

COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
MINUTES
SPECIAL & AGENDA MEETING – JULY 30, 2012

The Council of the Township of Monroe met in the Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza, for a Special Meeting.

The Special Meeting was Called to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Gerald W. Tamburro with a Salute to the Flag.

UPON ROLL CALL by Township Clerk, Sharon Doerfler, the following members of Council were present: : Councilman Stephen Dalina, Councilwoman Leslie Koppel, Councilman Michael Leibowitz, Council Vice-President Henry L. Miller and Council President Gerald W. Tamburro.

ALSO PRESENT for Council was: Mayor Richard Pucci, Business Administrator Wayne R. Hamilton, Township Attorney Joel L. Shain and Township Engineer Ernest W. Feist.

There were approximately one hundred (100) members of the Public present in the audience.

Council President Tamburro requested the following **SUNSHINE LAW** be read into the record:

In accordance with the Open Public Meetings Act, it is hereby announced and shall be entered into the Minutes of this meeting that adequate notice of this meeting has been provided by the following:

1. Posted on July 24, 2012 on the Bulletin Board of the Office of the Township Clerk in the Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS** and in the **CRANBURY PRESS** on July 27, 2012.
3. Posted on July 24, 2012 on the Bulletin Boards within the Municipal Complex;
4. Posted on the Monroe Township website; and
5. Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

In accordance with Chapter 3, Section 17 of the Monroe Township Code, Public Comment shall be limited to five (5) minutes unless further time is granted by the Council President.

Council President Tamburro announced the Special Meeting is being held for the purpose of having a report on the findings of the Fire Consolidation Study Advisory Committee, Consideration of various Resolutions and any other business that may come before the Council. The regularly scheduled Agenda Meeting will immediately follow.

Council President Tamburro called upon the Township Business Administrator, Wayne Hamilton for a report on the findings of the Fire Consolidation Study Advisory Committee.

Administrator Hamilton gave an overview of the Fire Consolidation Advisory Committee Report which hit the high points of the Committee's findings. The full report will be available on the Township Website or in the Township Clerk's Office. He proceeded with a power point presentation.

Strengths and weaknesses were identified within the three districts.

- All Districts – Lack of Inter-departmental Training
Lack of coordinating standard operating guidelines
Lack of integrated command structure
- Fire Dist# 2 – Need for improved relations and more support between Fire District#2 Commissions and the Appelgarth Volunteer Company.
- Fire Dist# 3 – Employment of an Administrative Chief with no operational command Authority.

Per Capita Basa - Fire Protection Spending for Monroe Twp.:

- In 2011 was \$242.94 vs. similar towns with like population at a cost of \$199.59 in 2010.

Fire Budgets & Tax Rates from 2004-2011.

- Despite a very large growth in the total assessed valuation of 29%, the Fire District Budgets increased 45.89% and more important, the tax levy increased almost 85%. (From \$4,316,000. To \$7,900,000)

Fire District Budget Comparisons

- There is a significant impact on overall costs of operations when you're factoring Career Fire Fighters vs. Volunteer Fire Fighters.
- Labor Agreements – Side by Side comparison of salary & benefits of career fire fighters in Districts 2 & 3 as a point of reference as to the cost of the career operation.

The Committee after deliberations came up with the following recommendation:

- Retain the three existing fire districts with the understanding that the benchmark recommendations that will be outlined next be implemented in the next four years. Failure to achieve those recommendations will result in revisiting this issue.

Benchmark recommendations:

1. Recommend a shared services agreement to employ a full time Township wide Fire Chief.
Recommend a nationwide search be undertaken and a full operating command authority be vested in that new Township wide Fire Chief.

Fire Districts would reimburse the Township for all payroll costs, benefits and expenses of the Chief.
2. Fire District# 3 needs to achieve a 10% reduction of its' 2012 annual operating expenses exclusive of that service capital expenses pension and employee benefits over a four year period with career staffing not to exceed current levels.
3. The same parameters will apply to Fire District# 2.
4. The extraordinary success of the volunteers in Fire District #1 has to be acknowledged. It is the committees' recommendation that a volunteer force be utilized and encouraged to grow in the other two Districts using District# 1 as a model. District #3 shall have a fully operational trained volunteer force within three years. It is suggested that one single volunteer organization be established for the Township.
5. It is advisable to eventually have one master labor contract to reduce costs and provide parity among all Career Personnel.
6. Fire inspectors in all three districts should be combined eventually creating a Fire Prevention Bureau.
7. Fair and equitable budgets need to be developed with the volunteer fire departments. A more realistic agreement needs to be negotiated between Dist.# 2 and the Applegarth Fire Dept.
8. More co-operative - joint purchasing with the Township in all three districts must take place to reduce costs in all operating expenses including professional services, insurance, equipment, maintenance, fuel etc.
9. Township wide 5 year capital plan should be developed under the direction of the new chief with all purchases viewed from a Township wide perspective. For example, equipment needs to avoid duplication.

10. All emergency services within the Township should continue to look for ways to reduce costs, provide efficiencies by utilizing joint purchasing, sharing facilities, and coordination of jointly used infrastructure, (ex. – radio system and dispatching).
11. The Mayor & Council should appoint an Oversight Advisory Committee to provide progress updates to the Mayor and Council in meeting the benchmarks that are outlined.
12. The Fire District Council should be abolished by Ordinance.
13. Fire Management Committee should be created to serve as decision makers responsible for hiring the new Fire Chief and to provide guidance and oversight as uniform policy & procedures, training and integrated command structure are developed and implemented. It is recommended that the Fire Management Committee consist of the three chairs of each district and the Township Administrator. The SOG should be developed by the Chief and line officers and submitted to the three Fire District Boards for approval.

The key component of this plan is an expanded and active volunteer roll in Monroe Township and fire service delivery. In order to achieve some of the cost containment benchmarks this becomes necessary.

Potential service delivery improvements. This will provide improve fire....., improve incident operations, reduce response times, improve fire fighter safety, improve dispatch due to common protocols, opportunity for training improvements and improve safety to the residents.

The returns on investment would be enhanced accountability, improved management, increased pride in the organizations, cost containment and reduced organizational friction. The committee feels that the Township-wide Fire Chief is the key component in this process. This would be the person that brings the three fire districts together and establish uniform policies and improve the service delivery.

He then thanked all the participants in this process.

Mayor Pucci – Complimented Mr. Hamilton and the Committee on their efforts. He feels that one of the keys to success is to look back and see where we were and where we are today and the ultimate goal. He and the Council did not want the Committee to look at just raw numbers and budgets but rather to look at it from the community side and the services that are needed. He reflected on the totally volunteer fire departments of years ago and with the growth of the township how it became paid in two of the fire districts. He stressed the importance of the volunteers. He also stressed the importance of working together in purchasing and manpower and move forward in a productive way.

Council:

Council President Tamburro – commented on the number of hours involved prior to even forming the Committee. Mr. Hamilton thanked the Committee for their open minds and flexibility, which has enabled them to reach a consensus.

Councilman Leibowitz – who sat on the Committee, explained that one of his objectives was to make sure that the tax equity was not the goal. The goal was for a stronger, better and more efficient operation. He feels that they came up with a comfortable solution. He also thanked the Committee, along with Les Adams, the President of Public Safety Solutions, for his advice and insight.

Council President Tamburro asked Mr. Hamilton about the time frame for having one full-time Fire Chief and Mr. Hamilton responded that the anticipated start date would be January 1st, 2013.

Councilman Dalina thanked all the Committee members for participating in the process.

Councilwoman Koppel – commented that change is never easy. We need to work as one community with one goal.

Council Vice-President Miller – had several questions regarding a consensus of the Committee and the hiring of a new Fire Chief and if a Committee would be formed to do so.

Public:

Alan Kahn, 11 Crenshaw Court, resident of Fire District #3, is disappointed in what has been presented. The idea of a Township-wide Fire Chief is needed, but you are giving this person a very difficult job in trying to maintain three independent fire districts and fifteen Commissioners. He feels this Chief is not going to be able to integrate enough volunteers unless there is a Township-wide true service. We need one district or a Township department. He feels then volunteers can serve besides paid firemen and provide the best service for the residents of Monroe.

Michele Arminio, 9 Nathaniel St. – asked the number of firemen needed at a fire. Les Adams stated that it depends on the nature and extent of the fire. To perform initial response and attack, it requires four people, 2 in, 2 out, and then the initial responding unit should have four additional people. As the additional units come in they would pick up the additional chores. She does not feel there is much of a change as to how things will be run. She feels more administrative services will be necessary and that will mean more taxes. To get top heavy administratively does not help. She also would like to see a specific category of fires only, not responses. There seems to be an enormous amount of responses which can entail changing batteries and smoke detectors.

Administrator Hamilton explained that what Mr. Adams looked at was the dispatched calls, not the service calls. He also explained that points of view were listened to and one of the paramount concerns heard is that the exceptionally strong volunteer system in Fire District #1 would be harmed by a unified fire district. If there was a singular district, they felt they would never get anybody elected on the north end of town. The Committee certainly did not want to do anything to diminish the volunteers in Fire District #1. The other option looked at was to see if the law would allow them to do that and the Statute does not.

She pointed out that this was the second time a Study has been done. She was informed that the first Study was not a paid one, however, the results keep coming out the same. Administrator Hamilton stated there were no recommendations made after the last Study.

Tom Nothstein, 15 Nathaniel St. – commented that in the past, Monroe was compared with other towns in taxes. Now the talk seems to be about the cost per person for fire protection. Could this be because we are spending too much per person? Everyone wants safety. He does not believe the Report addressed why we are paying so much and what we are going to do about the situation.

Council President Tamburro stated that once we have an administrative Fire Chief that oversees all three Fire Districts, that should be one of the first things looked at. There is a 10% cut in operation costs of both Fire District #2 & 3 over the next four years. This could be substantial. If it does not happen, the Township is prepared to move forward with some solution on a Township-wide basis.

Administrator Hamilton added that the key ingredient is to grow the volunteer presence that currently exists in Districts 2 & 3.

Mr. Nothstein's concern is that we are giving them four years. In four years we can be back and spending another \$60,000 for another Study and start the process all over again.

Administrator Hamilton stated there will be an oversight Committee that will be aware of each districts progress.

Council President Tamburro stated the Council will review the recommendations with Administration. He also added that the Chief's salary & benefits will be paid for by each of the three fire districts. Therefore, there will be an incentive to do more with the volunteers and the labor contracts can be more contained over that next four year period. A shared service agreement is the first thing that needs to be adopted as a first step.

Virginia McGuiness, Nantucket Way – questioned the shared service agreement and what will happen if all districts do not pay their fair share. Administrator Hamilton responded that from a Committee standpoint, there is a threat that all three districts will be abolished.

She next questioned the response time of volunteers and if a Study was ever done. Administrator Hamilton responded that in the original Report of May 2011, a Study was done.

Eugene Autbaum, 36 Country Club Drive – Feels that numbers do not mean anything. We have three districts with three different average ages. You can't have the same number of volunteers. Basically you are mandating, on age, which districts must pay their fire people. Administrator Hamilton responded that the demographics of each fire district were taken into consideration. He also stated that there have been a lot more non-age restricted homes that have been constructed in Districts 2 & 3, whereas, in the past, there had been fewer. The Committee believes there is a source of new prospective volunteers in District #2. They do recognize that in some districts there needs to be a stronger career presence.

Council President Tamburro added that each of the fire districts have their own budgets, none of which are the same. It will be the new Fire Chief's responsibility to bring them into conformity with each other.

Frank Steinhauser, 19 Oliver St. – asked if the Chiefs of all three districts will be eliminated when the new Fire Chief is hired. Administrator Hamilton responded "no", someone will have to be "in charge" in each of the three districts. There will be some kind of rank structure.

Steve Gorbe, 113 Gravel Hill-Spotswood – spoke about volunteers who report to Jamesburg because District #3 has no volunteers. He next asked what the criteria is for a Township-wide Fire Chief and hopes they would not hire a retired Chief. Administrator Hamilton responded saying there will be no Administrative Chief but one with full operational command authority. Next he asked if the Fire Chief's would be phased out and Les Adams responded that he believes it will occur when the new Fire Chief is hired and a rank structure is established.

Gerald Kaplan, 50 Turnberry Drive, Fire Commissioner, District #3 – feels there is no need for fifteen Fire Commissioners – Five would be sufficient. Rateables are needed. He feels if they have to take this reduction, there will be lay-offs. The fire safety of District #3 will be compromised. He feels that because they are in the middle of the two other districts, they are obligated to go to all fires, costing District# 3 – 34 Paid Members.

James Hannon, 177 Park Ave., Old Bridge – Vice-President of the Monroe Township Professional Fire Fighters Association – Spoke regarding the NFPA Staffing that was brought up before. He read directly from the NFPA's Website establishing the minimum amount of personnel required to operate safely at a fire scene. The budget has been cut in Fire District #3 and the 10% will hurt along with paying, training, insuring & providing pension benefits for volunteers. Manpower will need to be cut.

Charlie Lerman, 11 Doral Drive – hopes that when services are combined it will more than offset some of the cost. He then asked and was given the budgets for each fire district:

- Fire Dist.# 1 - \$1,455K
 - Fire Dist.# 2 - \$3,390K
 - Fire Dist.# 3 - \$4,660K
- TOTAL \$9,505K

He is in favor of a Fire Chief and a central organization with command over these districts. He is concerned about the bureaucracy.

A ten minutes recess was taken at 8:30pm.

The Special Meeting was recalled to order at 8:40pm.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Koppel and seconded by Councilman Leibowitz, the following Resolutions were moved for adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA**, as hereinbelow set forth:

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Stephen Dalina	Aye
	Councilwoman Leslie Koppel	Aye
	Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
	Council Vice-President Henry L. Miller	Aye
	Council President Gerald W. Tamburro	Aye

RESOLUTIONS adopted under **CONSENT AGENDA** are as follows:

R-7-2012-221 RESOLUTION DETERMINING THE FORM AND OTHER DETAILS OF THE OFFERING OF \$30,075,000 GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES 2012 OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY AND PROVIDING FOR THE SALE OF SUCH BONDS AND DETERMINING CERTAIN MATTERS WITH RESPECT TO THE SALE AND ISSUANCE OF \$43,000,000 BOND ANTICIPATION NOTES.

R-7-2012-222 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR THE COMBINATION OF CERTAIN ISSUES OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, INTO A SINGLE ISSUE OF BONDS AGGREGATING \$30,075,000 IN PRINCIPAL AMOUNT.

R-7-2012-223 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF AN APPLICATION FOR THE MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT FOR TERM YEAR 2013.

Council President Tamburro requested Administrator Hamilton to address Resolutions #6.a. and 6.b.

Administrator Hamilton stated that in anticipation of the Bond Sale on Wednesday, Resolution 6.a. puts out the form and details of the offering of thirty million dollars of General Obligation Bonds and 6.b. is a Resolution making it a single issue that will be put out to the bond market as well as forty three million dollars of Bond Anticipation Notes.

Copies of Resolutions Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Leibowitz and seconded by Councilwoman Koppel, the Special Meeting was Adjourned and the regularly scheduled Agenda Meeting was Called to Order at 8:45pm

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Stephen Dalina	Aye
	Councilwoman Leslie Koppel	Aye
	Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
	Council Vice-President Henry L. Miller	Aye
	Council President Gerald W. Tamburro	Aye

Council President Tamburro read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2012 REGULAR MEETING**:

a. **BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER O-8- 2000-026 FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ON AUGUST 28, 2000 (WHICH PROVIDES FOR VARIOUS 2000 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS), AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, TO AMEND THE DESCRIPTION SET FORTH THEREIN, AND CANCELLING AND REPEALING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER O-2-2012-001.**

- b. **BOND ORDINANCE AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING BOND ORDINANCE NUMBER O-3-2006-010 FINALLY ADOPTED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY ON MARCH 27, 2006 (WHICH PROVIDES FOR VARIOUS 2006 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IMPROVEMENTS), AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, TO INCREASE APPROPRIATIONS, AUTHORIZATIONS AND DOWN PAYMENTS THEREIN.**
- c. **ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 109.02, LOTS 6 & 7 ON THE TAX MAP OF MONROE TOWNSHIP IN EXCHANGE FOR CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 109.02, LOTS 3 & 4 ON THE TAX MAP OF MONROE TOWNSHIP.**
- d. **ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR THE ACQUISITION OF CERTAIN PARCELS OF LAND IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 106.91, LOT 47.01 ON THE TAX MAP OF MONROE TOWNSHIP.**
- e. **ORDINANCE OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, MIDDLESEX COUNTY, SPECIFICALLY CHAPTER 122 THEREOF ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC". (Trucks Over Four Tons Excluded on First & Tenth Avenues between Spotswood-Englishtown & Monmouth Roads)**
- f. **ORDINANCE RELEASING, VACATING AND EXTINGUISHING ANY AND ALL PUBLIC RIGHTS IN AND TO A PORTION OF AVENUE F.**

Council President Tamburro read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **INTRODUCTION** at the **MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2012** Regular Council meeting:

- a. **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LEASE AND AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY RELATING TO THE ISSUANCE OF COUNTY-GUARANTEED CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2012 OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY.**
- b. **A LOAN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, APPROVING AND AUTHORIZING THE ENTERING INTO, EXECUTION AND DELIVERY OF A LOAN AND SECURITY AGREEMENT WITH THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY FOR THE UNDERTAKING OF VARIOUS 2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS AND THE ACQUISITION AND INSTALLATION, AS APPLICABLE, OF VARIOUS EQUIPMENT WITH AN ESTIMATED COST OF \$570,950, THE COST OF SUCH IMPROVEMENTS AND EQUIPMENT TO BE FINANCED THROUGH THE ISSUANCE OF COUNTY-GUARANTEED CAPITAL EQUIPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT REVENUE BONDS, SERIES 2012 OF THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY.**
- c. **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS 2012 CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS, ALL LAWFUL AND PUBLIC PURPOSES, BY AND IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "TOWNSHIP"); APPROPRIATING \$1,545,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$1,470,900 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COSTS THEREOF.**
- d. **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF LANDS DESIGNATED AS LOT 2.4 IN BLOCK 39 AND LOT 7.1 IN BLOCK 177 BEING GRANTED TO THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AS PART OF THE FLOOD MITIGATION PROGRAM AND TO BE DEDICATED AS OPEN SPACE.**
- e. **ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, STATE OF NEW JERSEY (THE "TOWNSHIP") PROVIDING FOR A SPECIAL EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$75,000 TO FUND THE ENGAGEMENT OF SPECIAL CONSULTANTS FOR THE PREPARATION OF A MASTER PLAN TO CONFORM TO THE REVISED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE (CHAPTER 108) AND THE PREPARATION OF A REVISION AND CODIFICATION OF THE REVISED LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**

Council President Tamburro requested the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the **MONDAY, AUGUST 6, 2012** Regular Council meeting be reviewed and will address any questions:

- a. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RENEWAL OF INACTIVE LIQUOR LICENSE FOR THE 2012 – 2013 LICENSE TERM.**
- b. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE WITH THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) FOR W&S – 1063 SHRI RAM CHANDRA MISSION – BLOCK 13, LOT 5.03 (BA #5009-09).**
- c. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF THE PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED WITH THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) FOR W&S – 866.1 WATER AND 866.2 SEWER BY K. HOVNIANIAN FOR THE FOUR SEASONS @ MONROE PROJECT AT BLOCK 40, LOTS 2.02, 3, 4.01 & 5.01, BLOCK 41, LOT 14 AND BLOCK 25, LOT 1.25 (PB #1006-06).**
- d. **RESOLUTION ACCEPTING THE WITHDRAWAL OF BID FOR THE DEY FARM HISTORIC SITE, REJECTING THE REMAINING OVER- BUDGET BIDS AND AUTHORIZING THE BID TO BE RE-ADVERTISED WITH REVISIONS.**
- e. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR CLEARVIEW ESTATES.**
- f. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO NORTH AMERICAN INSURANCE MANAGEMENT CORPORATION FOR RISK MANAGEMENT INSURANCE CONSULTING SERVICES.**
- g. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A DEVELOPER’S REIMBURSEMENT AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN K. HOVNIANIAN AT MONROE NJ, LLC AND THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND OPERATION OF SANITARY SEWER LINES ON PROPERTY IDENTIFIED AS BLOCK 25, LOTS 1 & 25, BLOCK 41, LOT 14 AND BLOCK 40, LOTS 2.02, 3, 4.01 & 5.01 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**
- h. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO B & H CONTRACTING, INC. FOR CONTRACT NO. 307B “PHASE II WELL NO. 21 WATER TREATMENT FACILITY EXPANSION” FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”).**
- i. **RESOLUTION REFUNDING THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**
- j. **RESOLUTION REFUNDING THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENT FOR BLOCK 102, LOT 13 AND AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF THE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE.**
- k. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP ENGINEER TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISE FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP ROAD IMPROVEMENTS – MILLING.**
- l. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH FEIST ENGINEERING, INC. FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES RELATED TO THE 2012 ENCORE@MONROE PUNCH LIST BONDED IMPROVEMENTS.**
- m. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A ONE-TIME GRACE PERIOD FOR THE PAYMENT OF 2012 THIRD QUARTER TAXES.**
- n. **RESOLUTION REFUNDING TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**
- o. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAX SALE CERTIFICATE.**

- p. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT EXECUTED BY FEIST ENGINEERING, INC. FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DEY FARM HISTORIC SITE.**
- q. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT FOR HOLT-MORGAN-RUSSELL ARCHITECTS FOR ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES RELATED TO IMPROVEMENTS TO THE DEY FARM HISTORIC SITE.**
- r. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF A SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT REGARDING THE MATTER MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D.") v. KOHL CONSTRUCTION GROUP, KOHL PARTNERS, LLC AND WATERSIDE VILLAS HOLDINGS, LLC.**
- s. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE A DEVELOPER'S AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN K. HOVNIANIAN AT MONROE NJ, L.L.C.; SOUTHFIELD GRAND, L.L.C.; STRATFORD DEVELOPERS, L.L.C.; APPLGARTH DEVELOPERS, L.L.C.; MONROE MANOR, INC. AND THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT'S PUMP STATION 2.**
- t. **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MAHER & MAHER, LLC TO HANDLE THE BUCKLEW AVENUE/SPOTSWOOD-ENGLISHTOWN ROAD INTERSECTION WIDENING CONDEMNATION AND PROPERTY ACQUISITION PROCEEDINGS FOR BLOCK 34, LOT 3 AS EXTRAORDINARY LITIGATION.**

Councilman Leibowitz questioned the location of the liquor license referenced in Item #10.a. – Township Clerk Sharon Doerfler responded that it is was originally on Route #33, however, it is no longer active and has no place of operation.

Council Vice-President Miller asked the Clerk the number of renewals allowed? Her response was that a Petition must be filed with the State ABC Director who reviews the efforts being made by a licensee to activate the license. He then gives his approval to the Clerk allowing her to bring it before the Council for action.

Councilwoman Koppel questioned Item #10.d. – asking the time frame for the rebid for improvements to the Dey Farm. Administrator Hamilton explained that adjustments are being made to the specifications in the original bid.

Mayor Pucci – No report

Administrator Hamilton – reported that the tax bills are going out on Wednesday with the extension of the grace period to August 28th.

The Administrator further reported that an advisory went out to the people in the north end of town about a low water pressure problem. That same situation was experienced last year. Voluntary odd-even watering has been requested.

He further mentioned that the milling and paving of Forsgate Drive will begin August 8th from CVS up to the railroad tracks. Notice will be placed on the Township website.

Engineer Feist - gave an update on Cedar Brook Pond in Rossmoor. The State and Federal government is not committed to fund any of the projects submitted by his office to improve conditions in that area. On July 16th he, the Mayor, Council President, and Council Vice-President Miller met with the County Engineer and County Administrator to discuss the feasibility of a Tri-Party Agreement or Inter-Local Agreement between the County, Township and the Rossmoor Community and perhaps the entity that owns a portion of the Cedar Brook Pond. As a result of the meeting, both he and the County came to an Agreement on some 1st step projects that the County was amenable to and the County Administrator also made it clear that he was amenable to the concept of an Inter-local, Tri-Party or Quad-Party Agreement with the various entities. Improvements will be costly. The next step will be to have the County Counsel prepare a draft of an Agreement which will be circulated among the various parties. Multiple permits will need to be obtained.

He then gave an update on the demolition activity of the 12 homes purchased due to irreparable damage sustained from Hurricane Irene. Purchases were made, closings were accomplished. All homes have been demolished. This has been a major accomplishment that has been done in less than a year from the event.

Council:

Councilman Leibowitz asked the status of the Senior Center. Administrator Hamilton explained there was a meeting today and he should be briefed by tomorrow as to the status.

Council President Tamburro stated that the Council passed a Resolution in July 2010 instructing the Township Attorney to pursue legal action against the Bonding Company for the original architect involved in the Senior Center project.

Council President Tamburro questioned Engineer Feist regarding the crosswalk on Schoolhouse Road between the new High School and athletic field. Engineer Feist explained that the County requires the Township to accept that improvement. The County suggested that a mid-block crosswalk be treated like a signalized intersection and that the Township Council should adopt an Ordinance accepting that improvement to the road. He said he will take care of the matter.

Councilman Dalina – Baseball play-offs are taking place on Friday at 4pm at the James Monroe Park. The MTBA is hosting the Mid-Atlantic Regional Play-offs for the 12 year olds.

Councilwoman Koppel – Cultural Arts is still hosting Music in the Park on Thursdays. It starts at 6 pm and this week there is a Rock & Roll group. There have been 300-600 people in attendance at the various events.

Council Vice-President Miller – thanked the Township Engineer for all his work in helping the flood victims.

Council President Tamburro – brought the Council and Public up to date on the Affordable Housing issue. The State has made a demand to turn over the 8.5 million dollars from the Affordable Housing fund on July 18th. The demand was turned over to the Township Attorneys' office for a response. An Irrevocable Trust was established at the bank under an Affordable Housing Trust. The rules & regulations that were operated under were that the funds had to be committed and they are committed under the Trust that was established. The notice was also passed on to the League of Municipalities. They have been working with the Township and other municipalities affected as to how to proceed. The Township believes they will have a strong argument if and when it goes to Court. There will be a Special Affordable Housing Meeting this Thursday at 7pm to address this issue specifically.

Public:

Steve Gorbe – 113 Gravel Hill-Spotswood Rd. – asked if the town had red light cameras. Engineer Feist responded no, we have sensors for left turning lanes.

Virginia McGinnis, 326A Nantucket – thanked Engineer Feist and all involved for pursuing a resolution to the flooding of Nantucket Lane in Rossmoor. Last year Nantucket Lane sustained three floods. The soil has eroded outside her side door and it is a walking hazard. She and her husband are disabled and no one wants to address the issue. Engineer Feist responded that if it is a common area then it is a Rossmoor problem and has to be addressed by the community.

Tom Nothstein, 15 Nathaniel St. – questioned item #9.e. – Special Emergency Appropriation in the amount not to exceed \$75,000 to fund special consultants. He asked who are they and Administrator Hamilton explained that it is called a 5 year special emergency appropriation and it is where the cost of various tasks, for example, the revision of Chapter 108 and the printing of the new Master Plans and Code Book costs are spread out over a 5 year period. This Ordinance allows \$15,000 to be charged to the budget for the next 5 years. The consultants are Mr. Remsa, Township Planner - \$20,000., Attorney Shain - \$20,000 for the preparation of the Chapter 108 Ordinances and reviews. The balance of \$35,000 is for the printing of those documents.

Item #10.d. – Bid Rejections – questioned the number of bids received - Administrator Hamilton advised there were three base bids – Low bid of \$1,780,000 and the other two bidders were in excess of 3.6 million dollars. Asked why the low bid was rejected and was told because the Bonding Company would not authorize the issuance of the required Bond, therefore he withdrew his bid.

Item #10.p. – Modification to a professional service contract for Feist Engineering for improvements. Administrator Hamilton advised it authorizes an additional \$15,000 over the original \$45,000 for site engineering work for modifications to the Plan for the Dey Farm project.

Item #10.q. - Modification for the Historic Preservation Architect - \$10,000 – Administrator Hamilton stated that again, this is for modifications to the Dey Farm Plan.

Item #10.r. – Settlement for unpaid connection & attorney fees – Administrator Hamilton advised this is involving litigation between the Township and Waterside Villas. They have agreed to the Townships terms to settle this case and the balance due and owing is \$458,513.

Mr. Nothstein then commented on the meeting tonight, questioning why we had the presentation this evening on the “Fire Study” when it is not being televised. He felt it is one of the most important meetings that we have had and it is on a night that will not be televised. Administrator Hamilton explained that it was due in part to vacation schedules.

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Miller and seconded by Councilman Dalina the meeting was Adjourned at 9:20pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Stephen Dalina	Aye
	Councilwoman Leslie Koppel	Aye
	Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
	Council Vice-President Henry L. Miller	Aye
	Council President Gerald W. Tamburro	Aye

SHARON DOERFLER, Township Clerk

GERALD W. TAMBURRO, Council President

Minutes were adopted on _____