

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

The Regular Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 8:00PM by **Cncl. Pres., Ronald Garbowski** 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 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 on the Monroe Township website.

Cncl. Pres., Ronald Garbowski 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. Wolfe led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag and offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Katherine Falcone	Present	
Cncl. Joseph Marino	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
Cncl. Patrick O'Reilly	Present	
Cncl. Gregory Wolfe	Present	
Cncl. Pres. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Mayor Richard DiLucia	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Joseph DiLolle	Present	
Solicitor, John Trimble	Present	
Business Administrator, Jill McCrea		Excused
Engineer, Kathryn Cornforth	Present	
Dir. of Code Enf./Comm. Dev., Ralph Manfredi		Excused
Dir. of Community Affairs, Brandee Derieux	Present	
Dir. of Finance, Lorraine Boyer		Excused
Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Terrance Bannister	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Joseph Kurz	Present	
Dir. of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado	Present	
Dir. of Real Estate, Angelina Matese	Present	
Police Chief James DeHart	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko	Present	

PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

- National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month

Mayor DiLucia and **Cncl. Pres. Garbowski** presented Rich Nardiello and the National Childhood Cancer Awareness Foundation with a Proclamation stating that the Township of Monroe proclaims the month of September 2019 as "National Childhood Cancer Awareness Month" in support of our childhood cancer victims.

- Applebee's Williamstown

Mayor DiLucia and **Cncl. Pres. Garbowski** presented Kelli Heidler and Applebee's Williamstown a Proclamation recognizing Applebee's Williamstown and its employees for their dedication and commitment to our Township.

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES (cont'd)

- Energy Efficiency Day 2019

Cncl. Pres. Garbowski and **Cncl. O'Reilly** proclaimed October 2, 2019 as "Energy Efficiency Day" in the Township of Monroe and urged the citizens to join them in supporting our clean energy goals and moving toward more energy efficiency now and in the future.

SPOTLIGHT ON BUSINESS

- SOS Group, Inc. (Safety Outfitting Services) – Barbra Berkowitz

Barbra Berkowitz, the Marketing Director for the SOS Group, Inc., thanked the Mayor, Council and the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce for selecting SOS Group, Inc. for September's Spotlight on Business. SOS Group, Inc. finds solutions for all age groups that includes seniors, children and special needs. In addition to providing ramps, stair lifts, grab bars, lift chairs, bathroom safety equipment, and medical alert systems, they also widen doorways and provide unique construction projects. They are a part of the VA Program, the Traumatic Brain Injury Program as well as several other programs that help their clients. They are fully licensed and insured in New Jersey, Delaware, and Pennsylvania, and their motto is "No Barriers Just Solutions". Because of their extensive construction background, SOS Group, Inc. is unique in finding unusual solutions. SOS Group, Inc. is part of the community and the community is very important to them, supporting the seniors, special needs and the children, along with supporting various organizations. SOS Group, Inc. welcomes everyone to call with questions they may have, and offers home and safety assessments. They can be contacted at their location at 1829 N. Black Horse Pike, Williamstown NJ 08094 with hours of 8:00am to 5:00pm, by phone at (856) 740-4000 and on their website www.sosgroup.info.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Special Council Meeting of August 7, 2019, the Work Session of August 26, 2019, the Regular Council Meeting of August 26, 2019 and the Closed Executive Session of August 26, 2019. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Marino** and approved by members of Council with the exemption of **Cncl. Dilks** who abstained from voting on the minutes of the Work Session of August 26, 2019, the Regular Council Meeting of August 26, 2019 and the Closed Executive Session of August 26, 2019.

B.) CORRESPONDENCE - None

C.) RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED – PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Miller made a motion to open the Resolutions Scheduled – Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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

Cncl. Pres. Garbowski made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:214-2019 through R:222-2019. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:214-2019 THROUGH R:222-2019

R:214-2019 Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

R:215-2019 Resolution Approving The Bill List And Paid List For The Council Meeting Of September 23, 2019

R:216-2019 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing In Rem Foreclosures For Certain Tax Sale Certificates Held By The Municipality

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

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

R:217-2019 Resolution Authorizing The Township To Solicit Bids For Supplemental Snow Plowing Services For The 2019-2020 Season

R:218-2019 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute Recreation & Open Space Inventory Prepared By The Township Engineer

R:219-2019 Resolution Awarding A Contract For An Economic Development Consultant Through A Fair And Open Process In Accordance With *N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 Et Seq.*

R:220-2019 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing A Lien Be Placed On Various Properties For Failure To Comply With Chapter 295 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe

R:221-2019 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Designating The Commercial Corridors Located Within The Township Of Monroe As “Areas In Need Of Rehabilitation” Pursuant To Local Redevelopment And Housing Law, N.J.S.A. 40a:12a-1, Et Seq. (*Commercial Corridor Rehabilitation Area*)

R:222-2019 Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Agreement With Triad, Inc. To Apply For A Grant Through The Youth Development Foundation Baseball Tomorrow Grant Not To Exceed \$5,000.00

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Resolutions R:214-2019 through R:222-2019. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

D.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Pres. Garbowski turned this portion of the meeting over to **Ordinance Committee Chairman, Cncl. Marino**.

Cncl. Wolfe 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. Pres. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:41-2019 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 & Public Hearing**)

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

Cncl. Pres. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:41-2019 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:41-2019 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

7 AYES (Dilks, Falcone, Garbowski, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe, Marino)

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance **O:41-2019** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:42-2019 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” (**Second Reading & Public Hearing**)

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

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:42-2019 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:42-2019 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –
7 AYES (Dilks, Falcone, Garbowski, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe, Marino)**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance O:42-2019 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:43-2019 Bond Ordinance Authorizing The Acquisition Of Various Pieces Of Equipment And Completion Of Various Capital Improvements In And For The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, New Jersey; Appropriating The Sum Of \$3,586,000 Therefor; Authorizing The Issuance Of General Obligation Bonds Or Bond Anticipation Notes Of The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, New Jersey, In The Aggregate Principal Amount Of Up To \$3,406,700; Making Certain Determinations And Covenants; And Authorizing Certain Related Actions In Connection With The Foregoing (**Second Reading & Public Hearing**)

Second Reading: The above Ordinances were 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:43-2019 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:43-2019 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –
7 AYES (Dilks, Falcone, Garbowski, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe, Marino)**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nays, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance O:43-2019 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

E.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Cncl. Falcone wished everyone a happy first day of autumn. While she was campaigning, she talked about the importance and the need of bringing more businesses into the town, and once elected, the first thing she did was hire an Economic Development Consultant to help bring more businesses into the Township. Shannon Morgan-Leonen, Economic Development Consultant, will be reporting on all the businesses that she has been working on since February 2019. Cncl. Falcone is an advocate of shopping local and is the founder of the Williamstown Chamber of Commerce, which is a network of businesses in town, and she finds it very important to lobby the economy of Monroe Township. Cncl. Falcone attended Cncl. Miller's Campaign Kickoff. His vision for Monroe Township moving forward parallels with her vision and she supports him for the Ward 2 Election in November. Cncl. Falcone attended the Ribbon Cutting for the Summerfields West Clubhouse, which should be completed by next summer. Cncl. Falcone thanked Maria Mirarchi for donating the outdoor movie screen to the Pfeiffer Community Center. She thanked Brandee Derieux, the Director of Community Affairs, for putting together the first outdoor movie night, which took place last Saturday night. The Ribbon Cutting Ceremony and dedication of the new sign will take place at Mary Mazza Duffy Park on October 5th. The 5th Annual Scarecrow Event will be on October 12th from 10:00am to 2:00pm. On October 19th at 5:00pm in the Court Room, The Nightmare Before Christmas Mock Council Meeting will take place to kick-off the Halloween Parade, which will begin at 7:00pm. At The Nightmare Before Christmas Mock Council Meeting, a mock Resolution will be entertainingly passed naming Monroe Township "Halloween Town" from October 1, 2019 through October 31, 2019. Council and the Mayor will be dressing up as characters in the movie "The Nightmare Before Christmas". Cncl. Falcone explained that each Council Member will be purchasing their own costumes and decorations for their individual areas and parade float. Cncl. Falcone invited everyone to attend the upcoming festivities.

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

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

Cncl. Miller attended last week's School Board Meeting and asked everyone to be more mindful while driving through the developments, now that school has started. Holly Glen Elementary School has opened on schedule and Coastal Environmental Compliance, LLC has recently issued a report indicating that there are no toxic, or any levels other than normal, of mold within the school system. The Assistant Superintendent will be leaving in the next month for a different school district. Cncl. Miller thanked him for the communication that he has had with Council. It was made mention about some of the capital improvements that they are going to be making at the schools, the HVAC system at Holly Glen and their intention of going to the State Energy Program to try and save tax payer dollars.

Cncl. Marino publicly supported Cncl. Miller for Council in the upcoming November Election. Cncl. Marino attended the MUA meeting on September 18th, where they passed a Shared Services Agreement with the Township. The MUA has been helping the Township with different services throughout the year, sometimes without being asked. Cncl. Marino attended the groundbreaking ceremony for Summerfields West Clubhouse. Cncl. Marino spoke regarding tax abatements, saying any residents with houses that are twenty years or older and are planning on doing home improvements, will have an opportunity to save some tax dollars for five years, not on an escalated basis, but with a full five-year abatement. He will be providing more details on the tax abatement at a future meeting, once he meets with the Solicitor. He is hoping that along with the help of the Mayor, he will be able to put a letter out to the residents to help spread the word.

Cncl. O'Reilly attended Sustainable Monroe's World Peace Day event last Saturday at the Community Garden. He also attended Monroe Lead the Way's event Stuff the Bus Event where residents came by and filled three full size school buses with food, non-perishables and various items for children within the school district who need help, some of whom are homeless.

Cncl. Wolfe attended the dedication of the Williamstown High School Football Coach Frank Fucetola Field House on September 6th. Coach Fucetola is very driven and dedicated to his players, does not live in the community, but does a lot of work for the players on his team as well as other sports. The Field House is state-of-the-art and money was raised by Coach Fucetola and the Huddle Club, and it did not cost the taxpayers anything. Cncl. Wolfe attended the Parks and Recreation Meeting on September 11th. The Commission is preparing for the annual Fall Festival, which will be held on October 19th from 10am to 2pm at Owens Memorial Park. There will be hayrides, pumpkin decorating, pony rides, games and prizes, food, and the 1st Annual Pumpkin Dessert Competition. All information regarding the festival can be found on the Parks and Recreation website at www.mtprnj.org. This event will be followed by the Township's Annual Halloween Parade, which begins at 7pm on Main Street, with a rain date scheduled for October 20th. Cncl. Wolfe asked that everyone please remember to keep the children out of the street throughout the parade route. He noted, with Halloween approaching, to please be safe while trick or treating. Parks and Recreation will also be hosting the 5th Annual Scarecrow Event. Residents can enter a scarecrow to be displayed on Main Street, which will take place on October 12th with a rain date of October 13th at the Pfeiffer Community Center. On September 19th, Cncl. Wolfe attended the groundbreaking at Summerfields. On September 21st, he attended a gathering, along with Cncl. Marino and Cncl. O'Reilly, at the Victory Lakes Community Clubhouse where they honored Mr. Bud Robinson for his dedication to the Victory Lakes Community. Cncl. Wolfe attended the Ribbon Cutting for the Family Movie Night. He thanked the Mirarchi Family for their donation of the very large blow up movie screen. He thanked the Lead the Way Organization for organizing the placement of the new Mary Mazza Duffy Park sign. Lead the Way also organized the landscaping around the new sign, which looks fantastic. Cncl. Wolfe invited everyone to attend the dedication of the new sign on October 5th at 10am. Cncl. Wolfe asked everyone to keep in mind that September is National Hunger Action Month. Shoprite has been asking customers to round up their purchase to the nearest dollar to help raise money and Lead the Way hosted the Stuff the Bus event to help. Cncl. Wolfe thanked everyone involved for their hard work.

Mayor DiLucia reported that he had the pleasure, last Friday night, to be a guest speaker for the POW / MIA Group. They annually set aside a day to honor the many prisoners of war and families of servicemen that were lost in action. This is a very active and dedicated organization and their theme is "Let's Not Forget". Mayor DiLucia attended the Summerfields West groundbreaking for their new clubhouse and luncheon that followed where he was able to talk to a lot of the residents. The Mayor thanked the Williamstown Fire Department for inviting him to be the guest speaker at their Housing Ceremony. He attended the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for the Movie Night at the

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

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

Pfeiffer Community Center. Mayor DiLucia, Solicitor Trimble and Deputy Mayor DiLolle attended the monthly Mayor's Meeting this past Thursday evening. He noted, the value of these meetings is that he gets to meet other Mayors and the people that work in the neighboring towns and exchange ideas. Mayor DiLucia extended his appreciation to all of the Directors for their hard work, for being so involved on a day-to-day basis and for attending the meetings on their own time. He thanked Deputy Mayor DiLolle for attending events when he cannot attend himself.

Deputy Mayor DiLolle attended the Housing Event at the Williamstown Fire Department. He also attended the groundbreaking at Summerfields West and the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for Movie Night. Deputy Mayor DiLolle thanked Maria Mirarchi for everything she has done in her donation of the blow up movie screen and commended Director of Community Affairs, Brandee Derieux for doing a fantastic job.

Solicitor Trimble reported that the Public Land Sale took place on September 18th. He thanked Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko, Deputy Clerk, Jenn Harbison, Director of Real Estate, Angelina Matese, Tax Collector, Joanne Potopchuk and Cncl. Marino for all of their hard work in putting the Land Sale together.

Director of Community Affairs, Brandee Derieux reported, there will be a Movie in the Park this Friday evening beginning at 7:30pm, where they will be showing Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. September 28th will be the 4th Annual Green Fair/Arts and Crafts Festival. There will be 60+ vendors, a petting zoo, pony rides and a small car show. Ms. Derieux invited everyone to come and enjoy the event.

Director of Public Safety, Joseph Kurz reported, he received a call, commending the Police Department and the officers who directed traffic during the repaving of North Main Street. He congratulated Williamstown Fire Company on their housing, saying it was a great event.

Director of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado reported that Candy Gooden will be officially retiring at the end of the year. He wished her well and said her retirement will be a great loss for the Public Works Department. Mr. Mercado noted, they have identified a couple of trucks within the fleet that will be refurbished and used for snow removal purposes this winter. He has reached out to OMNI Recycling to arrange a meeting regarding the recycling fees and will report back once the meeting is scheduled.

Director of Real Estate, Angie Matese noted, the Township Land Sale took place last Wednesday. She thanked all of the departments who assisted with putting the list together. Ms. Matese reported that she was able to list approximately eighty-five properties, which represented over \$600,000.00 in assessed values and twenty-five properties were bid on with a total of over \$60,000.00 collected. She advised, Council will be reviewing the list for approval between now and the next Council Meeting. Ms. Matese thanked the Tax Collector's Office, the Zoning Office, the Township Clerk, Cncl. Marino, Council, and the Mayor for their support.

Police Chief DeHart stated that the Police Department, through the help of the Traffic Safety Unit, received a Federal Grant to address South Black Horse Pike, where a lot of high speeds and serious infractions take place. This grant will pay for additional officers to patrol and address that area. Chief DeHart mentioned, October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month and many of the officers have volunteered to wear pink under their uniform. He invited everyone, if they see an officer wearing pink, to speak to them about their choice to volunteer for this initiative. On September 19th, Mayor DiLucia swore-in the newest member of the Police Department, Officer Brandan Campbell. Officer Campbell comes to Monroe Township with six years of experience from the Hammonton Police Department. Chief DeHart thanked the Mayor and Council for their continued support.

Economic Development Consultant, Shannon Morgan-Leonen explained that her primary responsibility is to retain and sustain businesses within the Township, as well as bringing prospective businesses into the Township. She reported on the following businesses that she has been in contact with since being appointed in February 2019: The Brick Oven Pizza Restaurant, located at 348 South Main Street, Williamstown Rider Trainer and Recreation ATV Center, located at Block 5601, Lot 22, Williamstown Square Development Plan, located at Block 3601, Lots 11,12, 13, 15, 16, 17, 18, 43, 44, 45 and 46, the Gloucester County Zoo at Monroe Township, Cinder Bar located on Cross

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

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

Keys Road, Divita Dialysis located at the CVS Shopping Center, C2 Energy, Republic Bank, a funeral home and gathering place, Mr. Detail, Great Railings, NAIC Management located at 638-640 North Black Horse Pike, Best Western's interested in expanding, Cross Keys Park, and the Cannabis facilities. Ms. Leonen stressed the importance of the upcoming US Census, stating it will help gain information regarding the demographics of the town and will be beneficial to obtain an additional liquor license, which is well needed in order to have bigger restaurants come in. Ms. Leonen serves as the liaison between the businesses and the Township, helping the businesses with the step-by-step process. She has attended Chamber and networking meetings, worked with several real estate agents to locate property on business rentals in the area and has met with various businesses, corporations and lending agencies to see what can be done to help the existing and prospective new businesses. Ms. Leonen said, this is a very busy time for Monroe Township moving forward and there are exciting prospects for 2020 and beyond. She is looking forward to working with Mayor DiLucia and Council to help Monroe Township grow.

Cncl. Pres., Garbowski thanked Council for passing Resolution R:221-2019, which approved the rehabilitation corridors along our commercial routes throughout town. This will open our town to new businesses wishing to come "Grow with Monroe" and it supports businesses currently in Monroe to continue to grow. He believes, this shows the residents that their Elected Officials are continuing to support bringing in new businesses and supports the existing businesses. Cncl. Pres. Garbowski invited everyone to support the Friends of the Library, who will be holding a book sale, October 7th through October 12th. They will be selling recycled books and raising money for the Township Library.

F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Joe Sheridan, 244 Virginia Place addressed Council regarding Ordinance O:38-2019 that was passed and approved by Council. It is his understanding that this Ordinance approves a block of land, located off of the Black Horse Pike behind Antony and Cleopatra's Caterers, and very close to the Whitehall Elementary School, to be used to grow and process marijuana. Mr. Sheridan stated, marijuana has an impact on peoples' memories and is a very dangerous drug. He questioned why this is being done and why Council is approving the farming and processing of marijuana. He believes, our government should be trying to eliminate the drug problem within the Township. **Cncl. Miller** clarified, Council did not approve the operation of any Cannabis facility in Monroe Township, Council amended the Zoning Code to allow it to be permitted in certain areas within the Township. Previously, there were no stipulations regarding the zones that it would be permitted in. Cncl. Miller explained, this only pertains to medical marijuana, which is legal in the state of New Jersey and this is for Alternative Treatment Centers, which are also completely legal and allowed to be licensed and operated in New Jersey. Mr. Sheridan noted that he understands there are other Townships that have turned this down and questioned why Monroe Township is accepting it. Cncl. Miller explained, because the Township believes in the purpose of medical marijuana and the benefits to its patients. Mr. Sheridan believes something like this is going to have an impact on the residents and questioned why it was not presented to the voters. Cncl. Miller explained that it was not presented, because it is legal in the State of New Jersey. Mr. Sheridan stated that the voters have no rights and asked what other surrounding Townships have allowed this. Cncl. Miller clarified, the voters do have rights and it has been done in Bellmawr, Egg Harbor Township, Washington Township and Glassboro. Cncl. Miller explained, Council made a decision to determine what course of action would be taken and it was decided that individuals should have access to medical marijuana and to set the perimeters for where it would be allowed within the Township.

Theresa Marlene McMahon, 173 Palomino Place stated that she has previously spoken to Council at the Work Session Meeting earlier this evening, however, since so many people are in attendance at this meeting she would like to present her case again. She thanked Mayor DiLucia for attending the POW / MIA ceremony and expressed interest in getting involved with the ceremony next year. **Mayor DiLucia** said, he will make sure that she receives a personal invitation to next year's event. Ms. McMahon is the president of MOHA, Manufactured Home Owners Association,

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
SEPTEMBER 23, 2019**

F.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

a resident of Summerfields / Friendly Village, and is in attendance to address the Council and the Mayor to speak for all of the residents who wish to have their voices heard. She stated, they object to the plans to build the Alternative Treatment Center on the Black Horse Pike between Malaga Road and Whitehall Road. She noted some of the objections being, Whitehall Elementary School, communities around the area that will be affected, the increase in traffic on the Black Horse Pike, crime rates will go up due to the influx of people, the burden it will add to the Police Department and the value of homes will go down. She mentioned, they are aware that both Bellmawr and Egg Harbor Township have these types of facilities, however, they placed their centers within industrial parks. Monroe Township has an industrial park and miles of undeveloped land and they feel either of these sites would be preferable and better suited for this type of facility. She said, she has spoken with Cncl. Falcone, who is the Chairperson of the Cannabis Committee, and she will keep her advised as to when the Planning Board is going to meet with this company. Ms. McMahon spoke to the audience and advised that this company does not have a license yet and that there are only a certain number of licenses that will be approved throughout all of New Jersey. **Cncl. Falcone** clarified, regarding all of the licenses that will be given within New Jersey, only one will be issued in the South Jersey area. Ms. McMahon explained that they all want to help other people, however, it depends on where the facility is going to be placed because it will effect the residents. She requested that Council put this out to referendum so that the residents they represent can vote on this proposal. She said, they understand that these centers are going to be built in the state and that medical marijuana has been approved, but their biggest objection is where the facility is going to be. Ms. McMahon said, they would like to be kept informed as plans are being made and that they wish to be able to vote on the plans.


Nicholas Minosse, 819 Willow Lane, thanked Mayor and Council for the recent improvements that have been completed on the roads, specifically in the Cecil area. He said, recently there was some work done on Whitehall Road where the new development is located, which was left in really rough shape and he questioned if anything is being done to address this situation. **Director of Public Works, Mr. Mercado** explained, a meeting involving the Township Engineer has taken place and the contractor is going to mill out the top surface and resurface the road to make it smoother, in addition to taking some core samples of the existing materials and making sure it is compliant and will last through the winter. He said, these items are waiting for final approval and it will be underway within the next couple weeks. Mr. Minosse stated, there are a lot of residents who are driving into the opposing side of traffic, due to the road conditions, and he feels it is only a matter of time before there is a serious accident. Mr. Mercado said that he will go out to the area the next day to see what can be addressed.

With no one else wishing to speak, **Cncl. Marino** made a motion to close the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

G.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Marino** made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of September 23, 2019. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Respectfully submitted,


Aileen Chiselko
Municipal Clerk


Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the recorded proceedings, as well as hand-written notes taken, of the Regular Council Meeting of September 23, 2019 and serve only as a synopsis of the proceedings. The official recording may be heard in the Office of the Township Clerk upon proper notification, pursuant to the Open Public Records Act.

Approved as submitted *luc*
Approved as corrected _____

Date 10/28/19
Date _____