

**MINUTES  
COUNCIL MEETING  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE  
FEBRAURY 28, 2024**

**A.) OPENING CEREMONIES**

**CALL TO ORDER**

The Council Meeting of the Township of Monroe was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by **Cncl. Pres., Chelsea Valcourt** 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., Chelsea Valcourt** 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. McKinney** led the Assembly in the Pledge of Allegiance to Our Flag. **Cncl. Fox** offered the Invocation.

**ROLL CALL**

Cncl. Denise Adams	Present	
Cncl. Carolann Fox	Present	
Cncl. Ronald Garbowski		Excused
Cncl. Vice-Pres. Donald Heverly	Present	
Cncl. Steven McKinney	Present	
Cncl. Patrick O'Reilly	Present	
Cncl. Pres. Chelsea Valcourt	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		Excused
Dir. of Parks & Recreation, Brian Cope	Present	
Dir. of Public Safety, Jon Rumpf	Present	
Dir. of Public Works, Marvin Dilks		Excused
Dir. of Real Estate, Jennifer Pesotski		Excused
Chief Financial Officer, Lorraine Boyer	Present	
Police Chief Craig Monahan	Present	(excused @ 8:17pm)
Deputy Municipal Clerk, Jennifer Harbison	Present	

**B.) PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS**

- Monroe Township Police Promotions – Swearing-in Ceremony

**Chief Craig Monahan** opened the swearing-in-ceremony by calling for the presentation of the Colors by the **Monroe Township FOP 125 Honor Guard**. Chief Monahan thanked the Mayor, Council, Administration and the Director of Public Safety, Mr. Rumpf for their continued support of the amazing Police Department. He stated, as the 12<sup>th</sup> Police Chief in the department's history, he will be retiring after twenty-nine (29) years of service, noting this evening, he has the honor and privilege to pass the torch to the next leader and commander of the Monroe Township Police Department.

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**B.) PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS (cont'd)**

**Chief Monahan** called forward **Lieutenant Ryan Borkowski**. Lieutenant Ryan Borkowski is being promoted to the rank of Police Chief. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Chief Borkowski, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** addressed everyone in attendance to express his gratitude on being given the opportunity to serve the township as the Chief of Police. He thanked Mayor Wolfe, Business Administrator Mr. DeHart, Public Safety Director Mr. Rumpf, Council, Chief Monahan and the officers of the Monroe Township Police Department for their trust in placing him in this esteemed position and his family and friends for their unwavering support.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward **Captain John McBride**. Captain John McBride is being promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Deputy Chief John McBride, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward **Lieutenant Mark Burton**. Lieutenant Mark Burton is being promoted to the rank of Captain. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Captain Burton, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward **Sergeant Mike Gabbianelli**. Sergeant Mike Gabbianelli is being promoted to the rank of Lieutenant. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Lieutenant Mike Gabbianelli, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward **Detective Sergeant Jules Maiorano**. Detective Sergeant Jules Maiorano is being promoted to the rank of Detective Lieutenant. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Detective Lieutenant Jules Maiorano, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward **Officer Anthony D'Amico**. Officer Anthony D'Amico is being promoted to the rank of Sergeant. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Sergeant Anthony D'Amico, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

At this time, **Mayor Wolfe** congratulated the newly promoted Officers. He noted, the retirements and promotions of officers have made room for new officers to be hired. He explained, past practice has been that the newly hired officers are sworn in as a group, however he believes as these new officers are joining the police department family that they deserve to be sworn in individually.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward new Officer, **Patrolman Dominick Stellaccio**. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman Dominic Stellaccio, while his wife held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward new Officer, **Patrolman Daniel Goneau**. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman Daniel Goneau, while his mother held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward new Officer, **Patrolman Justin Fyffe**. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman Justin Fyffe, while his father held the Bible and his family looked on.

**Chief Borkowski** called forward new Officer, **Patrolman Thomas Scudder**. **Mayor Wolfe** administered the Oath of Office to Patrolman Thomas Scudder, while his father held the Bible and his family looked on.

- Proclamation – Black History Month

**Mayor Wolfe** and **Cncl. Pres. Valcourt** presented a Certificate of Recognition to Loretta Winters, the President of the Gloucester County Chapter of the NAACP along with her team in recognition of Black History Month 2024.

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**B.) PRESENTATIONS / PROCLAMATIONS (cont'd)**

**Mayor Wolfe** advised that Ordinance O:05-2024 which is being presented for Second Reading and Public Hearing this evening, includes the observation of the Juneteenth National Independence Day as a recognized legal paid holiday for the employees of the Township of Monroe.

**Chief Borkowski** called for the Colors to be retired and a short recess took place to allow time for everyone in attendance to congratulate the newly promoted Officers.

**C.) MATTERS FOR DISCUSSION - None**

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

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

**F.) APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly** made a motion to approve the minutes as submitted of the Council Meeting of November 13, 2023 and Council Meeting of November 27, 2023. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance, with the exception of **Cncl. McKinney** who Abstained from voting.

**G.) CORRESPONDENCE - None**

**H.) RESOLUTIONS**

**Cncl. McKinney** made a motion to open the public portion for Resolutions scheduled. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak, **Cncl. McKinney** 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. Vice-Pres. Heverly** made a motion to bracket for approval, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:81-2024 through R:101-2024. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Adams** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**CONSENT AGENDA RESOLUTIONS R:81-2024 THROUGH R:101-2024**

**R:81-2024** Resolution Authorizing Closed Executive Session of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Discuss Matters Falling Under Pending/Anticipated Litigation Subject to Attorney-Client Privilege Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7)

**R:82-2024** Resolution Approving the Bill List and Paid List for the Council Meeting of February 14, 2024

**R:83-2024** 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:84-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Rejecting the One (1) Bid Received and Authorizing the (Re)Solicitation of Bids for Windows

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

**R:85-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Execution of Change Order No. 2 for South State, Inc. in the Decreased Amount of \$53,690.09 for Services Associated with the 2022 Road Program Project in the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

**R:86-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Release Agreement with Abigail Negron, Robert Smith and Marion Warr, and Authorizing the Chief Financial Officer to Allocate Funds as Per Said Agreement

**R:87-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Execution of a Shared Services Agreement for Fuel System Use Between the Township of Monroe and the Monroe Township Board of Education

**R:88-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Agreement with the Monroe Township Board of Education for School Resource Officer Services for the 2023-2024 School Year

**R:89-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Mayor to Sign Comcast PEG Access Operating Procedures Agreement

**R:90-2024** Resolution Consenting to the Appointment of Ryan Borkowski as Chief of Police of the Monroe Township Police Department for the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

**R:91-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Employment Agreement Between the Township of Monroe and the Monroe Township Chief of Police, Ryan Borkowski

**R:92-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Mayor to Execute an Employment Agreement Between the Township of Monroe and the Monroe Township Deputy Chief of Police, John McBride

**R:93-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Mayor to Enter into a Side Letter Agreement with the Monroe Township Superior Officers Association

**R:94-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Township of Monroe to Enter into a Contract with Phoenix Advisors, LLC for Financial Consulting Services for the Township of Monroe for the Year 2024

**R:95-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Township of Monroe to Enter into a Contract with the Special Counsel for Litigation for the Township of Monroe for the Year 2024

**R:96-2024** Resolution Authorizing the Township of Monroe to Enter into a Contract with the Conflict Solicitor for the Township of Monroe for the Year 2024

**R:97-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey Approving the Acceptance of Federal Funds and Participation in the 2024 Safe and Secure Communities Program with the State of New Jersey Federal Grant Program Administered by the NJ Department of Law & Public Safety, Office of the Attorney General

**R:98-2024** Resolution of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Mayor of the Township of Monroe to Enter into Developer's Agreement Among the Township of Monroe and Diocesan Housing Services Corporation of the Diocese of Camden, Inc. Concerning Real Property Identified as Block 11501, Lot 1

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

**R:99-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the Acceptance of a Performance Guarantee in the Amount of \$26,649.60 for Atlantic City Electric – Williamstown Substation Site Plan #520-SP, Block 13301, Lot 14

**R:100-2024** 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 Atlantic City Electric – Williamstown Substation Site Plan #520-SP, Block 13301, Lot 14

**R:101-2024** Resolution of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Authorizing the (Re)Solicitation of Qualifications/Proposals for Municipal Professional Services for the Year 2024

**Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly** made a motion to approve, by Consent Agenda, Resolutions R:81-2024 through R:101-2024. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**I.) ORDINANCES**

**Cncl. Fox** 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. Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance. With no one wishing to speak on the Ordinances for Second Reading, **Cncl. McKinney** made a motion to close the Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**O:02-2024** An Ordinance Fixing the Salaries of Officers and Employees of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Gloucester, State of New Jersey

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

**Cncl. Fox** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:02-2024 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:02-2024 FOR SECOND READING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

**6 AYES (Adams, Fox, Heverly, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt), 1 ABSENT (Garbowski)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance **O:02-2024** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:03-2024** An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe to Amend Chapter 74 of the Code of the Township of Monroe, Entitled "Fees"

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

**Cncl. Fox** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:03-2024 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Valcourt** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:03-2024 FOR SECOND READING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING –**

**6 AYES (Adams, Fox, Heverly, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt), 1 ABSENT (Garbowski)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance **O:03-2024** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

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**I.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)**

**O:04-2024** An Ordinance of the Township Council of the Township of Monroe Providing for the Implementation 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 Bob Meyer and MJ Voorhees SS, LLC, 440 Berlin-Cross Keys Road, Block 101, Lot 7

**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. Heverly** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:04-2024 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:04-2024 FOR SECOND READING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING –  
6 AYES (Adams, Fox, Heverly, McKinney, O’Reilly, Valcourt), 1 ABSENT (Garbowski)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance **O:04-2024** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:05-2024** 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”

**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. Heverly** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:05-2024 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:05-2024 FOR SECOND READING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING –  
6 AYES (Adams, Fox, Heverly, McKinney, O’Reilly, Valcourt), 1 ABSENT (Garbowski)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance **O:05-2024** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:06-2024** 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”

**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. Heverly** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:06-2024 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Pres. O’Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:06-2024 FOR SECOND READING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING –  
6 AYES (Adams, Fox, Heverly, McKinney, O’Reilly, Valcourt), 1 ABSENT (Garbowski)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance **O:06-2024** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:07-2024** 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.

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**I.) ORDINANCES (cont'd)**

**Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:07-2024 for Second Reading and Public Hearing. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE ORDINANCE O:07-2024 FOR SECOND READING  
AND PUBLIC HEARING –  
6 AYES (Adams, Fox, Heverly, McKinney, O'Reilly, Valcourt), 1 ABSENT (Garbowski)**

**Tally: 6 Ayes, 0 Nay, 0 Abstain, 1 Absent.** Ordinance **O:07-2024** was duly approved for Second Reading and Public Hearing.

**O:08-2024** 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"

**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. Heverly** made a motion to approve Ordinance O:08-2024 for First Reading and Publication. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Fox** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

**J.) NEW BUSINESS – None**

**K.) UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None**

**L.) REPORTS AND OTHER MATTERS**

**Mayor Wolfe** provided his annual address in order to inform all of the residents of the state of the township. He and his Administration walked through the doors in January 2023 very excited and anxious with some very big goals and high aspirations of all of the things that they wanted to accomplish, however they quickly learned that those things had to be set aside momentarily in order to take care of several issues that were left for them to handle. He spoke in reference to the several issues such as employee issues, lawsuits, buildings, equipment and property that were in desperate need of upgrading, repairs and in disrepair, specifically the Williamstown Fire Department, which had received proposals for \$16 million to build a new building, contracts that had been negotiated with high price tags and increases, substantial increases in health insurance costs, all of these caused him and the Administration to make a lot of decisions on how the Township could afford everything. He noted that the Township was in pretty bad shape, which all came from several years of no municipal tax increases, which is a great accomplishment but at what cost and today, due to the lack of funding through those years, the lack of upkeep and maintenance, the lack of consideration for the future, coming out of a pandemic with high inflation, in essence his future as Mayor was set up to fail. Mayor Wolfe stated that he along with the Administration, the Council, and the Township employees will not let the Township fail. He advised that during his first few weeks in office, his team was able to resolve many employee issues that were already scheduled for arbitration prior to their arrival, they provided fair agreements for the employees, unions and for what he believes some of the issues were Township failures and other issues were employee failures, the important thing was that he was able to resolve the issues in a manner that was most beneficial to the taxpayers and to the township, resolving the matters in house rather than proceeding with the arbitration saved the taxpayers thousands of dollars. He noted, he and his team have been accomplishing small tasks and saving the taxpayers money, they have revamped the entire IT Department, identified an enormous loss with the Monroe Township Emergency Medical Services, explaining how that issue was resolved, transferred the employees' health benefits to a new insurance plan saving approximately \$50,000.00 and explained the details in how and why the new health insurance plan was chosen. The Mayor spoke in reference to the new Williamstown Fire Department's station, noting it has been a long-standing project that had previously not been able to be

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

completed. He advised he has had several meetings with the Williamstown Fire Department personnel, there is a new architect designated for the project and there is a new conceptual design which will be going out for bid once the municipal budget is approved, noting he is estimating the project to cost approximately \$8 million. Mayor Wolfe stated, he always hears how Monroe Township is not business friendly and that the township is in desperate need of new businesses and new retail to help offset the ever-growing costs. He advised that since taking office, he immediately began to change the process and developed an application for all new business coming into the town, the Planning Department, Zoning Department, Economic Development Commission, and the Township Administration have the application on hand in order to help the new prospective business when they visit that specific office, explaining the new process for all new businesses which helps to ensure they feel welcome and informed. The Mayor spoke regarding the challenges the township and the businesses face with half of the township property falling within the Pinelands and assured the townships' commitment to bring new businesses to Monroe Township. He noted, he is beginning to see the benefits of the new process, stating that new business is coming, some will be new construction and some will fill some of the vacant businesses. He commended the Council, who have amended the Township Code to enhance penalties to help clean up the Township from the business owners who are allowing the properties to become dilapidated. He spoke in reference to the newly re-established Economic Development Commission and the projects they are currently working on to help promote all of the businesses within the township. Mayor Wolfe expressed the importance of everyone working together and supporting the hometown businesses. Since taking office, the Administration is trying to change the culture with the employees, noting when there is a happy workforce, the employees treat the residents better and when there are happy residents, they treat the employees better. He stated, by working with the Unions, settling pending arbitrations and grievances as soon as they took office, he and Administration have earned the trust of the employees once again and he believes the employees are much happier now. He stated that a four-day work week has been put into place this year, noting the benefits the shortened work week provides to both the employees and the residents. He stated, they have made significant upgrades to various municipal buildings and parks, noting the building and property maintenance has not been taken care of in many years, such as the Court Room which was completely revamped during the holiday break and further upgrades to the sound system will be coming soon. He advised that the township has aggressively caught up with the Road Program, noting it seems that in years past, the township was always one or two years behind. Mayor Wolfe explained when the Township protects and maintains their investments, it will ultimately save the taxpayers money. He spoke in reference to the rising costs from agreements with HOAs from certain developments, explaining the plan being put into place which will help further reduce the costs. The Mayor explained that even though they are saving money, it still does not get the township where it needs to be, noting in 2023, the township saw almost a \$2 million increase in the annual budget, which they were able to minimize while working with the County and the school district and again 2024, the budget is increasing with the cost of doing business increasing, contract obligations which were negotiated prior to his arrival but they are working hard to try and minimize any tax increase. Mayor Wolfe thanked Business Administrator Jim DeHart, the entire Administration, Chief Financial Officer Lorraine Boyer, Human Resource personnel, Christine Scola and Felicia McBride, all of the Directors, and Council for their support, all of their hard work and dedication to making the Monroe Township better than it was before. He along with Deputy Mayor Kurz have officiated over forty (40) weddings within their first year in office, noting they do not accept payment for officiating, however donations for those services have been made in excess of \$4,000.00 to various local non-profit groups located within Monroe Township. He thanked Deputy Mayor Kurz for all of his assistance throughout this past year. He congratulated all of those who were promoted within the Police Department and the new officers who were sworn in. Mayor Wolfe stated there are big plans coming in 2024 not only for the Police Department but for the township, expressing his excitement for the new processes that are coming.

**Deputy Mayor Kurz** officiated a wedding on February 18<sup>th</sup>, congratulating the newlyweds. He congratulated all of the officers who were promoted this evening and welcomed all of the newly hired officers.



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

**Director of Code Enforcement, Mr. Sebastian** reported, for the month of January, the Construction Department has performed 142 building inspections, 54 fire inspections, 147 electrical inspections, 90 plumbing inspections, and 59 mechanical inspections, for a total of 492 inspections. The Housing Department has performed 178 inspections and the Zoning Department had 116 applications reviewed, for a grand total of 786 inspections for the month of January and year to date, 786 inspections.

**Director of Community Affairs, Mrs. Park** reported that the Department of Community Affairs held a Valentine's Day Dance for students with disabilities, which was a fun-filled dance for the most deserving kids. A Valentine's Day luncheon was held on February 14<sup>th</sup> for the senior citizens with Mayor Wolfe and Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly in attendance. The Spring Fling Luncheon for the seniors to celebrate both St. Patrick's Day and Easter will take place on March 21<sup>st</sup>. Mrs. Park stated, there are many more upcoming events that she plans to announce in March. She thanked all of the community volunteers who come out to help with all of the events, noting it is truly appreciated and makes a difference in the success of each event. She directed everyone to follow the Community Affairs Facebook page, call or stop by the Pfeiffer Community Center for more information on all of the events. Mrs. Park reminded everyone that the Pfeiffer Center's large room is available for rent for private events.

**Director of Parks & Recreation, Mr. Cope** reported, the Parks and Recreation Commission will host its' annual Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> at Owens Park, noting there will be pictures with the Easter Bunny, face-painting and prizes. The special needs Easter Egg Hunt will begin promptly at 11:00am in the Skate Park and the Easter Egg Hunt for the children 12 and under will begin promptly at 12:00 noon on the football field. The rain date, if needed, will be March 23<sup>rd</sup>.

**Director of Public Safety, Mr. Rumpf** congratulated Chief Monahan on his retirement along with the newly appointed Chief Ryan Borkowski for his promotion, noting he is looking forward to working with him. He congratulated all of the officers who were promoted to the next rank up, as well as the newly sworn-in officers. Mr. Rumpf reported that the Monroe Township Police Department handled 4,126 calls for service for the month of January and the Williamstown Fire Department reported 73 calls for service in January.

**Chief Financial Officer, Ms. Boyer** congratulated all of the police officers and the newly appointed Chief and Deputy Chief. She stated, in the twenty (20) years serving as a Chief Financial Officer, this is the best Administration that she has ever worked with.

**Cncl. Fox** reported that the first meeting of the Rent Leveling Board was held last night, noting it was very successful meeting with a great turnout. Cncl. Fox congratulated all of the Police Officers and their families on this evening's promotions.

**Cncl. Pres. Valcourt** congratulated Chief Monahan on his retirement and Chief Borkowski, Deputy Chief McBride, Captain Burton, Lieutenant Gabbianelli, Lieutenant Maiorano, and Sergeant D'Amico on the promotions, noting if these names are as familiar to everyone as they are to her, it is thanks to their and the departments commitment to community policing and community relations. She noted, the Monroe Township Police Department does such a wonderful job of being there and being present and allowing the community, especially the younger generations, to start life with a positive perception of police officers. Cncl. Pres. Valcourt extended her congratulations and best wishes to the four (4) new police officers, who have joined an incredible, respected and nation-wide recognized police department.

**M.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION**

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

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**M.) GENERAL PUBLIC DISCUSSION (cont'd)**

**Jerry Lodge, 1464 N. Tuckahoe Road** addressed the Mayor and Council to express his concerns with the shared boarder of approximately 1,000 feet between his residence and Hamilton Greene, specifically that the project would not cause flooding on his property and the issue of privacy. He advised that he was promised that there would not be any issue with water and during the initial phases of the project, he had several inches of water on approximately 100 feet of his driveway during and after it rained on a few occasions, however, he believes this problem has been resolved. Mr. Lodge spoke in reference to the issue of privacy, explaining that his property is approximately 20 feet from the property line and that the developer had promised to leave a 30-foot buffer along the edge of the property, however the buffer has been completely removed, leaving no buffer. Mr. Lodge asked for assurance that the Township will adhere to their buffer guidelines and rectify the situation. **Mayor Wolfe** advised that he will talk to the Township Engineer, to try and rectify the situation and will report back to Mr. Lodge.

**Glenn Groves, 1464 N. Tuckahoe Road** thanked the Mayor and Council for changing Monroe Township for the better and Business Administrator Mr. DeHart for always being an immediate responder when he expresses his concerns. Mr. Groves expressed his concerns with the drainage basin located at Hamilton Green that does not function properly, noting his concern is not with the flooding but with the fact that the basin holds water. He stated that he would like to have his concerns regarding the drainage basin noted on the record, as it is his understanding that the Township still holds the bond for the project and he would like to ensure that the bond is not released until the drainage basin issues are resolved. **Mayor Wolfe** agreed that his concerns should be noted on the record, in order to ensure that all of Council is aware of basin issues. Mr. Groves expressed his concerns with the mosquitos, due to the basin working improperly, to which Mayor Wolfe suggested that he contact the County's Mosquito Control.

With no one else wishing to speak, **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly** made a motion to close the General Public Discussion. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. O'Reilly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

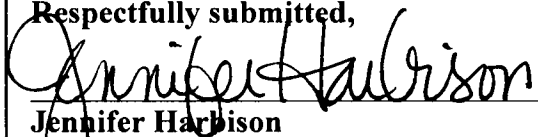
At this time, **Cncl. Valcourt** advised that Council will be going into Closed Executive Session to discuss Resolution R:81-2024, relating to pending/anticipated litigation and advised that no action will be taken during the Closed Executive Session.

**CLOSED EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**M.) ADJOURNMENT**

With nothing further to discuss, **Cncl. Fox** made a motion to adjourn the Council Meeting of February 28, 2024. The motion was seconded by **Cncl. Vice-Pres. Heverly** and unanimously approved by all members of Council in attendance.

Respectfully submitted,

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Jennifer Harbison**  
Deputy Municipal Clerk

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
**Chelsea Valcourt**  
Presiding Officer

*These minutes were prepared from excerpts of the recorded proceedings, as well as hand-written notes taken, of the Council Meeting of February 28, 2024, 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 4/10/2024  
Date \_\_\_\_\_