

**MINUTES
COUNCIL WORK SESSION
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
APRIL 25, 2016**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES & ROLL CALL

The regular scheduled Work Session Meeting of the Monroe Township Council was called to order by **Council President Cody D. Miller** at approximately **7:02 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. Dilks 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	Present	
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Bob Heffner	Present	
Cncl. Bart McIlvaine	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Cody D. Miller	Present	
Mayor, Daniel Teefy	Present	
Business Admin., Kevin Heydel	Present	
Solicitor, Charles Fiore	Present	
Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth, ARH	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Jim Smart		Excused
Dir. of Code Enforcement, George Reitz		Excused
Dir. Of Public Works, Mike Calvello	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Andy Potopchuk	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

• **Municipal Alliance Update**

Michelle Perez, Chairperson of the Municipal Alliance Commission was in attendance to present a brief update/synopsis on what the commission is accomplishing through the schools. She explained the commission is a volunteer board and what we have done in collaboration with the Gloucester County Prosecutor's Office is to work on an opiate initiative within the schools. She explained certain key roles and what was included with the initiative. She then emphasized the silence associated with this addiction, we need to talk about it as we have already conducted four (4) forums on the subject matter and another one is scheduled to be held on May 5th at Williamstown High School. The attendance at these forums is nowhere near what it could be nor what we want it to be. These forums are not held exclusively for Monroe Township they are open to all from different towns, different

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B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION (cont'd)

counties. With the initiative, we put a program in place where every month we go into schools with different workshops and this enables us to get feedback and participation from the kids. Ms. Perez added that she was hopeful that a peer-to-peer based program can be initiated by the end of the year, it is needed. Monroe Township piloted a program for this year and we were requested by the Prosecutor's office to present it at their annual meeting. Also, the FBI out of Philadelphia is being supportive with everything having to do with this program, describing it as *Dare on Steroids*. This program now needs to be progressed to the next level, it has to grow and that is what this program does. Monroe pilots this program but in the meantime some of our members have met with just about every school district throughout the county. They are all adopting the program into their schools for the next year and the implementation process has begun. She then went on to elaborate on what the workshops consist of indicating that Sean Dalton started a conversation with regards to having a handout/brochure for our police officers for disbursement to surrounding entities when they come in contact with somebody getting into trouble or even a family member or parent because does anyone know Where to go? What to do? Who to call? This brochure will be helpful in that respect. We are collaborating right now with Kennedy and Inspira to set up a recovery type of program. Ms. Perez spoke of Governor Chris Christie holding a press conference with respect to recovery coaches. Recovery coaching has been around for a long time and in conjunction with the City of Angels we have actually trained over 200 people throughout the state to be recovery coaches. Ms. Perez noted that these are just some of the strides that have been made through the Municipal Alliance. Initially I joined some two years ago and there were about 5 people and we have just grown with people just wanting to participate and really getting involved and our community is actually reaching out to members of our municipal alliance. Addiction is rough, it destroys families and it takes lives. She then spoke on a personal note, noting her son was saved with Narcan. We have to evolve our thinking around addiction and educate families.

Mayor Teefy then expressed his thanks to the Municipal Alliance for all they are doing. He spoke of Amanda Potopchuk, a township resident and member of the alliance who will be going to speak with Governor Christie and participate in a round table discussion. In speaking with Amanda she would like to impress the fact, don't forget South Jersey. Ms. Perez then spoke on the need for treatment facilities in this area, as there are no facilities for people who do not have health insurance and unfortunately a majority of our community members are without health insurance. Included in the brochure to be put out by the prosecutor's office it tells you where to get help and how to start. She then spoke of funding or lack thereof in the surrounding counties as well as Gloucester.

C.) PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Heffner made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Caligiuri** and unanimously approved by all members of council in attendance. With no one wishing to address council **Cncl. Bryson** made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of council in attendance.

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D.) NEW BUSINESS - None

E.) OLD BUSINESS

Mayor Teefy noted at the last council meeting Lee McCullough approached council to discuss a problem which we have known about for a number of years. He reported that he personally visited the Vidovic property and saw no vehicles. The zoning officer also visited the property in question with the same results. Whatever was out there has been moved. He reported a group of residents from Canterbury Place (*Newbury Farms*) met with the mayor to discuss their problems and the conflicts between neighbors. He also met individually with one resident as she did not wish to meet with the group and went over her problems and concerns as well as reviewing a lot of video. The mayor noted we (*Chief of Police, Solicitor, Zoning Officer and himself*) listened to the concerns posed by the group of neighbors as well as the individual to see if we could find a resolution to the problems. The long and short of it was he felt if everyone just simmered down, stopped doing the little agitating things and ask the individual to stop calling in every little thing that has happened. There is so much going on but hopefully if everyone calms down perhaps we can work this out. The mayor noted the residents would like to petition council to change the ordinance about basketball nets in courts/cul-de-sacs. Hopefully, by meeting with all concerned the situation has been calmed down.

F.) COMMITTEE REPORTS

Cncl. Caligiuri noted that the Budget Review Committee (*Caligiuri, Heffner, Miller*) met however he turned this over to the Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel so he could elaborate on what was discussed. Mr. Heydel advised that the committee met for approximately an hour and a half they reviewed the entire budget document and it was decided to leave the budget exactly as is (*Introduced*) at a .98% increase. **Cncl. Caligiuri** noted I had previously asked during a council meeting if there was any input from any of the other council members on the day that the budget was distributed. He noted he did not receive any input but he understood that Mr. Heydel had.

Cncl. McIlvaine reported the Public Safety Committee (*McIlvaine, Dilks, Heffner*) began meeting with regard to the abandoned vehicle ordinance, not only dealing with the vehicles but trailers, truck bodies or whatever the issue may be. There will be another meeting scheduled for some time in May in hopes we can get this resolved prior to the summer months. Also, the committee has been asked, by the mayor, to meet this week with the fire companies and ambulance squad with respect to their capital improvement budgets to see if any cuts can be made. **Cncl. Pres., Miller** posed a question with regard to the study that we discussed and if that would be included as well. **Cncl. McIlvaine** responded, yes there will be a discussion on a needs assessment to be done for all emergency services within the

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F.) COMMITTEE REPORTS (cont'd)

township. There are many requests on the capital improvement budget and we want to make sure any purchase would be in the best interest for the tax payers of Monroe Township and that it may be necessary to spend a little bit to do a needs assessment so that someone who actually knows what they are speaking of can come here and give us some direction as to whether or not we actually need to make these purchases. He then explained the needs assessment will be performed by an outside company that will come in and review what we have in all our emergency services and then they can determine for our population and square mileage what our needs are.

Mayor Teefy advised there are some advertisements out there for positions at the EMS level (*EMT*) there was a request for two (2) positions however we are going to try and hire one (1) because we are not getting enough workload from the per diem people. Interviews will be conducted for a laborer position in Public Works to replace a retired person. Mr. Heydel advised we had a clerk in the zoning office that left the township back in November and that position was never filled and we will be hiring a part time position (dual role) that will work in the construction department as well as work with the Fire Official as there was a retirement in that department.

G.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED

There was a question posed with respect to *R:102-2016 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Referring A Proposed Rehabilitation Area Designation Of Block 1303, Lot 20 In The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, To The Township Of Monroe Planning Board.*

Jack Terruso – Maley & Associates explained basically a rehab zone gives you everything that you could get in a redevelopment zone with all the powers except for no eminent domain and no long term tax abatement. It really gives you flexibility in terms of what you want to do with these types of properties. He explained this (*R:102-2016*) is the first step in the process which is to refer it to the Planning Board to make a determination on if it does meet the criteria, we think it does. Then it will come back to you (*council*) with their recommendation and once you make the designation you will have additional powers, as well as flexibility with zoning. Mr. Heydel questioned if you could get “payment in lieu of taxes” in a redevelopment zone. Mr. Terruso advised just a five (5) year tax abatement, not a pilot as that is only in a redevelopment zone.

H.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED – None

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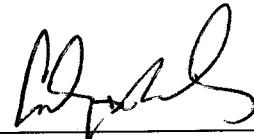
I.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further for discussion, **Cncl. McIlvaine** made a motion to adjourn the Council Work Session of April 25, 2016. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** 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 April 25, 2016 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 _____ *SMC* _____
Approved as corrected _____

Date 5/9/16
Date _____