

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

The Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at 7:00PM by **Cncl. Pres., Patrick O'Reilly** 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., Patrick O'Reilly stated, the Clerk has placed a sign-in sheet in the rear of the meeting room. If anyone would like to address Council, please sign-in and raise your hand and you will be asked to come forward to the microphone. Kindly state your name and address for the record.

SALUTE TO THE FLAG

Cncl. Garbowski led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Cncl. Katherine Falcone	Present	
Cncl. Carolann Fox	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present	
Cncl. Steven McKinney	Present	
Cncl. Chelsea Valcourt	Present	
Cncl. Vice-Pres. Gregory Wolfe	Present	
Cncl. Pres. Patrick O'Reilly	Present	
Mayor Richard DiLucia	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Joseph DiLolle	Present	
Solicitor, John Trimble	Present	
Business Administrator, Jill McCrea	Present	
Dir. of Code Enforcement, Joseph Broderick		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	
Dir. of Real Estate, Angelina Matese		Excused
Engineer, Joseph Raday	Present	
Police Chief Craig Monahan	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko	Present	

PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS

- Proclamation – “2021 Halloween Parade Grand Marshall” – Mr. Jonnie Agresta

Mayor DiLucia and Cncl. Pres. O'Reilly presented a proclamation to Mr. Jonnie Agresta in recognition of being the 2021 Halloween Parade Grand Marshall.

- Solar Projects Update – Andy Bakey, Bakey Energy Consulting and Dan O'Brien, Distributed Solar Development

MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES (cont'd)

Andy Bakey, Bakey Energy Consulting and Dan O'Brien of Distributed Solar Development addressed the Mayor and Council to provide an update on the solar project. The project began approximately sixteen (16) months ago and during that time, the projects were developed for the six (6) chosen locations, focusing on the smaller locations first. Currently, there are operational projects at the MMUA site, the Public Library, and the Municipal Building. Radix Elementary School is waiting for Atlantic City Electric to turn the system on. Groundbreaking will take place at Williamstown Middle School next week and shortly after that, will be Williamstown High School. The entire portfolio should be energized and online producing savings by the end of the second quarter of 2022. During the sixteen-month time period, there have been several construction challenges. From a savings prospective, MMUA just received their monthly bill, which was slightly over \$100 and is roughly a 90% savings from what they previously paid last September. **Cncl. Pres. O'Reilly** asked for clarification of the approximate savings to be received. Mr. Bakey explained that approximately 7,800 KW of solar was installed throughout the entire community, which includes the redesigns of the Library and the Williamstown High School and Middle School. He noted, initially it was estimated based on 0.07 cents a kw hour, which is approximately \$9.7 million worth of savings over 15 years and with the reduced amount of kilowatt hours and the reduction of the size of the facilities, it is now approximately \$9.2 million in savings, which is a conservative number. The ultimate objective is to take all of the leftover power from the three (3) entities, which has to be sourced once the contracts expire and go back out to seek new power purchase agreements. Mr. Bakey stated in reference to the municipal building and the library, he estimates to have \$46,000 in savings over the course of fifteen (15) years. Mr. Bakey and Mr. O'Brien spoke regarding how the power grids work, the various parts of an electric system and how solar projects are faired with the utility companies. Mr. Bakey explained that the current rate on the market for the Township is between 0.13 and 0.15 cents per kilowatt hour, which includes generation, transmission and distribution. Mr. O'Brien stated, one piece of information that is worth highlighting is that there is zero escalator on the price of the solar, which means the Township is locked into the kilowatt hour price for fifteen (15) years and is not subject to an escalator or any variance even if the market shifts; this is flat no matter what for fifteen (15) years. Mr. Bakey spoke regarding the Landfill, noting the Township has signed a power purchase agreement with Trina Solar, who will coordinate the project with the Township. **Cncl. Pres. O'Reilly** explained the Landfill solar project, noting it is different than the other solar projects that are taking place, as it is a third-party developer who is paying and leasing the space from the Township and the Township has agreed to purchase the power that facility produces, which will balance all of the load that the Township needs. **Mayor DiLucia** spoke in reference to the two primary reasons that the Township wanted to get involved with solar, the ecology and the dollar savings to the town. He asked what the estimated annual savings for the library and for the municipal building will be currently and not fifteen (15) years, to which Mr. Bakey clarified, when he signed the contract with the Township, they were not about savings, rather it was about budget certainty, performing the analysis, and monitoring the savings. Mr. Bakey stated, looking at the savings over the course of fifteen (15) years, it was \$46,000.00 for the Library and the Municipal Building and for all of the properties it was \$9.2 million with the majority of the savings deriving from the high school and the middle school and not necessarily the municipal buildings. He noted, per year, it will be approximately \$3,000.00 between the library and the municipal building. The Mayor asked, is the town going to benefit on an annual basis or is the town going to lose money, to which Mr. Bakey explained, without any offsetting costs, the Township can anticipate approximately \$3,000.00 a year savings over the next seven (7) years, which is a very conservative number as currently it is a much larger savings. Mr. Bakey explained the monthly cost verses savings in terms of the monthly statement from the electric company. **Cncl. Pres. O'Reilly** confirmed that the Township has agreed to purchase the power on the facilities at 1.1 cents a kilowatt versus 0.13 cents, which is a delta of 0.07 cents versus 1.1 cents. Mr. O'Brien explained, for every 100,000 kilowatt hours used, it will be roughly \$6,000.00 worth of savings; so, between the Library and the Municipal Building, they should be producing roughly 300,000 to 350,000 kilowatt hours, which translates to approximately \$20,000.00 a year in savings. Mr. Bakey noted, he stands corrected, it is \$46,000.00 per year as opposed to over fifteen (15) years and the schools alone will yield close to \$600,000.00 a year in savings. Mr. O'Brien stated, he helps various businesses and municipalities all over the United States with these types of projects and he has not seen a township have entities join together and work together on a project like this

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES (cont'd)

and pull it off successfully. He said, Monroe Township is the only township in New Jersey to have done this type of project successfully, especially in terms of the amount of savings.

- Certificate of Recognition – “Miss Eastern Shores’ Outstanding Teen of 2022” – Alyssa Peacock

Cncl. Pres. O’Reilly presented a proclamation to Alyssa Peacock in recognition of earning the title of Miss Eastern Shores’ Outstanding Teen of 2022.

B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION

- Monroe Township Historical Society’s Request to Acquire a Historic Train Station Located in Woodstown, NJ

Cncl. McKinney explained that the Historical Society has brought to his attention that the train station that once resided where the Williamstown firehouse is today, “may” exist in Woodstown. He used the word “may”, because it needs to be verified that the train station does in fact belong to Monroe Township. The Historical Society would like to know how Council feels about moving forward with a project that would involve transporting the train station back to Williamstown. **Cncl. McKinney** provided Council with a handout, which included pictures and measurements of the train station. He spoke regarding the size of the train station, locations where it could be relocated to and the possible costs associated with relocating the train station.

Cncl. Pres. O’Reilly polled Council to see if they were in agreement to give approval to the Historical Society to verify that the train station belongs to Monroe Township and once confirmed, Council can further discuss the cost, to which everyone agreed. **Cncl. McKinney** stated his support of the project, noting it would be a great opportunity for the town, as long as it is within reason. **Cncl. Falcone** noted her support, saying it would be interesting to find out the history of the train station, however, the costs would need to be discussed further. **Cncl. Garbowski** stated his support, noting this has been a topic of discussion of the Historical Society for some time. **Cncl. Pres. O’Reilly** asked Business Administrator, Jill McCrea and the Director of Finance, Lorraine Boyer if grants are available to help fund the relocation and rehabilitation of the train station, to which **Business Administrator, Jill McCrea** stated, if grants are available, she is unsure if they are available to the magnitude needed for this project. A discussion ensued regarding various grant and funding opportunities.

At this time, **Cncl. Falcone** asked for an update on the Economic Development Commission from **Cncl. Valcourt**, as she serves as the Council Liaison to the Commission. **Cncl. Valcourt** advised that the Economic Development Commission is working on a few different commercials, which they are waiting to hear back from those who volunteered to perform the work. **Cncl. Valcourt** noted, the meeting for October was cancelled and she is unsure of the reason it was cancelled. The Commission is having an issue with the secretary position, which is causing a delay in the minutes. **Cncl. Valcourt** stated, there are a number of vacant positions on the Commission, which need to be filled. **Cncl. Falcone** spoke regarding the importance of economic development to the town in terms of helping to bring new businesses to the town. She believes Council needs to take another look at having a full-time Economic Development Consultant as opposed to having a committee. **Cncl. Falcone** spoke in reference to the Lidl supermarket, noting that **Cncl. Pres. O’Reilly** voted against this new ratable. **Cncl. Pres. O’Reilly** stated, he stands by his decision to veto Lidl, however, the Planning Board did approve Lidl’s application. **Mayor DiLucia** advised, there is a legal objection to Lidl’s petition, which is causing a hold-up in Lidl coming to the Township. **Cncl. Falcone** stated, Council needs to see that the Economic Development Commission is working to bring businesses into the township, as those businesses are needed for ratables to help offset the taxes. **Mayor DiLucia** spoke regarding the vacant Economic Development Commission Secretary position.

- 2021 Best Practices Inventory Questionnaire

Director of Finance, Lorraine Boyer explained the questionnaire, advising that the Best Practice Inventory questions have been answered by her and the Business Administrator, Jill McCrea, along with the help of various departments. She has received confirmation from the

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION (cont'd)

State that everything has been completed and submitted on time and that the Township will not be losing any of its State Aid. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** asked if Ms. Boyer is working on correcting the “no” answers on the questionnaire, to which Ms. Boyer confirmed, she is.

- Petition for Traffic Calming Devices – Ireland Terrance and Princeton Place

Anthony Bundi, 301 Ireland Terrace, addressed Council to express their concerns with the amount of reckless driving and excessive speeding on Ireland Terrace and Princeton Place. He questioned why speed bumps were placed on Gordon Avenue, when it is a much smaller road than that of Ireland Terrace and Princeton Place. He also asked why there are no speed limit signs posted on Gordon Avenue, other than the ones that state “speed bump ahead”, why there are no speed limit signs posted coming into Ireland Terrace off of Princeton Place and why there are no “watch children” signs posted anywhere on Ireland Terrace. **Director of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado** explained that he has to check on the availability of what that road is rated for and once it is determined that the road follows the proper criteria, then signage can be posted. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** spoke regarding the speed bumps that are located on Gordon Avenue, explaining the history of when and why they were installed. **Police Chief Monahan** advised that Lieutenant Mark Burton is aware of Mr. Bundi’s concerns and there have been studies done, Traffic Officers assigned numerous times and there is no excessive speeding documented on Ireland Terrace. There is at times high volume, but as far as violations, there are not many violations. He provided some examples of the numerous dates that the police have been stationed on Ireland Terrace, performing car volume counts and running radar with zero violations. Chief Monahan addressed Mr. Bundi’s concerns and spoke regarding the many roads within the township that are used as cut-throughs and where excessive speeding takes place. He stated that Lieutenant Burton is researching the State’s plan, possibly closing down some of the cut-throughs in the town. Chief Monahan suggested looking into possibly having Ireland Terrace made into a one-way street to help alleviate the problem. **Richard Smith, 1149 Princeton Place**, stated that he has lived on Princeton Place for forty-six (46) years and expressed how appalling the traffic is there and how it has changed in the last forty years. He expressed his concerns with the excessive traffic throughout the Green Meadows Development and spoke regarding when Gordon Avenue was a one-way street and when it was changed. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** suggested speaking with Lieutenant Burton in the Traffic Division to research having one-way streets, in certain directions on certain streets to possibly help alleviate the problems. **Director of Public Safety, Joe Kurz** spoke regarding the reasons why the speed bumps are no longer used within the Township, noting the damage done to the emergency vehicles. Director of Public Works, Nicholas Mercado stated it is a process to be able to determine what measures will be best suited to help with the excess speeding and reckless driving, noting an additional problem with the speed bumps is there has to be so many of them spaced out on the roadway for them to be effective, which reduces the response time for the EMS vehicles. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** suggested, painting the actual speed limit on the roadway and placing additional signage. Mr. Bundi asked if it would be possible to place a stationary radar speed detector out on Ireland Terrace and Princeton Place, to which Chief Monahan advised, he will check the availability and have it placed to help deter some of the excessive speeding. Chief Monahan spoke regarding the various types of speed deterrent equipment that can be used.

C.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED – None

D.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED – None

E.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Council Meeting of September 27, 2021 and the Closed Executive Session of September 27, 2021. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

F.) CORRESPONDENCE – None

G.) RESOLUTIONS

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

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:195-2021 through R:197-2021. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:195-2021 THROUGH R:197-2021

R:195-2021 Resolution Adjusting Township of Monroe Tax Records

R:196-2021 Resolution Approving the Bill List and Paid List for the Council Meeting of October 25, 2021

R:197-2021 Resolution of the Township of Monroe Authorizing an Award of Contract to South State, Inc. for the Monroe Township 2021 Road Program Project

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolutions R:195-2021 through R:197-2021. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

H.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Fox made a motion to open the meeting to the public for the Ordinances listed on the agenda for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council. With no one wishing to speak on the Ordinances for Second Reading, **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:20-2021 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Chapter 262-10 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled “Towing Rates”

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

Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe made a motion to approve Ordinance O:20-2021 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:20-2021 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

7 AYES (Falcone, Fox, Garbowski, McKinney, O’Reilly, Valcourt, Wolfe)

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance O:20-2021 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:21-2021 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Chapter 280-3 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled “Animal Control

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

H.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)

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

Cncl. Valcourt made a motion to approve Ordinance O:21-2021 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:21-2021 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

7 AYES (Falcone, Fox, Garbowski, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt, Wolfe)

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance **O:21-2021** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:22-2021 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"

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

Cncl. Valcourt made a motion to approve Ordinance O:22-2021 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:22-2021 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

7 AYES (Falcone, Fox, Garbowski, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt, Wolfe)

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance **O:22-2021** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:23-2021 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Sale of Township Owned Land

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

Cncl. Fox made a motion to approve Ordinance O:23-2021 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

I.) NEW BUSINESS

Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe stated, he was contacted by some of the business owners located in the pavilion at Corkery Lane and Blue Bell Road regarding the limited parking space within the pavilion. He noted, the Ambulance building, a municipal lot, is directly across the street from the pavilion and after speaking with the Director of Public Safety, he learned that typically only eight (8) of the fifty-three (53) parking spaces are used. The business owners are requesting that during their high-peak hours, which may only happen once or twice a week, when there is limited parking, that the overflow parking utilize the municipal lot. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** noted, he would like to see Council offer help to these businesses, so that they do not lose any business due to lack of parking. He spoke regarding the available parking spaces at the Ambulance building. **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** asked the Solicitor for confirmation that the businesses would just need to add the Township on their general liability insurance policy, to which Solicitor Trimble confirmed. **Cncl. McKinney** asked if there is a sidewalk where **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** is proposing to set up temporary parking to ensure that the customers can safely cross the street, to which **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** confirmed there are sidewalks and a

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

I.) NEW BUSINESS (cont'd)

crosswalk at the traffic light. **Cncl. Falcone** noted, with the ability to turn on red at the traffic light, she questioned the safety of the customers crossing the street. A discussion ensued regarding the safety of the customers parking at the municipal lot. **Cncl. Pres. O'Reilly** polled Council and all were in support with the exception of Cncl. Falcone, who would like to do further research, of offering the parking spaces at the municipal lot to the businesses as long as the Ambulance Association agrees and is given an opportunity to express any concerns. **Solicitor Trimble** stated, he does not believe that an Ordinance is required to allow the businesses to use the municipal lot parking spaces, however, an agreement including additional insurance would be needed, but he will confirm and report back.

J.) UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe asked Solicitor Trimble for the legal opinion on the contracts regarding the crossing guards. **Solicitor Trimble** advised, after reviewing the contract, it is clear that the contract was clearing up an ambiguity and it was not a renegotiation. He noted, the contract did not need to come before Council, as no changes were made in the contract, only clarifications to the contract. **Mayor DiLucia** spoke regarding what took place in reference to the crossing guards' contract. Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe asked why the Captains' contract did not come before Council. Mayor DiLucia stated, he will make sure that it does come before Council for approval. A discussion between Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe and Mayor DiLucia ensued regarding various contracts and the Route 322 / Fries Mill Road project. Solicitor Trimble spoke regarding the Route 322 / Fries Mill Road project, noting all communications and everything that has taken place are part of the record. He provided copies of the communications to the Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko and stated, if Council sees fit, it can be posted on the Township's website.

K.) REPORTS

Mayor DiLucia reported that he had received an email earlier in the day, with an attachment of a letter and an email, which stated that Monroe Township is not qualified to handle the Route 322/Fries Mill Road project. He noted, upon reading the email, he noticed that the letter was not addressed to him nor Council, but was addressed to "Residents", which was a campaign letter from Senator Madden's office and the email was not a commitment letter, as he had initially thought, but a letter of promises. He is still waiting to receive confirmation from the County and the State confirming that they will be funding the project, since they are taking over the project. He does not understand why the project has turned into a political game and is not getting done. Mayor DiLucia stated that he and Council are responsible for doing the right thing for the residents of the town, even through disagreement with one another, they need to work together. He spoke regarding the discussion between him and Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe earlier in the meeting and what he and Council have accomplished in the last five (5) years for the residents of the town. Mayor DiLucia reported that he attended the Halloween Parade on October 23rd. He believes the parade was the best organized and attended he has been to in a long time. The Mayor thanked everyone involved with the parade, Donna Park, Chairperson of the Parks & Recreation Commission, the Commission members, Anne Bracarello, Brent Salvadori, Director of Parks & Recreation, the Police Department and the members of Public Works for all of their hard work restoring Main Street after the parade. Mayor DiLucia spoke regarding the Lidl Supermarket, noting a resident filed a legal objection to Lidl's petition, which has the project currently delayed in court. The Mayor stated, he sat on a committee for the new Master Plan, which is designed to help businesses and residents who are coming into town. He estimates that the Master Plan will not be completed until sometime next year.

Deputy Mayor DiLolle attended both the Scarecrow event and the Pride dance which were both held at the Pfeiffer Community Center. Mr. DiLolle thanked the Parks & Recreation Commission and Brent Salvadori for a great parade and a job well done.

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

K.) REPORTS (cont'd)

Solicitor, Mr. Trimble reported on the Route 322/Fries Mill Road project, noting his disagreement with Chad Bruner's October 4, 2021 and October 11, 2021 communications where he stated that the County has no responsibility and that the Township initiated the project prior to 2009. Mr. Trimble clarified that the project was never initiated by Monroe Township, this was initiated by the four (4) property owners. Mr. Trimble stated, despite all of the back and forth between the Monroe representatives, it appears the County and the State are going to finally proceed with the project. He suggested that everyone hold Senator Madden and Commissioner Damminger to the email they sent, whether it be part of campaign literature or not, to their promise to get the project done. Solicitor Trimble informed that the Township will be holding another Land Sale on December 8, 2021. He explained, through the foreclosure process, the Township has obtained an additional 100-120 properties over the last few months, which will be listed on the Land Sale and will allow the properties to be placed back on the tax rolls.

Director of Community Affairs, Ms. Derieux reported, the Department of Community Affairs hosted a Pride event for the LGBTQ community, which was a very successful event with a lot of people in attendance. The eight (8) contestants of the Little Mr. and Ms. Pageant rode on the float during the Halloween parade. The Senior Citizen Halloween luncheon will take place on Friday, October 29th from 12:00pm to 2:00pm at the Pfeiffer Community Center, followed by the dance for the community's youth in grades 5 through 7 that night. Saturday, October 30th will be the Puppy Parade at the Pfeiffer Community Center, followed by the annual Trunk or Treat, which will take place at the 7/8 side of Williamstown Middle School. Ms. Derieux stated that vendor spots have sold-out for the December 18th Arts and Crafts Festival. There will be approximately fifty-two (52) vendors, along with food trucks, at the festival.

Director of Finance, Ms. Boyer attended the Halloween Parade. She expressed her disappointment with people leaving trash on Main Street, however, the Public Works Department did an amazing job cleaning up after the parade.

Director of Parks & Recreation, Mr. Salvadori reported, the Halloween Parade and Fall Festival took place on Saturday, October 23rd. He thanked the ROTC cadet, Ian Marino, who was in charge of nineteen (19) cadets on two different shifts, on a job well done and for his service to the community. Mr. Salvadori thanked the Parks & Recreation employees that were there throughout the day getting things done from morning until night. He thanked Eric, from Monroe Township Youth Soccer, for providing the lighting for the judge's stand at the parade. He thanked Frank Kopa, from Monroe Township Braves, for providing the sound system that was used during the Fall Festival. He thanked the Parks & Recreation Commission members for a job very well done. Mr. Salvadori noted, it was one of the best parades he has been a part of and it was nice to see everyone out enjoying it.

Director of Public Safety, Mr. Kurz thanked both fire departments for Fire Prevention Night, which took place on October 5th in the Walmart parking lot. He thanked the Police Department for an excellent job handling traffic control at the Halloween Parade. Mr. Kurz reported, the new firehouse for Williamstown Fire Company is still pending Pinelands approval and the Solicitor is working on the land swap with the neighboring property owner. They are hoping to be able to go out for bid in early January.

Director of Public Works, Mr. Mercado congratulated Brent Salvadori on a job well done with the Fall Festival and the Halloween Parade. Mr. Mercado advised, within the next couple of weeks, Public Works and Parks & Recreation will have all of the tot lots ordered for replacement including the ones located at Owens Park. He noted, they are looking into having the basketball courts resurfaced and possibly expanded on.

Police Chief Monahan congratulated everyone on a great community event with the Halloween Parade, noting it was great seeing everyone out and enjoying themselves. He received a lot of positive feedback from his officers.

Cncl. Falcone attended the Environmental Protection Commission meeting, however, there was no quorum, so there are no official minutes. She also attended the Pride event at the

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

K.) REPORTS (cont'd)

Pfeiffer Community Center. Ms. Falcone attended the Seniors Commission meeting and they now have two (2) trips planned for the year, the Resorts Casino and The Crab Trap on November 15th and Resorts Casino and Tomasello Winery on December 15th. She noted, she had a great time at the Halloween Parade. Ms. Falcone will also be participating in the Trunk or Treat on Saturday, October 30th.

Cncl. Fox reported that both the Zoning Board and Municipal Alliance Commission have been having meetings, however both have been pretty quiet. Municipal Alliance is currently looking for new applicants to join the committee. Mrs. Fox attended the Halloween parade. She congratulated Brent Salvadori, Parks & Recreations and Public Works for doing a magnificent job.

Cncl. Garbowski reported, on October 13th, he met with the Board of Health and discussed the Trap Neuter and Release Pilot Program that will be terminating in the early spring of next year. He will be placing this topic on the next Ordinance Committee Meeting Agenda for discussion. Cncl. Garbowski advised that the next Ordinance Committee Meeting is scheduled for November 4, 2021. He recommended, if anyone has anything to be brought forth for the meeting, that it be submitted to the Ordinance Committee Secretary by Friday.

Cncl. McKinney reported, the MMUA Board met on Wednesday, October 20th adopted a Resolution to hold a public hearing on the proposed water and sewer connection rate changes for November 17th; they also expressed condolences to the Caruso family.

Cncl. Valcourt clarified that she serves as the Council Liaison to the Economic Development Commission and does not have any managing power over the Commission. She encouraged the public to visit the Township website and complete a Citizen Leadership form, if they feel that they have something to add to the town, as a Board/Commission member which she believes everyone has something to offer. There are several boards and commission; that have vacancies to be filled. She noted, serving on the committees is how the town grows together. Cncl. Valcourt attended the Halloween parade and really enjoyed being there and seeing everyone out enjoying the festivities.

Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe attended the Parks & Recreation Commission meeting on October 13th where the members were preparing for the annual Fall Festival. The Fall Festival and Halloween Parade were a huge success. He announced the winners of the 2021 Halloween Parade: Best Costume, 1st place was Scooby Doo, 2nd place was Wonder Woman and Superman (Brittany Boyer and her horse Poo), 3rd place was Zultar (Jamison Weaver), Group Division 1st place was Girls Scouts of Monroe Township and Franklinville, 2nd place was the Cub Scout Pack 161, 3rd place was the American Legion Auxillary Unit 252, the Mini Float Division 1st place was Haunted Trail, 2nd place was Happy 80th Birthday to Mom (Carol Zackame's 80th Birthday Celebration, 3rd place was Chrome Angels RC Pirates, Small Float Division, 1st place was Just a Little Hocus Pocus at the Gloucester County Learning Academy, 2nd place was Nightmare Before Christmas the Williamstown High School Marching Band led by Val Kunz, 3rd place was St. Mary's School Students Building Bright Futures, Large Float Division, 1st place was Glow Stick Dancers the Dance Factory, 2nd place was Adventure Awaits When You Are A Brave with the Monroe Township Youth Braves Football and Cheerleading and 3rd place was Edward Scissor Hands with Montemuro's Barber Shop. He advised if anyone has not received their trophy, please stop by Community Affairs and see Brandee Derieux. Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe congratulated all of the participants in this year's parade. He thanked the volunteer judges, Williamstown Middle School teachers, Kim McBride and Dina Deveney, along with Lauren Dickey from the Monroe Township Construction Office. Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe explained that there were two (2) events that day, the Monroe Township Parks & Recreation Commission held their annual Fall Festival at Owens Park which began at 10:00a.m. The Township employees and the Commission members, who are volunteers, arrived at 7:00a.m. and did not leave until approximately 10:30p.m., because they work both events. He thanked the first responders for participating in the parade and the Police Department for providing safety. He thanked the Parks & Recreation Commission led by Chairwoman, Donna Park and Vice-Chairman, Matt Scardino, all volunteers, as they spent countless hours, not only the day of the events, but throughout the

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
OCTOBER 25, 2021**

K.) REPORTS (cont'd)

year hosting various events; noting, without them, these events would not take place. Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe advised, the Commission is beginning to work on the next event, which will be the Annual Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony. He suggested that the Budget Committee, along with the Mayor, really look at the Parks & Recreation budget and place a little bit more funding into Parks & Recreation. Unfortunately, the sound system went down at the beginning of the parade and was inoperable for the entire parade, so they were unable to do the proper announcements such as the Grand Marshall introduction and announcement to everyone to keep the children out of the roadway. Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe believes, this coming year, the town needs to invest in capital money and begin to purchase the temporary fencing to be able to line high-volume areas of the parade route to help with the safety concerns, not only at the parade, but other township events, along with investing in a new sound system.

Cncl. Pres. O'Reilly attended the Halloween parade and enjoyed it from the sidelines alongside his family, noting it was a fantastic event. He thanked all of the departments and everyone involved for a job well done.

Director of Community Affairs, Brandee Derieux acknowledged and thanked Anne Bracarello for all of her hard work and dedication to ensuring the Fall Festival and the Halloween Parade went-off perfectly.

L.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

Cncl. Valcourt made a motion to open the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Wolfe** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

Fernando Powers thanked Council for doing a great job in reference to the residents not having to pay for the roads and forcing the State to pay. He believes, it is very important for Council and the Mayor to keep their differences out of the public eye, as it makes the town look bad. Mr. Powers offered a possible solution to the issue concerning Ireland Terrace and Princeton Place, possibly placing a large sign warning no entrance during rush hour or be ticketed. He congratulated everyone on a job well done with the Halloween Parade.

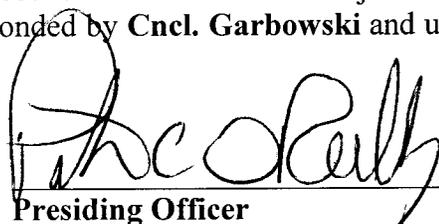
With no one else wishing to speak, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to close the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McKinney** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

M.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Valcourt** made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting of October 25, 2021. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.



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 Council Meeting of October 25, 2021 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 _____ asc _____
Approved as corrected _____

Date 11/22/2021
Date _____