



Township of Monroe

County of Middlesex

GERALD W. TAMBURRO
Mayor

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES:
Municipal Complex
1 Municipal Plaza
Monroe Township, NJ 08831
(732) 521-4400
(732) 521-5659 FAX

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

PRESS RELEASE - March 8, 2017

Monroe Welcomes Newcomers to the Council and Administration

MONROE – In a unanimous showing, the Monroe Township Council appointed a new Council member and named the municipality's future business administrator at its Monday meeting.

Sifting through a pool of qualified candidates recently put forth by the Monroe Township Democratic Organization, Council members selected Monroe resident Miriam Cohen to fill an open At-Large seat vacated by former Councilwoman Leslie Koppel Feb. 16.

The Middlesex County Board of Chosen Freeholders tapped Koppel to join its ranks following the retirement of former Freeholder Carol Bellante.

Councilwoman Cohen, a consultant and adjunct professor with a long-spanning history in public health, previously headed the League of Women Voters in East Brunswick and is currently the president of the Whittingham Homeowner's Association in Greenbriar at Whittingham.

She will serve on the Council until the year's end and would be required to run for the remaining two-year term during November's General Election.

"I believe in people working together for the common good, and this body has a reputation for doing that," Cohen said to a packed audience at the Township's Senior Center, shortly after her swearing-in ceremony.

At that same meeting, the Council reorganized, electing Stephen Dalina as Council President and Elizabeth Schneider as Council Vice President.

Monroe's Senior Center was teeming with visitors, Township personnel and residents, many on hand to give a proper sendoff to longtime Monroe Business Administrator Wayne Hamilton, who's slated to retire March 31.

In recognition of his 15-year commitment to Monroe, Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro presented Hamilton, a former Spotswood mayor who's widely credited with implementing Monroe's modern-day government, with a key to the township.

"There's no one I can think of more deserving of this key," Mayor Tamburro said following the meeting. "Wayne Hamilton has been a steady and steadfast leader, navigated our township through hard and prosperous times. He will be sorely missed and incredibly difficult to replace."

Returning from a special session toward the close of Monday's meeting, the Township Council passed a resolution authorizing Mayor Tamburro to hire Hamilton's anticipated successor, Alan Weinberg.

Weinberg, a senior adviser and director of operations to New Jersey Senate President Steven Sweeney, is expected to step into his new role with the Township on an interim basis by mid-March and officially take the reins April 1.

The administration's latest addition comes with a wealth of experience in government, holding past titles that include: Edison Township Mayoral Aide, Legislative Correspondent for the U.S. Senate, Director of Program Development at the New Jersey Program Development Corporation, Special Assistant to the Chief of the Office of Cabinet Affairs during New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey's tenure and Senior Director of Public Affairs at the New Jersey Transit Corporation.

For further details, contact Monroe Township's Public Information Officer Maria Prato at 732-521-4400 or mprato@monroetwp.com.