

**\*\* The public will be able to view this meeting via the following YouTube link: <https://www.youtube.com/@monroetownship>**

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/REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

**JUNE 5, 2024**

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

2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG.**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

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

4. Township Clerk Christine Robbins 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 May 6, 2024 and remains posted at that location for public inspection.
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and noticed to the **CRANBURY PRESS** on May 6, 2024;
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. **PRESENTATIONS and PROCLAMATIONS:**

**Proclamations:**

- *Flag Day – June 14, 2024*
- *Monroe Township Public Library 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*
- *The ARC Middlesex County – Celebrating 75 years*

**Presentations:**

- *Recognizing Former DPW Director Wayne Horbatt for his 23 years with Monroe Township*
- *Recognition of the Mayors Youth Advisory Committee:*  
Madison Adamcik, Aditi Amarnath, Matthew Bassily, Gabriella Cornett, Jayani Dutta, Ian Fernandes, Shethra Grende, Sahishnav Grende, Ananya Kodicherla, Ruhi Kulkarni, Arav Kumar, Anvi Kumar, Shriyaa Madineni, Tharika Madireddy, Jasmine Mudhar, Thendrel Nirmal, Ansh Patel, Pareesa Rizvi, Hannah Schussler, Gurbani Singh, Akash Talluri and Jannat Zaanoun

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

**O-5-2024-009** **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

**O-5-2024-010** **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE SECTION 108-5.27 ENTITLED “STORMWATER MANAGEMENT. (Privately Owned Salt Storage)**

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

**O-5-2024-011** **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 39 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED “FEES”.**  
(MTUD annually required developer connection fee adjustment, water & sewer, construction and certified copy fees)

8. **BUDGET RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the June 5, 2024 Regular Meeting:

**R-6-2024-151** **RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET BE READ BY TITLE AT THE TIME OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

**R-6-2024-152A** **RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2024 CAPITAL BUDGET.**  
(Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA) - 5 year plan)

**R-6-2024-152B** **RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.**

9. **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the June 5, 2024 Regular Meeting: (R-6-2024-153 – R-6-2024-167)

**R-6-2024-153** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**

**R-6-2024-154** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE HERITAGE CHASE ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**R-6-2024-155** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RIDGEWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**R-6-2024-156** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SELECTION OF ENERGY SERVICES COMPANY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ENERGY SAVINGS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.** (Selection of Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. as Monroe Twp’s Energy Savings Company to implement the no cost, first phase of our Solar program).

**R-6-2024-157** **RESOLUTION AWARDED A CONTRACT TO ALLSTATE OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE FURNISHING AND INSTALLATION OF CARPETING USING THE NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM NJCP1 FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.) (\$84,550.35)**

**R-6-2024-158** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH DONNELLY ENERGY, INC. FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF FOUR (4) ROOF TOP HVAC UNITS AND INTERIOR LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS AT THE LIBRARY UNDER THE DIRECT INSTALL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.** (BPU Direct Install Program – Total Cost \$595,495.00; Direct Install Incentive - \$372,475.28 with Library Share \$223,019.72 to be paid over sixty months)

- R-6-2024-159** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A COMPETITIVE CONTRACT TO FINCREDIT, INC. FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOP MONROE PROPERTY TAX REWARDS PROGRAM FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.
- R-6-2024-160** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT TO LEXIPOL, LLC. FOR ACCREDITATION IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (\$43,900)
- R-6-2024-161** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A. C. SCHULTES, CO. FOR CONTRACT 539 - WELL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.)
- R-6-2024-162** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE POSTING OF MAINTANENCE GUARANTEES FOR W&S 1223 BLOCK 18, LOT 27.02 POSTED TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.) (306 Federal Road)
- R-6-2024-163** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF LEASE WITH POPS FARM MARKET AND GARDEN CENTER LLC. FOR THE LEASE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 15.21, LOTS 1, 13 AND 25.3. (Dey Farm; 5-year lease extension to conduct farming operations - \$1/year)
- R-6-2024-164** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF LEASE WITH R.E. ETSCH, INC. FOR THE LEASE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 52.01, LOT 1 AND 1-QFARM. (Buckelew Avenue and Mounts Mills Road; 5-year lease extension to conduct farming operations - \$1/year)
- R-6-2024-165** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6. (Rate higher than JCP&L tariff rate - not awarding)
- R-6-2024-166** RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALTERNATE DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS. (Mounia Vergeon)
- R-6-2024-167** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO DISCOVER CONSTRUCTION LLC. FOR THE 2024 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$1,599,992.94)

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 \_\_\_

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**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

**JUNE 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 **MAY 30, 2024**.

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**MOTION** to approve the **MINUTES** of the following meetings as written and presented:

**May 6, 2024 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting**

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_

4. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **SECOND READING:**

**O-5-2024-009                      ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN:                      MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE:                      MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTION: MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_                      ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

**O-5-2024-010                      ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
MONROE SECTION 108-5.27 ENTITLED “STORMWATER  
MANAGEMENT. (Privately Owned Salt Storage)**

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN:                      MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE:                      MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_

ADOPTION: MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_                      ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

5. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **INTRODUCTION:**

**O-5-2024-011                      ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 39 OF THE CODE OF THE  
TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED “FEES”.**  
(MTUD annually required developer connection fee adjustment,  
water & sewer, construction and certified copy fees)

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_

6. **2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET**

**R-6-2024-151                      RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT THE 2024 MUNICIPAL  
BUDGET BE READ BY TITLE AT THE TIME OF THE PUBLIC  
HEARING.**

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_





**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – June 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, Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura, and Council President Miriam Cohen.

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

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 May 6, 2024 and remains posted at that location for public inspection.
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and noticed to the **CRANBURY PRESS** on May 6, 2024;
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.

Council President Cohen read aloud, by title, the following proclamations:

***Flag Day – June 14, 2024***

***Monroe Township Public Library 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary***

***The ARC Middlesex County – Celebrating 75 years***

**Presentations:**

Mayor Dalina recognized former DPW Director Wayne Horbatt for his 23 years of service with Monroe Township by presenting him with a plaque which he read aloud. He shared that there is always a mix of sadness and happiness when someone retires but he is grateful and proud of all the accolades Wayne has achieved for the Township and the Department of Public Works which is one of the crown jewels of our community.

Wayne thanked the Mayor and Council for working with him, stating that the Township is a great place to live and work and he is grateful for all the relationships he has forged throughout the years.

Council shared their sentiments wishing Wayne well in his retirement and congratulating him on this new and exciting chapter. They collectively thanked him for all his hard work, leadership and dedication in making Monroe Township a beautiful place to live.

Councilwoman Siegel alongside Mayor Dalina gave an overview of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee sharing that the Committee is open to all MTHS students who are then invited to apply and submit a resume for consideration. After careful consideration 22 students were picked to be a part of the Committee who then met once a month with various municipal departments to learn about municipal government. Councilwoman Siegel went on to say that the Mayor's Youth Advisory Committee has embarked on many learning ventures, this time being tasked with giving back to the community, which resulted in the Committee holding a Youth Mental Health and Opioid Abuse Awareness Wellness Fair.

Councilwoman Siegel extended thanks to Assistant Business Administrator Kevin McGowan and Kyle Johannsen for their mentorship and leadership to the Committee.

Councilwoman Siegel presented certificates to the Mayor’s Youth Advisory Committee, which includes Committee Members: Madison Adamcik, Aditi Amarnath, Matthew Bassily, Gabriella Cornett, Jayani Dutta, Ian Ferrnandes, Shethra Grende, Sahishnav Grende, Ananya Kodicherla, Ruhi Kulkarni, Arav Kumar, Anvi Kumar, Shriyaa Madineni, Tharika Madireddy, Jasmine Mudhar, Thendrel Nirmal, Ansh Patel, Paressa Rizvi, Hannah Schussler, Gurbani Singh, Akash Talluri and Jannat Zaanoun.

A five-minute recess was taken for pictures with the meeting reconvening at 7:00pm.

Township Clerk Christine Robbins read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2024** Regular Council Meeting:

**O-5-2024-009                    ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

**O-5-2024-010                    ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE SECTION 108-5.27 ENTITLED “STORMWATER MANAGEMENT.” (Privately Owned Salt Storage)**

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

**O-5-2024-011                    ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 39 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED “FEES”.**  
(MTUD annually required developer connection fee adjustment, water & sewer, construction and certified copy fees)

Council President Cohen read the following **BUDGET RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, 2023** Regular Council Meeting:

**R-6-2024-151                    RESOLUTION PROVIDING THAT THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET BE READ BY TITLE AT THE TIME OF THE PUBLIC HEARING.**

**R-6-2024-152A                    RESOLUTION AMENDING THE 2024 CAPITAL BUDGET.**  
(Water Quality Accountability Act (WQAA) - 5 year plan)

**R-6-2024-152B                    RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.**

Council President Cohen read the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the **MONDAY, JUNE 5, 2024** Regular Council Meeting: (R-6-2024-153 – R-6-2024-167)

**R-6-2024-153                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**

**R-6-2024-154                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE HERITAGE CHASE ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**R-6-2024-155                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RIDGEWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**R-6-2024-156                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SELECTION OF ENERGY SERVICES COMPANY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ENERGY SAVINGS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.** (Selection of Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. as Monroe Twp’s Energy Savings Company to implement the no cost, first phase of our Solar program).



- R-6-2024-157**      **RESOLUTION AWARDDING A CONTRACT TO ALLSTATE OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE FURNISHING AND INSTALLATION OF CARPETING USING THE NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM NJCP1 FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.) (\$84,550.35)**
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- R-6-2024-160**      **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT TO LEXIPOL, LLC. FOR ACCREDITATION IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (\$43,900)**
- R-6-2024-161**      **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A. C. SCHULTES, CO. FOR CONTRACT 539 - WELL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.)**
- R-6-2024-162**      **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE POSTING OF MAINTANENCE GUARANTEES FOR W&S 1223 BLOCK 18, LOT 27.02 POSTED TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.) (306 Federal Road)**
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- R-6-2024-165**      **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6. (Rate higher than JCP&L tariff rate - not awarding)**
- R-6-2024-166**      **RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALTERNATE DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS. (Mounia Vergeon)**
- R-6-2024-167**      **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO DISCOVER CONSTRUCTION LLC. FOR THE 2024 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$1,599,992.94)**

Councilwoman Siegel requested Resolution R-6-2024-161 to be considered separately.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the **PUBLIC COMMENTS** portion of the Meeting was opened. All were in favor, none opposed.

**Public Comments:**

**Bob Valentine, 68 Union Valley Rd.** – Mr. Valentine shared that he met with Administrator Weinberg, CFO George Lange and Lori Olah to have his questions answered regarding the budget which he was very appreciative of. He went on to share some of what he learned during that meeting, stating that there would be a small tax increase from what he was told of 3.89% which will increase the total revenue by \$2.8 million. He stated that the Township’s current fund is earning revenue in excess of \$10-\$13 million a year with a total aggregate amount of \$45 million which at this rate looks to continue for years to come. Mr. Valentine commented that it is one thing to save for a rainy day, but the Township appears to be saving for a tsunami which is disappointing to hear as a taxpayer when the reality should be that municipal taxes should be decreasing because of our strong financial position. He added that although the Township does not control outside factors such as the school taxes and ratables, we are aware of the impact they have on the taxpayers so increasing municipal taxes is unfair and unnecessary. Mr. Valentine added that he hopes the Township recognizes its action.

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz.** – Mrs. Panos asked where the budget is posted; Attorney Rainone answered that the budget is posted online and also in the Clerk’s Office.

Mrs. Panos asked for more clarification on the furniture and carpet resolution R-6-2024-157; Administrator Weinberg answered that the carpet is being updated for the Utility Department after many years and will be carpet tiles, same as the municipal building, since they are easier to clean and maintain.

Mrs. Panos commented that she hopes the Shop Monroe program is modeled after towns such as Old Bridge and Marlboro as they are very successful; Administrator Weinberg answered that this will also be utilized very similarly as residents will receive a percentage discount off their tax bills for patronizing local businesses that participate in the program.

Lastly, Mrs. Panos asked what the tax rate is; Administrator Weinberg answered that it is 1.9 cents.

**Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr.** – Mr. Parab asked what the budget is; Administrator Weinberg answered that the budget is \$73.7 million to which Mr. Parab asked what the increase compared to last year’s budget is to which Administrator Weinberg responded last year’s budget was \$69.7 million. Mr. Parab asked what the percentage of increase is; Administrator Weinberg answered that it is 3.89% with additional ratables.

Mr. Parab commented that he is appreciative of shared services.

**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 Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the Agenda Meeting was Adjourned at 7:15pm.

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	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilman Markel, the Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 7:15pm.

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	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the **CLAIMS** per run date of **5/30/24** were approved for payment as written and presented.

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	Aye



**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

No Public Comment.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-5-2024-009** was closed. All were in favor, none opposed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was passed on Second Reading and Final Adoption:

**O-5-2024-009                      ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET  
APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

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	Aye

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-5-2024-010                      ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF  
MONROE SECTION 108-5.27 ENTITLED “STORMWATER  
MANAGEMENT. (Privately Owned Salt Storage)**

**BE IT ORDAINED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that Section 108-5.27 of the code of the Township of Monroe entitled “Stormwater Management” is hereby amended to include the following: (new text is in red and underlined)

**SECTION XI. Privately-Owned Salt Storage**

**A. Purpose:**

The purpose of this ordinance is to prevent stored salt and other solid de-icing materials from being exposed to stormwater. This ordinance establishes requirements for the storage of salt and other solid de-icing materials on properties not owned or operated by the municipality (privately-owned), including residences, in Monroe Township to protect the environment, public health, safety and welfare, and to prescribe penalties for failure to comply.

**B. Definitions:**

For the purpose of this ordinance, the following terms, phrases, words and their derivations shall have the meanings stated herein unless their use in the text of this Chapter clearly demonstrates a different meaning. When consistent with the context, words used in the present tense include the future, words used in the plural number include the singular number, and words used in the singular number include the plural number. The word “shall” is always mandatory and not merely directory.

“De-icing materials” means any granular or solid material such as melting salt or any other granular solid that assists in the melting of snow.

“Impervious surface” means a surface that has been covered with a layer of material so that it is highly resistant to infiltration by water.

“Storm drain inlet” means the point of entry into the storm sewer system.

“Permanent structure” means a permanent building or permanent structure that is anchored to a permanent foundation with an impermeable floor, and that is completely roofed and walled (new structures require a door or other means of sealing the access way from wind driven rainfall). A fabric frame structure is a permanent structure if it meets the following specifications: 1. Concrete blocks, jersey barriers or other similar material shall be placed around the interior of the structure to protect the side walls during loading and unloading of de-icing materials; 2. The design shall prevent stormwater run-on and run through, and the fabric cannot leak; 3. The structure shall be erected on an impermeable slab; 4.

The structure cannot be open sided; and 5. The structure shall have a roll up door or other means of sealing the access way from wind driven rainfall.

“Person” means any individual, corporation, company, partnership, firm, association, or political subdivision of this State subject to municipal jurisdiction.

“Resident” means a person who resides on a residential property where de-icing material is stored.

### **C. Deicing Material Storage Requirements:**

A. Temporary outdoor storage of de-icing materials in accordance with the requirements below is allowed between October 15th and April 15th:

1. Loose materials shall be placed on a flat, impervious surface in a manner that prevents stormwater run-through;

2. Loose materials shall be placed at least 50 feet from surface water bodies, storm drain inlets, ditches and/or other stormwater conveyance channels;

3. Loose materials shall be maintained in a cone-shaped storage pile. If loading or unloading activities alter the cone-shape during daily activities, tracked materials shall be swept back into the storage pile, and the storage pile shall be reshaped into a cone after use;

4. Loose materials shall be covered as follows:

a. The cover shall be waterproof, impermeable, and flexible;

b. The cover shall extend to the base of the pile(s);

c. The cover shall be free from holes or tears;

d. The cover shall be secured and weighed down around the perimeter to prevent removal by wind; and

e. Weight shall be placed on the cover(s) in such a way that minimizes the potential of exposure as materials shift and runoff flows down to the base of the pile.

(1) Sandbags lashed together with rope or cable and placed uniformly over the flexible cover, or poly-cord nets provide a suitable method. Items that can potentially hold water (e.g., old tires) shall not be used;

5. Containers must be sealed when not in use; and

6. The site shall be free of all de-icing materials between April 16th and October 14th.

B. De-icing materials should be stored in a permanent structure if a suitable storage structure is available. For storage of loose de-icing materials in a permanent structure, such storage may be permanent, and thus not restricted to October 15 - April 15.

C. The property owner, or owner of the de-icing materials if different, shall designate a person(s) responsible for operations at the site where these materials are stored outdoors, and who shall document that weekly inspections are conducted to ensure that the conditions of this ordinance are met. Inspection records shall be kept on site and made available to the municipality upon request.

1. Residents who operate businesses from their homes that utilize de-icing materials are required to perform weekly inspections.

### **D. Exemptions:**

Residents may store de-icing materials outside in a solid-walled, closed container that prevents precipitation from entering and exiting the container, and which prevents the de-icing materials from leaking or spilling out. Under these circumstances, weekly inspections are not necessary, but repair or replacement of damaged or inadequate containers shall occur within 2 weeks. If containerized (in bags or buckets) de-icing materials are stored within a permanent structure, they are not subject to the storage and inspection requirements in Section III above. Piles of de-icing materials are not exempt, even if stored in a permanent structure. This ordinance does not apply to facilities where the stormwater discharges from de-icing material storage activities are regulated under another NJPDES permit.

**SECTION XII. Enforcement:**

This ordinance shall be enforced by the Police Department and/or Code Enforcement of the Township of Monroe during the course of ordinary enforcement duties.

~~SECTION XI.~~ **SECTION XIII. Violations and Penalties:**

Any person(s) who is found to be in violation of the provisions of this ordinance shall have 72 hours to complete corrective action. Repeat violations and/or failure to complete corrective action shall result in fines.

Any person(s) who erects, constructs, alters, repairs, converts, maintains, or uses any building, structure or land in violation of this ordinance may be subject to penalties as permitted by the Code of the Township of Monroe.

~~SECTION XII.~~ **SECTION XIV. Severability:**

Each section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase of this Ordinance is declared to be an independent section, subsection, sentence, clause and phrase, and the finding or holding of any such portion of this Ordinance to be unconstitutional, void, or ineffective for any cause, or reason, shall not affect any other portion of this Ordinance.

~~SECTION XIII.~~ **SECTION XV. Effective Date:**

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its adoption and any publication as may be required by law.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-5-2024-010** 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-5-2024-010** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Council Vice-President VanDzura, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was passed on Second Reading and Final Adoption:

**O-5-2024-010                      ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE SECTION 108-5.27 ENTITLED "STORMWATER MANAGEMENT. (Privately Owned Salt Storage)**

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	Aye

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-5-2024-011                      ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 39 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED "FEES".  
(MTUD annually required developer connection fee adjustment, water & sewer, construction and certified copy fees)**

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	Aye



6 YEAR CAPITAL PROGRAM 2024 - 2029  
 Anticipated PROJECT Schedule and Funding Requirement

1 PROJECT	2 PROJECT NUMBER	3 ESTIMATED TOTAL COST	4 ESTIMATED COMPLETION TIME	5 FUNDING AMOUNTS PER YEAR					
				Budget Year 2024	2025	2026	2027	2028	2029
Applegarth Tank		\$ 3,520,000		\$ 320,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,600,000			
TOTALS ALL PROJECTS		\$ 3,520,000	\$ -	\$ 320,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ 1,600,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

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 Aye

Copy of Resolution Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET INTRODUCED ON MAY 6, 2024 portion of the Meeting was opened. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No Public Comment.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the PUBLIC HEARING OF THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET INTRODUCED ON MAY 6, 2024 portion of the Meeting was closed. All were in favor, none opposed.

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the Resolution Adopting the 2024 Municipal Budget was moved for Adoption:

**R-6-2024-152B RESOLUTION ADOPTING THE 2024 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.**

Be it Resolved by the

**COUNCIL MEMBERS**

of MONROE County of MIDDLESEX TOWNSHIP that the budget hereinbefore set forth is hereby adopted and shall constitute an appropriation for the purposes stated of the sums therein set forth as appropriations, and authorization of the amount of:

- (a) \$ 43,800,000.00 (Item 2 below) for municipal purposes, and
- (b) \$ - (Item 3 below) for school purposes in Type I School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-2) to be raised by taxation and,
- (c) \$ - (Item 4 below) to be added to the certificate of amount to be raised by taxation for local school purposes in Type II School Districts only (N.J.S.A. 18A:9-3) and certification to the County Board of Taxation of the following summary of general revenues and appropriations.
- (d) \$ 1,293,953.00 (Sheet 43) Open Space, Recreation, Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Levy
- (e) \$ - (Sheet 44) Arts and Culture Trust Fund Levy
- (f) \$ 4,576,894.00 (Item 5 Below) Minimum Library Tax

RECORDED VOTE  
 (Insert last name)

Ayes	Nays	Abstain	
Absent			

SUMMARY OF REVENUES			
1. General Revenues			
Surplus Anticipated	08-100	\$	10,995,000.00
Miscellaneous Revenues Anticipated	13-099	\$	13,007,902.12
Receipts from Delinquent Taxes	15-499	\$	1,200,000.00
2. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR MUNICIPAL PURPOSES (Item 6(a), Sheet 11)	07-190	\$	3,800,000.00
3. AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:			
Item 6, Sheet 42	07-195	\$	-
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)	07-191	\$	-
TOTAL AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY		\$	-
To Be Added TO THE CERTIFICATE FOR THE AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION FOR SCHOOLS IN TYPE II SCHOOL DISTRICTS ONLY:			
Item 6(b), Sheet 11 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-14)	07-191	\$	-
AMOUNT TO BE RAISED BY TAXATION MINIMUM LIBRARY TAX	07-192	\$	4,576,894.00
Total Revenues	13-299	\$	17,379,796.12



**SUMMARY OF APPROPRIATIONS**

<b>5. GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS:</b>		<b>XXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</b>
<b>Within "CAPS"</b>		<b>XXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</b>
(a & b) Operations Including Contingent	34-201	\$	45,069,447.00
(e) Deferred Charges and Statutory Expenditures - Municipal	34-209	\$	7,878,962.00
(g) Cash Deficit	46-885	\$	-
<b>Excluded from "CAPS"</b>		<b>XXXXXX</b>	<b>XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX</b>
(a) Operations - Total Operations Excluded from "CAPS"	34-305	\$	9,309,772.12
(c) Capital Improvements	44-999	\$	100,000.00
(d) Municipal Debt Service	45-999	\$	7,021,615.00
(e) Deferred Charges - Municipal	46-999	\$	-
(f) Judgments	37-480	\$	-
(n) Transferred to Board of Education for Use of Local Schools (N.J.S.A. 40:48-17.1 & 17.3)	29-405	\$	-
(g) Cash Deficit	46-885	\$	-
(k) For Local District School Purposes	29-410	\$	-
(m) Reserve for Uncollected Taxes	50-899	\$	4,200,000.00
<b>6. SCHOOL APPROPRIATIONS - TYPE I SCHOOL DISTRICT ONLY (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-13)</b>		<b>07-195</b>	
<b>Total Appropriations</b>		<b>34-499</b>	<b>\$ 73,579,796.12</b>

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 Aye

Copy of Resolution Duly Filed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilman Markel, the following Resolutions were moved for Adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA:**  
 (R-6-2024-153– R-6-2024-167 except R-6-2024-161 which will be considered separately)

**R-6-2024-153 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector for the Township of Monroe has recommended this Council’s approval to make refunds for tax overpayments in the amount of Forty-Three Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty dollars and Eleven cents (\$43,760.11) for the amounts described on Schedule A and attached hereto; and

**WHEREAS**, good cause has been shown.

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-154 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE HERITAGE CHASE ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Township of Monroe formally approves the grant application for the above stated project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2025- Heritage Chase - Roadway & Pedestrian Improvements-00037 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Monroe; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Monroe and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves execution of the grant agreement.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-155                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION AND EXECUTE A GRANT CONTRACT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR THE RIDGEWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY & PEDESTRIAN IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Council of the Township of Monroe formally approves the grant application for the above stated project; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as MA-2025- Ridgewood Estates - Roadway & Pedestrian Improvements-00036 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Monroe; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and the Municipal Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Monroe and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves execution of the grant agreement.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-156                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SELECTION OF ENERGY SERVICES COMPANY FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF AN ENERGY SAVINGS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.** (Selection of Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. as Monroe Twp's Energy Savings Company to implement the no cost, first phase of our Solar program).

**WHEREAS**, in an effort to improve the efficiency of the Monroe Township's physical plant, achieve significant long-term energy savings, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, install on-site solar photovoltaic (PV) systems, and capture additional benefits that might result from energy-related services and capital improvements, such as improved occupant comfort and indoor air quality, the Township of Monroe seeks to contract with an Energy Services Company to develop and implement an Energy Savings Plan (ESP) through an Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP); and

**WHEREAS**, P.L. 2011 c. 139 (N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2) enables local contracting units to utilize nationally-recognized and accepted cooperative purchasing agreements as a method of procurement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe is a member of Omnia Partners Cooperative ("Omnia"); and

**WHEREAS**, P.L. 2011 c. 139 allows a contracting unit to use national purchasing cooperatives when the contracting unit has determined that the use of the cooperative purchasing agreement shall result in cost savings after all factors have been considered; and

**WHEREAS**, the Division of Local Government Services (LFN 2012-10) has suggested that the ability to avoid the cost and time of a separate procurement is a valid factor in choosing to use a cooperative purchasing agreement; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe has determined that awarding a contract pursuant to its own Request for Proposals will require the purchasing, finance, facilities, and legal personnel to spend significant staff time as well as delay the implementation of energy savings by approximately 9 to 12 months; and

**WHEREAS**, Energy Solutions services are available via Request for Proposal #22-15 and Contract R221504 with Omnia; and

**WHEREAS**, Omnia utilized a competitive bidding process in the selection of contractors capable of implementing an Energy Savings Performance Contract; and

**WHEREAS**, Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. (Schneider) under Request for Proposal #22-15 has completed and been selected by Omnia as a provider of Energy Savings Performance Contracts; and

**WHEREAS**, Schneider is also designated under the Department of Management and Construction (DPMC) in the State of New Jersey under a CO36 classification as a qualified Energy Services/ESCO; and

**WHEREAS**, Monroe has selected Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. 160 Chubb Avenue, Suite 201, Lyndhurst, NJ 07071 as its qualified Energy Services Company (ESCO) to conduct an

Investment Grade Energy Audit (IGEA) with the Township having the option to have Schneider detail and design an Energy Savings Plan (ESP) and ESIP for Monroe in accordance with P.L. 2012 c. 55 (N.J.S.A. 18A:65A-1); and

**WHEREAS**, the IGEA, a detailed, comprehensive energy use and savings analysis report, is part of an Energy Savings Improvement Program (ESIP), in order to develop an Energy Savings Plan that will assist Monroe in determining and verifying the feasibility of entering into a subsequent long-term Energy Savings Contract with Schneider; and

**WHEREAS**, the IGEA and ESP will be conducted in accordance with rules and guidelines established by the NJBPU and the State of New Jersey's Energy Savings Improvement Program Law (N.J.S.A. 18A:65A-1); and

**WHEREAS**, the Energy Savings Plan will be developed in two phases with the first phase being the Investment Grade Energy Audit and the second phase being the finalization of the ESP and Energy Savings Contract; and

**WHEREAS**, once presented with the ESP, Monroe will have an option to continue the process of full implementation of the ESIP once the ESP has been reviewed and approved by an independent third party in accordance with P.L. 2012 c. 55 (N.J.S.A. 18A:65A-1) and adopted by Monroe.

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Schneider Electric's proposal to Monroe the preliminary IGEA will be conducted at no cost to Monroe if Monroe decides not to have Schneider finalize the ESP and Energy Savings Contract; and

**WHEREAS**, if Monroe exercises its option, Schneider will provide an Energy Savings Plan (ESP), including a guaranteed Energy Savings Contract with pricing for a turnkey installation of the proposed project scope and that the total cost of services will be a predetermined amount and paid for out of the energy savings as calculated in accordance with P.L. 2012 c. 55 (N.J.S.A. 18A:65A-1); 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) Authorizes the Business Administrator to execute phase 1 of the Investment Grade Audit Agreement with Schneider Electric Buildings Americas, Inc. in the amount of not to exceed \$0.00 upon review and approval of Counsel.

(2) The contracts are awarded through the Omnia Partners Cooperative as a fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-157**

**RESOLUTION AWARDING A CONTRACT TO ALLSTATE OFFICE FURNITURE FOR THE FURNISHING AND INSTALLATION OF CARPETING USING THE NEW JERSEY STATE COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM NJCP1 FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.) (\$84,550.35)**

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) has the need for carpeting at its main offices; and

**WHEREAS**, the State of New Jersey, Division of Purchase and Property via its Cooperative Purchasing Program (NJCP1) has awarded Contract No. 23-FOOD-47764 to Shaw Industries, Inc. through their listed authorized distributor Allstate Office Interiors of Robbinsville New Jersey for said carpeting (Vendor No. V00000308), through a competitive bidding process, in amount of \$84,550.35, a copy of their proposal is attached as Exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS**, it is required by law that any "state contract" purchase which exceeds the bid threshold of the Township (\$44,000.00) in aggregate, be authorized by the governing body; 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-240018 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) Authorizes the M.T.U.D. to purchase said carpeting from Allstate Office Interiors using the State Contract 23-FOOD-47764; and

(2) The Township Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for said carpeting from Allstate Office Interiors, respectively.; and

(3) The contracts awarded through the New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program 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-6-2024-158                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A CONTRACT WITH DONNELLY ENERGY, INC. FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF FOUR (4) ROOF TOP HVAC UNITS AND INTERIOR LIGHTING IMPROVEMENTS AT THE LIBRARY UNDER THE DIRECT INSTALL PROGRAM SPONSORED BY THE NEW JERSEY BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES.** (BPU Direct Install Program – Total Cost \$595,495.00; Direct Install Incentive - \$372,475.28 with Library Share \$223,019.72 to be paid over sixty months)

**WHEREAS**, the Board of Public Utilities has established the Direct Install Program (hereinafter called “the Program”) which provides energy efficiency grants which target small facilities with a peak demand of less than 250kw and provides up to 80% for the cost of eligible energy efficient upgrades; and

**WHEREAS**, the Program operates through participating contractors designated by the BPU who perform program services including the initial energy assessment to identify equipment to be replaced, arranging for program approval of the chosen improvements, and performing the actual equipment replacement pursuant to established and set pricing for all participating contractors; and

**WHEREAS**, Jersey Central Power & Light (JCP&L), has submitted documentation about its Direct Installment Program, a copy of which is attached hereto, that Donnelly Energy has been selected as the result of a competitive bid process, and is authorized to provide on site energy installation projects in Middlesex County; and

**WHEREAS**, the JCP&L approved contractor, Donnelly Energy, submitted a proposal dated April 19, 2024, a copy of which is attached hereto, for the replacement of four roof top hvac units and interior lighting improvements at the Library; and

**WHEREAS**, the Library passed Resolution 2024-11 submitted and dated on May 21, 2024, a copy of which is attached hereto, requesting to utilize the Direct Installment Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the total cost of the installed measures is \$595,495.00 with the estimated Direct Install incentive cost being \$372,475.28 with the Library’s cost share for this project being \$223,019.72 to be paid at the rate of \$3,717.00 per month for a period of sixty (60) months with no interest.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that the Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized to execute a contract with Donnelly Energy, 557 Route 23 South, Wayne, N.J. 07470, for the replacement of four roof top hvac and interior lighting improvements units at the Library located at 4 Municipal Plaza.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-159                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A COMPETITIVE CONTRACT TO FINCREDIT, INC. FOR ADMINISTRATION OF THE SHOP MONROE PROPERTY TAX REWARDS PROGRAM FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE.**

**WHEREAS**, in accordance with the New Jersey Public Contracts Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq. and P.L. 2021, c. 99, the Township of Monroe issued a request for proposals for the Shop Monroe Property Tax Reward Program (the “Program”) under the Competitive Contracting Concession procurement procedure; and

**WHEREAS**, on May 21, 2024 at 10:00am, two (2) sealed proposals were received from Fincredit, Inc. and Municipal Cards, LLC., publicly opened and read aloud by the Township Clerk for the Shop Monroe Property Tax Rewards Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township’s Purchasing Manager administered the Competitive Contract evaluation process with the Evaluation Committee using the predetermined weighting criteria of Technical, Management and Cost and has found the proposal of *Fincredit, Inc. (“Fincredit”), P.O. Box 43, Marlboro, New Jersey 07746* to be complete, responsible, responsive and the highest scoring firm

that best meets the needs of the Township, a copy of the scoring sheet is attached hereto as “Exhibit A”;  
and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available as evidenced by Certificate No. C-2400051, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “B”; and

**WHEREAS**, the Committee evaluating the proposal submitted by Fincredit has recommended that the Township select the following financial Option #1, a copy of the fee structure models is attached hereto as Exhibit “C”; 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 three (3) year contract with an optional extension period of two (2) additional one-year terms at the Township’s sole option to Fincredit, Inc. in accordance with their proposal (fee structure #1);

(2) The Township Chief Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services supplied by Fincredit, Inc. in accordance with their proposal;

(3) The contract is awarded through the competitive contracting RFP process as a fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-160                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A ONE-YEAR CONTRACT TO LEXIPOL, LLC. FOR ACCREDITATION IMPLEMENTATION AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (\$43,900)**

**WHEREAS**, Law enforcement accreditation is a mark of distinction and an opportunity to showcase an agencies professionalism and operational excellence; and

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Police Department has contracted Lexipol, to assist in getting accredited and to assist in the implementation of a system to create and adopt up-to-date law enforcement complaint policies and procedures; and

**WHEREAS**, per memorandum dated May 28, 2024 from Chief Banos, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”, accreditation allows for the Monroe Township Police Department to get reduced insurance rates and helps during litigation if the need arises; and

**WHEREAS**, **Lexipol, LLC, 2611 Internet Boulevard, Suite 100, Frisco, TX 75034**, is a provider of risk management tools for public safety organizations and offers a comprehensive policy solution that meets the Township’s requirements to include law enforcement policy and procedure framework, training, tracking of compliance, accreditation support, wellness resources, grant services, news and analysis; and

**WHEREAS**, the total fee for the contracted one (1) year period beginning May 1, 2024 through April 30, 2025 is not to exceed \$43,900.00; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available as evidenced by Certificate No. C-2400052, 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 **Lexipol, LLC, 2611 Internet Boulevard, Suite 100, Frisco, TX 75034** 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 **Lexipol, LLC**. 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-6-2024-162                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE  
GUARANTEES UPON THE POSTING OF MAINTANENCE  
GUARANTEES FOR W&S 1223 BLOCK 18, LOT 27.02 POSTED TO  
THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.)  
(306 Federal Road)**

**WHEREAS**, Performance Guarantees have been posted with the Monroe Township Utility Department (“M.T.U.D.”) for Mohid Construction and Renovation LLC. W&S 1223, Block 18, lot 27.02; and

**WHEREAS** Mohid Construction and Renovation LLC has requested a release of the Performance Guarantee upon posting and acceptance of a Maintenance Guarantee; and

**WHEREAS**, defined in 40:55d-53 et seq., the Monroe Township Utility Department (MTUD) has inspected the work performed and the work to be completed and has recommended that the Township Council approve the release of the performance guarantee as detailed in a letter dated May 7, 2024, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A":

Release sewer Standby Letter of Credit #68183670 in the amount of \$46,800.00 and replace with a Maintenance Guarantee in the amount of \$7,020.00 (15% of the original bond).

Release water Standby Letter of Credit #68183668 in the amount of \$37,200.00 and replace with a Maintenance Guarantee in the amount of \$5,580.00 (15% of the original bond).

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council has reviewed and hereby approves the MTUD Director's recommendation.

**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 Performance Guarantee posted for W&S 1223 to be released as reflected above and the MTUD letter annexed hereto. This approval to release a Performance Guarantee is conditioned upon the provision of replacement maintenance guarantees and/or riders and the resolution of any outstanding balances attached to project escrow accounts; and

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-163                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF LEASE WITH  
POPS FARM MARKET AND GARDEN CENTER LLC. FOR THE  
LEASE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 15.21, LOTS 1, 13 AND  
25.3.  
(Dey Farm; 5-year lease extension to conduct farming operations - \$1/year)**

**WHEREAS**, on June 24, 2019 per Resolution No. R-6-2019-182, Monroe Township entered into a lease with Pops Farm Market and Garden Center LLC for the lease of Township property known as Block 15.21, Lots 1, 13 and 25.3 to conduct farming operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the term of the initial lease was for five (5) years, expiring June 25, 2024, with the option to renew for an additional five (5) year period upon mutual agreement of both parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe would like to extend the lease with Pops Farm Market and Garden Center LLC. for an additional five-year period; and

**WHEREAS**, the attached letter received May 22, 2024 indicates the willingness of Pops Farm Market and Garden Center LLC. to extend the current lease from June 25, 2024 thru June 25, 2029, under the same terms, conditions and pricing contained within the original lease agreement; and

**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 extension of lease for an additional five (5) years with **Pops Farm Market and Garden Center LLC** for the lease of Township property known as Block 15.21, Lots 1, 13 and 25.3, under the same terms, conditions and pricing within the original lease, to conduct farming operations.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-164                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF LEASE WITH R.E. ETSCH, INC. FOR THE LEASE OF PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 52.01, LOT 1 AND 1-QFARM.** (Buckelew Avenue and Mounts Mills Road; 5-year lease extension to conduct farming operations - \$1/year)

**WHEREAS**, on May 6, 2019 per Resolution No. R-5-2019-133, Monroe Township entered into a lease with R.E. Etsch, Inc. for the lease of Township property known as Block 52.01, Lot 1 and 1-Qfarm to conduct farming operations; and

**WHEREAS**, the term of the initial lease was for five (5) years, expiring May 6, 2024, with the option to renew for an additional five (5) year period upon mutual agreement of both parties; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe would like to extend the lease with R.E. Etsch Inc.for an additional five-year period; and

**WHEREAS**, the attached letter received May 28, 2024 indicates the willingness of R.E. Etsch, Inc.to extend the current lease from May 7, 2024 thru May 6, 2029, under the same terms, conditions and pricing contained within the original lease agreement; and

**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 extension of lease for an additional five (5) years with **R.E. Etsch, Inc.**for the lease of Township property known Block 52.01, Lot 1 and 1-Qfarm, under the same terms, conditions and pricing within the original lease, to conduct farming operations.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-165                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.**  
(Rate higher than JCP&L tariff rate - not awarding)

**WHEREAS**, the Government Energy Aggregation Act of 2003 (PL. 2003, C. 24) governs the establishment of a government energy aggregation program, which is a government-operated purchasing cooperative through which multiple energy consumers join together for the purchase of electric utility services by a government aggregator; and

**WHEREAS**, the New Jersey Board of Public Utilities has promulgated rules (NJ.A.C. 14:4-6) for the implementation of government energy aggregation programs; and

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Council passed an ordinance dated August 5, 2013 (Ordinance No. O-8-2013-012) authorizing the formation of a Government Energy Aggregation in the Township of Monroe, New Jersey, named the Monroe Township Community Energy Aggregation (“MTCEA”) Program , and passed an ordinance adopted May 3, 2021 (Ordinance No. 0-3-2021-004) authorizing the continuation of the MTCEA; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe is acting as the Lead Agency of the MTCEA; and

**WHEREAS**, the residents of Monroe Township are included in the MTCEA on an “opt-out” basis, as set forth in applicable rules (NJ.A.C. 14:4-6); and

**WHEREAS**, by virtue of Ordinance No. 0-3-2021-004 and in accordance with New Jersey Board of Public Utilities rules (NJ.A.C. 14:4-6) and applicable law (PL. 2003, C. 24), Monroe Township is authorized to award a contract for electric generation service and government energy aggregation services on behalf of participating residential customers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe, in its capacity as Lead Agency, publicly noticed and issued on April 29, 2024 a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the provision of electric generation service and government energy aggregation services for the fifth round of the MTCEA Program (MTCEA Round-5) and has solicited proposals from qualified suppliers in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the RFP provided for a two- stage process that included: Stage 1 for the submission of supplier questions and comments and the submission of qualification documents by interested New

Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) -licensed electric power suppliers; and Stage 2 for the submission of price proposals; and

**WHEREAS**, the RFP provides for the submission of separate pricing for electric generation service for three potential contract durations (term) beginning September 2024 as follows: either 12 months (until September 2025), 15 months (until December 2025) or 24 months (until September 2026); and

**WHEREAS**, the RFP provides for the submission of separate pricing for electric generation service for two different contract language options: Option A) using the form of Master Performance Agreement attached to the RFP; and Option B) using the form of MPA attached to the RFP except that subsection 3.2(iii) (a) (c) is removed from the MPA; and

**WHEREAS**, the RFP provides for the submission of separate pricing for electric generation service for one pricing group, 1) Participating Residential Accounts; and the RFP provides for the award of a contract for Participating Residential Accounts at the discretion of the Township of Monroe and in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP; and

**WHEREAS**, during Stage 1 non-binding Notices of Intent and other qualification documents were received from one (1) NJBPU-licensed electric power suppliers; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of supplier questions and comments were received and, as a result, on May 15, 2024, document entitled 'Responses to Supplier Questions, Clarifications and Addendum No.1' was issued and distributed to all suppliers that had submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose; and

**WHEREAS**, Stage 2 price proposals and accompanying Transmittal Letters were submitted by one (1) NJBPU -licensed electric power suppliers by the 12:00 noon June 5, 2024 deadline set forth in the RFP; and

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Council, in consultation with its energy agent, has conducted extensive and in-depth evaluation of qualifications and analysis of price proposals, in accordance with the evaluation criteria set forth in the RFP and Addendum No.1; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the evaluation of qualifications and proposals and analysis of price proposals submitted on June 5, 2024, the Monroe Township Council has determined that no contract award shall be made at this time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Monroe Township Council shall make no contract award as a result of the price proposals submitted on June 5, 2024; said price proposals are hereby rejected on the basis that the award of a contract based thereon is not in the best interests of the Township and the potential MTCEA-Round 5 participants.

**FURTHER RESOLVED** that the RFP shall be held open for a period of up to 120 days, and the Township may accept refreshed prices in accordance with the RFP, at any time during that 120-day period, consistent with applicable law.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-166**

**RESOLUTION APPOINTING ALTERNATE DEPUTY REGISTRAR OF VITAL STATISTICS.** (Mounia Vergeon)

**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 term of office for these titles is three (3) years; and

**WHEREAS**, the terms of the Registrar, Deputy Registrar and Alternate Deputy Registrars currently expire on December 31, 2026; and

**WHEREAS**, Mounia Vergeon, Confidential Assistant for the Monroe Township Clerk's Office received her CMR certification on May 30, 2024; and

**WHEREAS**, Mounia Vergeon shall be appointed as Alternate Deputy Registrar and added to the following appointments listed below effective immediately:



Registrar	Christine Robbins	Expiring 12/31/2026
Deputy Registrar	Tanya Pannucci	Expiring 12/31/2026
Alternate Deputy Registrar	Cassandra Achille	Expiring 12/31/2026
Alternate Deputy Registrar	Lorena Thompson	Expiring 12/31/2026
Alternate Deputy Registrar	Mounia Vergeon	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 **MOUNIA VERGEON** Alternate Deputy Registrars of Vital Statistics to fill the three (3) year term, said terms ending on December 31, 2026.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-6-2024-167                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO DISCOVER CONSTRUCTION LLC. FOR THE 2024 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$1,599,992.94)**

**WHEREAS**, on May 30, 2024 eleven (11) sealed bids were received by Monroe Township regarding the **2024 Roadway Improvements Project**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer, by copy of letter dated June 3, 2024 has recommended **Discover Construction, LLC, 2207 US Hwy 130, Dayton, NJ 08810**, be awarded the Base Bid plus all Add Alternates, based upon their bid submission in the amount of **\$1,599,992.94**; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Township's Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2400053, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of bid to **Discover Construction, LLC.** for the **2024 Roadway Improvements Project**, at a total contract price of **\$1,599,992,94**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Discover Construction, LLC**; and

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

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

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

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	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the following Resolutions were removed from **CONSENT AGENDA** to be considered separately:

**R-6-2024-161                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A. C. SCHULTES, CO. FOR CONTRACT 539 - WELL MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR SERVICES BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.)**

**WHEREAS**, on May 23, 2024 at 10:00 AM prevailing time, one (1) sealed bid was received, and publicly opened and read aloud, by the Monroe Township Purchasing Manager for Contract 539, "Well Maintenance and Repair Services", required by the M.T.U.D.

**WHEREAS**, the Purchasing Manager has reviewed the bid and consulted with the M.T.U.D. Director and has recommended by a letter dated May 23, 2024 that a two (2) year contract be awarded to the low bidder A. C. Schultes, Co. at 664 So. Evergreen Avenue Woodbury, NJ 09096, based upon the *unit pricing and estimated quantities* contained within their bid documents with an estimated total annual cost of \$100,205.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

**WHEREAS** the Township Council has reviewed the recommendations made by the M.T.U.D. Purchasing Agent 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-240019, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

**WHEREAS**, The A. C. Schultes, Co. has submitted all the required documents with their bid; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.5(d)(1)(ii), multi-year contracts entered into for periods in excess of twelve (12) months shall be certified and charged to the respective budgets in accordance with the time(s) at which the respective work or services are performed or liability for payment is otherwise incurred. Accordingly, commitments and payments required in excess of the initial twelve (12) months are contingent upon necessary funds being appropriated in future budgets by a subsequent governing body.

**WHEREAS**, 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 two (2) year contract with an option for a an additional one (1) year extension term with acceptance by A .C. Schultes, Co. for Well Maintenance and Repair Services for Monroe Township Utility Department; 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 (2) two-year contract A.C. Schultes, Co. in accordance with their submitted bid;
- (2) The Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for material delivered by A. C. Schultes, Co. in accordance with their contract;
- (3) The contracts are awarded through the competitive bidding process as a fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law;
- (4) This contract is awarded with the stipulation that A. C. Schultes, Co. shall provide a properly executed certificate of insurance and performance bond, as required by the specifications.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

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

**Administrator's Report** – Administrator Weinberg thanked CFO George Lange and Lori Olah for their work on the budget, as well as, Mr. Valentine for his thoughtful input and his comments.

Administrator Weinberg shared that this past month we authorized a bond issuance receiving six to seven bids from companies that bid for our bond proceeds obtaining a net rate of 3.59% which is quite well. He went on to say that we have received an AA+ bond rating which will apply to a significant portion of our debt.

Thanked Harold Klein for his work on helping the Library apply for and obtain a grant from the Board of Public Utilities where we can get energy efficient improvements done. The Library will be having four rooftop HVAC units replaced and interior lighting improvements done through this direct install program for the cost of \$223,019.72, with no interest, to be paid for over sixty months.

Reported that the Township went out to bid for the Township Energy Aggregation Program which was rejected because the rates came in higher than the tariff rates for JCP&L. Administrator Weinberg noted that the Township will continue to monitor as we would love to get back to the savings that we once had.

Administrator Weinberg mentioned that Chief Banos will be moving forward with the police accreditation services provided from Lexipol as authorized on tonight's agenda. He noted that having this accreditation further reinforces the standards that our wonderful police force already implement.

Shared that the Township held a bid opening for the 2024 Roadway Improvements Project with paving set to start in July or August. He stated that there are a significant number of roadways that will benefit from this project and is happy to share that 11 bids in total were received which proves that you are getting the best pricing out there.

**Engineer's Report** – Engineer Rasimowicz stated that there were two resolutions approved on tonight's agenda, both are grant applications to NJDOT for roadway and pedestrian improvements for Heritage Chase and Ridgewood Estates.

The 2024 Roadway Improvement Project has been awarded to Discover Construction out of Dayton, NJ. There were 11 bids received with the low bid being \$1.59 million and includes 18 roadways along with a portion of the Library's parking lot.

Engineer Rasimowicz gave an update on the traffic signal improvement project on Old Bridge-Englishtown Road, stating that construction is ongoing with utility pole relocation happening currently with JCP&L and Verizon.

Shared that the traffic signal located at the intersection of Applegarth Road and Joan Warren Way is up but not operational yet as there are still sidewalk improvements to be done as well as electrical work.

Lastly, shared that South Middlesex Avenue is under construction with the milling and paving set to begin in 2-3 weeks.

## **Council's Reports –**

### **Councilman Dipierro –**

- Commented on the paving on Spotswood-Gravel Hill Road, in the area of Eric down to Avenue K where some sections were milled and repaved and he was wondering why; Engineer Rasimowicz stated that remediation work was done at the contractor's expense due to puddling in some spots and unraveling. Councilman Dipierro asked if there was a punch list and if it was complete to which Engineer Rasimowicz stated that he was not aware if it was complete but there has not been a recommendation to release any of the bonds. Councilman Dipierro stated that it is ashame that with the work being done only 6 months ago that it needs to be redone and fixed already.
- Asked for a status on the Prospect Plains Road traffic signal to which Administrator Weinberg stated that the County will begin work shortly and went on to explain more on the status.
- Emailed our Administrator and Chief Banos regarding the need for more "Watch Your Speed" signage as he feels this is a positive way to promote safety and make people aware of their speed so they can adjust accordingly and keep our roadways safe.
- Noted that he brought to the attention of Director Stroin the water issue on Walnut Street and Pergola Avenue to which he was told it is not our main, with that said there is still an ongoing issue that needs to be addressed and asks that we get in touch with New Jersey American Water so they can address the issue.
- Regarding the 2024 Roadway Improvement Project he commented that it would be nice to get done before school starts in September.
- Extended thanks to MTUD as the NJDEP did an inspection of their facilities which showed that they are in great standing with over 31 pages of details given. Noted this is a testament to Director Stroin and his team for their hard work.
- The Police Department will be holding another "Scam Awareness" presentation on July 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30pm. This event was very well attended in the past and suggested maybe having it live streamed.
- Acknowledged the resident who picks up garbage along Federal Road; another resident George Gunkelman picks up garbage along Prospect Plains Road as well and it is appreciated.
- Attended the Dey Farm's Open House on June 2<sup>nd</sup> which was very well attended and very nice to see the community come together.
- Noted that in January of this year, Father Sorial shared that his wife and children were involved in an accident that happened at the intersection of Bergen Mills and Federal Road. He suggested a 4-way stop being put there as it is a dangerous intersection. Engineer Rasimowicz commented that

he can look into this again but does know that our DPW cleared the area by trimming back trees and added new signage.

- Updated all on the Citizen's Review Committee meeting held in March noting that there are less than 100 residents currently in the Boys Home. The property is 90 acres with 42 buildings, 2 of which are historic, and 470 acres outside of the gates which is farmland preserved; he inquired as to when they will be closing but there is no definitive timeline as the new buildings are still under design.
- Thanked George and Lori for their work on the budget; he shared that he had a lot of questions and met with them and Administrator Weinberg to go over and supported the adoption of the budget because it is the right thing to do for the community.
- Extended thanks to the Clerk's Office for their work handling the Primary election.
- Inquired as to how the new OPRA Reform bill will affect our residents; Attorney Rainone answered that this reform will not have a negative impact on the residents but instead encourages transparency by putting more information online. He noted that the Clerk can now respond by directing a requestor to the website to find the information; it also works to continue protecting the privacy of individuals from being exploited from commercial requestors using information for their businesses. He went on to state that this reform needed to be done and the residents should see the process as fair and open.

**Councilman Markel –**

- Complimented both Lori and George from our Finance Department for their hard work in completing the budget.
- Reminded all that Juneteenth is approaching and the Library will be holding an event commemorating this day with various vendors and a speaker so it is important to attend and learn why this day is also referred to as "Freedom Day" and is a very important day in American history.
- Thanked the Clerk's Office for their hard work on election day as the Primary went very smooth.

**Councilwoman Siegel –**

- Thanked the Clerk's Office for their hard work on the election as they had a very long day yesterday and again tonight.
- Thanked George, Lori and the Finance Department for their hard work on the budget as it is a very fiscally responsible budget that meets the needs of our growing community.
- Shared that Middlesex County will be offering free swim lessons to all 2<sup>nd</sup> grade residents to help promote the importance of swim safety.
- Shared the importance of honoring our veterans as she attended the Township's Memorial Day ceremonies and was happy to see so many people in attendance recognizing our veterans.
- Shared that the Historical Commission has a Facebook page that shares tidbits of the Township's history and in looking through that page she came across that they have American Girl dolls dressed up in various historical costumes representing over 100 years of Township history that are located at the Library.

**Council Vice-President Van Dzura –**

- Thanked Lori and George from our Finance Department, as well as Administrator Weinberg for all their hard work in completing the budget. He shared that a minimal tax increase is justifiable in these times where we are bouncing back from Covid and dealing with inflation along with keeping up with the crown jewels of our Township, Police Department and additional items to keep up with the needs of the community.
- Reminded everyone of the importance of Juneteenth and why it should be recognized as it brings unity to our country in a time where there is a lot of division.
- Shared the importance of observing Flag Day as it is more important today than any other day especially when there is so much disrespect to our flag shown around the world.
- Shared that June marks the start of graduation month and extended congratulations to all the graduates.
- Congratulated the high school baseball team and Zac Wallace who received "Pitcher of the Year". He also shared that the wife of coach Shawn Field delivered a beautiful baby on the day of the championship game.
- Commented that the nice weather is finally upon us and urged everyone to go out to enjoy.

**Council President Cohen –**

- Thanked our Finance Department, as well as our Administration Department and Mayor Dalina, for their work on the budget and for keeping the Council well informed.
- Shared that the Health Advisory Council is finally up and running and has attended two successful events, one being the Red Cross Festival at the high school and the other at the Mayor's Youth Advisory Wellness Fair. She went on to say that both events were well attended with a plethora of

information being shared amongst the attendees. The next event to look forward to will be the National Night Out event which will be coming up in August.

- Looking forward to the Fourth of July festivities in Thompson Park.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Dalina extended thanks to the Administration, Council and the citizens of Monroe for their support of the budget.

Shared his appreciation for the successful bond rating we have once again received.

Noted that this has been a great month for grants including one for a 16-passenger van, a \$64,000 recreation grant for pickleball courts which is wonderful as this goes in part with our Master Plan and \$132,000 clean communities grant which is approximately \$16,000 more than what was received last year.

Shared his experience attending the Dey Farm's Open House and meeting with General Washington.

Lastly, shared that the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of D-day is tomorrow June 6<sup>th</sup>; 98-year-old resident Sy Lipper was invited to Normandy to commemorate this important anniversary.

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

**Public Comments** –

**Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr.** – Mr. Parab asked about the roadway and pedestrian work being done in the Ridgewood Estates development; Engineer Rasimowicz explained that the Township authorized the submission of a grant application to NJDOT for roadway improvements to this development.

Thanked Wayne Horbatt for his hard work and dedication as DPW Director.

Commented that there is a concern with trees being cut within a private community without receiving proper permission from the Township to do so beforehand. He went on to say that this may be approved by their HOA but stressed that the permission from the Township needs to be done first.

Happy to hear about the pickleball courts as this is becoming a more and more popular sport.

Lastly, stated that he is happy to hear about mental health awareness being talked about through the various wellness campaigns as it is extremely important.

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz.** – Mrs. Panos thanked the Clerk's Office for their work during the election.

Mrs. Panos talked about the importance of Flag Day and asked about any ceremonies or disposal boxes within the Township where flags can be disposed of. She also mentioned that there was a mobile veteran's memorial wall in East Brunswick.

Lastly, Mrs. Panos asked if the grant received for the bus was for another gas guzzling bus or an electric one; Administrator Weinberg commented that this was a State grant that was received.

**Bob Valentine, 68 Union Valley Rd.** – Mr. Valentine once again thanked the Finance Department and Administration for their work on the budget and shared general comments suggesting including graphs and a synopsis that is in laymen's terms so the public can understand better.

Mr. Valentine asked if there was a Finance Committee as he feels it is necessary and something the public deserves.

**Miklos Bognar, CARC NJ** – Mr. Bognar introduced himself as an employee of CARC NJ which is a non profit abatement services company that will help remediate properties with lead paint. He asked if he could pass around flyers to Council and possibly have the information posted on the Township's website. Council President Cohen stated that the information would be given to our Affordable Housing Coordinator Tanya Pannucci to review noting that she will reach out for further information if interested.

**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 Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 8:21pm.

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	Aye

*Christine Robbins*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
CHRISTINE ROBBINS, Township Clerk

*Miriam Cohen*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MIRIAM COHEN, Council President

Minutes were adopted on June 26, 2024.