

**MINUTES
WORK SESSION AND REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
MAY 11, 2020**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

By way of electronic communication/live streaming, the Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at approximately 7:00PM by **Cncl. Pres., Joseph P. Marino, III**.

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 public notice was posted on the Township's website on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 advising that a public meeting will be held on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 7:00PM by way of electronic communication/live streaming pursuant to *N.J.S.A. 10:4-8(b)* consistent with Executive Order 103 signed by Governor Murphy on March 9, 2020 in an abundance of caution and to help prevent the spread of COVID-19.

Said Public Notice stated that all regular business that was scheduled to be conducted at the 8:00PM Council Meeting will be conducted during the Work Session Meeting previously scheduled to take place on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 7:00PM and will be broadcasted live via [UberConference.com](https://www.uberconference.com).

The public was notified that they may access the meeting via URL by downloading the UberConference App or visiting the following website: uberconference.com/jmccrea3. By phone only, dial in to (856) 441-3536.

The public was notified that they can participate in said meeting by submitting comments by email to the Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko, at AChiselko@monroetownshipnj.org by 3:00PM the day of the meeting, May 11, 2020. The comments should be limited to 250 words. These comments will be read into the record. This is a temporary policy only put in place due to a public health emergency. The Uber platform we are using tonight will limit the amount of people that can log on to 100, however, this recording will be posted on the Township's website, www.monroetownshipnj.org, following the meeting.

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. 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 | | Excused |
| Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Brent Salvadori | 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 | |

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A.) OPENING CEREMONIES (cont'd)

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of April 27, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

B.) CORRESPONDENCE – None

C.) PUBLIC PORTION

Cncl. Pres. Marino stated, the Public Notice posted on Wednesday, May 6, 2020 advised members of the public to submit comments by email to the Clerk, Aileen Chiselko, at AChiselko@monroetownshipnj.org by 3:00PM the day of the meeting, May 11, 2020. **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to open the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Solicitor Trimble read aloud an email submitted to the Municipal Clerk by Shana Ambrose on Monday, May 11, 2020 at 8:06am. Ms. Ambrose noted that it is wonderful that the school district is providing meals to the children attending the public schools within the district. She expressed her concerns for those students living within the district who are homeschooled or attend parochial schools and are also in need of meals. She stated that those parents/guardians are paying the same taxes even if they choose not to send their children to public schools. Ms. Ambrose feels all school aged children living in the district, regardless of where they receive their education, should be receiving the free meals. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** advised that he has spoken with the Board of Education President and he said that they have not turned anyone away who has requested a meal. **Cncl. Pres. Marino** noted, he has left a message for Ms. Ambrose to contact him through the Municipal Clerk regarding her concerns. It is his understanding that the school is not turning anyone away in the lunch program, whether they attend the public schools or not.

With no other public comments submitted by 3:00pm, this afternoon, May 11, 2020, **Cncl. Pres. Marino** asked for a motion to close the Public Portion for Resolutions, Ordinances and General Public Discussion. **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to close the Public Portion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

D.) RESOLUTIONS

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:92-2020 through R:95-2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:92-2020 THROUGH R:95-2020

R:92-2020 Resolution Approving The Bill List And Paid List For The Council Meeting Of May 11, 2020

R:93-2020 Resolution Of The Township Of Monroe Denying The Property Tax Abatement Application Submitted By Crosskeys Monroe, LLC For Block 101, Lot 3.06

R:94-2020 Resolution Authorizing The Proposal From Keith Bonchi, Esquire To Provide Professional Legal Services For The Handling Of Foreclosures On Behalf Of The Township Of Monroe

R:95-2020 Resolution Authorizing The Mayor To Execute An Agreement With The Monroe Township Board Of Education For School Resource Officer Services For The 2020-2021 School Year

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolutions R:92-2020 through R:95-2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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E.) ORDINANCES

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

O:09-2020 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 Autumn Lake Winery For 870 W. Malaga Road, Block 9801, Lot 7.07

First Reading: A copy of this Ordinance was posted on the doors of the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:09-2020 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:10-2020 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 Alma Group, LLC D/B/A Grindstone Restaurant, 348 S. Main Street, Block 3205, Lot 9

First Reading: A copy of this Ordinance was posted on the doors of the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:10-2020 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:11-2020 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 N. Black Horse Pike, Block 1202, Lot 23

First Reading: A copy of this Ordinance was posted on the doors of the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:11-2020 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:12-2020 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 280 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Animal Control"

First Reading: A copy of this Ordinance was posted on the doors of the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:12-2020 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:13-2020 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe To Amend Chapter 252 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Taxation"

Solicitor Trimble noted that he is requesting an amendment to add language to the Draft Ordinance O:13-2020, which will contain carry-over language from the Draft Ordinance, relating to Section 252-3 "Residential dwellings over 20 years old", Section 252-4 "New construction residential dwellings" and Section 252-5 "Multiple dwellings". He asked that the motion be amended to include the revisions to Draft Ordinance O:13-2020 as stated.

First Reading: A copy of this Ordinance was posted on the doors of the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

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E.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:13-2020 for First Reading and Publication as amended and noted by the Solicitor. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:14-2020 An Ordinance Of The Township Council Of The Township Of Monroe Establishing Chapter 148 Of The Code Of The Township Of Monroe, Entitled "Games Of Chance"

First Reading: A copy of this Ordinance was posted on doors of the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:14-2020 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

F.) NEW BUSINESS

Cncl. Pres. Marino discussed an email he received from Justin Crane of Hospitality Creek Campground, who is asking for transient campers in self-contained units to be able to go camping beginning May 20, 2020. Cncl. Pres. Marino noted that he has spoken with the Police Chief regarding said email prior to this evening's meeting and the Chief will be speaking with the County OEM, along with the County Board of Health regarding same. Cncl. Pres. Marino asked Cncl. Wolfe if he would be available for a phone conference with himself, the Police Chief, Mr. Crane and Solicitor Trimble to discuss the County regulations and what is required from the Board of Health prior to presenting everything to Council for their decision, to which Cncl. Wolfe said he would be available.

G.) OLD BUSINESS – None

H.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Cncl. Falcone reported that there are two properties that the Renew with Monroe Affordable Housing Program is working with. A landlord application for the beginning stages of rehabilitation was recently approved for a property located at 114 Railroad Avenue and there was a purchase of a property which closed on April 6, 2020 for 320 Pine Street. Cncl. Falcone also reported that the Redevelopment Committee is in the preliminary stages of communication with Lidl Supermarket, who is interested in possibly coming to Monroe Township. Lidl Supermarket is interested in the property located at Lake Avenue and the Black Horse Pike, next to First Bank.

Cncl. Garbowski reported that he has followed up with the Township Engineer, Pennoni Associates regarding a grant that the previous Township Engineer, Adams, Rehmann and Heggan had applied for last year with the NJDEP. He is happy to report that after Pennoni's follow up, the Township is being awarded another grant in the amount of \$117,000.00 for the remediation of the landfill.

Cncl. Miller thanked Rocco Gallelli with the Estates at Monroe, for providing another round of free meals to those residents in need within the community. He also thanked the residents for their continued support of food pantry, in conjunction with the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary Foundation, as they continue to receive donations. Cncl. Miller mentioned that every Friday, from 9:30am to 11:30am, the Food Pantry is open and available to families who are in need of food.

Cncl. Wolfe thanked the Township employees and first responders for all of the great work they have been doing throughout this situation. He realizes that this is a very stressful time. With many of our young adults getting ready to graduate from the high school, there have been discussions about hosting parades, which violates the Governor's Executive Order. Cncl. Wolfe assured everyone that the school district, along with the Township Administration, are working together to ensure there is something planned for the graduating seniors. He noted, we are over thirty days away

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

from any graduation and many things can change during that time. **Cncl. Wolfe** encouraged everyone to please allow the school district the time to prepare what is right for the children.

Mayor DiLucia thanked Angelo from Peter's Diner for providing over 250 lunches for the Township employees and said that he will also be providing meals for the nursing home and assisted living staff in the Township. The Mayor thanked Rocco Gallelli, volunteers and the Williamstown Sunrise Rotary who have donated a considerable amount of time and money, providing over a 1,000 meals this past Friday to those in need. Mayor DiLucia commended the Township employees for coming to work every day in the face of possible danger, in particular the Public Works employees who have been working 40 hours a week picking up everyone's garbage and recycling and putting themselves at risk. He noted that the residents have been great through all of this, obeying the directives given by the Governor and the Office of Emergency Management Coordinator.

Director of Public Safety, Mr. Kurz commended the Office of Emergency Management, Police Department, the Fire Departments and EMS for a job well done.

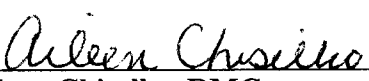
Director of Public Works, Mr. Mercado thanked the Mayor for his inspiring words and the Public Works Department who have been performing so admirably.

Police Chief DeHart spoke in regards to flattening the curve during the COVID-19 pandemic and noted that Monroe Township is still behind North Jersey, however, there are signs of improvement. Last week was the Township's highest week in total of new cases. He asked everyone to continue to practice social distancing and wearing their face coverings. He is very optimistic that Monroe Township is very close to flattening the curve and being on the downslide for the number of new cases. Chief DeHart noted that this week is commonly National Police Week, with May 15th being Peace Officers Memorial Day. Generally, this week, thousands of Law Enforcement Officers throughout the country travel to Washington D.C. to attend a candlelight vigil honoring all of the fallen officers during the previous year, however, with the current situation a virtual candlelight vigil will be held on Wednesday evening. Chief DeHart thanked all of the men and women of the Monroe Township Police Department for all of their efforts during this pandemic.

I.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to adjourn the Work Session and Regular Council Meeting of May 11, 2020. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Dilks** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

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 Meeting of May 11, 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 _____ *hcc* _____
Approved as corrected _____

Date 5/26/2020
Date _____