

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JULY 27, 2020**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

The Work Session Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 7:00PM by **Cncl. Pres., Joseph P. Marino, III** in the Courtroom 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*). Adequate notice was 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 on the Monroe Township website.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Cncl. Dilks led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to our Flag.

ROLL CALL OF PUBLIC OFFICIALS

Cncl. Marvin Dilks	Present	
Cncl. Katherine Falcone	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski		Excused
Cncl. Cody Miller		Excused
Cncl. Vice-Pres. Patrick O'Reilly	Present	
Cncl. Gregory Wolfe	Present	
Cncl. Pres. Joseph P. Marino, III	Present	
Mayor Richard DiLucia	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Joseph DiLolle	Present	
Solicitor, John Trimble	Present	
Business Administrator, Jill McCrea	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, Brent Salvadori	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Joseph Kurz		Excused
Dir. of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado	Present	
Dir. of Real Estate, Angelina Matese		Excused
Police Chief James DeHart	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko	Present	

PRESENTATIONS

- TRICO Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Membership Renewal – Paul Forlenza

Paul Forlenza, Executive Director, TRICO JIF, provided a presentation of the “TRICO JIF 2021 Renewal”. Monroe Township has been a funded member of TRICO JIF for 28 years and its three-year membership with TRICO JIF is up for renewal effective January 1, 2021.

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JULY 27, 2020**

B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION - None

C.) PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Wolfe made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak, **Cncl. Wolfe** made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

D.) NEW BUSINESS

Cncl. Wolfe requested a legal opinion from the Solicitor regarding Chapter 4, Section 93.3.4 of the Township Code Book which references Ordinance O:28-2012 entitled Criminal history background checks concerning Township-sponsored or cosponsored recreation and sports programs. He stated that Administration has recently changed the way the background checks are performed with a newly contracted company, which he believes is jeopardizing the safety of the children who play youth sports within the community. **Cncl. Wolfe** explained his concerns with the newly contracted company and how he feels the new company's procedures are in direct violation with the Ordinance. **Cncl. Wolfe** questioned if the Solicitor works for the Township or for the Mayor and asked if Council has access to the Solicitor when they have questions concerning legal opinions on Ordinances. **Solicitor Trimble** advised that he represents the Township, the Mayor and Council. The Solicitor explained the process of requesting legal advice. **Mayor DiLucia** clarified, due to costs, a decision was made last year that the Mayor, the Business Administrator on behalf of the Mayor, the Council President and the Ordinance Chair could raise inquiries to the Solicitor that would issue authority to the Solicitor to begin any needed research. The Mayor noted that he, as Mayor, is not trying to prevent the flow of information from the Solicitor to Council or Administration, however; this policy provides financial control. **Mayor DiLucia** noted, the new company that has been contracted for background checks has verified that their system of checking social security numbers was proven effective and statistically was 47% more effective than fingerprinting. He discussed the differences between the previous and current company and explained how with the new company, there will now be a checks and balances system in place for the purpose of being in compliance with the annual audit. He would like to have further discussions with all of the decision-makers involved in order to provide the best protection for the children within the community. **Cncl. Wolfe** believes the Chief of Police, along with the Director of Public Safety, should be involved in any further discussions. A discussion ensued regarding the two companies, the process listed in the Ordinance and being in compliance with the audit. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** stated that he will not agree with any company that proves to be subpar and does not use fingerprinting in their background process. **Mayor DiLucia** noted, the true goal of everyone involved is the protection of the children. **Business Administrator, Jill McCrea** advised that the change in companies took place because of the recommendation from the audit, as the previous process lacked control from a financial standpoint. **Cncl. Falcone** suggested having this discussion placed on the August 5, 2020 Ordinance Committee Meeting for further discussion. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** stated that the Business Administrator, the Ordinance Chairman, the Mayor, and the Public Safety Director will schedule a meeting to discuss this issue further.

E.) OLD BUSINESS – None

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
JULY 27, 2020**

F.) COMMITTEE REPORTS – None

G.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED

Cncl. Wolfe spoke in reference to Resolution R:118-2020 regarding cancelling checks that are over a year old. He questioned the process in cancelling the checks and asked if the payees were contacted advising of the cancellation. **Business Administrator, Jill McCrea** will confirm the process with the CFO and report back.

H.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED – None

I.) RESOLUTIONS

- **R:113-2020** Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Discuss *Matters Falling Under Pending Litigation Subject To Attorney-Client Privilege Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7)*

Cncl. Pres. Marino advised that Resolution R:113-2020 will be tabled and moved to the Regular Council Meeting for motion to approve. **Cncl. Wolfe** made a motion to table and move Resolution R:113-2020 from the Work Session Meeting to the Regular Council Meeting of July 27, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

J.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Wolfe** made a motion to adjourn the Council Work Session of July 27, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,



Aileen Chiselko, RMC
Municipal Clerk



Presiding Officer

These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the recorded proceedings, as well as hand-written notes taken, of the Council Work Session of July 27, 2020 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 *AC*
Approved as corrected _____

Date 8/25/2020
Date _____