

**MINUTES
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
AUGUST 24, 2020**

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., 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.

Cncl. Pres., Joseph P. Marino, III 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		Excused
Cncl. Katherine Falcone	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. Cody Miller	Present	
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	Present	
Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Brent Salvadori	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Joseph Kurz	Present	
Dir. of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado	Present	
Township Engineer, James Maddonni	Present	
Dir. of Real Estate, Angelina Matese		Excused
Police Chief David Dailey		Excused
Deputy Municipal Clerk, Jennifer Harbison	Present	

PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

- 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year Recipients

Cncl. Pres. Marino explained that due to COVID-19 and the required limited available seating in the Courtroom, the Board of Education Council Liaison, Cncl. Cody Miller will be reading each recipients' name out loud and then the Clerk's Office will mail the certificates to each recipients' home. He apologized to the teachers for the delay in receiving their certificates and for this new way of presenting their certificates. **Cncl. Miller** read out loud the Certificates of Recognition for Gina Angelozzi-Gazo of Williamstown High School, Cheryl Imbesi of Williamstown Middle School, Melodey Kleva-Forchic of Holly Glen Elementary School, Pamela Gethers of Oak Knoll Elementary School, Monica Giagunto of Radix Elementary School

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A.) OPENING CEREMONIES (cont'd)

and Kathleen Beck of Whitehall Elementary School for being recipients of the Gloucester County Teacher Recognition Program for the 2019-2020 School Year.

Cncl. Pres. Marino presented a Certificate of Appreciation along with a clock to **Cncl. Miller** in recognition of his dedicated service to the Township of Monroe. On behalf of Council, **Cncl. Pres. Marino** offered best wishes to **Cncl. Miller**. **Cncl. Miller** extended his appreciation for the recognition.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Work Session of July 27, 2020, the Regular Council Meeting of July 27, 2020 and the Closed Executive Session of July 27, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance, with the exception of **Cncl. Garbowski** and **Cncl. Miller**, who Abstained.

B.) CORRESPONDENCE

• **Amusement Licenses**

Applebee's Neighborhood Grill & Bar	Mirarchi's Williamstown Inn
Geets Diner	Rack's Pub & Grill
Hospitality Creek Campground	Sharky's Sports Bar & Grill
John & Doug's Liquors	Trio Tavern

C.) RESOLUTIONS

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to open the public portion for Resolutions scheduled. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to close the public portion for Resolutions scheduled. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Cncl. Miller made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:126-2020 through R:138-2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:126-2020 THROUGH R:138-2020

R:126-2020 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)*

R:127-2020 Resolution Certifying That The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey, Has Reviewed The General Comment And Recommendation Section Of The Report Of Audit For The Year 2019

R:128-2020 Resolution Authorizing The Renewal Of Certain Plenary Retail Consumption, Plenary Retail Consumption With Broad Package Privilege, Plenary Retail Distribution And Club Licenses Within The Township Of Monroe, County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey For The Years 2020-2021 License Term

R:129-2020 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Purchase Of One (1) Labrie 31 (27+4) Cu. Yd H/H Automizer Automated Refuse Collection System Mounted On An Unused 2020 Autocar Model ACX64 Chassis 66,000lb GVW Minimum Or Equal Under A National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

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C.) RESOLUTIONS (cont'd)

R:130-2020 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Purchase Of One (1) McNeilus XC 32 Cu. Yd. Rear Loader Refuse Collection System Mounted On An Unused 2020 Freightliner Model 114SD Under A National Cooperative Purchasing Agreement

R:131-2020 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Agreement To Participate In The Alliance To Prevent Alcoholism And Drug Abuse Program Between County Of Gloucester, New Jersey And The Township Of Monroe (October 1, 2020 To June 30, 2021)

R:132-2020 Resolution Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Reduction Of A Performance Surety Bond For Hamilton Greene Subdivision #1823, Phase 1 (Block 14401, Lots 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 11 And Block 14501, Lots 24, 24.01 & 25)

R:133-2020 Resolution Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Reduction Of A Performance Surety Bond For Hamilton Greene Subdivision #1823, Phase 2 (Block 14401, Lots 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 11 And Block 14501, Lots 24, 24.01 & 25)

R:134-2020 Resolution Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Reduction Of A Performance Surety Bond For Hamilton Greene Subdivision #1823, Phase 4 (Block 14401, Lots 1, 4, 5, 6, 7 & 11 And Block 14501, Lots 24, 24.01 & 25)

R:135-2020 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Acceptance Of A Safety & Stabilization Guarantee In The Amount Of \$5,000.00 For Holiday Inn (M3 Hotel Developers, LLC), Site Plan #429, Block 1202, Lot 23 (*Buffer Landscaping*)

R:136-2020 Resolution Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Authorizing The Acceptance Of A Performance Guarantee In The Amount Of \$7,920.00 For Holiday Inn (M3 Hotel Developers, LLC), Site Plan #429, Block 1202, Lot 23 (*Buffer Landscaping*)

R:137-2020 Resolution Adjusting Township Of Monroe Tax Records

R:138-2020 Resolution Approving The Bill List And Paid List For The Council Meeting Of August 24, 2020

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolutions R:126-2020 through R:138-2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

D.) ORDINANCES

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

Cncl. Garbowski 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. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak on the Ordinances for Second Reading, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Miller** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

O:16-2020 An Ordinance Of The Township Of Monroe Repealing Ordinance O:11-2020

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

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D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

Cncl. Miller made a motion to approve Ordinance O:16-2020 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:16-2020 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

6 AYES (Falcone, Garbowski, Marino, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe) 1 ABSENT (Dilks)

Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent. Ordinance O:16-2020 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:17-2020 An Ordinance Providing For the Implementation In The Township Of Monroe Of The "Five Year Tax Exemption And Abatement Law" Pursuant To N.J.S.A. 40A:21-1 *Et Seq.* And Approving Property Tax Agreement Between The Township Of Monroe And M3 Hotel Developers, LLC, 1151 Black Horse Pike North, Block 1202, Lot 23

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:17-2020 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Marino** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:17-2020 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

6 AYES (Falcone, Garbowski, Marino, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe) 1 ABSENT (Dilks)

Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent. Ordinance O:17-2020 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:18-2020 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 69 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Special Law Enforcement Officers"

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

Cncl. Pres. Marino made a motion to approve Ordinance O:18-2020 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:18-2020 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

6 AYES (Falcone, Garbowski, Marino, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe) 1 ABSENT (Dilks)

Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent. Ordinance O:18-2020 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:19-2020 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Amending Ordinance O:39-2019 To Include Compensation Of Special Law Enforcement Officers I, II, III Of The Township Of Monroe, In The County Of Gloucester, State Of New Jersey For The Year

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

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D.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:19-2020 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Falcone** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:19-2020 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –
6 AYES (Falcone, Garbowski, Marino, Miller, O'Reilly, Wolfe) 1 ABSENT (Dilks)**

Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent. Ordinance **O:19-2020** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

E.) NEW BUSINESS – None

F.) OLD BUSINESS

Cncl. Pres. Marino asked if there are any updates on the dog park. **Township Engineer, James Maddonni** explained that the plans are complete, and an application for approval has been made to the Pinelands. Mr. Maddonni will send a letter to the Pinelands tomorrow asking for a possible expedited review and approval.

G.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Mayor DiLucia attended the police promotions earlier this evening, where he had the honor of swearing in the new Police Chief, Deputy Chief, Captain, two Lieutenants, three Sergeants and two new officers. He wished Police Chief DeHart the best of luck in his new endeavors. He noted, the two new officers were inter-department transfers, which saves the Township money as the Township does not need to send these officers through the academy because they are already certified and ready for assignment. Mayor DiLucia thanked the Police Department, specifically the ranking officers for making financial concessions in terms of salaries and for agreeing to freeze the number of officers for the remainder of this year and next year at 63 officers. The Mayor spoke regarding the many frivolous lawsuits that have been filed against the Township along with the legal costs involved in the lawsuits. Mayor DiLucia commended Solicitor Trimble on a job well done.

Cncl. Falcone urged residents to continue to support the local businesses. She reported that a Sherwin Williams Paint Store will be opening on Berlin Cross-Keys Road. A ribbon cutting ceremony is scheduled for October 28, 2020 at 8:30am to welcome Sherwin Williams to Monroe Township. Cncl. Falcone wished a Happy Birthday to Mayor DiLucia.

Cncl. Garbowski congratulated all of the 2019-2020 Teacher of the Year recipients and congratulated Chief DeHart on his retirement. Cncl. Garbowski reminded the residents that they will be receiving their mail-in-ballots shortly and asked everyone to please complete their ballots and make their vote count. Cncl. Garbowski wished Mayor DiLucia a Happy Birthday.

Cncl. Miller thanked all of the residents for placing their faith in him in electing him to Council twice. He has enjoyed all of his time on Council and is very proud of some of the accomplishments that have been moved forward as a result of working together as a team. Cncl. Miller thanked all of the municipal employees for all of their hard work. Cncl. Miller noted that Council has some tough choices to make in the coming months with regards to the budget. He expressed his concerns over the Township Solicitor's rising legal costs to the Township in the past few years and urged all of Council to continue to question the legal bills.

Cncl. Vice-Pres. O'Reilly wished Cncl. Miller well on all of his future endeavors. He spoke regarding the Energy and Solar Initiatives, stating that Phase I of the Joint Solar Initiative is off the ground with a couple of the schools, the MMUA and a couple of the Township

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

buildings. The Committees with the Board of Education and the MMUA will be meeting next month to begin the Phase II Initiatives, which will work to capture all of the remaining properties. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. O'Reilly** noted that a Joint Energy Initiative was finalized today with the Board of Education and the MMUA for a new energy supplier.

Cncl. Wolfe attended the Sports Advisory Board Meeting on August 17, 2020 to finalize the Ordinance regarding the coach's background checks. On August 12, 2020, he attended the Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting where it was decided that due to the uncertainty of the COVID-19 pandemic, the Halloween Parade and the Autumn Fest will be cancelled. The Parks and Recreation Commission are hopeful that they will be able to hold a Christmas Parade to make it up to the residents. **Cncl. Wolfe** congratulated Chief DeHart on his retirement. He congratulated Chief Dailey, all of the new supervisors and the new officers that were sworn in earlier this evening. **Cncl. Wolfe** congratulated all of the Teachers of the Year recipients. **Cncl. Wolfe** thanked **Cncl. Miller** for his dedication to the Township and wished him well.

Solicitor Trimble addressed **Cncl. Miller's** concerns regarding the legal costs. He noted that he is an "open book" and if any Council member would like to sit down to discuss his bills, he would welcome the meeting. **Solicitor Trimble** wished **Cncl. Miller** the best of luck in his future endeavors.

Director of Parks & Recreation, Mr. Salvadori reported, at the Parks and Recreation Commission August meeting, the Commission voted to cancel the Halloween and the Autumn Fest. At their next meeting, they will be discussing possible future events. **Mayor DiLucia** noted that he will have the cancellation posted on the Township's website.

Director of Public Safety, Mr. Kurz congratulated Chief DeHart on his retirement. He congratulated the new Chief, Chief Dailey, all of the other supervisors and the new officers that were promoted earlier this evening. **Mr. Kurz** recognized the volunteer Fire Departments, the EMS personnel along with the Police Department for all of their hard work during the pandemic.

Director of Public Works, Mr. Mercado wished Mayor DiLucia a happy birthday. He congratulated **Cncl. Miller** and wished him well. **Mr. Mercado** thanked Council for passing the two Resolutions this evening allowing the purchase of a sanitation and a recycling truck. He noted, the purchase of this new equipment is the beginning of the revamping of that entire department. **Mr. Mercado** spoke in reference to the various programs that are currently underway. The Main Street project has resumed, he is hopeful that by weeks end the paving will be completed, with the striping and sealing continued next week. Phase III of Forest Drive was recently paved and completed, the remedial restoration work is currently underway and they expect it to be completed shortly. With regards to the Road Program, the survey crews are out assessing the roads throughout the Township. Once their assessment is complete, the engineering work will commence.

Cncl. Pres. Marino spoke in reference to the Main Street project and questioned if the speed tables that are currently on Main Street are going to be removed or be redone and if they are being removed, what speed calming devices will be put in their place. He expressed his concerns for the need of some sort of speed calming device, as there is a lot of foot traffic in that area with Ivy & Main, Grindstone and 13th Child Brewery. **Director of Public Work, Mr. Mercado** stated the current speed tables are being removed but he will research other avenues. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** congratulated all of the Teachers of the Year recipients, **Cncl. Miller** on his future endeavors, Chief DeHart on his retirement and Chief Dailey, Deputy Chief Rebecca, all of the other supervisors and the new hires that were sworn in and promoted earlier this evening. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** reported, the Cecil Fire Station is currently under construction. He noted that while digging for the new addition, fifty to one hundred tires were discovered buried in the ground. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** thanked Mike Calvello and the Public Works Department for providing a dumpster and removing the tires. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** also thanked the MMUA for their help with jetting out one of the sewer lines at the Cecil Fire Station. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** reported that there was a very productive meeting last week with regards to the Williamstown Fire Department. He noted, Council and the Budget Committee have approved the budget for the Williamstown Fire Department's new building.

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H.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Sherrie Kennedy, 375 Bryn Mawr Drive addressed Council to ask with **Cncl. Miller** stepping down from his seat on Council, what are the plans to fill his seat. **Solicitor Trimble** advised that depending on the date of resignation, the Democratic Committee has fifteen days to submit three names to Council and then Council has thirty days thereafter to select among the three candidates.

With no one else wishing to speak, **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.

Cncl. Vice-Pres. O'Reilly made a motion to enter in Closed Executive Session pursuant to Resolution R:126-2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Solicitor Trimble advised that Council will be going into Closed Session to discuss pending litigations and there will be no action taken on it.

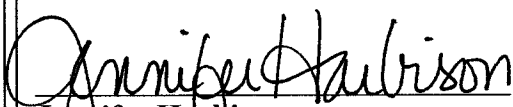
CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION

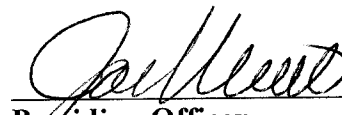
Solicitor Trimble reported a Closed Executive Session was just concluded. During the Closed Session, he along with JIF Attorney, John Grady updated Council and the Mayor regarding pending litigations. No formal action is being taken at this time.

I.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to adjourn the Regular Council Meeting of August 24, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,


Jennifer Harbison
Deputy 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 August 24, 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 _____
Approved as corrected _____



Date 9/14/2020
Date _____