

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
MAY 8, 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. Garbowski** led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag. **Cncl. Heverly** offered the Invocation.

At this time, **Cncl. Pres. Fox** asked for a moment of silence in honor of fallen Deptford Police Officer Bobby Shisler.

**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		Excused
Cncl. Pres. Carolann Fox	Present	
Mayor Gregory A. Wolfe	Present	
Deputy Mayor, Joseph Kurz	Present	
Solicitor, Sandra Graise	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 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	
Chief Financial Officer, Lorraine Boyer	Present	
Police Chief Craig Monahan	Present	
Municipal Clerk, Aileen Chiselko	Present	

**B.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION – None**

**C.) QUESTIONS REGARDING RESOLUTIONS SCHEDULED – None**

**D.) QUESTIONS REGARDING ORDINANCES SCHEDULED – None**

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**E.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Council Meeting of April 24, 2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heverly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance, except for **Cncl. McKinney** and **Cncl. O'Reilly**, who Abstained.

**F.) CORRESPONDENCE**

- Carnival Permit – Radix Elementary PTA

**Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to approve a Carnival Permit for Radix Elementary PTA. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**G.) 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 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. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members in attendance.

**Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:119-2023 through R:127-2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:119-2023 THROUGH R:127-2023**

**R:119-2023** Emergency Temporary Resolution Prior to Adoption of the 2023 Budget for the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester

**R:120-2023** Resolution Approving the Bill List and Paid List for the Council Meeting of May 8, 2023

**R:121-2023** Resolution Adjusting Township of Monroe Tax Records

**R:122-2023** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Waiver of All Application Fees, Construction Fees and Other Associated Permit Fees in Conjunction with Carnival Permits for the Applicant, Radix Elementary PTA, within the Township of Monroe

**R:123-2023** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe In Support of the Location and Operation of a Class 5 Cannabis Retail Facility by JI Consulting Group, Inc.

**R:124-2023** Resolution of the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey, Regarding the Ratification of Payment to Captain Erik Lewis, Formerly of the Monroe Township Police Department

**R:125-2023** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement for Use of Community Development Block Grant Funds Between Gloucester County, New Jersey and the Township of Monroe in the Amount of \$50,000.00 for Construction of Sidewalks and ADA Curb Ramps at Various Locations within the Township of Monroe

**R:126-2023** 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

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**G.) RESOLUTIONS (cont'd)**

**R:127-2023** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Sale of Township-Owned Land Through Public Auction Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-13(a)

**Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to approve Resolutions R:119-2023 through R:127-2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**H.) ORDINANCES**

**O:21-2023** Ordinance of the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester, New Jersey Canceling Certain Funded and Unfunded Appropriation Balances Heretofore Provided for Capital Improvements and Reappropriating Such Funded and Unfunded Appropriation Balances for Other Capital Projects

**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:21-2023 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**O:22-2023** An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Section 175-163.4 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled "Cannabis"

**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. Adams** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:22-2023 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**I.) NEW BUSINESS – None**

**J.) UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None**

**K.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

**Mayor Wolfe** spoke of Officer Shisler from the Deptford Police Department, who succumbed to injuries, which occurred March 10, 2023. The Mayor asked that everyone please keep Officer Shisler's family in their prayers, along with the Deptford Police Department and the Deptford community. He commended the Monroe Township Police Department and the Police Chief, noting he received a letter from the Mayor of Deptford thanking the Township for their corporation, as our officers responded and provided shift coverage for some of Deptford's difficult moments. He spoke in reference to a similar incident that happened to one of our officers a few years back, who was fortunate enough to survive. Mayor Wolfe asked that everyone keep the Monroe Township Police Department in mind.

**Police Chief Monahan** expressed his condolences to Officer Shisler's family, the Deptford Police Department and the brothers and sisters in blue during this difficult time. Officer Shisler fought a good fight and the Monroe Township Police Department will continue standing the line and offering Deptford Police Department any assistance that they should need during this time. Chief Monahan reported that the Police Department's call volume has increased, noting this time last year the department had received 11,218 calls and already this year, the department has received 20,231 calls. The police officers have been working hard to

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**K.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS (cont'd)**

target the problem areas, performing extra patrols, extra enforcement areas for traffic enforcement and the arrests have increased. The distracted driving month, April, just closed and the department had approximately 97 hours of enforcement and 154 distracted driving tickets issued, with 76 of those tickets being issued because of cell phones. The number of fatal accidents for the year are down compared to this time last year, DWIs have also gone down and crashes are down by approximately 100 at this time last year. Chief Monahan acknowledged retired K9 Rocky, whose last call was on Friday, May 5<sup>th</sup>. Due to failing health conditions, it was recommended that he retire. Officer D'Amico, Rocky's handler, is accepting of the retirement and Rocky will spend the rest of his years with the D'Amico family.

**Cncl. Pres. Fox** congratulated **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Valcourt** on graduating with her Bachelors of Art and Journalism and a Bachelors of Art and Radio TV and Film. She congratulated **Cncl. Adams' son, Lucas Adams**, for graduating with his Bachelors in Computer Science with a cyber security specialization. **Cncl. Pres. Fox** noted, she is proud of her daughter, **Kristy** on graduating with her Master's Degree in Psychology. **Cncl. Pres. Fox** wished everyone a Happy Mother's Day.

**L.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

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

**Marlene McMahon, 173 Palomino Place** addressed the Mayor and Council regarding the proposed Cannabis Ordinance. She asked how many cannabis retail stores will be allowed in the Township, to which **Mayor Wolfe** explained that the Ordinance places more restrictions on the amount of retail stores allowed, stating there is a limit of eight (8) retail facilities. **Mrs. McMahon** asked if there will be any other types of cannabis businesses allowed other than retail businesses. **Mayor Wolfe** said, there could be manufacturers or grow facilities, noting he has not entertained any meetings for either manufacturers or grow facilities. He noted, he has been inundated with meetings with retail businesses, which led to discussions with the Cannabis Committee and Administration to amend the Ordinance to ensure there is not a retail facility at every corner. There is no limit placed on the amount of the manufacturers or grow facilities, as he does not see that being an issue at this point. **Mrs. McMahon** asked if it is true that the Township had to opt-in or opt-out of the program to allow cannabis retailers within the Township. **Mayor Wolfe** stated, he is unsure if it was an opt-in or opt-out, however, each Township has to create an Ordinance with regards to allowing cannabis in the town.

**Walter Schaeffer, 217 Hickory Lane** addressed Council regarding the Memorial Park located at the intersection of Main Street and Route 322, noting there is no electric there and because of that, the light post does not illuminate the flag. He asked if it would be possible to have electric turned on there for the light post and for the various events held at the park, to which **Mayor Wolfe** advised he will take care of it. **Mr. Schaeffer** noted, there is a flag holder on a telephone poll at the entrance of Forest Hills, which has fallen down. He asked if the Township could reinstall the holder, to which **Mayor Wolfe** said he will look into it and report back to **Mr. Schaeffer**. **Mr. Schaeffer** invited everyone to attend the Memorial Day Parade on Memorial Day.

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

**M.) ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Garbowski** made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting of May 8, 2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Heverly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

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Respectfully submitted,

Aileen Chiselko  
Aileen Chiselko  
Municipal Clerk

Case Fox  
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 8, 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 5/22/2023  
Date \_\_\_\_\_