS III MEMBER
TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP PLANNING BOARD - 6 AYES, 1 ABSTAIN (Caligiuri)**

Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain, 0 Absent. Nomination of **Cncl. Frank Caligiuri** as a Class III member to the Monroe Township Planning Board was duly approved.

R:18-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Ralph Manfredi** as a member to the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment. The nomination was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks**. No other nominations were made.

A voice vote was taken and the nomination of **Ralph Manfredi** as a member to the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment was unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:-19-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To The Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment

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

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Leonard Fritz** as a member to the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment. The nomination was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian**. No other nominations were made.

A voice vote was taken and the nomination of **Leonard Fritz** as a member to the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment was unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:20-2014 Resolution Appointing An Alternate #2 Member To The Monroe Township Zoning Board Of Adjustment

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Dan Kozak** as an Alternate # 2 member to the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment. The nomination was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia**. No other nominations were made.

A voice vote was taken and the nomination of **Dan Kozak** as an Alternate # 2 member to the Monroe Township Zoning Board of Adjustment was unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:21-2014 Resolution Appointing Member To Monroe Township Municipal Utilities Authority

Cncl. Bryson nominated **Joseph DiLolle, Jr.** as a member to the Monroe Township Municipal Utilities Authority. The nomination was seconded by **Cncl. Pres., Garbowski**. No other nominations were made.

A voice vote was taken and the nomination of **Joseph DiLolle, Jr.** as a member to the Monroe Township Municipal Utilities Authority was unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:22-2014 Resolution Authorizing The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With The Auditor Of The Township Of Monroe For The Year 2014

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve Resolution R:22-2013 entering into a contract with **Auditor Nick Petroni** for the year 2014. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Sebastian** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:23-2014 Resolution Appointing Members To The Ordinance Committee And Naming Chairperson For The Year 2014

Cncl. Pres., Garbowski recommended all of Council be appointed as members to the Ordinance Committee and **Cncl. William Sebastian** be appointed as Chairperson.

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve Resolution R:23-2014 and the appointments as recommended by **Cncl. Pres., Garbowski**. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

R:24-2014 Resolution Appointing Fund Commissioner For The Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland Counties Municipal Joint Insurance Fund

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to approve Resolution R:24-2014 appointing **Kevin Heydel** as Fund Commissioner for the Gloucester, Salem, Cumberland Counties Municipal Joint Insurance Fund. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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G.) COUNCIL PRESIDENT LIAISON APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS/COMMISSIONS 2014

Board of Health	<u>Cncl. Marvin Dilks</u>
Economic Development	<u>Cncl. Ronald Garbowski</u>
Environmental	<u>Cncl. Frank Caligiuri</u>
Historical Society	<u>Cncl. Walter Bryson</u>
JIF Safety Committee	<u>Cncl. Rich DiLucia</u>
Library Board	<u>Cncl. Ronald Garbowski</u>
Local Emergency Planning	<u>Cncl. William Sebastian</u>
Municipal Alliance	<u>Cncl. Daniel Teefy</u>
MMUA	<u>Cncl. Ronald Garbowski</u>
Open Space Advisory	<u>Cncl. Daniel Teefy</u>
Parks & Recreation	<u>Cncl. Walter Bryson</u>
Planning Board	<u>Cncl. Frank Caligiuri</u>
Senior Commission	<u>Cncl. Marvin Dilks</u>
Zoning Board	<u>Cncl. William Sebastian</u>
School Board	<u>Cncl. Rich DiLucia</u>
United Veterans	<u>Cncl. William Sebastian</u>

H.) COUNCIL PRESIDENT APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2014

Administration	<u>Cncl. Marvin Dilks</u>
	<u>Cncl. Frank Caligiuri</u>
	<u>Cncl. Rich DiLucia</u>
Community Affairs	<u>Cncl. Rich DiLucia</u>
	<u>Cncl. Frank Caligiuri</u>
	<u>Cncl. Walter Bryson</u>
Education/School Budget	<u>Cncl. Ronald Garbowski</u>
	<u>Cncl. Daniel Teefy</u>
	<u>Cncl. William Sebastian</u>
Finance	<u>Cncl. Marvin Dilks</u>
	<u>Cncl. Rich DiLucia</u>
	<u>Cncl. Ronald Garbowski</u>
Law/Tax Abatement	<u>Cncl. Walter Bryson</u>
	<u>Cncl. Daniel Teefy</u>
	<u>Cncl. William Sebastian</u>
Municipal Budget Review	<u>Cncl. Walter Bryson</u>
	<u>Cncl. Rich DiLucia</u>
	<u>Cncl. Marvin Dilks</u>

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H.) COUNCIL PRESIDENT APPOINTMENTS TO COMMITTEES 2014

Public Safety

Cncl. Walter Bryson
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri
Cncl. William Sebastian

Public Works

Cncl. William Sebastian
Cncl. Daniel Teefy
Cncl. Marvin Dilks

Redevelopment Planning/COAH

Cncl. Ronald Garbowski
Cncl. Walter Bryson
Cncl. Frank Caligiuri

I.) MAYOR'S REPORT

Distinguished and honored guests, Members of Council, our Department Heads, Township Employees, volunteers and my fellow residents of Monroe - welcome and thank you for attending tonight's re-organization meeting.

2014 marks my 12th year as Mayor of this great municipality. I am thankful to the residents of Monroe for giving me the opportunity to serve and humbled by the trust and confidence you've shown me in performing my job.

I began my service as mayor in 2003 with a simple mandate "to get the job done". I was elected during a time when the economy was booming, housing growth was at an all-time high and when this township needed a vision.

Despite the housing growth, financially the township was depleted. Operationally, the township needed to adapt its services to accommodate the housing growth and the increased population. It was a time to implement a vision while protecting our Township's long standing heritage.

We began by developing a Master Plan designed with common sense that mirrors our goals of more commercial growth, less residential growth, and less impact on our schools. The results of our plan yielded projects that include the opening of Peters Diner, the Best Western Hotel, and the long awaited Wal-Mart that provides jobs, is a needed ratable and more importantly represents the first piece of a comprehensive growth plan for the southern end of the Pike. Wal-Mart took nine years from the start of that project to its completion with the bad economy. There are an additional five or six strip stores along with a free standing building that have been approved in the Wal-Mart Plaza and once the economy gets better that should fill in.

The Council also did a PILOT Program last year for a 450,000 square foot shopping center to be located on the property across from the old Acme site so the plans are in place when the economy turns around. We took advantage of grant opportunities to improve the look of our downtown Main Street anchored by the revitalized Grand Theater.

A major goal of every Mayor before me was to open a state of the art library. In 2009, we accomplished this goal by opening a brand new State of the Art Library - an investment in not only our quality of life but also in the next generation of Monroe residents.

As parents chose Monroe as the place to raise a family, we lived up to our responsibility to ensure that they have recreation facilities that represent the pride we share in this community. Our state of the art facilities at Owens Park and Mary Mazza Duffy Park serve as a staple for the 6,000 school aged children who utilize these parks individually and through our sports organizations.

However, the road to our success has been filled with potholes and challenges. In 2008, our country fell into an economic recession un-paralleled to any recession in the past 80 years. As a result, like our residents who have experienced loss of income and rising costs of basic essential needs, the Township experienced a record loss of \$1.7 million in State Aid, reductions in annual revenue and increased expenses.

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I.) MAYOR'S REPORT (cont'd)

With the recession came the collapse of the housing market. Residential home values that peaked in value in 2007 suddenly lost up to 20% of their value. As a result, over the past 5 years almost 3,000 tax appeals were filed that eroded and de-stabilized the tax base.

In 2013, action had been taken to re-stabilize the tax base. The Gloucester County Tax Assessor's office re-evaluated 50% of our residential homes resulting in a decrease in taxes for those included in this plan. Unfortunately, the 50% not included in this plan experienced significant tax increases.

This year (2014), the Tax Assessor's Office will re-evaluate the other 50% of residential homes not included in last year's plan. This will result in decreased taxes for those who received significant increases last year and overall bring home assessments closer to their current market value.

My critics will tell you that your increased taxes are a result of out of control spending. I challenge those critics to do so. Our fiscal policy, our budgets and spending practices reflect otherwise. We did not spend any more money in 2013 than we did in 2012 but the problem was we did not have as much money coming in because of the tax appeals. To meet the challenges of the recession and housing market collapse, we took extraordinary steps to protect the taxpayer.

We eliminated (40) full time positions, including (11) in Public Safety, (11) public works positions, (9) supervisory and clerical positions. We entered into shared service agreements with Gloucester County for Police Dispatch and Tax Assessment Services eliminating another (9) positions.

We implemented operational efficiencies and continued to manage our expenses through various cost cutting measures. We avoided "one time" budget gimmicks and stayed true to a responsible budget philosophy.

I am proud of my management team who has been asked to do more with less employees and a stagnant budget.

I am proud of our Police, our Volunteers in the Fire Department, our Paid and Volunteer Ambulance Crew. I am proud of our Public Works, our Parks and Recreation and each and every Township Employee who has "stepped up to the plate" to make sure that the Township provides you our resident a level of service that they deserve and expect.

To my colleagues on Township Council, your dedication and service to our residents is unmatched. I thank you for that. Through our partnership there has been progress and benefits to our residents. I thank you for your years of support and I am proud to call you my friends.

This evening I begin my 12th year as your mayor. I have been saying for the past (6) months, it is with mixed emotions that I announce this evening that I will not be seeking re-election in 2014. The Mayor got very emotional at this point and said he could say no more but thank you.

J.) COUNCIL COMMENTS

Cncl. Walter Bryson thanked Senate President, Stephen Sweeney for administering the Oath of Office to Cncl. Pres., Garbowski and Cncl. Vice-Pres., DiLucia and congratulated them on their new appointments; wishing them a successful, harmonious and fruitful term. Cncl. Bryson noted he hopes for a real national recovery this year and believes that everyone wants the same thing but before that can take place to benefit US citizens there needs to be government resurgence in love, respect and sovereignty for our people. Most important is to put the needs of US citizens first in anything enacted like treaties, trade agreements, decisions to go to war or laws written. It is time we first weigh the effect these things have on our people at all levels rather than what points are made by special interest. Cncl. Bryson noted he also hopes for a better year economically for all of us here in Monroe especially for those unemployed and those just making ends meet. What happens elsewhere in our Country or at other levels of government does have an impact on Monroe Township to a varying degree and a real recovery

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J.) COUNCIL COMMENTS (cont'd)

in our nation would most likely let our township be able to move forward and accomplish all we would like to do for our people. Cncl. Bryson noted he is thinking positive and is sure Council together with the Mayor will be working hard to fulfill the goals we have in 2014. Cncl. Bryson extended best wishes to everyone for a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

Cncl. Caligiuri noted he wanted to explain to the other Council members that the reason he nominated Cncl. Sebastian to the Planning Board was because projects before the Board go through metamorphoses for a year or two and that can be a complicated process and he does not like to move board members unless they are doing a really bad job. He noted he was thinking objectively for the benefit of the residents that Mr. Sebastian should serve in that capacity because some projects may be in the beginning or middle stages and it takes time for someone else to catch up so he looks for consistency on that board. He noted he has always enjoyed being on that board and is familiar with that first hand. Cncl. Caligiuri extended his appreciation to Senate President Stephen Sweeney for attending the meeting and went on to say how over the years he has been a certified pain in the butt to Senator Sweeney but he has taken that in stride and whenever he (Cncl. Caligiuri) went to him with questions or problems that relate to residents in Monroe Township the Senator was very receptive and responsive. Cncl. Caligiuri noted Gloucester County Surrogate Helene Reed was also in attendance this evening and he thanked her for coming. He also extended his appreciation to the residents of Monroe Township for giving him the opportunity to serve in the capacity as councilman, noting it has been a real honor. He noted most people know his home telephone number, cell phone number and email address and should feel free to contact him with issues or problems, as he is always happy to respond.

Cncl. Dilks extended New Year wishes, thanked everyone for coming to the meeting, congratulated Cncl. Pres., Garbowski, Cncl. Vice-Pres., DiLucia on their appointments and noted the Mayor's report was right on key. Cncl. Dilks noted he has been a councilman for the last ten years and is proud of all that has been accomplished from everyone working together. Hopefully Council will continue working in the same direction during the next three years of his term.

Cncl. DiLucia noted as he begins his sixth year on council he would like to thank the residents for placing their trust in him and he congratulated Cncl. Pres., Garbowski on his appointment. He thanked the rest of Council for the harmonious work they have demonstrated during his tenure on council; noting many of the achievements that have been obtained were because of Council being able to work so well together to do the right thing. He wished the Mayor luck in his final year and best wishes in his retirement. Cncl. DiLucia thanked Senate President Sweeney for administering the Oath of Office, the Clerk's Office for their invaluable help and extended best wishes to everyone for a Healthy New Year.

Cncl. Sebastian thanked the residents of Monroe for giving him the opportunity to serve on Council and his fellow council members for electing him as Ordinance Committee Chairman for the sixth year. He also noted he looks forward to working with all the members of Council under Cncl. Pres., Garbowski and Cncl. Vice-Pres., DiLucia. He extended his appreciation to Cncl. Teefy for his service as Council President during 2013 and noted he looked forward to working with him on the committees they were appointed to. He also extended New Years wishes to everyone.

Cncl. Teefy noted the Mayor does not get emotional too many times but he did this evening and the passion that he has brought to his job over the last twelve years could be seen tonight when he spoke of it being his last year as mayor. Cncl. Teefy noted he was on council in 2003 as the Mayor learned the ropes of politics and came in and made changes that took us to another level that we needed to get to. He was very upfront informing Council at Work Session Meetings or giving us a call to tell us what was going in town so the information exchange was always there. Cncl. Teefy noted he appreciates the job the Mayor has done and hopefully he will enjoy his retirement and come around sometime. Mayor Gabbianelli noted he will be around at the WAWA where the pulse is. Cncl. Teefy thanked the Mayor; noting his passion has taken us far and it will be tough to say good-by. He added he is looking forward to

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TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JANUARY 6, 2014

J.) COUNCIL COMMENTS (cont'd)

working with Council and the Mayor for this last year together, as it should be interesting. Hopefully the economy is starting to move forward and there may be some advantages out there that can help us. The Gloucester County Tax Assessor's Compliance Plan has lowered our tax appeals and that should help this year when doing our budget so hopefully some of our services can be improved. The main thing we have always tried to do is keep our current level of services even with the reductions in employees. There has never been a layoff, the reduction in staff has been done through attrition. He commended the remaining employees for accepting extra tasks to make the township run the best it can and also thanked the Clerk's Office for the outstanding job they do for Council every year. He noted 2014 will be a very good year for us, as we are beginning to come out of the poor economy. Guzo is building, Wal-Mart is completed and the old Jamesway is now a Rush Fitness and a Baseball Academy so things are starting to look up. Cncl. Teefy congratulated Cncl. Pres., Garbowski and Cncl. Vice-Pres., DiLucia on their positions; noting he is looking forward to this year and working with them.

Mayor Gabbianelli advised everything is not all gloom and doom we are still maintaining our services and have hired four young men for the Police Department and they started their training at the Atlantic County Police Academy today.

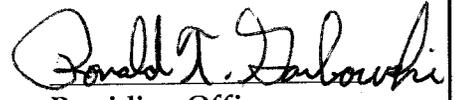
Cncl. Pres., Garbowski thanked distinguished guests, Senate President Stephen Sweeney and Gloucester County Surrogate Helene Reed for attending this meeting, the Clerk and her staff for all they do, the residents of Monroe Township for giving him the opportunity to serve on Council and his colleagues on Council for allowing him to serve as Council President for 2014. He noted there is a lot of work to do this year and due to the economic conditions we need to double our efforts to continue our current course. We need to continue to support our volunteers and employees and look to those individuals for new ideas, as they are key to keeping our taxes as low as possible. We need to continue looking at shared services when beneficial to our taxpayers and we need to eliminate waste and duplication of services. We need to get tax assessments under control, as too many people are footing the burden for too much of the tax in this township. We need to work with the County and the Board of Education to maximize our tax dollars and we need to double our efforts and promote Monroe Township to bring new business to our town because without new business the tax burden will continue to fall on every one of us. With the help of Council and the Administration we will continue with new and innovative ideas to attract new business. He urged residents to volunteer to the various organizations in the township because everyone can make a difference. He thanked everyone and wished God's blessings for a Happy, Healthy New Year.

K.) ADJOURNMENT

Cncl. Sebastian made a motion to adjourn the Reorganization Meeting of January 6, 2014. The motion was seconded by Cncl. DiLucia and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Respectfully submitted,


Susan McCormick, RMC
Township Clerk


Donald T. Garbowski
Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Reorganization Meeting of January 6, 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 SM Date 1/27/14
Approved as corrected _____ Date _____