

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
FEBRUARY 26, 2018**

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., Rich DiLucia** 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 (*N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 thru 10:4-21*). Notices were placed in the official publications for the Township of Monroe (i.e.: South Jersey Times, 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., DiLucia 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 THE FLAG

Cncl. Marino led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag. **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia** asked everyone to remain standing for a "*Moment of Silence*" for the children who died and were injured in Florida during the school shooting in the past week. **Cncl. Miller** offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Ron Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. Bob Heffner		Excused
Cncl. Joe Marino	Present	
Cncl. Bart McIlvaine		Excused
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Cncl. Pres. Rich DiLucia	Present	
Mayor Daniel Teefy	Present	
Solicitor, Louis Cappelli, Jr.	Present	
Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel	Present	
Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth	Present	
Dir. of Finance, Karyn Paccione	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Jim Smart	Present	
Dir. of Public Works, Mike Calvello		Excused
Dir. of Comm. Dev./Code Enf., Rosemary Flaherty		Excused
Deputy Mayor, Andy Potopchuk		Excused
Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Jim Bonder	Present	
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 of February 12, 2018. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and approved by all members of Council in attendance with the exception of **Cncl. Miller** who Abstained.

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B.) CORRESPONDENCE – None

MAYOR APPOINTMENT

Mayor Teefy appointed **Dominick Colavita** as Alternate #1 Member of the Monroe Township Planning Board for an unexpired term of December 31, 2018.

C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED – PUBLIC PORTION

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

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:68-2018 through R:73-2018. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

R:55-2018 Emergency Temporary Resolution Prior To Adoption Of The Budget Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Resolution R:55-2018. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE RESOLUTION R:55-2018
5 AYES (Dilks, DiLucia, Garbowski, Marino, Miller), 2 ABSENT (Heffner, McIlvaine)

Tally: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent. Resolution **R:55-2018** was duly approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

R:68-2018 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Shared Services Agreement With The Gloucester County Improvement Authority And The County Of Gloucester, New Jersey (*Large Stage Rental for Music Festival*)

R:69-2018 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute The Shared Services Agreement With The Gloucester County Improvement Authority And The County Of Gloucester, New Jersey (*Small Stage Rental for Arts Festival*)

R:70-2018 Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

R:71-2018 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Amending Resolution R:58-2018 Authorizing The Mayor Of The Township Of Monroe To Enter Into A Contract With The Alternate Township Physician For The Year 2018

R:72-2018 Resolution Approving The Bill List For The Council Meeting Of February 26, 2018

R:73-2018 Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Discuss A Litigation Matter – Sideris V. Monroe Township

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolutions R:68-2018 through R:73-2018. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

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D.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Pres., DiLucia turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Committee Chairman, Cncl. Marino**. **Cncl. Miller** made a motion to open the meeting to the public for ordinances listed on the agenda for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak on the Ordinances for Second Reading, **Cncl. Miller** made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:01-2018 Calendar Year 2018 Ordinance To Exceed The Municipal Budget Appropriation Limits And To Establish A Cap Bank (*N.J.S.A. 40A:4-45.14*)

Second Reading: The above ordinance was published in an official publication for the Township of Monroe. This portion was opened to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:01-2018 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:01-2018 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING – 5 AYES (Dilks, DiLucia, Garbowski, Marino, Miller),
2 ABSENT (Heffner, McIlvaine)**

Tally: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent. Ordinance O:01-2018 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:02-2018 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”

Second Reading: The above ordinance was published in an official publication for the Township of Monroe. This portion was opened to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:02-2018 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:02-2018 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING – 5 AYES (Dilks, DiLucia, Garbowski, Marino, Miller),
2 ABSENT (Heffner, McIlvaine)**

Tally: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent. Ordinance O:02-2018 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:03-2018 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Private Sale Of Municipal Property Located At Corkery Lane A/K/A Block 3901, Lot 25, Poteat Lane A/K/A Block 4301, Lot 3, Huber Avenue A/K/A Block 5301, Lot 3

Second Reading: The above ordinance was published in an official publication for the Township of Monroe. This portion was opened to the public.

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:03-2018 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:03-2018 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING – 4 AYES (Dilks, DiLucia, Marino, Miller)
1 ABSTAIN (Garbowski), 2 ABSENT (Heffner, McIlvaine)**

Tally: 4 Ayes, 0 Nays, 1 Abstain, 2 Absent. Ordinance O:03-2018 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

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D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

O:04-2018 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 29 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Emergency Management Council"

Second Reading: The above ordinance was published in an official publication for the Township of Monroe. This portion was opened to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:04-2018 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks**.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:04-2018 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING – 5 AYES (Dilks, DiLucia, Garbowski, Marino, Miller),
2 ABSENT (Heffner, McIlvaine)**

Tally: 5 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 2 Absent. Ordinance O:04-2018 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Cncl. Garbowski reported that the Free Public Library is looking for books for the book sale they are having in April and if anyone has any books that they would like to donate, they can bring them to the library.

Cncl. Marino reported that he attended a Board of Education meeting on February 15, 2018. He said that Federici & Akin is still working on a design for mechanical and exterior building envelope repairs for Holly Glen Elementary School. He mentioned that during the meeting, he spoke about the Parkland, Florida shooting and asked the Board if there is anything they can do to re-visit their safety procedures and look into doing anything differently for the safety our children. He said that he would like to congratulate Jon Jernegan, the wrestling coach of Williamstown High School. Mr. Jernegan sent seven wrestlers to Regions and two wrestlers who will continue-on to States; Mr. Jernegan is a Williamstown High School graduate, he has been a head and assistant wrestling coach for over 15 years, has been to States himself when he was a wrestler and was awarded the Region 8 Coach of the Year. Cncl. Marino congratulated and wished good luck to Mr. Jernegan and the student wrestlers. Cncl. Marino also reported that the Economic Development Commission had a meeting on February 19, 2018 where they had a photo-op with the sign donated from Precision Metal, which will be hung outside of the Tax Collector's office. He said the Commission also discussed the Tax Card Program and how they're going to move forward with it, mentioning the process in the past year with asking the Township for \$5,000.00 having \$5,000.00 donated from a business and hiring a part-time clerk. He said that they spoke about trying to bring in somebody to administer the program and ideas on a different sponsor to sponsor the entire program as is done in other towns. Cncl. Marino will report back to Council after the next EDC meeting with the status of the project.

Cncl. Miller reported that the 3rd Annual Arts Festival will be held on April 28, 2018 and that they are still looking for artists and crafters. He said that he also attended the Municipal Alliance Commission Reorganization Meeting and thanked Michele Perez for her years of service as Chairperson of the Commission. He noted that she will continue to serve as a member, but has taken a step back to continue to focus on the work that she is doing with the opiate crisis in South Jersey. He congratulated Donna Gaudio as the 2018 Chairperson and Jamie Rebecca as the 2018 Vice-Chairperson of the Municipal Alliance Commission. Cncl. Miller reported that there is a Bill being revisited in the State Legislature, which is sponsored by the Senate President. He explained that this Bill will force local governments to find ways to share costs, to encourage towns to try and push for shared services and that there is an independent commission that is going to be put together to look at ways to save dollars in municipalities, because as we continue to see, New Jersey is one of the highest taxed states in the country.

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

Cncl. Miller felt this was a Bill that we should take recognition of and it would be beneficial because we do have to start forcing to share costs. He also reported that the Senate President and Governor Murphy are trying to find ways to fund the school funding formula, which would be great for us, because Monroe Township Public Schools are grossly underfunded. He continued with saying that the additional money that we receive from the State, hopefully in the new budget depending on how everything works out, would be a benefit. He said that as we have seen with the enrollment aid with the cap that we have experienced, we have continued to see growth in Monroe Township Public Schools and have seen no increase with State Aid. He noted Washington Township has seen the same funding, yet has continued to see their student population decrease. Cncl. Miller hopes the funding under the new Governor will be done more fairly and he is happy that they are pursuing this because Monroe Township Public Schools does need those additional resources and has needed them for years.

Mayor Teefy reported that public safety improvements have and will continue to be an important part of his job as the mayor and proper staffing of the Police Department is essential. When he took office as Mayor, the Township had 62 officers. He said in speaking with the Chief of Police, keeping the number of officers at 66 was key, so he put in the budget for 4 hires in 2016, but with retirements and injured officers, to keep the number of officers at 66, he is happy to announce that 5 officers were sworn-in on this day and will be attending the police academy. He said that he is proud to say that we have been looking for diversity for a number of years and one of our new hires is a woman who is bilingual, which will help fill our quota we are trying to fulfill and be diversified for our town. He noted that along with increasing the staff of police officers, the township budget has pretty much stayed the same in the salary range, so there really has not been an increase in the taxes with hiring these police officers. He said that this hiring also allowed him to make a move he did almost two years ago with the Office of Emergency Management, having one of the police officers, Officer Jim DeHart, in charge of this department. Mayor Teefy said that it is very important today to be ready for an emergency. He mentioned someone once commenting to him that this town is not ready for an emergency; Mayor Teefy stated that we are ready. He spoke in reference to plans that the Township has, which have been reviewed by the County, also working with the school system. He reiterated that Township has plans and is constantly working and making sure this town is safe and ready, not only with school safety but with major weather conditions. He reported that he attended the Municipal Alliance Commission drug awareness forum on January 25, 2018. The mayor noted that Tony Luke, Jr. was a guest speaker and the attendance was good, but could have been better. He advised the Commission will be holding these forums every six to nine months and he hopes that more people attend and learn more about resources that are available and there is hope for people with drug addictions. He reported that he also attended the Cecil Fire Company's annual installation dinner on January 25th where he swore-in the new officers. He reported that he attended the grand opening for iSmile Dental Arts, which is located at 368 Berlin-Cross Keys Road, on February 22, 2018 with the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce. Mayor Teefy reported that he attended the Historical Society's event on February 25, 2018 with the Gloucester County Institute of Technology Gospel Choir to celebrate Black History Month at the Pfeiffer Community Center. He continued with describing the event, that 40-50 attended, it was a great time, noting that people wore authentic African clothing during a fashion show, and commending the gospel choir on how well the children did with their singing and playing ukuleles, noting they were led by Senorita Sharilyn Kyle who was a Spanish teacher at Williamstown High School and is now at Gloucester County Institute of Technology. Mayor Teefy reported that Cross Keys Brewery is opening on March 9, 2018. He also noted that the 13th Child Brewery is also opening soon. He also mentioned that Geets Diner is also close to opening. He said the site for Cinder Bar and the learning center is currently being prepared for construction, which will be located on Berlin-Cross Keys Road, in front of the Barclay Glen Apartments. Mayor Teefy reported that the Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Parks & Recreation Commission, is scheduled for March 24, 2018 at 12noon at Owens Park. He also mentioned the 3rd Annual Arts Festival that the two breweries will be open and the township will be providing rides from the Arts Festival to the Cross Keys Brewery. He reported that St. Matthew's Baptist Church is sponsoring a drug awareness forum on April 21, 2018 and he will obtain more information on this event at a later time. Mayor Teefy reported that there will

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be an opening of the Mary Duffy Playground on April 22, 2018 at 1:00pm and mentioned these funds, over \$150,000.00, were raised by the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary for this park which the community helped to build. He reported that the Monroe Township Little League opening will be April 6, 2018. Mayor Teefy reported on the Route 322/Fries Mill Road intersection. He said that he spoke with the engineer who said the plans are complete and should be submitted to the NJDOT this week and will await the approval.

Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth reported that approval was received to bid the Monroe Road Program for Tier 1 that includes Kirkwall Drive, half of South Shore Drive, and improvements along Forest Drive.

Dir. of Public Safety, Jim Smart reported that the Local Emergency Planning Commission meets on a quarterly basis, keeping organizations in town on the same page in reference to public safety and reiterated Mayor Teefy's comment on the township being prepared and ready for emergency situations, including providing emergency services at township events. He also described a PILOT program they are working on through Human Resources, the Mayor and EMS, which is an internship that firefighters can take a class for an EMT certification which includes them riding along with the paid crew for real experience, with no cost to the township. He said they have their first person coming into this program, who is on their third week into it.

Chief of Police, John McKeown recognized the 5 new officers who will attending the police academy and said he is looking forward to them working with our police department. He spoke in reference to school safety, that a lot of planning goes on behind the scenes, the working relationships they have between police, emergency services and the schools, to keep the schools safe.

Cncl. Pres, Rich DiLucia reported that he also attended the Municipal Alliance Commission drug awareness forum, which he learned a lot from the compassionate speakers, one of them being Tony Luke, Jr. who spoke about his personal story about losing his son to opioid addiction. Cncl. Pres. DiLucia felt he was the most compelling speaker because he lived it and it incurred death to his family. Cncl. Pres. DiLucia feels that all of the speakers agreed that this is an epidemic that starts from the distribution of the drugs, whether it is from excess prescribing from doctors or it is the pharmaceutical companies pushing drugs, but he feels that this forum was very informative, he has gotten a different perspective on the crisis, he is more understanding of it and will probably try to help in any way that he can to help people overcome this. Cncl. Pres. DiLucia stated that he values the police officers in this town, he values the fact that we need ample coverage, but is somewhat disappointed, because as a Councilperson, he and Cncl. Heffner have sat in on negotiations as observers and there is a concern on part of all of Council about keeping control of the budget and what happens in negotiations has a big impact on what happens with the budget. He said that the Police Department takes up an enormous part of the budget in terms of salaries and benefits. He noted that one of the big things that happened this year is the contribution to the pension plan has been raised for employees. He mentioned that one of the chief negotiators expressed that he is concerned that he has not been met with in a couple of months and they are prepared to make some concessions for new officers coming on to try to slow down the progression of increases for them however once those officers started in the academy, we would lose the opportunity to address them. He continued on and the way he looks at it, there are 5 officers who are starting in the academy that will come under the collective bargaining agreement on day one, so whatever will happen to them in the next thirty years is tied into that agreement and any things that are negotiated that would be a change and reduce the financial obligations to new employees coming in will be severely affected. He noted that there are three collective bargaining units in this municipality; one for police officers, one for supervisors and one for Local 1360 which comprises the biggest bargaining unit who have a contract that expired December 31, 2017 and have not yet been completed, which concerns him as the Chairperson of the Budget Committee. Explaining it is very difficult to put a budget together if he does not know what the cost of labor is going to be going forward. He said that he is disappointed and believes we missed a golden opportunity and believes the union representing the police were willing to negotiate some concessions and recognized the fact that there had to be some give and take.

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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.

Jack Luby – 1664 Silver Birch Road congratulated both Mr. DiLucia and Mr. Garbowski on their council presidency and vice presidency positions. Mr. Luby questioned Mayor Teefy on how long he has been a township official. **Mayor Teefy** responded he is currently into his sixteenth year with this being his fourth year as Mayor and a resident of the town for 47 years. Mr. Luby spoke on the new publication, the Williamstown Sun and the January 17th – January 23rd edition, which had a comment made by Mayor Teefy noting *additional projects stated for the New Year including improving the town's trash pick-up services. The township will be hosting an interview process early in the year to insure the services provided to residents are consistent and more efficient that what has been experienced in the past.* Mr. Luby questioned Mayor Teefy on what precipitated him to make that comment. **Mayor Teefy** noted he may have made a comment similar to that, I know we are looking to hire somebody. Mr. Luby noted we probably have the one of the most efficient sanitation departments on the planet. In 1996 we instituted a program for automated trash trucks noting what we had prior, which was one trash truck with two men and a driver. The automated trash program initiated places one man, in one truck and can pick up as much trash in one day as it took two men to pick up in an entire week. He failed to see how you can get much more efficient than that. This has saved the township a ton of money. Mr. Luby continued noting we have an excellent sanitation department with personnel who live here and he was concerned as to why we would be interviewing a process to ensure the service is provided to residents are consistent and more efficient than what has been experienced in the past. **Mayor Teefy** advised we are always looking to improve, we had two supervisors retire and we are consolidating the positions which makes it more efficient with one person overseeing both sanitation and recycling. He felt bringing someone in that perhaps has a new set of eyes to look at things and say hey perhaps we can change these things we have been doing since '96 and maybe we can improve. Perhaps the routes can be changed to be more efficient. One of the things is to be more consistent when we pick up the trash especially in regard to holiday pick up as we need to inform people the procedure being used. **Mr. Luby** questioned if the mayor was looking to replace the sanitation department. **Mayor Teefy** responded, no not at all. Mr. Luby clarified that there is talk on improvements in the operation of the department. **Mayor Teefy** again noted, if we can improve, we will and again if there is a new supervisor coming in they may be able to look at some deficiencies as this was part of the interview process. Mr. Luby expressed concern at the public works department that the township is looking to privatize the trash department. **Mayor Teefy** emphatically responded no, no, no. This will not happen under his administration. **Business Administrator, Kevin Heydel** added that he explored privatization and it would cost us twice as much to pay for trash pick-up as opposed to having it in-house. You still look and weigh your options and that has been done, it is very clear it (*privatization*) would double the cost for trash pick-up. **Mayor Teefy** added that people have an idea that if you privatize you are better off. You are not, it is better with the workers that we have. There is no real cost saving with privatization, it actually cost more in the long run and it is not good for the residents. Mr. Luby then addressed Mayor Teefy noting in the past year he has contacted the mayor's office five times and he has never received a response. **Mayor Teefy** noted he did contact Mr. Luby initially regarding the gas lights. Mr. Luby then noted when we talked about the gas lights that the mayor made a statement that on Pine Street you replaced one of the gas lights with an overhead light. **Mayor Teefy** responded, that was on Pin Oak Road, not Pine Street, there is no Pine Street in Forest Hills. Mr. Luby indicated the test was over a year ago and people do not want it (*overhead light*). Questioning when this would be removed and install a gas light. **Mayor Teefy** responded we will have it removed and have a gas light put back in. **Mr. Luby** then reiterated for the record, those gas lights belong to this township and then gave some background information on how they were installed and the costs associated with them, adding they are antiques and because of the fact they are antiques the historical commission may be able to do something in the way of funding those lights. He then requested administration to take a look at that.

Mercy Smith – 1704 Forest Drive approached council with concerns regarding an on-going water issue in the front of her house. Ms. Smith explained this has been in place since the development was created because they put the drain for the street uphill and my home is at the

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

low point. She noted that this road is scheduled to be resurfaced and she contacted Mike Calvello at which time he did send people out, they looked and found that indeed there is a water issue. They came out with equipment and tried to dig it out next to the curb and resurface it. Unfortunately, this made it worse. Now, water covers the whole width of my property, pretty much all of the time. Directly in front of my driveway it is about 8 feet wide and it goes from the left side all the way past the lift station which happens to be right next to my property. Only if it is actively raining will it go down the drain, otherwise it sits in front of my house. In the summertime it breeds mosquitoes with leaves and trash collecting in there. In the wintertime it freezes solid and someone could get slip on it. If someone comes to my house and parks their car they can't even get to the sidewalk. Ms. Smith stressed she very badly needs a new driveway, I had someone come out and give me estimate and was advised there was a concern about the water issue, that it was undermining the structure underneath the driveway and he encouraged me to try to get it fixed so that I can get a new driveway. I am concerned someone may trip on my driveway because it is in bad shape. Ms. Smith advised she came before council in the hopes that you can fix this. They tried re-surfacing one time and unfortunately it made things worse, even though they tried to the best of their ability. As far as I am concerned, the only thing that will work is a drain placed at the low point which is where my driveway is. She went on to explain on a horrific storm a few years ago and how the whole roads fills up because both sides of Forest Drive come into my area, the back-up empties in front of my house, the whole road fills up. During that particular storm I had been away and when I returned there was water all the way into my garage. Ms. Smith was hoping that the township officials would see the importance of this water issue and put a drain in there to fix it because if I try to sell my house, I can't imagine anyone wanting to buy a house with this kind of water issue.

Kathryn Cornforth, ARH spoke on the road program project particularly the improvements to Forest Drive. She would like to say that in front of this house was being addressed but was not sure if this location was. However, she will go back to the office to ensure that it is part of what we are addressing. If for some reason we are not addressing it (*inaudible*). Mrs. Cornforth then noted the Forest Drive improvements are being done in two separate phases starting at the Black Horse Pike and working our way down. She then noted the township had just received confirmation from the NJDOT Fiscal Year 2018 Municipal Aid Program that Forest Drive had been selected for roadway improvements. She then spoke on the timeline involved as well as the entire project and alternates involved. Ms. Smith requested that the engineers ride down Forest Drive and look at the house. It is there all the time and if this takes a long time it will be an issue all summer long and if it was decided to put a drain in you would want to do this before you do the road surface. Ms. Smith requested to be contacted on this to let her know exactly what is going on. She further explained the drain itself is significantly uphill. **Mayor Teefy** questioned where does the first phase end? Mrs. Cornforth advised it will depend upon if we are able to award alternates. The base bid takes us about 1200 feet in from the Black Horse Pike and then there are four (4) alternates (*inaudible*). Ms. Smith questioned if you do not have my problem covered in the first phase, I would have to wait. Mrs. Cornforth noted if it is not covered in the first phase then it could be with the NJDOT funding, which is phase two. Discussion continued back and forth on the timing, the grading, the phases, surveying, elevations, inlets, etc. Ms. Smith noted she would appreciate as much action as can be given and she presented pictures of the impact the water is having along her driveway. She added she has lived with this for a long time and felt this was the key time to have this problem addressed/fixed. Mrs. Cornforth supplied Ms. Smith with her contact information, advising her to call the office at any time with questions.

Sherrie Kennedy – 375 Bryn Mawr Drive approached council with regard to Public Works adding as a resident she, personally has had no trouble with the department. She lives in the Villas development and just today a resident complained to her on how they had been calling Public Works for three weeks to have a sofa picked up. She believes, from what she reads on Facebook and hears from other residents, is that most of the issues are not with general trash pickup, it is about the bulk pickup. The bulk pickup being left in front of homes is an eyesore and kids come along and pull stuff out, and if there is anything of value, scrappers come along within a couple of hours and pull it. She reiterated that bulk pickup is an issue in town. Mayor Teefy said that he agrees with her and these are some of the things they are covering in some of

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

the interviews. He will make sure that we stay on top of this. Ms. Kennedy mentioned the times when items can be dropped off by residents at the Public Works facility. **Business Administrator Kevin Heydel** confirmed that the one day during the week is Wednesday and during the summer, it is also Saturday until 12:00pm. She said that for residents who work Monday through Friday during regular business hours, they have a hard time getting to Public Works on Wednesdays. Ms. Kennedy then stated that she has decided to run for Council and residents can come to her with complaints about bulk pickup.

Jennifer Lewis-Gallagher – 1600 N. Main Street approached Council in reference to the Board of Education meeting of February 15, 2018. She said that her issue is in regard to safety and she feels that it is important to bring this concern before Council in an ongoing initiative to create better communication between the municipality and the Board of Education. She wants to ask a question and also provide feedback. She asked, aiming her question toward Mayor Teefy, Cncl. Pres. DiLucia and Cncl. Marino, if there has been any recent discussion or anything on the calendar for discussion between the municipality and the school board about how to better share information and to breakdown the information silos. The Mayor replied there is nothing on the calendar at this time, that when the Superintendent, Mr. Earling got back to him to schedule a meeting for the following week after they spoke, he then had a fall a day or two later and has been out; he is waiting to hear that Mr. Earling is back into the office, so that they can set up a meeting for discussion. Mrs. Lewis-Gallagher said that there seems to be a lot of confusion as to who is in charge. She has reached out to the County asking about the current status of the Superintendent and was told he is available 24/7, that his contract affords him the opportunity to work remotely. She reviewed the contract and does not see any citations of that, so was confused and that the school board also seemed confused as to the Superintendent's status. She is sharing this because she feels that it means this is a safety concern. She said that for members of the public to hear from elected officials who preside on the school board to not know who is presiding over our school district of approximately 6,400 school students, two of which are her own children, scares her. **Cncl. Marino** asked Mrs. Lewis-Gallagher if they did not answer her question of who is in charge when Mr. Earling was not there. She said there were multiple answers. Cncl. Marino said he recalled that they did answer the question, that there is a chain of command, there is never a time when nobody is in charge if Mr. Earling is not there. She asked how we would know if that leadership transfer is made and Cncl. Marino clarified if she meant how the school board knows, or how she knows when the transfer is made, that the school board does know when there is a leadership transfer. She said the school board had multiple answers as to who is actually in charge and the answer changed as more information was shared with the public. She feels that there is either an issue regarding transparency or there is a lack of data being provided to the school board, and does not know whose job it is to figure it out. Mrs. Lewis-Gallagher also offered to share feedback about an OPRA request for payroll information for Mr. Earling; it provided information that he has been claiming Workers' Compensation since his fall, so it seems to be conflicting with information from the County that he is available 24/7. Cncl. Marino confirmed with her that Mr. Earling is on Workers' Compensation, because at the school board meeting, they said that he is going to see a Workers' Compensation doctor; she replied that he is, according to the payroll record, but she did hear the same thing as Cncl. Marino did. **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia** asked Cncl. Marino if these questions would be more appropriately asked to the school board, he does not know how Council can answer these questions. She replied that this is feedback with regards to communication between the municipality and the school board and is sure that Council is interested to hear the safety concerns that citizens are bringing, whether it is on behalf of Public Works, infrastructure, and certainly our children. **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia** said that if she has specific questions that she cannot get answers, either from OPRA or asking the board or its president through the solicitor, then they would be more than glad to try to get answers for her, but he does not know what questions she has, that she is making statements but he has not heard a question. She said that her question is that she wants to know what the status is of the Superintendent of Monroe Township Public School District. Cncl. Pres. DiLucia asked Cncl. Marino if he can find the answer to that question in which he replied that he can. Cncl. Marino also added that he also has safety concerns, especially since the Parkland, Florida incident, that he has children in the school district. He reiterated the Police Chief's comments in reference to working together on the safety and though residents have approached the Board of Education at meetings about wanting to

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F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

know about safety procedures, with it being on the record, the attorney advised that they cannot publicly advertise their safety procedures and protocols on what they do in an emergency. **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia** clarified with Mrs. Lewis-Gallagher that her question, as he understands it now, is that she is asking if the Superintendent is presently at work or is he out ill, whether it is Workers' Compensation or if it is disability, and what is the status. She did confirm that is her question. **Cncl. Pres. DiLucia** asked her to leave her phone number with the Municipal Clerk and he is sure that **Cncl. Marino** will return her call with an answer; she replied that she would prefer to leave her email address for a written record response. She also asked if the Superintendent is out on medical leave for an extended duration, which she understands that he can be out for 180 days according to his contract and board policy before considered incapacitated. **Mayor Teefy** replied that he thinks that reaching out to the second in command and seeing if they can get together, because it would be important to us to come together on some issues, such as the mold issues. He stated that the communication lines are open between the police and the schools and they are working with each other. Mrs. Lewis-Gallagher said that it sounds like a good sign of progress and gave her thanks. **Cncl. Marino** noted that as far as the coordination with the township and the schools, he said there is a list of volunteers with construction and/or engineering background, working along with a committee on the Board of Education to look at the schools and their issues. He has not yet seen a report from the committee, but confirmed there is a committee and we need to be careful of how many committees that we are putting together dealing with the same issues whether it is with communication, the status of Mr. Earling, and he would be happy to contact the president of the board and get an answer. He explained how the township has liaisons on boards/committees. **Cncl. Marino** offered his assistance to questions that Mrs. Lewis-Gallagher may have in the future, that she can contact him and he can relay her questions to the Board of Education as he is the Liaison to the Board. She replied that it sounds like positive progress and thanked **Cncl. Marino** for sharing that pledge.

Steve DeFelice – 239 New Brooklyn Road approached council regarding a supervisory position he applied for in the Department of Public Works. Mr. DeFelice noted he did receive a courtesy call that said they (*administration*) hired my nephew. I replied, are you transferring me now because that is nepotism, isn't it? They said no, next thing I got an offer for a transfer to the road department. I did ask for a transfer two years ago and I was told there is no such thing, now they want to transfer me to the road department and I really don't want it. I have been with the sanitation department for 19 years and I really don't want to switch over to the road department. **Solicitor Cappelli** advised council not to discuss personnel issues in a public meeting. **Cncl. Pres., DiLucia** noted as the solicitor is advising me not to respond, I would suggest you talk to your collective bargaining representative.

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

CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Cappelli reported that Council just concluded a Closed Executive Session for the purpose of discussing a litigation matter; Council was updated, but no formal action was taken on this matter as noted in Resolution R:77-2018.

G.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of February 26, 2018. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

