

MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
MAY 8, 2017

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., Bart McIlvaine** 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., McIlvaine 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. Garbowski led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and **Cncl. Miller** offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Marvin Dilks		Excused
Cncl. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Cncl. Ron Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. Bob Heffner	Present	
Cncl. Joe Marino	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Cncl. Pres., Bart McIlvaine	Present	
Mayor Daniel Teefy	Present	
Solicitor Charles Fiore	Present	
Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel	Present	
Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth	Present	
Dir. Of Finance, Karyn Paccione		Excused
Dir. Of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. Of Public Works, Michael Calvello		Excused
Dir. Comm. Dev./Code Enf. Rosemary Flaherty	Present	
Deputy Mayor Andy Potopchuk		Excused
Police Chief, John McKeown	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Susan McCormick	Present	

PRESENTATIONS - None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Regular Council Meeting, the Council Work Session and the Closed Executive Session of April 24, 2017. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and approved by all members of Council in attendance with the exception of **Cncl. Miller** who Abstained.

B.) CORRESPONDENCE

Mayor Teefy reported Jeanette Remsen recently resigned from the Parks and Recreation Commission and he thanked her for her many years of service. The Mayor then appointed **Tara Price** to the unexpired term on the Parks and Recreation Commission. **Cncl. Miller** made a motion to approve the Mayor's appointment of Tara Price as a member of the Parks and Recreation Commission. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heffner** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

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B.) CORRESPONDENCE (cont'd)

- **Zerbini Family Circus Permit**

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve the Zerbini Family Circus Permit. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED - PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Miller made a motion to bracket for Consent Agenda Resolutions R:136-2017 through R:144-2017. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. DiLucia** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

R:136-2017 Resolution Approving The 2017 Gloucester County Community Development Block Grant Project Application For South Shore Drive Improvements In The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey

R:137-2017 Resolution Approving The 2017 Gloucester County Community Development Block Grant Project Application For Forest Drive Improvements In The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey

R:138-2017 Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

R:139-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Execution Of An Agreement Between DM Medical Billings, LLC And The Township Of Monroe For Third Party Billing Services For The Monroe Township EMS

R:140-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing Third Party Administrative Services With EZ Car Title To Facilitate The Transfer Of Vehicle Title Certificates For Unclaimed/Abandoned Vehicles Within The Township Of Monroe

R:141-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Deed Of Easement For Block 10301, Lot 20 Between The Township Of Monroe And Beazer Homes, LLC

R:142-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Accepting Land Sale Bids For Township Owned Property, Authorizing And Ratifying A Contract For Sale Regarding Same Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(A) And Authorizing The Solicitor To Prepare Deeds Of Conveyance

R:143-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute A Deed Of Easement For Block 10301, Lot 8.01 Between The Township Of Monroe And Beazer Homes, LLC

R:144-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Supporting The Recommendations Of The New Jersey Department Of Transportation, Bureau Of Traffic Engineering's Recommendation Based Upon Their Investigation Along Route NJ 42 Within The Township Of Monroe

Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine announced Resolution R:145-2017 would be removed from the agenda.

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

R:145-2017 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Awarding A Contract For Professional Services To The Municipal Engineer For Final Design/Public Bid And Construction Administration/Inspection Services For The Resurfacing Of The Owens Park Tennis Court Within The Township Of Monroe **(REMOVED FROM AGENDA)**

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolutions R:136-2017 through R:144-2017. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

D.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Pres., McIlvaine turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Committee Chairman, Cncl. Heffner**. **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to open the meeting to the public. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak **Cncl. Miller** made a motion to close the public portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:21-2017 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 94 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Emergency Number Registration"

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

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:21-2017 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:22-2017 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of the Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 175 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Land Management" (Chapter 175-89 "Accessory Buildings")

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

Cncl. DiLucia made a motion to approve Ordinance O:22-2017 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:23-2017 An Ordinance To Amend Chapter 65 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe Entitled "Personnel Policies"

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

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:23-2017 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:24-2017 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 74 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Fees"

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.

Solicitor Fiore advised the additional language of "included on one lot" will be added to Section C of Ordinance O:24-2017.

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D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:24-2017 with the additional language for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:25-2017 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 162 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Housing Standards"

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

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:25-2017 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Mayor Teefy reported he was approached by residents requesting Bobby Cimino be recognized for cleaning up Forest Hills and Corkery Lane. The Mayor noted he will be presenting Bobby with a Certificate of Recognition from Mayor and Council and the residents are putting together a gift basket for him to thank him. Bobby works for the township in the summer two days a week and does a great job.

Solicitor Fiore reported three towing applications were received by the deadline. The applications submitted were from A-Jacks, B & B and A & A. He noted he is in the process of reviewing the applications along with the Chief and Officer Burton and a recommendation will be made by the next Council Meeting.

Director of Public Safety, Jim Smart reported the Road Department made repairs to the bike trail between Clayton Road and Tuckahoe Road. Eventually the township will need to put some money into that busy section of the bike trail but for now it looks really good.

Mayor Teefy reported he received a call from a resident of Holly Parkway regarding leaves and high grass at the entrance of Forest Hills. The resident called again on Sunday and left a message to say thanks because that area has never been so clean in all the years he lived there. The Mayor noted he forwarded the message to Mike Calvello and his crew to thank them for a job well done.

Director of Com. Dev./Code Enforcement, Rosemary Flaherty reported she will be working on a special project and will be doing an inventory of the sidewalks along Main Street from Pine Street to Avery Court to identify any tripping hazards and what sidewalks need to be replaced. She will report her findings to Council.

F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Joe LaPorta, a resident of Carroll Avenue questioned what is happening to the former Montemurro property on Carroll Avenue. **Mrs. Flaherty** explained the Township cannot discriminate against group homes. The property owner went through the site plan process and the Planning Board approved it by resolution, which will be memorialized at their meeting on Thursday, May 11th. The property owner was told to cut the grass and cleanup up the property and they have advised it will be taken care of immediately. As per the State of New Jersey these group homes are permitted in any residential district and technically they did not have to come to the Planning Board for a site plan waiver but they agreed to do that. This home is for the mentally ill, not anyone with a criminal background so she does not foresee any issues there. Mr. LaPorta questioned whether there were concerns this would lower property values. Mrs. Flaherty replied no as they plan on doing significant improvements to the property, which will

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

lift the value. These facilities have 24 hour supervision. Some of the people are confined to bed and those that can function may be seen taking a walk with their supervisor. Mr. LaPorta questioned why the Board or Council didn't notify the public who have lived in this specific area for many, many years and why the elected officials were not helping the people who elected them. He noted the residents in the area are very upset about this and believe it could be Council doing this so they will be coming to a meeting. Cncl. Miller noted there is no proof or evidence that anyone with a developmental disability will reduce the value of homes and Council cannot discriminate or selectively choose where they reside. Mr. LaPorta questioned if Cncl. Miller had any of these homes near his house and why did the Board approve this home. Cncl. Miller replied there are some down the road at Amberleigh. Mrs. Flaherty explained she asked the applicant to come before the Board as a courtesy to ensure we had information on record that showed the parameters so they wouldn't have twenty people or criminals residing in the house. Now it is on the record there will be four bedrooms with four people and they are bound by that. We also wanted to know whether the people would be rehab victims, people with mental issues from a young age, war veterans, someone injured in a car accident or a child with autism that a parent can no longer care for. Mrs. Flaherty assured Mr. LaPorta that they were the type of individuals that will be in the home. She added she wanted to meet the owner and advise them we will be keeping an eye out to ensure our residents are protected. Mr. LaPorta noted he respected Mrs. Flaherty for what she is doing but she should have notified the people who live around this home and if she did she forgot to send him a notice because he got nothing. Mrs. Flaherty noted their office notified everyone on Carroll Avenue as a condition of approval. They did not have to do that but did it as a courtesy so everyone would have the correct information and it is part of the resolution and the names of those notified are attached. Mr. LaPorta expressed his concerns that some of the residents of Carroll Avenue were never notified of this and when residents who have lived here for years are not respected they will not respect the elected officials again when they run for re-election. Mayor Teefy noted this is not an easy situation. Mr. LaPorta felt if this is not an easy situation for the Mayor maybe he needs to get a different job. Mayor Teefy noted he was fine with the job and legally we did not have to notify anyone nor did the people moving in need to notify anyone. By bringing them in we got to know what their environment is about and it was put on record of what they are going to do. These homes are throughout this town and other towns and neighbors of one in Forest Hills said it is one of the nicest houses on the street. The Mayor questioned if Mr. LaPorta would have a problem if the house on Carroll Avenue was sold to another family. Mr. LaPorta replied no, not if it was a family living there but by this change it is not residential it is a commercial operation. He went on to say the actions taken should have been more clear to the neighbors because when the Mayor and Council were elected they took an oath to help and give the people in this township a better opportunity and the way this was done is not right. Mr. LaPorta thanked Council for allowing him to speak.

Cncl. Miller made a motion to close General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Garbowski and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

G.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss Cncl. Miller made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of May 8, 2017. The motion was seconded by Cncl. Garbowski and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



Susan McCormick, RMC
Township Clerk



Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the tape-recorded proceedings of the Regular Council Meeting of May 8, 2017 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 5/22/17
Date _____