

**MINUTES
COUNCIL MEETING
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
APRIL 11, 2023**

A.) OPENING CEREMONIES

CALL TO ORDER

The Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at 7 p.m. by **Cncl. Pres., Carolann Fox** 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., Carolann Fox 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. Vice-Pres. Valcourt led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag. **Cncl. Heverly** offered the Invocation.

ROLL CALL

Cncl. Denise Adams	Present
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski	Present
Cncl. Donald Heverly	Present
Cncl. Steven McKinney	Present
Cncl. Patrick O'Reilly	Present
Cncl. Vice-Pres. Chelsea Valcourt	Present
Cncl. Pres. Carolann Fox	Present
Mayor Gregory A. Wolfe	Present
Deputy Mayor, Joseph Kurz	Present
Solicitor, Louis Cappelli, Jr.	Present
Business Administrator, James V. DeHart, III	Present
Dir. of Code Enforcement, William Sebastian	Present
Dir. of Community Affairs, Donna Park	Present
Dir. of Community Development, Joseph Marino	Present
Dir. of Finance, Lorraine Boyer	Present
Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Brian Cope	Present
Dir. of Public Safety, Jon Rumpf	Present
Dir. of Public Works, Marvin Dilks	Present
Dir. of Real Estate, Jennifer Pesotski	Present
Police Chief Craig Monahan	Present
Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko	Present

B.) MAYOR'S APPOINTMENTS

Mayor Wolfe made the following appointment:

Open Space Advisory Committee – Michael Silvestro – Unexpired Term 12/31/2023

C.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION – None

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D.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED

Cncl. Garbowski spoke in reference to Resolution R:108-2023, regarding the parking at the Monroe Township Ambulance Hall for the patrons of Mona Lisia Restaurant, expressing his concerns with the patrons crossing the major roadway. He asked if Administration can involve the County to have a crosswalk placed at the intersection. **Mayor Wolfe** confirmed that there is already a crosswalk located at the intersection, along with a button to push on both poles that displays a flashing “walk / do not walk” sign. The designated parking will be placed on the Blue Bell Road side, which is located at the intersection and will force the patrons to use the intersection as opposed to simply walking across the road.

E.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED

Cncl. Adams spoke in reference to Ordinance O:17-2023, regarding the TNVR Program, asking the Business Administrator about making a slight change to include designated feeding times, to which **Business Administrator, Jim DeHart** confirmed. **Cncl. Adams** suggested that where it is stated “a New Jersey licensed veterinarian” that the language be changed to simply state “a licensed veterinarian”, to which Business Administrator, Jim DeHart agreed.

F.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Council Meeting of March 27, 2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council, except for **Cncl. McKinney**, who Abstained.

G.) CORRESPONDENCE – None

H.) RESOLUTIONS

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to open the public portion for Resolutions scheduled. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council. 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. O’Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:104-2023 through R:110-2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:104-2023 THROUGH R:110-2023

R:104-2023 Resolution Approving the Bill List and Paid List for the Council Meeting of April 11, 2023

R:105-2023 Resolution Adjusting Township of Monroe Tax Records

R:106-2023 Resolution of the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Supporting the 2023 UDrive. UText. UPay. Distracted Driving Crackdown April 1 – 30, 2023

R:107-2023 Resolution of the Township of Monroe Designating a Bus Stop Along Crosskeys Avenue

R:108-2023 Resolution of the Township of Monroe Authorizing Participation in an Indemnification Agreement with Bismilla Restaurant, LLC D/B/A MonaLisia for Use of a Township Parking Lot

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H.) RESOLUTIONS (cont'd)

R:109-2023 Resolution Authorizing the Township of Monroe to Enter into a Contract with the Township Planner of the Township of Monroe for the Year 2023

R:110-2023 Resolution of the Township of Monroe Authorizing Participation in an Indemnification Agreement with Alma Group, LLC D/B/A Nicoletta's On Main for Use of a Township Parking Lot

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Resolutions R:104-2023 through R:110-2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

I.) ORDINANCES

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to open the meeting to the public for the Ordinances listed on the agenda for Second Reading. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council. 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. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:14-2023 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Chapter 4 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled "Administrative Code"

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

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:14-2023 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:14-2023 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

7 AYES (Adams, Fox, Garbowski, Heverly, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt)

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance **O:14-2023** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:15-2023 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Chapter 262 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled "Towing"

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

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:15-2023 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:15-2023 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

7 AYES (Adams, Fox, Garbowski, Heverly, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt)

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance **O:15-2023** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:16-2023 An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Officers and Employees of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

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I.) 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. Adams made a motion to approve Ordinance O:16-2023 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:16-2023 FOR SECOND READING
AND PUBLIC HEARING –
7 AYES (Adams, Fox, Garbowski, Heverly, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt)**

Tally: 7 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 0 Absent. Ordinance O:16-2023 was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

O:17-2023 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 bulletin board at the Municipal Complex. Additional copies were made available to the public.

Cncl. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:17-2023 for First Reading and Publication with the noted changes. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. McKinney** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:18-2023 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, Authorizing the Acceptance of a Donation of Real Property Known and Designated as Tax Block 4301, Lot 26 on the Tax and Assessment Map of the Township of Monroe

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. Vice-Pres. Valcourt made a motion to approve Ordinance O:18-2023 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:19-2023 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"

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. Garbowski made a motion to approve Ordinance O:19-2023 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

O:20-2023 An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Chapter 65 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled "Personnel Policies"

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. Vice-Pres. Valcourt made a motion to approve Ordinance O:20-2023 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council.

J.) NEW BUSINESS – None

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K.) UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None

L.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS

Mayor Wolfe expressed his appreciation to Council for their support on Resolutions R:108-2023 and R:110-2023, which will help some small businesses within Monroe Township by allowing their patrons to park on Township-owned property, due to insufficient parking on Main Street as well as on Blue Bell Road/Corkery Lane. He thanked Council for supporting the small businesses.

Director of Code Enforcement, Mr. Sebastian apologized for missing the previous Council Meeting. He reported, for the month of February, the Construction Department has performed 284 building inspections, 94 fire inspections, 288 electrical inspections, 219 plumbing inspections, and 124 mechanical inspections, for a total of 1,009 inspections. The Housing Department has performed 143 inspections and the Zoning Department had 88 applications reviewed, for a grand total of 1,240 inspections year to date at the end of February.

Director of Public Works, Mr. Dilks reported that on Monday, April 17th, the no-passing zone/double yellow stripes will be painted on Whitehall Road. Also, on Monday, April 17th, the contractor will begin the resurfacing of Whispering Woods Drive. The annual Township Shredding Event will take place on Saturday, April 22nd from 9:00am to 12:00pm, or until the truck is full, at the Public Works Department.

M.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION

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

Dawn Fenza, 714 Lois Drive thanked Council for moving forward with Ordinance O:17-2023, pertaining to the TNVR Program.

Walter Schaefer, 217 Hickory Lane addressed the Mayor and Council to express his concerns regarding the tot lot that is located in Forest Hills, asking who is responsible for the maintenance, and noting that some of the equipment needs to be repaired and/or replaced. **Business Administrator, Jim DeHart** informed him that all of the playgrounds have been recently inspected, noting that the JIF Safety Coordinator has been recently provided with a list of all of the items that need to be addressed to ensure the safety and the operation of the playgrounds. Mr. DeHart said that the Public Works Department maintains the cutting of the grass. Mr. Schaefer expressed his concerns with the traffic light which is located at the Black Horse Pike and Corkery Lane, asking about possible solutions. **Mayor Wolfe** agreed with Mr. Schaefer's concerns, advising that a traffic study was performed a couple of years ago at the intersection and the timing of the light was changed. He noted that it is a State intersection, so the Township does not control the intersection; however, the Township will be trying to speak with the State Senators to ask for assistance to possibly do something with the intersection, similar to what is being done with the intersection of Route 322 and Fries Mill Road.

Dan Driscoll, 1628 Holly Parkway spoke in reference to his support of the TNVR Program. He explained how he became inundated with feral cats, noting that Pet Savers responded immediately and has been wonderful to work with. He thanked Council for supporting the changes made to the Ordinance and for continuing the program in the Township.

Michael Silvestro, 1032 Myrtle Avenue thanked the Mayor for his appointment to the Open Space Advisory Committee. Mr. Silvestro spoke in reference to the Friends of Victory Lakes Association's judgements and on-going lawsuit, asking if the Township will be assisting the residents in any way. **Solicitor Cappelli** advised this is a private matter between the plaintiffs and the defendants.

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M.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)

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

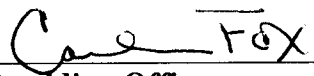
N.) ADJOURNMENT

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting of April 11, 2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Garbowski** 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 Council Meeting of April 11, 2023, 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 4/24/2023
Date _____