

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING - NOVEMBER 8, 2017

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

The Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Council President Stephen Dalina with a Salute to the Flag.

UPON ROLL CALL by the Township Clerk, Patricia Reid, the following members of Council were present: Councilwoman Miriam Cohen, Councilman Michael Leibowitz, Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider and Council President Stephen Dalina.

ALSO, PRESENT: Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro, Business Administrator Alan M. Weinberg, Township Attorney Joel Shain, Engineer Mark Rasimowicz and Deputy Township Clerk Christine Robbins.

There was approximately ten (10) members of the Public present in the audience.

Council President Dalina requested the Township Clerk to read the following **SUNSHINE LAW** 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 has been provided by the following:

1. Posted on the Bulletin Boards within the Municipal Building on December 30, 2016 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and **STAR LEDGER** on January 6, 2017;
3. Posted 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.

The following **PROCLAMATIONS** of Mayor Gerald W. Tamburro were read into the record:

**DECA Month
November**

**Pancreatic Cancer Awareness
November**

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Cohen and seconded by Council Vice-President Schneider, the **CLAIMS** per run date of **10/25/2017** were approved for payment as presented.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen	Aye
Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Stephen Dalina	Aye

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Cohen and seconded by Councilman Baskin, the **MINUTES** of the **October 2, 2017 Regular Meeting** were approved as written and presented.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen	Aye
Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Stephen Dalina	Aye

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Leibowitz and seconded by Council Vice-President Schneider, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was introduced on first reading for Final Passage: **O-11-2017-026 ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DEED OF DEDICATION FROM ENVER AHMED FOR A PORTION OF BLOCK 17, LOT 3.05.**

(Colt's Run Development)

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen	Aye
Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Stephen Dalina	Aye

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.
O-11-2017-026

RESOLUTIONS for CONSIDERATION under the CONSENT AGENDA:

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Schneider and seconded by Councilman Leibowitz, the following Resolutions were moved for Adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA**

R-11-2017-277 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D.") TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISE FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR VARIOUS GOODS AND SERVICES FOR 2017.

WHEREAS, in the interests of the citizens of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, the Monroe Township Utility Department ("M.T.U.D.") has a need for the following goods and services for 2017:

1. Air Release Valves and Flanges
2. Various W & S Treatment Chemicals

; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40a:11-4, every contract or agreement for the performance of any work or furnishing of any materials or supplies, the cost of the contract price wherefore is to be paid with or out of public funds, subject to certain exceptions, shall be made or awarded only by the governing body after public advertising for bids and bidding therefore;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the M.T.U.D. Purchasing Manager is hereby authorized to enter into the bidding process for the aforementioned goods and services and may take any action necessary and consistent therewith.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-278 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 SUBMITTED BY B&H CONTRACTING, INC. TO CONTRACT 450, "PRV REMOVAL AND LEGENDS DRIVE PRV CHAMBER" FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D.") (Change Order Decrease -\$6,972.00).

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-7-2016-224, adopted by the Monroe Township Council; at its meeting held on July 6, 2016, Contract 450 was awarded to B&H Contracting, Inc. for "PRV Removal and Legends Drive PRV Chamber" in the amount of \$149,900.00; and

WHEREAS, the Contractor, B&H Contractor, Inc. has submitted a request for Change Order No. 1 in the amount of (-\$6,972.00) a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

WHEREAS, the M.T.U.D.'s General Manager, by a letter dated October 17, 2017 has requested the Township's Council's consideration in approving Change Order No. 1, which decreased the contract's previous contract total by -\$6,972.00 making the new total contract amount \$142,928.00 and no change in the contract time as described in the attached Change Order, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "C"; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has found said proposed Change Order No. 1 to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, due to the decrease, a Certificate of availability of funds is not necessary;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute Change Order No. 1 which is a credit in the total amount of Six Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-Two Dollars (-\$6,972.00).

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-11-2017-279 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH
MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR W&S 967 – FRANKLIN PLAZA
– BLOCK 39, LOTS 1.01 & 1.02 POSTED WITH THE MONROE
TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.)**

WHEREAS, Scott Franklin has posted a cash maintenance guarantee with the Monroe Township Utility Department (“MTUD”); and

WHEREAS, as defined in N.J.S.A. 40:55D-53 et seq., the M.T.U.D. has inspected the work performed and the work to be completed and has recommended the Monroe Township Council approve the request for release of the cash maintenance guarantee, as detailed in a letter dated October 19, 2017, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Council has reviewed and hereby approves the recommendation of the MTUD Director;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that Maintenance Guarantee posted for Franklin Plaza be released as reflected above and within the letter annexed hereto. This approval for release of cash maintenance guarantee is conditioned upon the resolution of any outstanding balances attached to the project escrow accounts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Monroe Township Utility Department is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the developer, and to his attorney, if applicant has been represented by counsel in this matter.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-11-2017-280 RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR INSERTION OF A SPECIAL ITEM
OF REVENUE IN THE BUDGET PURSUANT TO N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87
(CHAPTER 159, P.L.1948)
(2017 State Body Armor Replacement Fund (BARF) Program – Grant Amount
\$4,838.64)**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-87 provides that the Director of the Division of Local Government Services may approve the insertion of any special item of revenue in the budget of any county or municipality when such item shall have been made available by law and the amount was not determined at the time of the adoption of the budget; and

WHEREAS, the Director may also approve the insertion of an item of appropriation for equal amount;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, New Jersey, hereby requests the Director of the Division of Local Government Services to approve the insertion of an item of revenue in the budget for Year 2017 in the sum of \$4,838.64, which is now available as a revenue from the 2017 State Body Armor Replacement Fund (BARF) Program;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a like sum of \$4,838.64 is hereby appropriated under the caption:

“2017 STATE BODY ARMOR REPLACEMENT FUND (BARF) PROGRAM”

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-281 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF A PROGRAM GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2018 FUNDING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION PROGRAMS, PROJECTS AND GENERAL OPERATING SUPPORT.

WHEREAS, the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission (the “Commission”), a department of the County government, administers the State/County Partnership Grant Program between the New Jersey State Council on the Arts/Department of State and the County; and

WHEREAS, proposals were received from Middlesex County based groups, subjected to review, and evaluated through a panel process, and further reviewed and approved by the Board of Commissioners of the Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has been awarded by the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, funding for the Calendar Year 2018, which in part is to be utilized toward the programs, projects, and general operating support and distributed to worthy projects and groups in Middlesex County;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Monroe that it hereby authorizes submission of an electronic Grant Application no later than September 28, 2017 *and* further authorizes the Mayor and Township Clerk *to* execute a Grant Agreement on behalf of the Township of Monroe and upon the execution of said Agreement, the Township of Monroe does hereby accept the Terms and Conditions specified in the Agreement.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid, *nunc pro tunc*.

R-11-2017-282 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SHAIN SCHAFFER, P.C. TO HANDLE MATTERS RELATED TO THE ENERGY AGGREGATION PROGRAM.

(Township received \$10,089.56. – from South Jersey Energy to reimburse Attorney fees)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, has the need for legal services in connection with the Energy Aggregation program; and

WHEREAS, Shain Schaffer, P.C. possesses the expertise necessary to represent the Township in these matters; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Township of Monroe has requested that Shain Schaffer, P.C. protect the interests of the Township on these matters; and

WHEREAS, Shain Schaffer P.C. will render legal services at a cost not to exceed **\$10,000.00**, pending further authorization from the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in **Certificate No. C-1700049**, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit “A”;

WHEREAS, on October 2, 2017, the Township of Monroe received a check in the amount of \$10,089.56 from South Jersey Energy to reimburse the Township for all legal services to be incurred in connection with the Energy Aggregation program.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that it has rendered its advice and hereby authorizes Shain Schaffer, P.C. be paid for legal services rendered in connection with the Energy Aggregation program in the amount of **\$10,089.56**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-11-2017-283 RESOLUTION CLARIFYING THE PERMITTED AGRICULTURAL
ACTIVITIES ON THE TOWNSHIP'S CONSERVATION EASEMENT
ON BLOCK 30 LOT 8.07**
(Gravel Hill – Spotswood Rd., Heatherwood Farms)

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Planning Board granted minor subdivision approval to Arthur Lauri c/o Victorian Manor on August 28, 2003 (the "Approval") which subdivision created three lots, including Block 30, Lot 8.07, as currently shown and designated on the official tax map of the Township of Monroe, said Approval having been memorialized by Resolution dated September 25, 2003, a copy of which is annexed hereto as **Exhibit "A"**; and

WHEREAS, the Approval imposed a conservation easement ("Conservation Easement") upon and over a portion of Block 30, Lot 8.07 for the benefit of the Township of Monroe ("Township"), in accordance with Section 108-12.9(B) of the Monroe Township Zoning Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, Block 30, Lot 8.07 is currently owned by Melissa Beck-Callanan (the "Owner"), as is otherwise known as J.B. Heatherwood Farms; and

WHEREAS, the Owner applied to the County of Middlesex ("County"), requesting that the County purchase an agricultural development easement ("Agricultural Easement") covering 16.88 acres of Block 30, Lot 8.07, which application was approved by the County Board of Chosen Freeholders on January 27, 2016, and memorialized by Resolution dated February 18, 2016, a copy of which is annexed hereto as **Exhibit "B"**; and

WHEREAS, by Resolution dated December 9, 2015, the Monroe Township Council approved the purchase of the Agricultural Easement and agreed to share in the cost thereof. A copy of Council Resolution R-12-2015-299, is annexed hereto as **Exhibit "C"**; and

WHEREAS, the County thereafter made application to the New Jersey State Agriculture Development Committee ("SADC") for a Planning Incentive Grant to partially fund the cost of the Agricultural Easement, which application was approved by the SADC on April 22, 2016, a copy of said SADC Resolution being annexed hereto as **Exhibit "D"**; and

WHEREAS, in or about September of 2016, the County entered into a contract of sale with the Owner to purchase the Agricultural Easement; and

WHEREAS, the County retained the services of CME Associates to prepare a survey of Block 30, Lot 8.07 depicting the area of the proposed Agricultural Easement; and

WHEREAS, the survey of Block 30, Lot 8.07 depicts the area comprising Monroe Township's Conservation Easement, consisting of approximately 6.8232 acres; and

WHEREAS, Section 108-12.9(B) of the Township's Zoning Ordinance delineates the purposes, parameters and prohibitions for uses of land within a Conservation Easement; and

WHEREAS, the parties to the contract of sale and cost sharing for the Agricultural Easement seek confirmation from the Township that agricultural activities such as those contemplated are and will be permitted within the Township's Conservation Easement on Block 30, Lot 8.07; and

WHEREAS, the Township believes that the purchase of the Agricultural Easement on Block 30, Lot 8.07, and sharing the cost thereof with the SADC and County are in the public interest in preserving the agricultural features of the Township;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Township of Monroe as follows:

1. As a matter of clarification and avoidance of any doubt or confusion, on the meaning of the provisions of Section 108-12.9(B) (Conservation Easement) of the Monroe Township Zoning Ordinance, said provision does not prohibit, limit or restrict the use of the conservation easement in Block 30, Lot 8.07 in the Township upon which there exists a conservation easement imposed by the Monroe Township Planning Board for agricultural activities. Agricultural activities are permitted in the conservation easement area by the Grantee and by the Grantee's successors and assigns. No structures of any nature (excluding fences) shall be erected or placed upon the conservation area. All agricultural activities shall comply with the Freshwater Wetlands Protection Act regulations, N.J.A.C. 7:7A, and the Flood Hazard Area Control Act regulations, N.J.A.C. 7:13).

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-284 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF A CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEE.

WHEREAS, the Construction Official, by copy of a letter dated October 16, 2017, copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", has recommended the Council approve the following construction permit refund:

<u>Refund to:</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
Solar City Corporation 9 Corporate Drive Cranbury, NJ 08512	Permit # 20170645 Request to void permit/ Work no longer being performed	\$ 227.00

WHEREAS, Council has reviewed the recommendation of the Construction Official and finds the request for the above refund to be reasonable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the request is hereby authorized and that a refund be made to **Solar City Corporation in the amount of \$227.00;**

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-285 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT TO TIMOTHY HOFFMAN, LLC FOR AN OPEN SPACE APPRAISAL ON BLOCK 52.01; LOT 1 – 201 MOUNTS MILLS ROAD.
(Not to exceed - \$2,400.00)

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe has a need to acquire professional services in the field of market value appraisals for open space property, as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:A-20.5 for Block 52.01, Lot 1 – 201 Mounts Mills Road; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Hoffman, LLC, possesses the technical expertise required for such a service; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Hoffman, LLC has completed and submitted a certification pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.8; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*, the Township's Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in **Certificate No. C-1700050**, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

(1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized to enter into an contract with Timothy Hoffman, LLC, P.O. Box # 3030, Westfield, NJ 07091, in accordance with the proposal attached hereto as Exhibit "B";

(2) The Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by Timothy Hoffman, LLC, in accordance with attached proposal, in an amount not to exceed \$2,400.00;

(3) This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "professional service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law;

(4) This contract is awarded with the stipulation that the contract shall include mandatory Affirmative Action language, and Timothy Hoffman, LLC shall submit to the Township of Monroe any appropriate Affirmative Action documents within the time period prescribed by law.

(5) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-286 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT TO TIMOTHY HOFFMAN, LLC FOR AN OPEN SPACE APPRAISAL ON BLOCK 15; LOT 3 – 10 OLD CHURCH ROAD.
(Not to exceed - \$2,500.00)

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe has a need to acquire professional services in the field of market value appraisals for open space property, as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:A-20.5 for Block 15, Lot 3 – 10 Old Church Road; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Hoffman, LLC, possesses the technical expertise required for such a service; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Hoffman, LLC has completed and submitted a certification pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.8; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to *N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4*, the Township’s Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in **Certificate No. C-1700051**, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized to enter into an contract with Timothy Hoffman, LLC, P.O. Box # 3030, Westfield, NJ 07091, in accordance with the proposal attached hereto as Exhibit “B”;
- (2) The Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by Timothy Hoffman, LLC, in accordance with attached proposal, in an amount not to exceed \$2,500.00;
- (3) This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a “professional service” in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law;
- (4) This contract is awarded with the stipulation that the contract shall include mandatory Affirmative Action language, and Timothy Hoffman, LLC shall submit to the Township of Monroe any appropriate Affirmative Action documents within the time period prescribed by law.
- (5) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-287 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROPERTY SURVEY, RIGHT OF WAY SUBDIVISION AND PHASE 1 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR BLOCK 52.01, LOT 1 – 201 MOUNTS MILLS ROAD. (Not to exceed - \$7,500.00)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe seeks professional engineering and surveying services in connection with the surveying, property descriptions and environmental review of the below listed property:

BLOCK	LOT	ADDRESS	SURVEYS and DESCRIPTIONS	Environmental
52.01	1	201 Mounts Mills Rd.	\$3,500.00	\$4,000.00

for the purpose of acquisition by the Township of Monroe under the Local Open Space program; and

WHEREAS, Center State Engineering possesses the technical expertise required to perform professional engineering services and surveying services in connection with this property; and

WHEREAS, the fees for such services will not exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$7,500.00**); and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in **Certificate No. C-1700052**, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, no agreement that is subject to the requirements of Article III of the Affirmative Action Regulations pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 127 (N.J.S.A. 17:27-1 et seq.) shall be awarded by the Township of Monroe, nor shall any monies be paid thereunder, to any contractor, subcontractor or business firm that has not agreed and guaranteed to comply with Affirmative Action Regulations and to afford equal opportunity in the performance of the contract in accordance with the Affirmative Action approved under the terms established in the above-cited regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached contract with **Center State Engineering, 481 Spotswood-Englishtown Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831**, in accordance with the Agreement annexed hereto;
- (2) The Department of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for services rendered by Center State Engineering in an amount not to exceed Seven Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$7,500.00**);
- (3) The Contract is awarded with the stipulation that **Center State Engineering** shall include within the Contract Mandatory Affirmative Action language and shall submit to the Township of Monroe any appropriate Affirmative Action document within the time period prescribed by law;
- (4) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-288 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROPERTY SURVEY, RIGHT OF WAY SUBDIVISION AND PHASE 1 ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR BLOCK 15, LOT 3 – 10 OLD CHURCH ROAD. (Not to exceed -\$8,500.00)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe seeks professional engineering and surveying services in connection with the surveying, property descriptions and environmental review of the below listed property:

BLOCK	LOT	ADDRESS	SURVEYS and DESCRIPTIONS	Environmental
15	3	10 Old Church Road	\$4,500.00	\$4,000.00

for the purpose of acquisition by the Township of Monroe under the Local Open Space program; and

WHEREAS, Center State Engineering possesses the technical expertise required to perform professional engineering services and surveying services in connection with this property; and

WHEREAS, the fees for such services will not exceed Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$8,500.00**); and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in Certificate No. **C-1700053**, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, no agreement that is subject to the requirements of Article III of the Affirmative Action Regulations pursuant to P.L. 1975, Chapter 127 (N.J.S.A. 17:27-1 et seq.) shall be awarded by the Township of Monroe, nor shall any monies be paid thereunder, to any contractor, subcontractor or business firm that has not agreed and guaranteed to comply with Affirmative Action Regulations and to afford equal opportunity in the performance of the contract in accordance with the Affirmative Action approved under the terms established in the above-cited regulations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached contract with ***Center State Engineering, 481 Spotswood-Englishtown Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831***, in accordance with the Agreement annexed hereto;
- (2) The Department of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for services rendered by Center State Engineering in an amount not to exceed Eight Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (**\$8,500.00**); and
- (3) The Contract is awarded with the stipulation that ***Center State Engineering*** shall include within the Contract mandatory Affirmative Action language and shall submit to the Township of Monroe any appropriate Affirmative Action document within the time period prescribed by law;
- (4) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-289 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF ADDITIONAL FEES TO SHAIN, SCHAFFER & RAFANELLO, P.C. TO HANDLE TAX APPEALS AS EXTRAORDINARY LITIGATION. (Additional \$35,000)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, has the need for legal representation in connection with matters of Tax Appeals; and

WHEREAS, Shain, Schaffer P.C. possesses the expertise necessary to represent the Township in these matters; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the Township of Monroe has requested that Shain Schaffer P.C. defend the interests of the Township and these matters be treated as extraordinary litigation

;and

WHEREAS, acknowledgement of the status of “extraordinary litigation” requires the advice and consent of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council, by Resolution No. R-01-2017-010 acknowledged the status of “extraordinary litigation” and provided its advice and consent to the legal services of Shain, Schaffer P.C. pending further authorization of the Township Council; and

WHEREAS, Shain, Schaffer P.C. has incurred legal fees in excess of the budgeted amounts and has requested authorization for the following:

Tax Appeals – additional **\$35,000.00**

;and

WHEREAS, the Council has reviewed the request and believes that an additional authorization in the amount of **\$35,000.00** for the above referenced litigation is reasonable at this time; and

WHEREAS, the Township’s Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in Certificate No. **C-1700001**, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit “A”;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that it has rendered its advice and hereby authorizes Shain, Schaffer P.C. be paid for legal services rendered in connection with matters of Tax Appeals in the amount of **\$35,000.00**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-290 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE AND ADVERTISE REQUESTS FOR QUALIFICATIONS (“RFQs”) FOR VARIOUS PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2018.

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, has a need to prepare and advertise Requests for Qualifications (“RFQs”) for various Professional Services for Calendar Year 2018; and

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5, the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, has a need to solicit resumes setting forth qualifications for various services;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Monroe Township Business Administrator is hereby authorized to prepare qualifications and advertise RFQs for various professional services for Calendar Year 2018 and may take any action necessary and consistent therewith.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-291 RESOLUTION REFUNDING THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENT.

WHEREAS, Premiums have been paid for various properties for the purchase of Tax Lien Certificates for properties listed on the Tax Map of the Township of Monroe, in the amount of Forty-four thousand seven hundred dollars and no cents (\$44,700.00),

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54: 5-33 said premiums must be returned to the purchasers upon redemption:

WHEREAS, The Tax Lien Certificates as outlined on Schedule A have been redeemed:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Monroe in the County of Middlesex in the State of New Jersey that the Township’s Certified Municipal Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to draw a check from the Township’s Trust Account in the amount listed on Schedule A and forward same to the Tax Collector for distribution to the purchasers.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-292 RESOLUTION REFUNDING TAX OVERPAYMENTS.

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector for the Township of Monroe has recommended this Council’s approval to make refunds for tax overpayments in the amount of nine thousand nine hundred twenty-eight dollars and ninety cents (\$9,928.90) for the amounts described on Schedule A and attached hereto;

WHEREAS, good cause has been shown

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that the Township’s Certified Municipal Finance Officer be and is hereby directed to draw a check from the General Account refunding the Tax overpayments described above to be distributed as set forth on the attached Schedule A:

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-293 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF AN AFIS COMPUTER (FINGERPRINT SYSTEM) USING THE NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (MorphoTrak LiveScan Systems in the amount of \$32,196.62)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, wishes to purchase an AFIS Computer from *MorphoTrak LiveScan Systems* under the **State of New Jersey LiveScan Contract No. A81520** for the Monroe Township Police Department as set forth hereinbelow, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “B”:

Tenprint/Palmprint Capture with Integrated Mug Photo & Cabinet with 3-year Maintenance Agreement -	\$30,616.73
Duplex Black & White Fingerprint Card Printer -	\$1,086.15
Maintenance Agreement (for Fingerprint Card Printer) -	\$493.74 (3-years)
	<hr/>
	\$32,196.62;

and

WHEREAS, *MorphoTrak LiveScan Systems* is an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, *MorphoTrak LiveScan System, ATTN: Jayne Goodall, 5515 East La Palma Avenue, Suite 100, Anaheim, CA 92807* has been awarded State of New Jersey LiveScan Contract, No. A81520 in connection with the above referenced AFIS Computer (Fingerprint System); and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-1700058, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that *MorphoTrak LiveScan System, ATTN: Jayne Goodall, 5515 East La Palma Avenue, Suite 100, Anaheim, CA 92807* is hereby awarded a contract for the purchase of the above detailed AFIS Computer (Fingerprint System) for a total contract price of **\$32,196.62;**

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-294 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING ADDITIONAL EXTENDED SICK LEAVE.

WHEREAS, in accordance with the Collective Bargaining Agreement between the Township of Monroe and Local 255, United Service Workers, IUJAT, executed on January 1, 2015, Article 15.c "Extended Sick Leave" requires an employee, after the initial ninety (90) days of extended sick leave, to request through the Administration, approval by Council, for additional extended sick leave; and

WHEREAS, a Township Employee (No. 99683) had as of July 16, 2017, completed his/her initial ninety (90) days of Extended Sick Leave and had requested additional Extended Sick Leave; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Township Business Administrator have reviewed the request and had recommended, by copy of letter dated September 15, 2017, approval of same;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that it hereby authorized additional Extended Sick Leave effective July 17, 2017 through August 4, 2017 *nunc pro tunc*, in accordance with Article 15 "Extended Sick Leave" of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-295 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF A FACILITY RENTAL FEE. (Refund Amount - \$250.00)

WHEREAS, the Facilities Coordinator, by copy of a letter dated October 24, 2017, copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", has recommended the Council approve the following facility rental fee refund:

<u>Refund to:</u>	<u>Reason</u>	<u>Amount</u>
The Indian Cultural Assoc. of Monroe c/o Prena Shah 28 Magnolia Court Monroe Twp., NJ 08831	Event Cancelled at Senior Center	\$250.00

WHEREAS, Council has reviewed the recommendation of the Facilities Coordinator and finds the request for the above refund to be reasonable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the request is hereby authorized and that a refund be made to **The Indian Cultural Association of Monroe in the amount of \$250.00**;

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-296 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP CONSTRUCTION DEPARTMENT UNDER THE CRANFORD POLICE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM.

(2018 Ford Explorer \$27,072.00)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, has the need to purchase a **2018 Ford Explorer** construction vehicle under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing Agreement No. 47CPCPS from **Beyer Ford**, an authorized vendor under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing System; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, Beyer Ford, 170 Ridgedale Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960 has been appointed as an authorized dealer for Vehicles under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing Program; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-1700054, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes a contract be entered into with **Beyer Ford** for the purchase of **one (1) 2018 Ford Explorer**, at a base price of \$25,732.00 with Dealer Options in the amount of \$1,340.00 for a total contract price in the amount of **\$27,072.00**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-297 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF A VEHICLE FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP DIVISION OF ASSESSMENTS UNDER THE CRANFORD POLICE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM.

(2018 Ford Explorer \$27,607.00)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, has the need to purchase a **2018 Ford Explorer** Division of Assessments vehicle under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing Agreement No. 47CPCPS from **Beyer Ford**, an authorized vendor under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing System; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, Beyer Ford, 170 Ridgedale Ave., Morristown, NJ 07960 has been appointed as an authorized dealer for Vehicles under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing Program; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-1700055, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes a contract be entered into with **Beyer Ford** for the purchase of **one (1) 2018 Ford Explorer**, at a base price of \$25,732.00 with Dealer Options in the amount of \$1,875.00 for a total contract price in the amount of **\$27,607.00**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-11-2017-298 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO
B&H CONTRACTING, INC. FOR CEDAR BROOK PUMP
STATION/APPLEGARTH ROAD FLOODING IMPROVEMENTS.
(Not to Exceed - \$462,500.00)**

WHEREAS, on October 24, 2017, two (2) sealed bids were received by Monroe Township regarding the **Cedar Brook Pond – Pump Station/Applegarth Road Flooding Improvements**; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, by copy of letter dated October 25, 2017, has recommended ***B&H Contracting, Inc. 1022 Black horse Pike Folsom, N.J. 08037***, be awarded the bid based upon their bid submission in the amount of **\$462,500.00**; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the recommendations made by the Township Engineer regarding said bid; and

WHEREAS, the Township's Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. **C-1700056**, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, no contract that is subject to the requirements of the Affirmative Action Regulations pursuant to **N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq.** and **N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.** shall be awarded by the Township of Monroe, nor shall any monies be paid there under, to any contractor, subcontractor of business firm that has not agreed and guaranteed to comply with Affirmative Action Regulations and to afford equal opportunity in the performance of the contract in accordance with the affirmative action plan approved under the terms established in the above cited regulations;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of bid to ***B&H Contractors, Inc.*** for the **Cedar Brook Pond – Pump Station/Applegarth Road Flooding Improvements**, at a total contract price of **\$462,500.00**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with ***B&H Contractors, Inc.***; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township's Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay ***B&H Contractors, Inc.*** in accordance with the contract entered into between the parties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract is awarded with the stipulation that ***B&H Contractors, Inc.*** shall comply with Affirmative Action Regulations, including revising their contracts as necessary to add mandatory affirmative action language, and submitting a completed AA-201, within seven (7) days of notification of award of the contract or risk being declared non-responsive and forfeiting the award.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, thereafter, a completed AA-202, monthly project workforce report, must be submitted once a month for the duration of the contract to the Department of Labor and to the Monroe Township Public Agency Compliance Officer.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-11-2017-299 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF A PERFORMANCE
GUARANTEE POSTED FOR SPRINGPOINT SENIOR LIVING, INC.,
PHASE 1 (BA-5087-14)**

WHEREAS, Springpoint Senior Living, Inc. posted Performance Guarantees in the amount of \$1,654,160.58 for Block 58, Lot 17.03 Phase 1 Project (BA-5087-14); and

WHEREAS, in correspondence Springpoint Senior Living, Inc. have requested a reduction in Performance Guarantees posted; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 108-13.1 F and G of the Code of the Township of Monroe, the Township Engineer has inspected the work performed and the work to be completed and has recommended the Township Council approve the reduction of the Performance Guarantees, as detailed in his letter dated October 23, 2017, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A:

	<u>Bond Portion</u>	<u>Cash Portion</u>
Current	\$1,654,160.58	\$165,416.06
Reduce to	\$496,248.17	\$49,624.82

; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed and hereby approves the recommendations of the Township Engineer;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Performance Guarantees posted for **Springpoint Senior Living, Inc.** be reduced, as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter annexed hereto. This approval for reduction of Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the provision of replacement guarantees and the resolution of any outstanding balances attached to project escrow accounts; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the developer, and to his attorney, if the applicant has been represented by counsel in this matter.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-300 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR TO PREPARE SPECIFICATIONS AND ADVERTISE FOR RECEIPT OF BIDS FOR PORTABLE BATTERY OPERATED AUTOMATED CARDIOPULMONARY RESUSCITATION DEVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT.

WHEREAS, in the interest of the citizens of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, the Township's Emergency Medical Services Department is in need of the following:

Portable Battery Operated Automated Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation Devices

; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-4, every contract or agreement for the performance of any work or the furnishing of any materials or supplies, the cost of the contract price wherefore is to be paid with or out of public funds, subject to certain exceptions, shall be made or awarded only by the governing body after public advertising for bids and bidding therefore;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, and State of New Jersey that the Monroe Township Business Administrator is hereby authorized to enter into the bidding process for the aforementioned goods and services and may take any action necessary and consistent therewith.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-11-2017-301 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF MOBILE DATA THERMAL COMPUTER SYSTEMS FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT UNDER THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM.
(Mobile Data Thermal Computer Systems in the amount of \$75,758.45)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, Emergency Medical Services Department, has the need to purchase (17) seventeen *Mobile Data Thermal Computer Systems* under the State of New Jersey NASPO Contract No. 89980 from *Wireless Communications & Electronics*, an authorized vendor under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Pricing System; and

WHEREAS, the purchase of goods and services by local contracting units is authorized by the Local Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-12; and

WHEREAS, *Wireless Communications & Electronics, 153 Cooper Road West Berlin, N.J. 08091* has been appointed as an authorized dealer for Mobile Data Thermal Computer Systems under the State of New Jersey Cooperative Pricing Program; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-1700057, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes a contract be entered into with *Wireless Communications & Electronics* for the purchase of **(17) seventeen Mobile Data Thermal Computer Systems**, at a price of \$75,758.45.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

Councilwoman Cohen commented in regard to R-11-2017-281 that we are submitting a grant application for the Cultural Arts Commission and added that they do some wonderful work and truly hope they are successful with their application.

Council Vice-President Schneider commented in regard to R-11-2017-298 she is very happy that we are awarding this contract for the Cedar Brook Pump Station. Administrator Weinberg clarified and Engineer Rasimowicz that it is an upgrade of the pumps, as well as, pump station controls and piping which should alleviate the flooding in that area.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen	Aye
Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Stephen Dalina	Aye

Copy of Resolutions Duly Filed.

REPORTS:

Mayor's Report – Mayor Tamburro congratulated the Clerk's Office for the extended workday, for all their hard work during Election Days.

Veteran's Day will be celebrated on Friday, November 10th at 9:00am here at the Municipal Building and then at 9:30am at Veteran's Park.

Monroe Chorus will be performing for free on Sunday, November 12th at 2:00pm Tony Award winning songs from Broadway.

Received a letter from the students of Mrs. Walton's 2nd grade class at Oak Tree School who are in the midst of learning about government and what the government does with the money received from taxes. Mrs. Walton asked her students to write a letter to me explaining how they would spend the money received from taxes if they were the one responsible to spend it. The responses received were great and included purchasing a rollercoaster for Thompson Park, swimming pools at Oak Tree School, video games for Oak Tree School and bubble gum. Mayor Tamburro added that he responded to Mrs. Walton and her students and visited their class to answer any other questions they had. He added that it was a very interesting day and important to interface with our younger students to let them know what a government is and how it works.

Lastly, Mayor Tamburro reported that in addition to our current municipal channel 28 on Comcast, we will also be able to be viewed on Verizon FIOS on channel 32, along with the Board of Education, whose meetings will be televised on channel 40.

Administrator's Report – Reported that Middlesex County has put out their 2017 Abstract and Ratable's and Monroe Township has come in 2nd with the lowest overall effective tax rate out of 25 municipalities. Extended appreciation to those involved, including the Board of Education who has helped us achieve that goal.

Reported that Monroe Township has been recognized as the 8th safest town in the State according to a report published on NJ.com; extended thanks and appreciation to our Chief and officers for trying their best to ensure our Township is as safe as it can be.

Reported that one of the items on the agenda tonight is the 17-acre horse farm located on Spotswood-Gravel Hill Road, known as Heatherwood Farm. Very excited to move forward on that project which is a partnership with the County and State for farmland preservation.

Noted that the Energy Aggregation Program has been rolled out and reminded everyone that it is a program that allows residents to choose the Township supplier as their supplier for energy residentially. The cost will be a flat rate and letters will be going out confirming your interest in the program. Harold Klein can answer any questions regarding the program. He also reminded everyone to be wary of notices being sent by other suppliers with teaser rates. The Township's supplier is South Jersey Industries.

Lastly, gave an update regarding the 2017-2018 Best Practices Submission. The Township has been successful with the application and meeting the necessary requirements which results in no loss of State Aid; the full report will be posted on the State's website.

Engineer's Report – Gave an update in regards to the Township's paving program, reporting that several streets have been completed including: Wycoff Mills Road, portions of Halsey Reed Road, portions of Mounts Mills Road, Union Valley Road and Avenue I. Redwood Court, Sequoia Court, Edward Avenue and Eleventh Avenue will be started within the next couple of weeks with ADA accessible ramps at the corner and repaving to follow.

In addition, Middlesex County has completed paving in the Township on Perrineville Road from Union Valley Road to the park entrance of Thompson Park and South Half Acre Road.

Quick update on the Library LED Lighting Improvements Project; the handicap accessible ramps are done, as well as the parking stalls and electric car charging station. The lighting wiring is in and we are just waiting on the light fixtures to come in and then that project will be complete.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Council President Dalina –

- Commended and thanked all of the candidates who participated in our local election, adding that it is a true testament to our community that we have people stepping up and wanting to be involved. Extended a hearty thank you to all and extended congratulations to all of the candidates and personally reached out to Mr. Charles Dipierro to welcome him on board. He added that now that election season is over it is now Monroe season and time to move forward and focus on what we can and should be doing for our Township.
- Thanked the Clerk's Office for all of their hard work during the election.
- Mentioned that December 27th is the Grandparent's Day lunch and a movie event, with tickets selling out fast. Those who are interested in attending should contact the Community Center for more information and to reserve their spot.
- Reminded everyone that Small Business Saturday is recognized after Black Friday and urged everyone to patronize our local businesses that day.

Councilwoman Cohen –

- Commented that the bookmarks that were left on the Council seats are from the Library and the Environmental Commission and they read, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better it's not" – Dr. Seuss, The Lorax, and it is apparent that a lot of people do care.
- Attended the Green Fair which was a wonderful event. There were a lot of vendors including composting booths, a freecycle tent, a reptile tent for the children, food vendors and homemade gifts. It turned out to be a very well attended event and hopes that it will be an even bigger and better event next year.
- Mentioned that Middlesex County has a new meal program available for seniors who are 60 years old or older. For those who may be interested in participating you can contact the Office on Aging for more information.

Council Vice-President Schneider –

- Attended the DECA event and had the honor of awarding the Mayor's Trophy which was given to a 1941 Packard which was very nice to see. Any proceeds that DECA collects goes to "Wreaths Across America" which honors our soldiers by putting wreaths on their graves.
- Thanksgiving is coming up and the dinner at the Senior Center will be held on November 23rd. The Monroe Township Highschool Chorus will be in attendance, along with a local cub scout who will be doing the honor guard. This year they are asking all attendees to bring their favorite recipe for a recipe book they will be putting together and printing at a later date.

- Reported that the Senior Center is looking for donations for their holiday food baskets. The drive ends December 4th and there is a list of suggested items that can be found on the Township's website.
- The "We Care" drive is going on until December 6th and they are looking for unused toys but preferably gift cards.
- The Cultural Arts Commission puts together some phenomenal shows, one of them being The Three Tenors who will be performing on December 9th at the Marasco Center. Also on January 27th the N.J. Symphonic Orchestra Chamber Players will be playing and tickets can be found online on the Cultural Arts website or by calling the Township.
- The Township's senior communities have collected 7.5 tons of food for the Middlesex County food pantry.
- Thanked everyone who came out to vote and is humbled to have been voted in to serve another four years on Council.

Councilman Baskin –

- Attended the Oktoberfest and had the honor of welcoming Lieutenant Governor Kim Guadagno to the event.
- Attended the Green Fair and helped out at the Community Garden table taking registrations for next year.
- Reiterated the Mayor's mention that on November 12th the Monroe Township Highschool Chorus will be performing at the Marasco Center Academy Award winning songs.

Councilman Leibowitz –

- Mentioned that the Veteran's Day ceremony is November 10th at 9:00am starting at the municipal building and then 9:45am at Veteran's Park where wreaths will be laid at both locations.
- The Halloween Parade was one of the best ever attended. All of the costumes were fantastic and it was great to see everyone dressed up.
- Thanked everyone who did vote and congratulated everyone who was victorious. Is now looking forward to having a lot of time to spend with his granddaughter.

Public:

Hy Grossman, 15 Doral Dr. – Mr. Grossman thanked Councilman Leibowitz for his service and Extended his appreciation for all he has done the last few years. Congratulated the others who have won and is looking forward in moving forward with Monroe in the new terms.

Reported that the Cultural Arts Commission held a free concert at the library. There was a huge crowd in attendance and the parking lot was overflowing, creating a potential traffic hazard, and suggested that this may be something the police department could monitor.

Questioned R-11-2017-289, and asked who was litigating this; Administrator Weinberg answered that we deal with hundreds of tax appeals every year adding that we add money on an as needed basis and have done a good job at protecting Monroe in making sure that we are represented well when these appeals arise.

Questioned R-11-2017-294 saying that additional extended sick leave seems to be an annual item on the agenda. Administrator Weinberg clarified that we had one extended sick leave resolution approved earlier this year as this is a part of our Personnel Policy where our employees are entitled to a certain amount of additional sick leave if they qualify and have a serious illness. The permitted additional sick leave is at the discretion of the Council with the determination given by our Human Resources Department. He reiterated that these are fairly serious illness cases. Mr. Grossman asked if the employee was getting paid while on sick leave; Administrator Weinberg answered yes, the employees are still being paid when granted additional sick leave.

Roberta Ciancia, 100 Monroe Blvd. – Mrs. Ciancia questioned R-11-2017-283 and asked for clarification to further understand the resolution; Administrator Weinberg explained that this is a horse farm located on Spotswood-Gravel Road and the horse farmer applied to the State to be a part of the Farmland Preservation Program. The municipality pays 20%, the County pays 20% and the State pays 60% for the development rights to the property. Previously, we had many years ago, as part of a subdivision had taken a conservation easement in the area and in terms of preserving this as a horse farm the State wanted to make sure we would allow horses on this property and asked us for clarification hence the reason for this resolution. Mrs. Ciancia asked what horses are they referencing; Administrator Weinberg answered that it would be the owner's horses. She asked if the property would stay as it is or would it be improved or developed upon; Administrator Weinberg clarified that houses

cannot be built on it and added that he was not sure as to what the limitations would be if they wanted to improve the barn that is on the farm currently. He also added that the State Agricultural Development Corporation has rules that limit what can be done on a farm once the development rights have been purchased. Engineer Rasimowicz further explained that this resolution is only a clarification to allow the horses in the conservation easement area. The property owner has applied to go into farmland preservation and the State is requiring clarification from the Township. Mrs. Ciancia asked who can put the horses back there; Council President clarified her question and asked if it is only limited to the owner's horses or does it allow for outside horses to be stabled there as well; Engineer Rasimowicz answered that he believes it is privately owned so you would have to speak with the owner of the property.

Mrs. Ciancia shared a concern about the traffic signal on Union Valley Road, stating that when you come from the east going west there is a gully there and the road is very tight. In the past accidents would come from the other side and cars would end up in the field, but now on the east side it poses to be a potential danger. She asked if it can be looked into; Engineer Rasimowicz responded that he will take a look at it and speak with the County adding that he knows the County had an issue since there are Green Acres restrictions on those gully's so they were unable to widen that part of the roadway. He stated that he will see if a guardrail can be placed there at least.

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Parab extended congratulations to the winners of the election adding that the results were very close. He also stated that he would like both the Board of Education and Council to find a way to work together so there are answers for the residents of Monroe. He suggested that the Council address the residents at the next meeting with answers to how they will move Monroe forward.

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Schneider and seconded by Councilman Leibowitz, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 7:43pm.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen	Aye
Councilman Michael Leibowitz	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Stephen Dalina	Aye

Patricia Reid
PATRICIA REID, Township Clerk

Stephen Dalina
STEPHEN DALINA, Council President

Minutes were adopted on: December 4, 2017.