

**** The public will be able to view this meeting via the following YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/DyMFrFpx2-8>**

THE FOLLOWING IS A **PRELIMINARY AGENDA** AND THERE MAY BE CHANGES MADE TO THE AGENDA BEFORE OR AT THE MEETING, AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

**COMBINED AGENDA and REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

FEBRUARY 5, 2024

1. **AGENDA MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.** (6:30 p.m.)

2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG.**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Councilwoman Miriam Cohen
Councilman Charles Dipierro
Councilman Michael Markel
Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel
Councilman Terence Van Dzura

4. Township Clerk reads the **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 29, 2023 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and the **CRANBURY PRESS** on December 29, 2023;
3. Posted on the Monroe Township website; and
4. 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.

5. **CONSIDERATION of the following RESOLUTION of APPOINTMENT:
(3-year term February 1, 2024 until February 1, 2027)**

**R-2-2024-046 RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHRISTINE ROBBINS AS
MUNICIPAL CLERK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

ROLL CALL: Ayes ___ Nays ___

OATH OF OFFICE administered to Christine Robbins.

5. **PROCLAMATIONS and PRESENTATIONS:**

Proclamation: American Heart Month – February 2024

6. **PUBLIC HEARING: Application for Green Acres Funding**

- *2024 Jake's Law Playground Funding Application*
- *2024 Park Development Application*

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

7. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **SECOND READING** at the February 5, 2024 Regular Meeting:

O-1-2024-001 **SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL 2024 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY.**

O-1-2024-002 **BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,500,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO SUPPLEMENT THE \$2,000,000 APPROPRIATED BY BOND ORDINANCE #O-6-2023-022, FINALLY ADOPTED AUGUST 7, 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POLICE BUILDING AND THE EXPANSION OF THE PARKING LOT. (\$2.5 million Grant from the State for Police Department Expansion)**

8. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **INTRODUCTION** at the February 5, 2024 Regular Meeting:

O-2-2024-003 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE IN COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 60, LOTS 28.4 AND 28.4QFARM, ALSO KNOWN AS 330 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR OPEN SPACE. (330 Schoolhouse Rd – 33.8 acres)**

O-2-2024-004 **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,396,640 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF. (Primarily for Twp. wide paving)**

O-2-2024-005 **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO APPLGARTH SCHOOL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,761,900 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF. (Match for Applegarth School Improvements Grant)**

O-2-2024-006 **ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,300,000, \$2,300,000 OF WHICH IS FROM A STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS GRANT AND \$2,000,000 OF WHICH IS FROM THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND GRANT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR USE AS OPEN SPACE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY. (Fully funded capital ordinance for 330 Schoolhouse Rd – 33.8 acres)**

9. **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the February 5, 2024 Regular Meeting: (R-2-2024-047 – R-2-2024-075)

R-2-2024-047 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT TO RENOVATE AND IMPROVE THE APPLGARTH SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**

R-2-2024-048 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH LOUIS RAINONE, ESQ. WITH THE FIRM RAINONE, COUGHLIN, MINCHELLO FOR 2023 GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER LITIGATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP MONROE. (Additional \$65,000)**

- R-2-2024-049** **RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE I TO THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION.** (Dr. Rajinder Mudhar – 2 yr. term)
- R-2-2024-050** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO FOR USE OF THE MARLBORO SWIM CLUB.**
- R-2-2024-051** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO RWJ BARNABAS HEALTH ONE SOURCE FOR AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.**
- R-2-2024-052** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE NJCEP COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM.**
(\$10,000 grant)
- R-2-2024-053** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**
- R-2-2024-054** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 99 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1997.**
- R-2-2024-055** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO EMAGINIT LLC. dba PRINCETON TREE CARE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP TREE REMOVAL AND PRUNING SERVICES.**
(per unit pricing)
- R-2-2024-056** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HERTRICH FLEET SERVICES FOR (2) 2023 DODGE CHARGERS AWD VEHICLES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.** (2 Dodge Chargers - \$70,566)
- R-2-2024-057** **RESOLUTION APPOINTING REGISTRAR AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.** (Registrar-Christine Robbins, Deputy Registrar-Tanya Pannucci)
- R-2-2024-058** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) FORD EXPLORERS FROM NIELSEN FORD USING THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP CONSTRUCTION AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS.** (3 Ford Explorers - \$113,706.84)
- R-2-2024-059** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR ROAD OPENING PERMIT ROP#23-11.**
(306 Federal Rd)
- R-2-2024-060** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY PIONEER GENERAL CONTRACTING CO. IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.** (Decrease of \$849)
- R-2-2024-061** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY PIONEER GENERAL CONTRACTING CO. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-2-2024-062** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES.**
- R-2-2024-063** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH PIAZZA AND ASSOCIATES AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.**
- R-2-2024-064** **RESOLUTION RESCINDING APPROVAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1213-32-005-006 HELD BY ANAYA SPIRITS, INC. (POCKET) FOR THE 2023– 2024 LICENSE TERM.**

- R-2-2024-065** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1213-32-005-006 HELD BY ANAYA SPIRITS, INC. (POCKET) FOR THE 2023– 2024 LICENSE TERM.**

- R-2-2024-066** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (DCA) FOR A LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT.**
(\$100,000 Grant for new outdoor recreation area at Senior Center per Master Plan)

- R-2-2024-067** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) 2024 CHEVROLET TAHOES INCLUDING ALL EQUIPMENT FROM MALL CHEVROLET USING THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.**
(3 Chevy Tahoes - \$188,153.64)

- R-2-2024-068** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY FOR BID #527 PUMP STATION #14 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D”).** (\$275,947)

- R-2-2024-069** **RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR CONTRACT NO. 529 PUMP STATION NO. 2 BUILDING REHABILITATION - ROOF, DOOR AND WINDOW REPLACEMENT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D”).**

- R-2-2024-070** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO H2M ARCHITECTS + ENGINEERS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH WELL 25 FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D”).** (not to exceed \$67,500)

- R-2-2024-071** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FUNDING FROM THE 2024 GREEN ACRES JAKE’S LAW INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND PROGRAM.**

- R-2-2024-072** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FUNDING FROM THE 2024 GREEN ACRES PARKS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**

- R-2-2024-073** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH ALAIMO GROUP FOR 2023 ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE IN CONNECTION WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPANSION AND PARKING LOT PROJECT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**
(Construction Administration Phase - additional \$450,000)

- R-2-2024-074** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS.**

- R-2-2024-075** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.**

10. **Public Comments.** (Limited to **Agenda items only** - 5 Minutes per Speaker)

OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____
CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

11. **Agenda Meeting Adjournment.** Time: _____

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes ___ Nays ___

THE FOLLOWING IS A **PRELIMINARY AGENDA** AND THERE MAY BE CHANGES MADE TO THE AGENDA BEFORE OR AT THE MEETING, AS PROVIDED BY LAW.

**REGULAR MEETING
OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

FEBRUARY 5, 2024

AGENDA

1. **REGULAR MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Time: _____
MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

2. **MOTION** to approve the payment of **CLAIMS** per run date **JANUARY 31, 2024**.
MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**
MOTION to approve the **MINUTES** of the following meetings as written and presented:
December 4, 2023 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting
December 20, 2023 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting
MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

4. **ORDINANCE(S) for SECOND READING:**
**O-1-2024-001 SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL 2024 SALARY AND WAGE
ORDINANCE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY.**
PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____
PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____
ADOPTION: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

**O-1-2024-002 BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING
\$2,500,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A GRANT FROM
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS TO SUPPLEMENT THE \$2,000,000 APPROPRIATED BY
BOND ORDINANCE #O-6-2023-022, FINALLY ADOPTED AUGUST
7, 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POLICE
BUILDING AND THE EXPANSION OF THE PARKING LOT.
(\$2.5 million Grant from the State)**
PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____
PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____
ADOPTION: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

5. **ORDINANCE(S) for INTRODUCTION:**
**O-2-2024-003 AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
IN COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE A
CONSERVATION RESTRICTION AGREEMENT FOR REAL
PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 60,
LOTS 28.4 AND 28.4QFARM, ALSO KNOWN AS 330
SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR OPEN SPACE.**
MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

O-2-2024-004 **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,396,640 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

O-2-2024-005 **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO APPLGARTH SCHOOL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,761,900 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

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MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes _____ Nays _____

6. **RESOLUTIONS for CONSIDERATION under the CONSENT AGENDA:**
(R-2-2024-047– R-2-2024-075)

R-2-2024-047 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT TO RENOVATE AND IMPROVE THE APPLGARTH SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**

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(Construction Administration Phase - additional \$450,000)

- R-2-2024-074** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS.

- R-2-2024-075** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes ____ Nays ____

7. **RESOLUTIONS removed** from consent agenda for **CONSIDERATION (if needed)**.

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____ ROLL CALL: Ayes ____ Nays ____

8. **Administrator’s Report.**

9. **Engineer’s Report.**

10. **Council’s Reports.**

11. **Mayor’s Report.**

12. **Public Comments.** (5 Minutes per Speaker)

OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

13. **Adjournment.** MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

Time: _____

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MEETING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – February 5, 2024

The Council of the Township of Monroe met at the Monroe Township Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza, for the Combined Agenda/Regular Meeting.

The Combined Agenda/Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 6:30 p.m. by Council President Miriam Cohen with a Salute to the Flag.

UPON ROLL CALL by the Township Clerk, Christine Robbins, the following members of Council were present: Councilman Charles Dipierro, Councilman Michael Markel, Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel and Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura.

ALSO PRESENT: Business Administrator Alan M. Weinberg, Assistant Business Administrator Kevin McGowan, Utility Director Joseph Stroin, Township Attorney Lou Rainone, Engineer Mark Rasimowicz and Deputy Clerk Tanya Pannucci.

ABSENT: Mayor Stephen Dalina and Council President Miriam Cohen.

There were approximately fifty (50) members of the Public in attendance.

Township Clerk Christine Robbins 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 29, 2023 and remains posted at that location for public inspection.
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and noticed to the **CRANBURY PRESS** on December 29, 2023;
3. Posted on the Monroe Township website; and
4. 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 rolling time unless further time is granted by the Council President.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the following Resolution of Appointment was moved for Adoption:

**R-2-2024-046 RESOLUTION APPOINTING CHRISTINE ROBBINS AS
MUNICIPAL CLERK FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.
(3-year term February 1, 2024 until February 1, 2027)**

WHEREAS, in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:9-133 every municipality in the State of New Jersey is required to have a Municipal (“Township”) Clerk: and

WHEREAS, upon the retirement of Patricia Reid, the Township of Monroe has the need to fill the position of Municipal Clerk; and

WHEREAS, the term of office for a Municipal Clerk is three (3) years; and

WHEREAS, in a letter dated January 4, 2024, Council President recommends Christine Robbins to the fill the position of Township Clerk; and

WHEREAS, Christine Robbins is a certified Registered Municipal Clerk of the State of New Jersey, meets the qualifications and has agreed to perform the duties of this position; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, that it hereby appoints Christine Robbins as the Municipal Clerk for a three (3) year term effective February 1, 2024 and expiring January 31, 2027.

All of Council extended congratulations and wished Christine the best of luck in her new role as Township Clerk, commenting that she has shown to do great work and are honored to welcome her in this new role.

Deputy Township Clerk Tanya Pannucci administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Township Clerk Christine Robbins was joined by her husband Brian, mother Maureen and children Alex and Allison.

A five-minute recess was taken for pictures with the meeting resuming at 6:41pm.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura read aloud, by title, the following proclamation:

Proclamation: American Heart Month – February 2024

Engineer Rasimowicz gave a brief synopsis of the two applications for Green Acre funding that the Township wants to pursue: ***2024 Jake’s Law Playground Funding Application and the 2024 Park Development Application***. He went on to explain that this funding would benefit the Community Garden as the 2022 Master Plan input from the community was the need for more parks and recreation in the southwest quadrant on the Township. Center State Engineering went out and did an environmental impact study and conceptual layout of the recreation and parking designed with current NJDOT standards. The cost is \$2.8 million and the Township is seeking 75% funding.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for the Applications for Green Acres Funding** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Gary Busman, 7 Monarch Rd. – Mr. Busman stated that as a member of the Community Garden he feels this is a wonderful improvement.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos asked if there would be a compost pile to which Engineer Rasimowicz answered that the Community Garden already has one.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Applications for Green Acres Funding** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024** Regular Council Meeting:

- O-1-2024-001** **SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL 2024 SALARY AND WAGE ORDINANCE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY.**

- O-1-2024-002** **BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,500,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO SUPPLEMENT THE \$2,000,000 APPROPRIATED BY BOND ORDINANCE #O-6-2023-022, FINALLY ADOPTED AUGUST 7, 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POLICE BUILDING AND THE EXPANSION OF THE PARKING LOT. (\$2.5 million Grant from the State for Police Department Expansion)**

Township Clerk, Christine Robbins read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **INTRODUCTION** at the **MONDAY, February 5, 2024** Regular Council Meeting:

- O-2-2024-003** **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE IN COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 60, LOTS 28.4 AND 28.4QFARM, ALSO KNOWN AS 330 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR OPEN SPACE. (330 Schoolhouse Rd – 33.8 acres)**

- O-2-2024-004** **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF**

\$2,396,640 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF. (Primarily for Twp. wide paving)

O-2-2024-005 **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO APPEGARTH SCHOOL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,761,900 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.** (Match for Applegarth School Improvements Grant)

O-2-2024-006 **ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,300,000, \$2,300,000 OF WHICH IS FROM A STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS GRANT AND \$2,000,000 OF WHICH IS FROM THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND GRANT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR USE AS OPEN SPACE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY.**
(Fully funded capital ordinance for 330 Schoolhouse Rd – 33.8 acres)

Council Vice-President Van Dzura reads the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the **MONDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2024** Regular Council Meeting: (R-2-2024-047 – R-2-2024-075)

R-2-2024-047 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT TO RENOVATE AND IMPROVE THE APPEGARTH SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**

R-2-2024-048 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH LOUIS RAINONE, ESQ. WITH THE FIRM RAINONE, COUGHLIN, MINCHELLO FOR 2023 GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER LITIGATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP MONROE.**
(Additional \$65,000)

R-2-2024-049 **RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE I TO THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION.** (Dr. Rajinder Mudhar – 2 yr. term)

R-2-2024-050 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO FOR USE OF THE MARLBORO SWIM CLUB.**

R-2-2024-051 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO RWJ BARNABAS HEALTH ONE SOURCE FOR AN EMPLOYEE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.**

R-2-2024-052 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE NJCEP COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM.**
(\$10,000 grant)

R-2-2024-053 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**

R-2-2024-054 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE TAX SALE CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 99 OF THE PUBLIC LAWS OF 1997.**

R-2-2024-055 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO EMAGINIT LLC. dba PRINCETON TREE CARE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP TREE REMOVAL AND PRUNING SERVICES.**
(per unit pricing)

R-2-2024-056 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HERTRICH FLEET SERVICES FOR (2) 2023 DODGE CHARGERS AWD VEHICLES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.** (2 Dodge Chargers - \$70,566)

- R-2-2024-057** **RESOLUTION APPOINTING REGISTRAR AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.** (Registrar-Christine Robbins, Deputy Registrar-Tanya Pannucci)
- R-2-2024-058** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) FORD EXPLORERS FROM NIELSEN FORD USING THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP CONSTRUCTION AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS.** (3 Ford Explorers - \$113,706.84)
- R-2-2024-059** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR ROAD OPENING PERMIT ROP#23-11.**
(306 Federal Rd)
- R-2-2024-060** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY PIONEER GENERAL CONTRACTING CO. IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.** (Decrease of \$849)
- R-2-2024-061** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY PIONEER GENERAL CONTRACTING CO. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-2-2024-062** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES.**
- R-2-2024-063** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH PIAZZA AND ASSOCIATES AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.**
- R-2-2024-064** **RESOLUTION RESCINDING APPROVAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1213-32-005-006 HELD BY ANAYA SPIRITS, INC. (POCKET) FOR THE 2023– 2024 LICENSE TERM.**
- R-2-2024-065** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1213-32-005-006 HELD BY ANAYA SPIRITS, INC. (POCKET) FOR THE 2023– 2024 LICENSE TERM.**
- R-2-2024-066** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (DCA) FOR A LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT.**
((\$100,000 Grant for new outdoor recreation area at Senior Center per Master Plan)
- R-2-2024-067** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) 2024 CHEVROLET TAHOES INCLUDING ALL EQUIPMENT FROM MALL CHEVROLET USING THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.**
(3 Chevy Tahoes - \$188,153.64)
- R-2-2024-068** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY FOR BID #527 PUMP STATION #14 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D”).** (\$275,947)
- R-2-2024-069** **RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR CONTRACT NO. 529 PUMP STATION NO. 2 BUILDING REHABILITATION - ROOF, DOOR AND WINDOW REPLACEMENT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D”).**
- R-2-2024-070** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT TO H2M ARCHITECTS + ENGINEERS FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH WELL 25 FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D”).** (not to exceed \$67,500)

- R-2-2024-071** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FUNDING FROM THE 2024 GREEN ACRES JAKE’S LAW INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND PROGRAM.**
- R-2-2024-072** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FUNDING FROM THE 2024 GREEN ACRES PARKS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.**
- R-2-2024-073** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH ALAIMO GROUP FOR 2023 ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE IN CONNECTION WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPANSION AND PARKING LOT PROJECT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**
(Construction Administration Phase - additional \$450,000)
- R-2-2024-074** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS.**
- R-2-2024-075** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.**

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC COMMENTS** portion of the Meeting was opened. All were in favor, none opposed.

Public Comments:

Joe Atanasio, 21 Wellington Pl. – Mr. Atanasio asked in regard to Resolutions R-2-2024-058 and R-2-2024-067 if these vehicles were electric to which Administrator Weinberg responded no as those types of vehicles are harder to find in government purchasing.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos asked if there was a plan in place for the migrants; Council Vice-President Van Dzura stated this item was not on the Agenda and this portion of the public hearing is for Agenda items only. Attorney Rainone responded.

Mrs. Panos asked how much additional money was being paid to the Township Attorney; Administrator Weinberg answered that the Township Attorney is not a salaried position, it is a professional service contract. He went on to say that the cost thus far is \$446,000 which is a lot less than when we started and with the additional cost going towards litigation which he cannot speak on any active litigation.

Beth Dipierro, 404 Gravel Hill Rd. – Mrs. Dipierro asked for clarification on Resolution R-2-2024-050, the Shared Services Agreement with Marlboro Swim Club; Administrator Weinberg responded that this gives our residents a discounted rate for individual, couples, and family memberships.

George Gunkelman, 5 Kelly Ct. – Mr. Gunkelman asked for clarification on Ordinance O-2-2024-005 asking why this is money coming from the Township and not the school district; Administrator Weinberg answered that the school has won a ROD grant awarding \$5 million from the State with a \$5 million match needed to move forward. By failing to match this requirement the money would go back to the State and the chances of having this opportunity again would be slim to none, so by matching the \$5 million it keeps the grant money within the Township. Mr. Gunkelman commented that the school district is a separate entity, and we are matching their need when the community has voiced their lack of support during the elections. He went on to say that the Board of Education should stop looking to the Township for a bailout as we have separate budgets, and this crosses that territory. Lastly, Mr. Gunkelman opinionized that pouring \$10 million into Applegarth School is not money well spent.

Mr. Gunkelman asked regarding Ordinance O-2-2024-006 if this property is farmland assessed to which Administrator Weinberg answered that this is farmland assessed but not farmland preserved.

Mr. Gunkelman asked for additional information regarding Ordinance O-2-2024-007; Administrator Weinberg answered that the ROD grant cannot be paired with cash and to continue to use the schools for the benefit of recreational activities and other programs.

Gary Busman, 7 Monarch Rd. – Mr. Busman commented that the Board of Education is their own separate entity and the residents of Monroe do not want to spend money for the Board of Education. Mr. Busman stated that the Township bought property for the Board of Education at their request, and nothing has come to fruition and he feels that this has nothing to do with education and we should be cognizant to fiscal responsibility. Council Vice-President Van Dzura stated that this is for necessary work that needs to be done to Applegarth School and Administrator

Weinberg added that this will cover the HVAC and roof work and ROD grants do not happen often but they do require a 50% match.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC COMMENTS** portion of the Meeting was closed. All were in favor, none opposed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the Agenda Meeting was Adjourned at 7:06pm.

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 7:06pm.

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the **CLAIMS** per run date of **1/31/24** were approved for payment as written and presented.

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **MINUTES** of the following meetings as written and presented:

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|--------------------------|---|--------------------------------------------|
| December 4, 2023 | - | Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting |
| December 20, 2023 | - | Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting |

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

UPON ACTION made by the Council the following Ordinance was **moved on SECOND READING for FINAL ADOPTION** as follows:

**O-1-2024-001 SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL 2024 SALARY AND WAGE
ORDINANCE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY.**

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

SECTION 1. The Township is governed by the provisions of the Faulkner Act, Mayor-Council form of government. N.J.S.A. 40:69A-1, et. seq. Under the Mayor council form certain annual salaries, wages and other compensation are set by the Township Council as attached hereto and made a part hereof, effective January 1, 2024, as hereinafter specified.

SECTION 2. All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance shall be and the same are hereby repealed.

SECTION 3. If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision so adjudged and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION 4. This Ordinance shall take effect upon final passage and publication as provided by law.

SO ORDAINED, as aforesaid.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-1-2024-001** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-1-2024-001** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was passed on Second Reading and Final Adoption:

**O-1-2024-001 SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL 2024 SALARY AND WAGE
ORDINANCE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP, MIDDLESEX COUNTY.**

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON ACTION made by the Council the following Ordinance was **moved on SECOND READING for FINAL ADOPTION** as follows:

**O-1-2024-002 BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE
COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING
\$2,500,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A GRANT FROM
THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY
AFFAIRS TO SUPPLEMENT THE \$2,000,000 APPROPRIATED BY
BOND ORDINANCE #O-6-2023-022, FINALLY ADOPTED AUGUST
7, 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POLICE
BUILDING AND THE EXPANSION OF THE PARKING LOT.
(\$2.5 million Grant from the State)**

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY (not less than two-thirds of all members thereof affirmatively concurring) **AS FOLLOWS:**

Section 1. The Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Township"), hereby appropriates the supplemental amount of \$2,500,000 expected to be received as a grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Community Affairs to provide for improvements to the Police Building and the expansion of the parking lot, including, but not limited to, the refurbishment of the existing building, furnishings and site work and further including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto. Such amount is in addition to the \$2,000,000 previously appropriated by Bond Ordinance #O-6-2023-022, finally adopted August 7, 2023 (the "Original Bond Ordinance"). The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is \$4,500,000, including the \$2,000,000 appropriated by the Original Bond Ordinance and the \$2,500,000 appropriated herein.

Section 2. No additional bonds or bond anticipation notes are authorized for the purpose set forth in Section 1.

Section 3. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division of Local Government Services.

Section 4. This ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by law.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-002** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank Steinhauser, 19 Oliver St. – Mr. Steinhauser asked what improvements will be done; Administrator Weinberg answered that the inside will be rehabbed with a 3,000 square foot addition, upgrade to dispatch, meeting rooms, etc. He went on to say that the department has grown exponentially and there will also be a secure police parking lot in the back of their building as well.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos asked if there will be a shooting range downstairs to which Administrator Weinberg answered that there will not.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-1-2024-002** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was passed on Second Reading and Final Adoption:

O-1-2024-002 **BOND ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,500,000 EXPECTED TO BE RECEIVED AS A GRANT FROM THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS TO SUPPLEMENT THE \$2,000,000 APPROPRIATED BY BOND ORDINANCE #O-6-2023-022, FINALLY ADOPTED AUGUST 7, 2023, TO PROVIDE FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO THE POLICE BUILDING AND THE EXPANSION OF THE PARKING LOT.**
(\$2.5 million Grant from the State)

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was Introduced on First Reading for Final Passage:

O-2-2024-003 **AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE IN COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, TO AUTHORIZE A CONSERVATION RESTRICTION AGREEMENT FOR REAL PROPERTY KNOWN AND DESIGNATED AS TAX BLOCK 60, LOTS 28.4 AND 28.4Q FARM, ALSO KNOWN AS 330 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR OPEN SPACE.**

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|------------|------------------------------------------|--------|
| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was Introduced on First Reading for Final Passage:

O-2-2024-004 **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$2,900,000 THEREFORE AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$2,396,640 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was Introduced on First Reading for Final Passage:

O-2-2024-005 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO APPLGARTH SCHOOL IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, PURSUANT TO A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION, APPROPRIATING \$5,000,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,761,900 BONDS OR NOTES TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was Introduced on First Reading for Final Passage:

O-2-2024-006 ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$4,300,000, \$2,300,000 OF WHICH IS FROM A STATE OF NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS GRANT AND \$2,000,000 OF WHICH IS FROM THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY OPEN SPACE, RECREATION AND FARMLAND AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION TRUST FUND GRANT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF PROPERTY FOR USE AS OPEN SPACE IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY.

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| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the following Resolutions were moved for Adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA:** (R-2-2024-047– R-2-2024-075)

R-2-2024-047 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION IN CONNECTION WITH A PROJECT TO RENOVATE AND IMPROVE THE APPLGARTH SCHOOL LOCATED IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Board of Education (the “Board”) plans to undertake a project to renovate and improve the Applegarth School located in the Township of Monroe (the “School”) in accordance with a State ROD Grant (the “Project”); and

WHEREAS, the Board has requested the assistance of the Township of Monroe in the funding of the Project; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe (the “Township”) and the Board have determined that the Project will be mutually beneficial to the Township and Board; and

WHEREAS, the Township and the Board have determined that it would be in the best interest of the residents of the Township to enter into a Shared Services Agreement to share the costs of the Project at the School and for the Township to continue to use the School for its recreational and other programs; and

WHEREAS, the Township and the Board wish to enter into this Shared Services Agreement pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. § 40A:65-1, et seq.; and

WHEREAS, the Township and the Board and its staff and professionals have negotiated the terms and conditions of a Shared Services Agreement, as described in substantially the form appended hereto as Attachment A.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5th day of February, 2024, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe (the "Council") that:

1. The Township is hereby authorized to execute the Shared Services Agreement as described in substantially the form appended hereto as Attachment A, subject to the review of the Township Attorney; and
2. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. § 40A:65-4(b), a copy of the executed Shared Services Agreement shall be filed, for informational purposes, with the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

R-2-2024-048

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH LOUIS RAINONE, ESQ. WITH THE FIRM RAINONE, COUGHLIN, MINCHELLO FOR 2023 GENERAL LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH ENVIRONMENTAL AND OTHER LITIGATION FOR THE TOWNSHIP MONROE.

(Additional \$65,000)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-1-2023-003, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on January 4, 2023, authorizing a Professional Service Contract with Louis Rainone Esq and Rainone, Coughlin, Minchello for General Legal Services required by the Township of Monroe for calendar year 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Professional Service contract for 2023 General Legal Services was in the original amount of \$381,307.00; and

WHEREAS, Louis Rainone Esq and Rainone, Coughlin, Minchello has requested a modification to said contract for legal fees incurred in excess of the budgeted amount, in connection with Environmental and other litigation, and has requested authorization for an additional \$65,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the request and has found same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in Certificate No. C-2300013, a copy of which is attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey authorization is hereby given to modify said contract in the amount of Sixty Five Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$65,000) and the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the amendment to the agreement attached hereto.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-049

RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF ALTERNATE I TO THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION. (Dr. Rajinder Mudhar – 2 yr. term)

WHEREAS, the Honorable Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, by copy of letter dated January 12, 2024 has appointed Dr. Rajinder Mudhar as Alternate I on the Cultural Arts Commission; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of the Township of Monroe requires the Advice and Consent of the Council for the above appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Township Council hereby provides its Advice and Consents to the appointment of Dr. Rajinder Mudhar as Alternate I on the **CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-050

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH THE TOWNSHIP OF MARLBORO FOR USE OF THE MARLBORO SWIM CLUB.

WHEREAS, the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1, et seq., (the "Act") permits units of local government to share services for particular purposes and to effectuate agreements for any service or circumstance that will aid and encourage a reduction of local expenses; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Marlboro (“Marlboro”) and the Township of Monroe (“Monroe”) are public bodies corporate and politic of the State of New Jersey and are authorized under New Jersey Law to enter into a Shared Services Agreement pursuant to the Act; and

WHEREAS, Monroe desires to enter into an agreement with Marlboro which will permit Monroe residents to join the Marlboro Swim Club; and

WHEREAS, representatives of Monroe and Marlboro have negotiated a Shared Services Agreement, a copy of which is annexed hereto as Exhibit A, and the terms of which are incorporated into this resolution as if set forth at length herein; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe has determined that the entry into the Shared Services Agreement is in the best interest of the residents and taxpayers of Monroe.

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 Shared Services Agreement shall be open to public inspection in the Municipal Clerk’s Office and shall take effect upon the adoption of a resolution and execution of the agreement by both parties.
- 2- The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to execute the Shared Services Agreement annexed hereto as Exhibit A.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-2-2024-051 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO
RWJ BARNABAS HEALTH ONE SOURCE FOR AN EMPLOYEE
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.**

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe has a need to acquire an Employee Assistance Program for the Monroe Township employees; and

WHEREAS, the One Source Employee Assistance Program through RWJ Barnabas Health is a problem-solving company that uses customized clinical, wellness, consultative and educational services to help create a friendly, healthy and productive work environment; and

WHEREAS, **RWJ Barnabas Health One Source** has submitted a proposal indicating the offered services and programs and the fees for such services; and

WHEREAS, the total fee for contracted one (1) year period is not to exceed \$6,600.00; 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-2400027, 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, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

(1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with **RWJ Barnabas One Source 1691 US Hwy 9 Toms River, N.J. 08755** in accordance with the proposal annexed hereto as Exhibit “C”, effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024;

(2) The Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay RWJ Barnabas One Source in an amount **not to exceed \$6,600.00**.

(3) This contract is awarded without competitive bidding as a "professional service" in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a)(I) 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 **RWJ Barnabas One Source** contract shall include mandatory Affirmative Action language, New Jersey Business Registration Certificate and shall submit to the Township of Monroe all appropriate documentation 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-2-2024-052 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN APPLICATION TO THE NJCEP
COMMUNITY ENERGY PLANNING GRANT PROGRAM.
(\$10,000 grant)**

WHEREAS, a sustainable community seeks to ensure that its environmental, economic and social objectives are balanced and mutually supportive; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe strives to assure clean land, air and water for current and future generations; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey's Energy master Plan: Pathway to 2050 ("EMP") established that community-level action is necessary to achieve the state's goal of 100% clean energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has created a Community Energy Plan Grant program for municipalities to develop a community energy plan to meet the goals of the state's Energy Master Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe is invested in developing a community energy plan to help the state achieve the goal of 100% clean energy by 2050; and

WHEREAS, the Community Energy Plan Grant program will help the Township of Monroe to plan for and invest in renewable energy and to work towards a better environment for all residents by using the state's Energy Master Plan (EMP) as a guide to develop sustainable strategies that increase clean energy production, reduce energy use and cut emissions.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe has determined that the Township should apply for the aforementioned Community Energy Plan Grant program; and

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township of Monroe will commit to providing staff support for the duration of the Community Energy Planning process, including gathering of relevant data and convening at least two public meetings.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, authorizes the submission of the aforementioned application to the NJBPU Community Energy Plan Grant Program.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-2-2024-053 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX
LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**

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 Twenty-Three Thousand Three-Hundred dollars and no cents (\$23,300.00),

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-2-2024-054 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF A DUPLICATE
TAX SALE CERTIFICATE PURSUANT TO CHAPTER 99 OF THE
PUBLIC LAWS OF 1997.**

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Tax Collector has previously issued 2 tax sale certificates to Rajee V Rakan which certificates are dated 10/17/2023 covering premises commonly known and referred to on Schedule A attached, as set out on the municipal tax map then in use which certificates are numbered; and

WHEREAS, the purchaser of the aforesaid tax sale certificates has indicated to the Tax Collector that they were lost/ misplaced, or destroyed. The duly filed the appropriate Affidavits of Loss/Destroyed certificates with the Tax Collector, a copy of which is attached hereto.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved by the Mayor and Governing Body of the Municipality of Monroe Township that the Tax Collector of the municipality be and is hereby authorized, upon receipt of the appropriately executed and notarized Loss/Destroyed Affidavit per certificate, to issue an appropriate duplicate tax sale certificate to the said purchaser covering the certificates lost/destroyed as previously described all in accordance with the requirements of Chapter 99 of Public Laws of 1997.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution and Loss/Destroyed Affidavits is attached to the duplicate certificates to be issued to said purchaser and that said duplicate certificates shall be stamped or otherwise have imprinted upon it the word "Duplicate" as required by law.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-055 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO EMAGINIT LLC. dba PRINCETON TREE CARE FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP TREE REMOVAL AND PRUNING SERVICES. (per unit pricing)

WHEREAS, on January 11, 2024 four (4) sealed bids were received by Monroe Township for tree removal and pruning services; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Purchasing Manager recommends, by copy of letter dated January 23, 2024, a copy of which is attached hereto, that the tree removal and pruning contract be awarded to **Emaginit LLC. dba Princeton Tree Care 225 Bakers Basin Road Lawrence, N.J. 08648** at the unit pricing as provided by the bidder, and as shown on the attached schedule of rates; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the recommendation made by the Business Administrator regarding said bid and finds same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2400030, 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, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of a one (1) year contract, for Monroe Township Tree Removal and Pruning services at the unit pricing provided by the bidder, said contract expiring February 4, 2025, with the provision authorizing the Business Administrator to extend for two (2) additional one (1) year periods with the consent of the bidder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Emaginit LLC. dba Princeton Tree Care per unit pricing**; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay **Emaginit LLC. dba Princeton Tree Care** in accordance with the contract entered into between the parties; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the contract is awarded with the stipulation that **Emaginit LLC. dba Princeton Tree Care** shall comply with Affirmative Action Regulations, including revising their contracts as necessary to add mandatory affirmative action language, and submitting either a letter of federal approval or a certificate of employee information report, or a completed form AA302 at the time the signed contracts are returned to the Township of Monroe, or seven (7) days thereafter, or risk being declared non-responsive and forfeiting the award.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid

R-2-2024-056 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HERTRICH FLEET SERVICES FOR (2) 2023 DODGE CHARGERS AWD VEHICLES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (2 Dodge Chargers - \$70,566)

WHEREAS, on January 18, 2024 one (1) sealed proposal was received by Monroe Township for (2) Dodge Chargers Police AWD Vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Assistant Township Purchasing Agent recommends in a letter dated January 22, 2023, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A", that a contract be awarded to Hertrich Fleet Services Inc. for (2) Dodge Chargers AWD Vehicles for the Monroe Township Police Department at the low bid price of **\$70,566.00**; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2400028, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

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 are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Hertrich Fleet Services Inc. 1427 Bay Road Milford, DE 19963** in accordance with the proposal, a copy of which is attached hereto;
- (2) The Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for the purchase from **Hertrich Fleet Services Inc.** in accordance with the contract entered between the parties; and
- (3) This contract is awarded in accordance with N.J.S.A. 10:5-31 et seq. and N.J.A.C. 17:27 et seq.;
- (4) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-057 RESOLUTION APPOINTING REGISTRAR AND DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE. (Registrar-Christine Robbins, Deputy Registrar-Tanya Pannucci)

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 26:8-13 requires that each municipality designate one of its officers as the Township Registrar of Vital Statistics, a Deputy Registrar, and, in addition Alternate Deputy Registrars of Vital Statistics as needed;

WHEREAS, the Registrar of Vital Statistics for the Township of Monroe has retired effective February 1, 2024, which leaves a vacancy; and

WHEREAS, Christine Robbins has been appointed as Township Clerk effective February 1, 2024 and shall fill the unexpired term of Registrar of Vital Statistics; and

WHEREAS, Tanya Pannucci shall fill the unexpired term of Deputy Registrar of Vital Statistics; and

WHEREAS, the following appointments shall be made effective immediately:

| | | |
|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Registrar | Christine Robbins | Expiring 12/31/2026 |
| Deputy Registrar | Tanya Pannucci | Expiring 12/31/2026 |
| Alternate Deputy Registrar | Lorena Thompson | Expiring 12/31/2026 |

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, that it hereby appoints **CHRISTINE ROBBINS** as Registrar, **TANYA PANNUCCI** as Deputy Registrar, **and LORENA THOMPSON** as Alternate Deputy Registrars of Vital Statistics to fill the three (3) year terms, said terms ending on December 31, 2026.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid

R-2-2024-058 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) FORD EXPLORERS FROM NIELSEN FORD USING THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP CONSTRUCTION AND RECREATION DEPARTMENTS. (3 Ford Explorers - \$113,706.84)

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Construction Department has the need for two (2) 2024 Ford Explorer and the Recreation Department has the need for one (1) Ford Explorer; and

WHEREAS, the State Approved Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program (Cooperative 65MCESCCPS) has awarded a contract for the vehicles under its contract number ESCNJ 23/24-11, from *Nielsen Ford 170 Ridgedale Avenue Morristown, N.J. 07960* for the purchase as follows:

3 - 2024 Ford Explorer (K8B) Base 4WD - \$37,902.28 x 3
TOTAL COST \$113,706.84; and

WHEREAS, it is required by law that any "state contract" purchase which exceeds the bid threshold of the Township (\$40,000.00) in aggregate, be authorized by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the total amount for these vehicles exceeds the Township's bid threshold in aggregate; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as evidenced by Certificate No. C-2400029, 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) Authorizes the Construction and Recreation Department to purchase said vehicles from Nielsen Ford using the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program contract 23/24-11; and
- (2) The Township Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for said vehicles delivered by Nielsen Ford, respectively; and
- (4) The contracts are awarded through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program (Cooperative 65MCESCCPS) are considered fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, as well as being exempt from public bidding by the Township.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-059 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE FOR ROAD OPENING PERMIT ROP#23-11.
(306 Federal Rd)

WHEREAS, Mohid Construction has posted a Performance Guarantee with Monroe Township for Road Opening project ROP #23-11; and

WHEREAS, a request was made for the release of the Performance Guarantee posted for this project; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer has inspected the work and has recommended that the Township Council approve the request for release of the performance guarantee, as detailed in his letter dated January 8, 2024, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer advised no escrow shall be released at this time; 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 and State of New Jersey that the Performance Guarantee posted for Road Opening project ROP #23-11, in the amount of \$12,000.00 be released as reflected in the Township Engineers letter annexed hereto.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-060 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY PIONEER GENERAL CONTRACTING CO. IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (Decrease of \$849)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-10-2023-227, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on October 2, 2023, a contract was awarded to Pioneer General Contracting Construction Inc. in connection with the 2023 Concrete Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, the original total contract amount was \$145,525.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, in a letter dated January 9, 2024, requested approval of Change Order No. 1 and Final for the 2023 Concrete Improvements Project reflecting a **decrease of \$849.00** in the contract amount, as the result of lower contract quantities, as described in the attached change order; and

WHEREAS, the current contract price including this change order is **\$144,676.00**; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the request and has found same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified in Certificate No. C-2300075, a copy of which is attached hereto, that sufficient funds are available.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by 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 and Final, attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-061 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY PIONEER GENERAL CONTRACTING CO. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, Pioneer General Contracting Co. has posted Performance Guarantees for the 2023 Concrete Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, Pioneer General Contracting Co. has requested a release of the Performance Guarantees posted for this project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 108-13.1 F and G of the Code of the Township of Monroe, the Township Engineer, by copy of letter dated January 9, 2024, has recommended, release of the Performance Guarantees; 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 the Performance Guarantees posted for the 2023 Concrete Improvements Project, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer’s letter dated January 9, 2024, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$14,467.60**. Such maintenance guarantee shall run for a period of not less than two years from the date of memorialization of such action by the Council.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-062 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES.

WHEREAS, the Construction Official, by copy of letter dated January 23, 2024, copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”, has recommended the Council approve the following construction permit refunds:

| <u>Refund to:</u> | <u>Reason</u> | <u>Amount</u> |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Tesla Energy Operations, Inc. 1001 Lower Landing Road Suite 601 Blackwood, NJ 08012 ATTN: Permitting | Permit # 20231492 Requests refund due to permit cancelled. Homeowner at 52 Green Ash Street has cancelled solar panel installation. | \$ 468.00 |
| A.J. Perri Plumbing LLC. 1162 Pinebrook Road Tinton Falls, N.J. 07724 | Permit # 2024-0152 Requests refund due to permit cancelled for work to be performed at 474B Fairton Drive | \$209.00 |

WHEREAS, Council has reviewed the recommendation of the Construction Official and finds the request for the above refunds 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 **Tesla Energy Operations, Inc. in the amount of \$468.00 and A.J. Perri Plumbing LLC., in the amount of \$209.00**

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-063 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND TOWNSHIP CLERK TO EXECUTE AN AGREEMENT WITH PIAZZA AND ASSOCIATES AS AFFORDABLE HOUSING ADMINISTRATIVE AGENT FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2024.

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe requires the services of a qualified agency as entity to serve as Administrative Agent as defined in the Uniform Housing Affordability Controls (“UHAC”) Manual and N.J.A.C. 5:80-26; and

WHEREAS, Piazza and Associates, a New Jersey firm, possesses the expertise required for such an engagement; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Affordable Housing Board hereby recommends to the Township Council, that PIAZZA AND ASSOCIATES be designated Administrative Agent for the Township of Monroe;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that it hereby consents to the recommendation of the Affordable Housing Board and authorizes the Mayor and Township Clerk to execute an Agreement between the Township of Monroe and Piazza and Associates, a copy of which is attached hereto, to insure Township compliance with all Council on Affordable Housing (“COAH”) rules and regulations concerning the sales and rental of affordable housing units and the Rehabilitation program within the Township of Monroe for calendar year 2024.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-064 RESOLUTION RESCINDING APPROVAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1213-32-005-006 HELD BY ANAYA SPIRITS, INC. (POCKET) FOR THE 2023– 2024 LICENSE TERM.

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-6-2023-178, adopted by the Township Council at their meeting held June 26, 2023 approved the renewal of pocket license 1213-32-005-006 held by Anaya Spirits, Inc. for the 2023-2024 licensing term; and

WHEREAS, after the adoption of the above noted Resolution, the Township of Monroe was advised by the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control that License No. 1213-32-005-006 held by Anaya Spirits, Inc. was required to petition for relief pursuant to N.J.S.A. 33:1-12.39 for the 2023-2024 license term but had failed to do so, thereby requiring the approval of their license to be rescinded; and

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 it hereby rescinds the approval of License No. 1213-32-005-006 held by Anaya Spirits, Inc. for the 2023-2024 license term; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Anaya Spirits, Inc. may seek reapproval of License No. 1213-32-005-006 upon receiving the required relief from the Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-065 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE RENEWAL OF LIQUOR LICENSE NO. 1213-32-005-006 HELD BY ANAYA SPIRITS, INC. (POCKET) FOR THE 2023– 2024 LICENSE TERM.

WHEREAS, Anaya Spirits Inc. has applied to the Monroe Township Council for the renewal of Plenary Retail Consumption License with Broad Package Privilege No. 1213-32-005-006; and

WHEREAS, License No. 1213-32-005-006 is a "pocket license" which is a type of inactive license which does not have a site or licensed premise; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to a Special Ruling of the Department of Law and Public Safety, Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, Agency Docket No. 01-24-16, 01-24-17, a copy of which is attached hereto, good cause has been shown in accordance with the statutory requirements to warrant an application for renewal of the aforesaid license for the 2023-2024 license term; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council finds the application for renewal has been made and all fees paid in connection with the renewal of said license for the 2023-2024 license term; and

WHEREAS, after investigation of this matter, this Council finds no cause to deny said renewal;

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 Plenary Retail Consumption License with Broad Package Privilege No. 1213-32-005-006 held by Anaya Spirits, Inc. be and is hereby renewed for the 2023-2024 license term pursuant to N.J.S.A. 33:1-12.39, a copy of which is attached hereto and made a part hereof.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-066 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPLICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AFFAIRS (DCA) FOR A LOCAL RECREATION IMPROVEMENT GRANT.
(\$100,000 Grant for new outdoor recreation area at Senior Center per Master Plan)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe desires to apply for and obtain from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs for approximately \$100,000.00 to carry out a project to create a new outdoor recreation area near the Monroe Township Senior Center; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe has determined that the Township should apply for the aforementioned, Local Recreation Improvement Grant; and

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED,

1. The Township of Monroe does hereby authorize the application for such a grant; and
2. Recognizes and accepts that the Department may offer a lesser or greater amount and therefore, upon receipt of the grant agreement from the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, does further authorize the execution of any such grant agreement; and also, upon receipt of the fully executed agreement from the Department, does further authorize the expenditure of funds pursuant to the terms of the agreement between the Township of Monroe and the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Monroe Township Council that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the application and any other documents necessary in connection with the Local Recreation Improvement Grant.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-067 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THREE (3) 2024 CHEVROLET TAHOES INCLUDING ALL EQUIPMENT FROM MALL CHEVROLET USING THE EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION OF NEW JERSEY (ESCNJ) COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.
(3 Chevy Tahoes - \$188,153.64)

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Police Department has the need for three (3) 2024 Chevrolet 4WD SUV vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the State Approved Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program (Cooperative 65MCESCCPS) has awarded a contract for the Police vehicles under its contract number ESCNJ 23/24-11, from *Mall Chevrolet, 75 Haddonfield Road, Cherry Hill, NJ 08002* for the purchase as follows:

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 2 - 2024 Black Chevrolet Tahoe 9C1 Pursuit AWD Vehicle- | \$48,790.95 x 2 |
| 1 - 2024 White Chevrolet Tahoe 5W4 Special Service AWD Vehicle- | \$47,542.20 |
| TOTAL COST | \$145,124.10; and |

WHEREAS, it is required by law that any "state contract" purchase which exceeds the bid threshold of the Township (\$40,000.00) in aggregate, be authorized by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, the total amount for these vehicles exceeds the Township's bid threshold in aggregate; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in **Certificate No.** C-2400031, copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit "A";

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, wishes to purchase *emergency vehicle equipment* to outfit the three (3) new vehicles under Whelan, New Jersey State Contract (17-FLEET-00761 with the installation to be performed by *East Coast Emergency Lighting, 200 Meco Drive, Millstone Township, NJ 08535*, an authorized vendor under the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey

(ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program (Cooperative 65MCESCCPS) contract number ESCNJ 23/24-11, for the Monroe Township Police Department as hereinbelow set forth:

| | |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| 2 - 2024 Black Chevrolet Tahoe 9C1 Pursuit AWD Vehicle- | \$17,826.42 x 2 |
| 1 - 2024 White Chevrolet Tahoe 5W4 Special Service AWD Vehicle- | \$6,386.70 |

TOTAL COST **\$42,039.54;** and

WHEREAS, the detailed accessories for each vehicle are attached hereto and made a part of; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in **Certificate No.** C-2400032, copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit "B";

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

- (2) Authorizes the Police Department to purchase said vehicles from Mall Chevrolet using the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program contract 23/24-11; and
- (3) Authorizes the Police Department to have the three (3) new Police Vehicles outfitted with emergency vehicle equipment by East Coast Emergency Lighting; and
- (3) The Township Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices from Mall Chevrolet and East Coast Emergency Lighting for above mentioned vehicles; and
- (4) The contracts are awarded through the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey (ESCNJ) Cooperative Purchasing Program (Cooperative 65MCESCCPS) are considered fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, as well as being exempt from public bidding by the Township.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-068 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO MUNICIPAL MAINTENANCE COMPANY FOR BID #527 PUMP STATION #14 IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D."). (\$275,947)

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2023 at 10:00 AM, four (4) sealed bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud, by the Monroe Township Purchasing Manager for the "Pump Station #14 Improvements" project, as required by the M.T.U.D.; and

WHEREAS, the apparent low bidder was Municipal Maintenance Company with their bid of \$275,947.00, a copy of the bid tabulation sheet is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, based on the recommendation letter dated of the Consulting Engineer R3M Engineering, Inc. who has reviewed the bid and recommended the award of a contract to Municipal Maintenance Company based on their bid to which the M.T.U.D. concurs, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "C"; and

WHEREAS, based upon said Engineer reviews and recommendations, the M.T.U.D. the M.T.U.D. Director has recommended in a letter dated January 17, 2024, that Municipal Maintenance Company of 1352 Taylors Lane, Cinnaminson, NJ 08077 be awarded a contract based on their low bid of \$275,947.00; and

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

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Township Chief Financial Officer has certified availability of funds in Certificate No. M-240000, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

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

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with Municipal Maintenance Company in accordance with their submitted bid;
- (2) The Township Chief Municipal Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services provided by Municipal Maintenance Company.in accordance with their bid;

- (3) The contract is awarded through the competitive bid process in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law;
- (4) This contract is awarded with the stipulation that Municipal Maintenance Company shall provide the required bonds and properly executed certificate of insurance as required by the specifications.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-2-2024-069 RESOLUTION REJECTING ALL BIDS FOR CONTRACT NO. 529
PUMP STATION NO. 2 BUILDING REHABILITATION - ROOF,
DOOR AND WINDOW REPLACEMENT FOR THE MONROE
TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”).**

WHEREAS, on December 21, 2023, at 11:00 AM, three (3) sealed bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud, by the Monroe Township Purchasing Manager for the “Pump Station No. 2 Building Rehabilitation Roof, Door, and Window Replacement” project, as required by the M.T.U.D.; and

WHEREAS, the low bid of Spartan Construction Inc. of \$497,850.00 was 38% higher than the Engineer’s opinion of probable cost of \$360,900.00, a copy of the bid tabulation sheet is attached hereto as Exhibit A; and

WHEREAS, the M.T.U.D. Consulting Engineer R3M Engineering, Inc. has reviewed the bids with the M.T.U.D Director and have determined the low bid exceeds the budget for said work, and recommended that all bids be rejected, and the contract be rebid with modifications, based on said recommendation, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “B”; and

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

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

- (5) The Mayor and Township Clerk hereby reject all bids and authorize rebidding.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-2-2024-070 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL
SERVICES CONTRACT TO H2M ARCHITECTS + ENGINEERS
FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH WELL
25 FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT
 (“M.T.U.D”). (not to exceed \$67,500)**

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) has the need for Professional Engineering Service Well 25 – Downhole Restoration, System Re-Optimization, and Regulatory Closeout; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq, after advertisement on the M.T.U.D. and Township’s website for not less than 10 days, Statements of Qualifications for General Water & Sewer Engineering Services were publicly opened for calendar Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, the H2M Architects + Engineers was selected as a qualified firm to perform these services; and

WHEREAS, H2M Architects + Engineers has submitted a proposal dated January 12, 2024, for the required work not-to-exceed \$67,500.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the M.T.U.D. Director has found the proposal to be acceptable, and recommends a contract be awarded to H2M Architects + Engineers in the amount not-to-exceed \$67,500.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Township Chief Finance Officer has certified availability of funds in Certificate No. M-240001, 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, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with H2M Architects + Engineers for Professional Engineering Services, in accordance with the proposal submitted in the amount not to exceed \$67,500.00.
- (2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by H2M Architects + Engineers in accordance with the attached proposal;

(3) The contract is awarded without competitive bidding through a fair and open RFQ/RFP process 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) The contract award is subject to H2M Architects + Engineers providing the required valid certificate of insurance is provided.

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

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-071 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FUNDING FROM THE 2024 GREEN ACRES JAKE’S LAW INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program (“State”), provides grants and/or loans to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition, development, and stewardship of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe desires to further the public interest by obtaining funding in the amount of \$2,157,000, from the State to fund the following project(s): Monroe Township Community Garden Inclusive Playground, at a cost of \$2,876,000; and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State’s funds in accordance with such rules, regulations, and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the State for the above-named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5th day of February, 2024, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe (the “Council”) that:

- 1 Assistant Business Administrator Kevin McGowan is hereby authorized to;
 - a. make application for such a grant;
 - b. provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
 - c. act as the authorized correspondent of the above-named applicant
- 2 The applicant agrees to provide its matching share to the Green Acres funding request, if a match is required, in the amount of \$719,000.
- 3 In the event the State’s funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant will have the balance of funding necessary to complete the project.
- 4 The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and
- 5 This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid

R-2-2024-072 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING GRANT APPLICATION TO THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY FOR FUNDING FROM THE 2024 GREEN ACRES PARKS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM.

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Green Acres Program (“State”), provides grants and/or loans to municipal and county governments and grants to nonprofit organizations for assistance in the acquisition, development, and stewardship of lands for outdoor recreation and conservation purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe desires to further the public interest by obtaining funding in the amount of \$719,000, from the State to fund the following project(s): Monroe Township Community Garden Expansion, at a cost of \$2,876,000; and

WHEREAS, the State shall determine if the application is complete and in conformance with the scope and intent of the Green Acres Program, and notify the applicant of the amount of the funding award; and

WHEREAS, the applicant is willing to use the State's funds in accordance with such rules, regulations, and applicable statutes, and is willing to enter into an agreement with the State for the above-named project;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 5th day of February, 2024, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe (the "Council") that:

1. Assistant Business Administrator Kevin McGowan is hereby authorized to;
 - a. make application for such a grant;
 - b. provide additional application information and furnish such documents as may be required, and
 - c. act as the authorized correspondent of the above-named applicant
2. The applicant agrees to provide its matching share to the Green Acres funding request, if a match is required, in the amount of \$2,157,000.
3. In the event the State's funds are less than the total project cost specified above, the applicant will have the balance of funding necessary to complete the project.
4. The applicant agrees to comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, rules, and regulations in its performance of the project; and
5. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid

R-2-2024-073

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH ALAIMO GROUP FOR 2023 ARCHITECTURAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE IN CONNECTION WITH THE POLICE DEPARTMENT EXPANSION AND PARKING LOT PROJECT FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.

(Construction Administration Phase - additional \$450,000)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-1-2023-015, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on January 4, 2023, the Township of Monroe awarded professional Architectural Services for calendar year 2023 to Alaimo Group in connection with the Monroe Township Police Department Building Expansion and Parking Lot Project, not to exceed \$205,000.00; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-8-2023-196, additional services associated with the Bidding and Construction Administration Phases were needed for the Police Department Building Expansion and Parking Lot project and a modification to the professional services contract with Alaimo Group was authorized for an **additional \$150,000.00**; and

WHEREAS, including the modification, the annual fee shall not exceed **\$355,000.00**; and

WHEREAS, additional services associated with the Construction Administration Phase of the Police Headquarters Addition and Alteration project are needed and Alaimo Group has requested authorization for an **additional \$450,000.00**, as described in the proposal attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the request and has found same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in Certificate No. C-2300024, a copy of which is attached hereto;

WHEREAS, including this additional modification, the annual fee shall not exceed **\$805,000.00**; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, pursuant to Resolution Nos. R-1-2022-023 and R-5-2022-147, Alaimo Group was paid **\$190,000** for the Preliminary Design Phase of the Monroe Township Police Department Building Expansion and Parking Lot Project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that authorization is hereby given to modify said contract in the amount of **Four Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$450,000.00)** and the Business Administrator is hereby authorized to sign the acceptance attached hereto.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-074 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS.

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to payment of normal operating expenses and no adequate provision has been made in the 2023 temporary appropriations for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purposes above mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary Resolutions adopted in Year 2024, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20), including this Resolution, is **\$20,854,881.71**;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20:

- Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made for payment of the following entitled operating expenses:

| <u>ACCOUNT NAME</u> | <u>TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION AMOUNT</u> |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <u>Data Processing</u> Salary & Wages | \$ 60,000.00 |
| <u>Solid Waste and Recycling</u> Other Expenses | \$ 43,000.00 |
| <u>Subtotal</u> | \$ 103,000.00 |
| TOTAL BUDGET | \$ 103,000.00 |

- That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided for in the 2024 Calendar Year Budget; and
- That one (1) certified copy of this resolution be filed with the Director of the Division of Government Services.

SO RESOLVED as aforesaid.

R-2-2024-075 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.

WHEREAS, there are certain 2023 budget appropriation reserves of the Township of Monroe which may be insufficient to meet the requirements of the Township’s affairs; and

WHEREAS, there are certain other budget appropriation reserves where there are unexpended balances which will not be used for such purposes; and

WHEREAS, Revised Statutes 40A:4-59 provides for the transfer from such accounts that have unexpended balances to those accounts which have deficiencies;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that the transfers itemized below are hereby authorized among the following 2023 accounts:

| <u>CURRENT FUND TRANSFER FROM</u> | <u>TRANSFER AMOUNT</u> |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------|
| SENIOR SERVICES Salaries and Wages | \$40,000.00 |
| DIVISION OF PLANNING Salaries and Wages | \$20,000.00 |
| PARKS Salaries and Wages | \$21,400.00 |
| RECREATION Salaries and Wages | \$35,000.00 |
| DATA PROCESSING | \$20,000.00 |

| | |
|------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| TAX COLLECTOR Salaries and Wages | \$10,000.00 |
| AESSOR Other Expenses | \$30,000.00 |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Salaries and Wages | \$15,000.00 |
| ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE Other Expenses | <u>\$10,000.00</u> |
| TOTAL CURRENT FUND: | \$201,400.00 |

| TRANSFER TO: | AMOUNT |
|--------------------------------------|---------------------|
| SOCIAL SECURITY | \$82,000.00 |
| DCRP | \$ 1,500.00 |
| RECYCLING PROJECT | \$ 7,300.00 |
| POLICE Salaries and Wages | \$100,000.00 |
| TRANSPORTATION Salaries and Wages | \$ 7,500.00 |
| ASSESSOR Salaries and Wages | \$ 3,100.00 |
| TOTAL CURRENT FUND: | \$201,400.00 |

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------------------|--------|
| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Copy of Resolutions Duly Filed.

Administrator’s Report – Administrator Weinberg reported that Mayor Dalina reached out to the Governor and Legislators for additional money for the ANCHOR program, STAYNJ and school funding.

Highlighted the two Green Acres Grant Funding applications.

Thanked the DPW and MTUD for their teamwork in getting the snow cleared up.

Reported that we have applied for a local recreation grant of \$100,000 which will go towards pickleball and volleyball courts.

Noted the state grant for the police department building improvements.

Shared that the municipal building has completed the new carpet installation, as well as improvements to the parking lot and thanked the employees for their hard work and flexibility in allowing this to get done.

Engineer’s Report – Engineer Rasimowicz gave an update on the Old Bridge-Mounts Mills Improvement Project stating that work is continuing and to use caution.

Council’s Reports-

Councilwoman Siegel –

- Attended the ribbon cutting of Jo Bella Hair Salon.
- Thanked the DPW, Parks & Recreation Department and MTUD for their hard work in clearing the snow.
- Reminded everyone of the Betty Schneider Food Pantry located at the Senior Center.
- Shared that the Police Department will be presenting a safety tip presentation this month at the Community Center on February 16th at 6:30pm and at the Senior Center on February 22nd at 3:30pm.

Councilman Dipierro –

- Asked what the plan is since the MTUD roof bid was rejected; Director Stroin answered that the plan is to repair the roof to allow for solar and have solar panels put on. He stated that we will rebid and hope for more competitive bidding.
- Received an email from a resident of Heritage Chase regarding the painting of the water tower stating that the resident reached out to Director Stroin but has not heard back; Director Stroin responded stating that plans are being finalized and improvements will be made once that is done. Councilman Dipierro asked for a response be sent to the resident.
- Stated that there are still no signs of where Well 25 is and he is concerned that this will delay our First Responders and Police if someone gets hurt. Attorney Rainone responded that because of security concerns only critical signage is required and this should be discussed at length before implementation. Councilman Dipierro asked for an address to be given then.
- Commented that the Governor is reaching out for federal funding regarding migrants; shared that 10 people are living in a local church in Jamesburg and is unsure of how many children are attending our high school. Administrator Weinberg stated that he has read reports of some buses coming into towns but is unaware of what the protocol is as we do not have any resources. He went on to welcome ideas from the Council on how to handle as there are no plans from the State or other Middlesex County towns. Councilman Dipierro asked for us to be proactive.
- Inquired if the 2024 budget workshop dates have been scheduled; Administrator Weinberg stated that we are planning to introduce in April and have the public hearing and adopt in May. Councilman Dipierro asked if there is a plan to meet with Directors as we have done in the past; Administrator Weinberg stated that it is not a budget update but an informal department update.
- Councilman Dipierro asked whether or not the liquor license being rescinded and re-awarded at tonight's meeting has anything to do with the new laws being discussed for pocket liquor licenses. He asked if the new laws will allow for transfer of licenses between townships. Councilman Dipierro mentioned Garvey's as they are now a pocket license since the property sold. Administrator Weinberg answered that the new laws have not been implemented yet with Attorney Rainone adding commentary. Councilman Dipierro noted that he is concerned with neighboring townships buying and selling licenses.
- Sent emails regarding Bentley Road and the widespread flooding.
- Asked who approved the traffic pattern on Mounts Mills Road; Engineer Rasimowicz responded that this was approved through the County, Township Police Department and Center State. Councilman Dipierro stated that if our professionals and police approved then he asked if the loop can be looked at from Franklin Plaza to where the water main break was as that roadway needs to be reconstructed. He recommended that the County reconstruct that roadway. Engineer Rasimowicz added that the County does the repairs on the roadways and the detour is not being utilized and he does not envision closure until the paving gets done. Councilman Dipierro asked when the traffic light will be constructed; Engineer Rasimowicz answered that is planned for late summer adding that we have an agreement with the County to share the costs with the gas the responsibility of the utility company and the water lines the responsibility of the Township.
- Asked for an update on the Schoolhouse Road, Prospect Plains Road and Forsgate Drive railroad crossings improvement projects; Engineer Rasimowicz stated that Prospect Plains Road is a County project and has been designed with the Township still in the process of acquiring properties and once that is done it will be reconstructed. As far as Forsgate Drive and Schoolhouse Road, Engineer Rasimowicz stated that he has reached out to Conrail and is awaiting a response.
- Councilman Dipierro commented that it is still depressing to hear that residents are still experiencing odors and asked what options residents have if no one responds to the hotline. Administrator Weinberg responded that emails go out to residents and explained that with the odor issue it is "open air". He went on to explain that we built the force main and urged to contact NJDEP/911 for gas or PSEG, noting that the Township receives a lot of calls from various places regarding smells.
- Asked for an update on the gate installed on Garibaldi Avenue; Administrator Weinberg responded that the gate was put in because someone was putting debris in manholes and we have since welded it shut with cinder block on top. Councilman Dipierro asked if the gate will be open to which Administrator Weinberg stated that the issue has been resolved so the gate being open is a non-issue. Attorney Rainone answered that this is an active litigation and the purpose of the gate was to protect the manhole which has now been rectified so there is no need to lock up the gate. Councilman Dipierro stated that the Township knows who is doing this to which Attorney Rainone stated that we do not but if Councilman Dipierro knows then he should provide that information. Councilman Dipierro stated that he will file an OPRA request to which Attorney Rainone responded that this is an active litigation and asked for him to give this information offline. Councilman Dipierro stated that he sent an email to the Chief of Police on Friday but has not received a response and Attorney Rainone commented that this has been discussed at this meeting and with OPRA you would not be entitled to any documents as this is an active litigation.

Councilman Markel –

- Thanked everyone for their work and cooperation during the carpet installation.
- Commended the Police Department as they are the best in the State.
- Shared that it is Black Heritage Month and on February 15th the Library will be showcasing a celebration of black artists and on February 28th, Marvin Jefferson, who is an actor and professor will be doing a presentation on American bass baritone, Paul Robson.

- April 28th is Holocaust Remembrance Day at the Senior Center.
- Stated that people coming into our country/state are not illegals, they are undocumented.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura –

- Shared that on January 31st, three residents were killed in a crash on Route 130.
- Excited for the presentation on Paul Robson.
- Commented that the Police Department is doing an outstanding job and shared that two guys were trying to sell a stolen vehicle to a resident who ultimately became suspicious of the sale and in turn called the police. Our Police Department set up a sting operation and caught the two guys, as well as a second vehicle who was involved. He went on to say that this is a perfect example as to why everything is not communicated through NIXLE as this was an active operation and the Police are experienced and they use their discretion.
- Superbowl Sunday is February 11th and he will be rooting for Rutgers Alum, Isiah Pacheco, who plays for the Kansas City Chiefs. Reminded everyone celebrating to drive safely.

Council President Cohen – No report due to absence.

Mayor's Report – No Report due to absence.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the **PUBLIC COMMENTS** portion of the Meeting was opened. All were in favor, none opposed.

Public Comments –

George Gunkelman, 5 Kelly Ct. – Mr. Gunkelman asked regarding R-2-2024-073 why the money was not initially included; Administrator Weinberg answered that the capital Ordinance allows for us to put in place construction, but this is a regular resolution in modifying a previous contract. Attorney Rainone explained further.

Mr. Gunkelman asked how much money was being spent for R-2-2024-074 and further clarification of R-2-2024-075.

Lastly, Mr. Gunkelman opinionized that the Township should think about sites for solar farms and urged all to reach out to Assemblyman Wayne DeAngelo. Council Vice-President Van Dzura stated that we are currently working on that to which Mr. Gunkelman stated he is interested in large open spaces being used for such purpose.

Naomi Holtzer – Ms. Holtzer stated that we need to be sympathetic to what we say as she is a former midwife and would hear babies referred to as illegitimate and we say things that are not repeatedly “woke”. She stated that we should not call it Black History Month but instead African American History Month. Councilman Markel responded saying that when you use the word “but” it simply is a way of telling people to “forget everything I say after” the word, to which Ms. Holtzer responded thanking Councilman Markel for making her feel bad and tearing her apart.

Joe Atanasio, 21 Wellington Pl. – Mr. Atanasio commented that we are a sanctuary state but asked are we a sanctuary town. He asked is we have a plan for housing a healthcare of migrants.

Harold Kane, 40B Newport Way – Mr. Kane asked if the plan to widen Prospect Plains Road was in progress; Engineer Rasimowicz answered yes as it is a County sponsored project with the Township obligated to acquire the right of ways. Mr. Kane shared that back in 2012, Rossmoor experienced it's second major flooding and at that time he mentioned this project to then mayor Richard Pucci to widen the channel to avoid future flooding. He went on to recommend a change order to improve that first because now would be a great time to get that done. Engineer Rasimowicz responded that grant money was provided and a study underway which has been spearheaded by the County. Council Vice-President Van Dzura asked when the study will be complete to which Engineer Rasimowicz responded that he did not know.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos extended well wishes to retired Township Clerk Patricia Reid and noted that Christine Robbins has big shoes to fill.

Mrs. Panos asked what the plan is for migrants as Attorney Rainone was disrespectful in his response to which he disagreed. Mrs. Panos stated that there are families staying at St. James Church in Jamesburg using that address and there are concerns.

Mrs. Panos supported the use of solar farms.

Mrs. Panos commented that the Mayor plans to assign Administrator Weinberg to the Planning Board which she believes to be a conflict as he runs the day to day operations and should not be allowed to vote. She requested the Mayor to rescind this appointment.

Mrs. Panos commented that she disagrees with Councilman Markel as the migrants coming into our country and State are “illegals” not “undocumented”.

Joe Atanasio, 21 Wellington Pl. – Mr. Atanasio asked when we are going to enforce the jake braking law in the Township as his house whole house shakes and the Township implemented an Ordinance to stop this from happening.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura made a statement that his oath as a public official is to uphold the Constitution and talked about the importance of humanitarian aid, border controls and working together as one instead of being in opposition of one another.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC COMMENTS** portion of the Meeting was closed. All were in favor, none opposed.

UPON MOTION made by Council man Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 8:33pm.

| | | |
|------------|------------------------------------------|--------|
| ROLL CALL: | Councilman Charles Dipierro | Aye |
| | Councilman Michael A. Markel | Aye |
| | Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel | Aye |
| | Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura | Aye |
| | Council President Miriam Cohen | Absent |

Christine Robbins

CHRISTINE ROBBINS, Township Clerk

Terence VanDzura

TERENCE VANDZURA, Council Vice President

Minutes were adopted on April 1, 2024.

