

**** The public will be able to view this meeting via the following YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/DyMFrPpx2-8>**

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**

MARCH 4, 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 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. **PROCLAMATIONS and PRESENTATIONS:**

Proclamation: ***“Save Soil Day” – March 21, 2024***

Presentation: ***Recognizing Patricia Reid for her 27 years with Monroe Township***

6. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **SECOND READING** at the March 4, 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 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)

7. **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the March 4, 2024 Regular Meeting: (R-3-2024-076 – R-3-2024-101)

- R-3-2024-076** **RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE 2024 PROJECT PROPOSALS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**
(ADA Bathrooms at Community Garden / Completely Inclusive Playground)
- R-3-2024-077** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 2010 MERCEDES BENZ MODEL C30 BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT.** (Auction Date: March 27, 2024 @ 10 am)
- R-3-2024-078** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF MUNICIPAL RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR YEAR 2024.**

- R-3-2024-079** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAX REFUNDS AND/OR DELINQUENCIES OF LESS THAN FIVE (\$5.00) DOLLARS.**
- R-3-2024-080** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR SECTIONS “A” AND “B” OF CONTRACT 531 “WATER METERS” BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.). (per unit pricing)**
- R-3-2024-081** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC FOR CONTRACT 530 - “BIOXIDE” BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.). (per unit pricing)**
- R-3-2024-082** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**
- R-3-2024-083** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT WITH THE HUNTERDON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION (ESC) FOR MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM.**
- R-3-2024-084** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PUBLIC & GOVERNMENT (PEG) STATION/SERVER AND VIDEO ON DEMAND SERVICES (VOD). (one time fee \$36,500 plus annual fees)**
- R-3-2024-085** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT.**
- R-3-2024-086** **RESOLUTION DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS OF THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY REGARDING THE 2022 ANNUAL AUDIT.**
- R-3-2024-086a** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF THE 2022 AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.**
- R-3-2024-087** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE 2024 DODGE DURANGO AWD USING THE CRANFORD COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (\$60,500.41)**
- R-3-2024-088** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH GAL’S LANDSCAPING, INC. FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP GROUNDS MAINTENANCE, SIGNS AND SNOW REMOVAL. (1 year extension)**

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- R-3-2024-090** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES.**
- R-3-2024-091** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY MECO, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ROADWAY VARIOUS LOCATIONS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (Decrease of \$63.99)**
- R-3-2024-092** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY MECO, INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ROADWAY VARIOUS LOCATIONS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-3-2024-093** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY BRENNAN BROTHERS CONTRACTING LLC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUILDING DEMOLITION VARIOUS LOCATIONS PROJECT. (Decrease of \$13,301.00)**
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- R-3-2024-095** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE NJDOT 2023 INWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$140,000)**
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- R-3-2024-097** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2024 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.**
- R-3-2024-098** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.**

R-3-2024-099 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO PERFORM A DETAILED HYDRAULIC AND STRUCTURAL EVALUATION OF THE 1.8 MILLION GALLON ROUTE 522 STORAGE TANK FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”)

R-3-2024-100 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNIDIRECTIONAL HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) (not to exceed \$34,700)

R-3-2024-101 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR MANAGEMENT AND RE-CALIBRATION OF THE TOWNSHIP’S WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HYDRAULIC MODEL FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) (not to exceed \$40,000)

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

OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

9. **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**

MARCH 4, 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 **FEBRUARY 28, 2024**.

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

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

January 3, 2024 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting

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

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

**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)**

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

ADOPTION: 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. (Primarily for Twp. wide paving)

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____

ADOPTION: 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. (Match for Applegarth School Improvements Grant)

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____

ADOPTION: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____ ROLL CALL: Ayes_____ Nays_____

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)

PUBLIC HEARING OPEN: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____

PUBLIC HEARING CLOSE: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____

ADOPTION: MOTION:_____ SECOND:_____ ROLL CALL: Ayes_____ Nays_____

5. **RESOLUTIONS for CONSIDERATION under the CONSENT AGENDA:**
(R-3-2024-076– R-3-2024-101)

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(ADA Bathrooms at Community Garden / Completely Inclusive Playground)
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R-3-2024-098 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.

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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 – March 4, 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 Sapana Shah, 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 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.

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

Proclamation: “Save Soil Day” – March 21, 2024

Presentation: Recognizing Patricia Reid for her 27 years with Monroe Township

Mayor Dalina first gave recognition to Patty’s husband, George, for his 31 years of service to the Township and then went on to present Patty with a plaque in recognition of her 27 years of service with the Township. Patty thanked the Mayor, Council, the Township employees and the Clerk’s Office for helping her take on this role that she hesitant in taking at first but grateful that she did as she was always told by former Mayor Tamburro and current Mayor Dalina that they would have her back and support her fully. Patty went on to say that she has worked with so many wonderful people, forging long lasting relationships with all that she will go on to cherish forever. She noted that she always made it an effort to treat the residents with kindness and was always met with the same and this is not goodbye as her heart, soul and family live in Monroe.

Administrator Weinberg extended congratulations to Patty in her retirement as she has always been a consummate professional. He shared that he will miss her sense of humor and the ability to bounce ideas off one another and he has learned a lot and is appreciative of working together.

Council President Cohen commented that it has been a pleasure working with Patty and wished her well in her retirement. She went on to say that the Clerk's Office requires a high degree of professionalism and Patty respected, valued and lobbied for her staff in every way possible and never let her friendship with anyone come in between her professionalism.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura commented that Patty is the consummate professional and she has done an amazing job navigating through high pressure situations like elections and always treated people nicely.

Councilwoman Siegel shared that she first met Patty while she was panicking trying to fill out a raffle application and, in that meeting, Patty reassured her and went over everything making her feel at ease. She always had patience and treated everyone with kindness. She went on to wish Patty well in her retirement.

Councilman Markel thanked Patty for putting up with him and noted that there are only a few who can match up to her caliber.

Councilman Dipierro wished Patty well in her retirement and thanked her for always treating everyone fair.

Township Clerk Christine Robbins thanked Patty for her leadership and friendship and wished her well in her retirement.

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

Township Clerk Christine Robbins read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024** Regular Council Meeting:

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(330 Schoolhouse Rd – 33.8 acres)

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(Fully funded capital ordinance for 330 Schoolhouse Rd – 33.8 acres)

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R-3-2024-078 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF MUNICIPAL RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR YEAR 2024.**

R-3-2024-079 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAX REFUNDS AND/OR DELINQUENCIES OF LESS THAN FIVE (\$5.00) DOLLARS.**

R-3-2024-080 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR SECTIONS “A” AND “B” OF CONTRACT 531 “WATER METERS” BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.).** (per unit pricing)

R-3-2024-081 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC FOR CONTRACT 530 - “BIOXIDE” BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.).** (per unit pricing)

R-3-2024-082 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**

- R-3-2024-083** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT WITH THE HUNTERDON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES COMMISSION (ESC) FOR MEMBER PARTICIPATION IN A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM.**
- R-3-2024-084** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PUBLIC & GOVERNMENT (PEG) STATION/SERVER AND VIDEO ON DEMAND SERVICES (VOD). (one time fee \$36,500 plus annual fees)**
- R-3-2024-085** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT.**
- R-3-2024-086** **RESOLUTION DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS OF THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY REGARDING THE 2022 ANNUAL AUDIT.**
- R-3-2024-086a** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF THE 2022 AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.**
- R-3-2024-087** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE 2024 DODGE DURANGO AWD USING THE CRANFORD COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (\$60,500.41)**
- R-3-2024-088** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH GAL'S LANDSCAPING, INC. FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP GROUNDS MAINTENANCE, SIGNS AND SNOW REMOVAL. (1 year extension)**
- R-3-2024-089** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH GREENLEAF LANDSCAPE SYSTEMS AND SERVICES, INC. FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR DETENTION BASINS, ISLANDS AND OPEN SPACE PROPERTIES. (1 year extension)**
- R-3-2024-090** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEES.**
- R-3-2024-091** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY MECO, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ROADWAY VARIOUS LOCATIONS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (Decrease of \$63.99)**
- R-3-2024-092** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY MECO, INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ROADWAY VARIOUS LOCATIONS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

- R-3-2024-093** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY BRENNAN BROTHERS CONTRACTING LLC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUILDING DEMOLITION VARIOUS LOCATIONS PROJECT. (Decrease of \$13,301.00)**
- R-3-2024-094** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY BRENNAN BROTHERS CONTRACTING LLC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUILDING DEMOLITION VARIOUS LOCATIONS PROJECT.**
- R-3-2024-095** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE NJDOT 2023 INWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$140,000)**
- R-3-2024-096** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2024 VARIOUS MUNICIPAL ROADWAY AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$200,000)**
- R-3-2024-097** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2024 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.**
- R-3-2024-098** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RESERVE TRANSFERS.**
- R-3-2024-099** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO PERFORM A DETAILED HYDRAULIC AND STRUCTURAL EVALUATION OF THE 1.8 MILLION GALLON ROUTE 522 STORAGE TANK FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”)**
- R-3-2024-100** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNIDIRECTIONAL HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) (not to exceed \$34,700)**
- R-3-2024-101** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR MANAGEMENT AND RE-CALIBRATION OF THE TOWNSHIP’S WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HYDRAULIC MODEL FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) (not to exceed \$40,000)**

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, 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 what the value is estimated at for R-3-2024-076; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is a grant application for \$166,000 done through the Community Block Grant.

Mr. Gunkelman asked for clarification on R-3-2024-097; Administrator Weinberg explained this is putting in place money to get us through May as we are awaiting the budget adoption. The total is \$54 million for the Township budget, Utility budget, debt service and capital through June.

Mr. Gunkelman asked for clarification on R-3-2024-099; Director Stroin responded the total is \$71,200.

Lastly, Mr. Gunkelman asked how much the transfers are regarding R-3-2024-098; Administrator Weinberg answered that it is \$230,000.

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Parab commented his appreciation for the \$5 million match for the Applegarth School renovations

Michelle Arminio, 9 Nathaniel St. – Mrs. Arminio extended congratulations to Christine Robbins in her new role as Township Clerk, adding that she looks forward to working with her.

Mrs. Arminio extended thanks to Councilman Dipierro for spearheading Resolution R-3-2024-084 regarding the shared service agreement with the Board of Education for video services. She asked if the videos are able to be downloaded by the public; Administrator Weinberg answered that he will check on this and get back to her.

Mrs. Arminio thanked the Council for the conservation easement for open space as this is very important because we are losing open space rapidly.

Sal Gitto, 49 Bentley Rd. – Mr. Gitto stated that he is a resident on Bentley Road and is concerned with the construction happening on Route 33 and how it is affecting their properties with flooding and the water/sewer lines being put in. Administrator Weinberg gave an overview explaining that the construction happening on Route 33 is due in part to the Round 3 affordable housing obligations mandated from the State. He went on to say that he does not know when the building will begin on the north side of Bentley Road. Engineer Rasimowicz responded that construction has started and clarified that water and sewer is required with the timing being tied to the construction of the units. Council President Cohen summarized what was explained by the professionals noting that they will continue to monitor the situation on Bentley Road as they know of the concern the residents have. Mr. Gitto suggested that the Township put in the water and sewer and then have the developer reimburse them to which Engineer Rasimowicz commented that this is a large project which the developer is on the hook for, he went on to say that this is not the matter of extending the lines as it is more involved than that.

Aimee Benner, 3 Bentley Rd. – Mrs. Benner stated that she has concerns with the Community Garden playground causing more flooding to Bentley Road as a lot of the septic systems are backing up and she is hoping the Township can expedite this as it is not fair that they have repeatedly asked for help to no avail and now it is crucial.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos commented that Patty was always professional as well as her whole office and she wished her luck in her retirement.

Mrs. Panos asked for clarification on Resolutions R-3-2024-086 and R-3-2024-086a questioning what year of the audit we were adopting because it says 2021 and 2022 in the 1st paragraph; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is the 2022 audit and explained that our budget is built on the 2023 annual financial statement. He went on to say that the audit would never be adopted before the budget as we do the budget based off of the prior years annual financial statement. CFO Lange explained that 2021 is mentioned in the resolution as it is a comparative audit.

Mrs. Panos asked how many vehicles did the Township purchase that were electric in 2023; Administrator Weinberg responded that it is nearly impossible to get electric vehicles.

Mrs. Panos asked for clarification on Resolution R-3-2024-089; Administrator Weinberg answered that the detention basins are managed by the DPW.

Mrs. Panos asked what the various locations were in regard to Resolution R-3-2024-093; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is the house on the corner of Possum Hollow and Docks Corner Road that was affected by the flood.

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 Councilman Markel, the Agenda Meeting was Adjourned at 7:30pm.

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 Councilwoman Siegel, the Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 7:30pm.

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 Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **CLAIMS** per run date of **2/28/24** 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

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

January 3, 2024 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting

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	Abstain

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

**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)**

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Local Land and Building Law, N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1, et seq. the Township has the power to acquire real property; and

WHEREAS, the Township has entered into an agreement for the purchase of a Development Easement located on 330 Schoolhouse Road and designated as Tax Block 60, Lots 28.4 and 28.4QFarm on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Monroe (the “Property”) from the Barnes Family 2012 Irrevocable Trust, Warren B. Barnes, Bruce N. Barnes, Robert S. Barnes, and James C. Barnes, for the purpose of open space preservation for consideration in the amount of \$4,300,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the County of Middlesex has agreed to assist the Township of Monroe with the acquisition of this Development Easement through a Grant Funding Agreement (the “Agreement”) and requires as a condition of the grant that a Conservation Restriction be filed and recorded with the Middlesex County Clerk’s office restricting the use of the property for Open Space purposes; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has authorized the Agreement and wishes to satisfy the condition of the Agreement by authorizing the Conservation Restriction limiting the uses of the Property to Open Space purposes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe as follows:

1. The acquisition by negotiated agreement of a Development Easement for Block 60, Lots 28.4 and 28.4QFarm located on 330 Schoolhouse Road, Township of Monroe, New Jersey is hereby authorized for the purchase price of \$4,300,000.00.
2. The Township Attorney and Business Administrator are hereby authorized to take all actions necessary to acquire the Property through voluntary negotiations.

3. The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign and witness, respectively, any contract of sale or other documents necessary to acquire the interests in the Property, subject to the review by the Township Attorney.

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that if any section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged by the courts to be invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to the section, paragraph, subsection, clause or provision so adjudicated, and the remainder of the Ordinance shall be deemed valid and in effect; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that any ordinance of parts thereof in conflict with the provision of this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict; and

BE IT FURTHER ORDAINED, that this Ordinance shall take effect upon passage and publication in accordance with applicable law.

SO, ORDAINED as aforesaid.

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-003** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Michelle Arminio, 9 Nathaniel St. – Mrs. Arminio thanked everyone for this Ordinance and encouraged all to vote yes.

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-003** 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-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)**

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-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)

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 several improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are hereby respectively authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Township") as general improvements. For the several improvements or purposes described in Section 3, there are hereby appropriated the respective sums of money therein stated as the appropriation made for each improvement or purpose, such sums amounting in the aggregate to \$2,900,000, including a \$167,380 grant from the Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Block Grant Program (the "County Grant") and a \$247,780 grant from the State of New Jersey Department of Transportation (the "State Grant"; and together with the County Grant, the "Grants") expected to be received for the purpose described in Section 3(c) (the "Inwood Estates Project"), and further including the aggregate sum of \$88,200 as the several down payments for the improvements or purposes required by the Local Bond Law. The down payments have been made available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-11(c), no down payment is provided for the costs of the Inwood Estates Project since the project is being partially funded by the State Grant.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the several improvements or purposes not covered by application of the several down payments or the Grants referred to in Section 1 hereof, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$2,396,640 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. The several improvements hereby authorized and the several purposes for which the bonds are to be issued, the estimated cost of each improvement and the appropriation therefor, the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued for each improvement and the period of usefulness of each improvement are as follows:

<u>Purpose</u>	<u>Appropriation & Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds & Notes</u>	<u>Period of Usefulness</u>
a) Various 2024 road and sidewalk improvements, as more fully described on a list on file in the Office of the Clerk, which list is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth at length, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$1,650,000	\$1,571,400	10 years

b) Municipal facility improvements, as more fully described on a list on file in the Office of the Clerk, which list is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth at length, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$200,000	\$190,400	10 years
c) Roadway and pedestrian improvements at Inwood Estates, as more fully described on a list on file in the Office of the Clerk, which list is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth at length, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	<u>\$1,050,000</u> (Includes the Grants)	<u>\$634,840</u>	10 years
Total	<u>\$2,900,000</u>	<u>\$2,396,640</u>	

The excess of the appropriation made for each of the improvements or purposes aforesaid over the estimated maximum amount of bonds or notes to be issued therefor, as above stated, is the amount of the down payment for each purpose and the Grants, as applicable.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date, unless such bond anticipation notes are permitted to mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law or other applicable law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. 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 bond 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 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvements or purposes described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance are not current expenses. They are all improvements or purposes that the Township may lawfully undertake as general

improvements, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The average period of usefulness, computed on the basis of the respective amounts of obligations authorized for each purpose and the reasonable life thereof within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, is 10 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by \$2,396,640, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$350,000 for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 is included in the estimated cost indicated herein for the purposes or improvements.

Section 7. The Township hereby declares the intent of the Township to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes or improvements described in Section 3 of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of the Treasury Regulations.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purposes described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements or, if other than the Grants referred to in Section 1 hereof, to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

SO, ORDAINED as aforesaid.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-004** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Parab asked for clarification on the Township’s paving project as his community is 23 years old with a lot of cracks; Engineer Rasimowicz responded that a list of roadways is currently being reviewed and from that list a recommendation will be made and picked by Center State, Police, DPW and Administration.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-004** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

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

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)

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-2-2024-005 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO APPLGARH 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)

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 improvement described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance is hereby authorized to be undertaken by the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Township") as a general improvement for joint use by the Township and the Township Board of Education pursuant to the Shared Services Agreement, dated February 5, 2024. For the improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a), there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$5,000,000, including the sum of \$238,100 as the down payment for the improvement or purpose required by the Local Bond Law. The

down payment has been made available by virtue of provision for down payment or for capital improvement purposes in one or more previously adopted budgets.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the improvement not covered by the down payment, negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$4,761,900 pursuant to the Local Bond Law. In anticipation of the issuance of the bonds, negotiable bond anticipation notes are hereby authorized to be issued pursuant to and within the limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

Section 3. (a) The improvement hereby authorized and the purpose for the financing of which the bonds are to be issued is improvements to Applegarth School, as more fully described on a list on file in the Office of the Clerk, which list is hereby incorporated by reference as if set forth at length, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.

(b) The estimated maximum amount of bonds or bond anticipation notes to be issued for the improvement or purpose is as stated in Section 2 hereof.

(c) The estimated cost of the improvement or purpose is equal to the amount of the appropriation herein made therefor.

Section 4. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder shall mature at such times as may be determined by the chief financial officer; provided that no bond anticipation note shall mature later than one year from its date, unless such bond anticipation notes are permitted to mature at such later date in accordance with applicable law. The bond anticipation notes shall bear interest at such rate or rates and be in such form as may be determined by the chief financial officer. The chief financial officer shall determine all matters in connection with bond anticipation notes issued pursuant to this bond ordinance, and the chief financial officer's signature upon the bond anticipation notes shall be conclusive evidence as to all such determinations. All bond anticipation notes issued hereunder may be renewed from time to time subject to the provisions of the Local Bond Law or other applicable law. The chief financial officer is hereby authorized to sell part or all of the bond anticipation notes from time to time at public or private sale and to deliver them to the purchasers thereof upon receipt of payment of the purchase price plus accrued interest from their dates to the date of delivery thereof. The chief financial officer is directed to report in writing to the governing body at the meeting next succeeding the date when any sale or delivery of the bond anticipation notes pursuant to this bond ordinance is made. Such report must include the amount, the description, the interest rate and the maturity schedule of the bond anticipation notes sold, the price obtained and the name of the purchaser.

Section 5. 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 bond 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 6. The following additional matters are hereby determined, declared, recited and stated:

(a) The improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance is not a current expense. It is an improvement or purpose that the Township may lawfully undertake as a general improvement, and no part of the cost thereof has been or shall be specially assessed on property specially benefitted thereby.

(b) The period of usefulness of the improvement or purpose within the limitations of the Local Bond Law, according to the reasonable life thereof computed from the date of the bonds authorized by this bond ordinance, is 15 years.

(c) The Supplemental Debt Statement required by the Local Bond Law has been duly prepared and filed in the office of the Clerk, and a complete executed duplicate thereof has been filed in the office of the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs of the State of New Jersey. Such statement shows that the gross debt of the Township as defined in the Local Bond Law is increased by the authorization of the bonds and notes provided in this bond ordinance by

\$4,761,900 but are deductible from gross debt pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:2-44(h), and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by the Local Bond Law.

(d) There is no amount included for items of expense listed in and permitted under N.J.S.A. 40A:2-20 for the purpose or improvement.

Section 7. The Township hereby declares the intent of the Township to issue bonds or bond anticipation notes in the amount authorized in Section 2 of this bond ordinance and to use the proceeds to pay or reimburse expenditures for the costs of the purposes described in Section 3(a) of this bond ordinance. This Section 7 is a declaration of intent within the meaning and for purposes of Treasury Regulations.

Section 8. Any grant moneys received for the purpose described in Section 3(a) hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvement or to payment of the obligations issued pursuant to this bond ordinance. The amount of obligations authorized but not issued hereunder shall be reduced to the extent that such funds are so used.

Section 9. The chief financial officer of the Township is hereby authorized to prepare and to update from time to time as necessary a financial disclosure document to be distributed in connection with the sale of obligations of the Township and to execute such disclosure document on behalf of the Township. The chief financial officer is further authorized to enter into the appropriate undertaking to provide secondary market disclosure on behalf of the Township pursuant to Rule 15c2-12 of the Securities and Exchange Commission (the "Rule") for the benefit of holders and beneficial owners of obligations of the Township and to amend such undertaking from time to time in connection with any change in law, or interpretation thereof, provided such undertaking is and continues to be, in the opinion of a nationally recognized bond counsel, consistent with the requirements of the Rule. In the event that the Township fails to comply with its undertaking, the Township shall not be liable for any monetary damages, and the remedy shall be limited to specific performance of the undertaking.

Section 10. The full faith and credit of the Township are hereby pledged to the punctual payment of the principal of and the interest on the obligations authorized by this bond ordinance. The obligations shall be direct, unlimited obligations of the Township, and the Township shall be obligated to levy *ad valorem* taxes upon all the taxable property within the Township for the payment of the obligations and the interest thereon without limitation of rate or amount.

Section 11. This bond ordinance shall take effect 20 days after the first publication thereof after final adoption, as provided by the Local Bond Law.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-005** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos commented that this Ordinance circumvents what the people voted on and suggested a liaison between the Township and Board of Education as \$5 million is being expended which the taxpayers initially turned down.

Brian Fabiano, 19 Patricia Pl. – Mr. Fabiano commented that we need to bridge the gaps between the Board of Education as they are a reckless school board that cannot balance the budget. He went on to say that in his opinion Applegarth School should be torn down but the \$5 million match from the Township for the ROD grant is a great gesture and the work is much needed. He noted that residents should attend the meetings across the street and raise their concerns with the Board of Education as their budget will raise our taxes and the financial hole will continue to grow deeper because of their irresponsibility as it is not sustainable.

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Parab commented that Mayor Dalina has taken a great step with the \$5 million match. He stated that he supported the school referendum because we need to fix our schools, adding that inflation is causing the increase in taxes and we need to stop the politics as our students need good schools and deserve a good education.

Kostis Makris, 552B Ardmore Rd. – Mr. Makris asked if our vote is worth anything and who gave authorization to spend \$5 million; Council President Cohen responded that we entered into a shared services agreement and agreed to match the ROD grant.

Michelle Arminio, 9 Nathaniel St. – Mrs. Arminio stated that she respects the perspective, but we should keep in mind that this is not necessarily just the Board of Education’s responsibility. She stated that there is a massive buildout and ignorance is expensive, adding that we need good schools. She went on to say that we are overbuilding the community, and we should fight for legislation to bring back impact fees to be given back to the community. Mrs. Arminio stated that she has been around for three failed referendums and the builders keep coming in and hurting the Township.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura commented that the referendum failed, and his opinion we need to continue to use Applegarth School as it is necessary. He went on to explain the ROD grant and the \$5 million Township match as if we did not interfere, we would lose it.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2024-005** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

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

O-2-2024-005 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR IMPROVEMENTS TO APPLEGARTH 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)

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-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)

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. \$4,300,000 is hereby appropriated by the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the “Township”), \$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 a Middlesex County Open Space, Recreation and Farmland and Historic Preservation Trust Fund Grant for the acquisition of 34 acres of private farmland known as Barnes Farm, as more specifically described as Block 60, Lot 28.04, on the tax maps of the Township, in order for such land to be preserved for farming purposes through the Township's purchase of a preservation easement to prevent development of the site in perpetuity, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.

Section 2. 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 3. 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-2-2024-006** 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-2-2024-006** 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-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)

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.

Council President Cohen reads the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the **MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024** Regular Council Meeting: (R-3-2024-076 – R-3-2024-101)

R-3-2024-076 **RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE 2024 PROJECT PROPOSALS AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**
(ADA Bathrooms at Community Garden / Completely Inclusive Playground)

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2024 the Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (“the Committee”) held a public hearing in the Municipal Complex, One Municipal Plaza for the purpose of providing information about the Community Development Block Grant Program (“CDBG”), solicit comments, ideas and recommendations, verbally or in writing and identify proposed municipal projects in the amount of \$166,380, which has been allocated to the Township; and

WHEREAS, the Committee has submitted to the Township Council for its review, the 2024 Project Proposal Application for:

ADA BATHROOMS AT COMMUNITY GARDENS/COMPLETELY INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND; and

WHEREAS, upon the Township Council’s review of the 2024 Project Proposal Application, as recommended by the Committee, it hereby renders its endorsement of the attached 2024 Project Proposal for:

ADA BATHROOMS AT COMMUNITY GARDENS/COMPLETELY INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, that it hereby endorses the 2024 Project Proposals, as recommended by the Committee; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that three (3) copies of the 2024 Project Proposal Application with three (3) certified copies of the Resolution endorsing same be forwarded to Melissa Bellamy, Middlesex County Administration Building, Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Office, 75 Bayard Street, New Brunswick, NJ 08901.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-077 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 2010 MERCEDES BENZ MODEL C30 BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (Auction Date: March 27, 2024 @ 10 am)

WHEREAS, either through abandonment or the failure of owners to claim the same, the Township of Monroe Police Department came into possession of a 2010 Mercedes Benz Model C300, VIN# WDDGF8BBXAF486051; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:10A-1, the Police Department has followed the Township and State policies to determine that this is not a stolen vehicle; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Motor Vehicle Commission (NJMVC) has informed the Police Department that in order to dispose of said vehicle, the Township must hold a public auction and publish a Notice of the Auction at least (5) days before the date of the auction in one or more newspapers in this State and circulating in the Township; and

WHEREAS, it has been determined that it is in the best interest of the Township to conduct a public auction for the sale of the vehicle to the highest bidder;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that the Township Business Administrator or his designated representative shall conduct a public auction for the sale of one (1) 2010 Mercedes Benz Model C300 on March 27, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Township of Monroe Police Headquarters Building, Two Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minimum opening bid for the said vehicle shall be \$10,000.00. At the end of the auction, the highest bidder shall deposit an amount equal to 10% percent of the final bid price in cash. There shall be no other forms of payment accepted. The balance shall be paid by certified check delivered to the Township Clerk's office between the hours of 9:00 am and 12 noon within five (5) days after the conclusion of the auction. Upon payment in full, the Clerk's office shall provide the purchaser with the signed documents necessary to complete the transaction with the Motor Vehicle Commission. In order to obtain the title for the said vehicle, the highest bidder shall be responsible for submitting the appropriate documents and payments to the Motor Vehicle Commission in accordance with the Notice of Public Auction issued by the Township.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in the event no bids are received by the Township, the Monroe Township Police Department shall be awarded ownership of the vehicle.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-078

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF MUNICIPAL
RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR YEAR 2024.**

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Statewide Mandatory Source Separation and Recycling Act, N.J.S.A. 13:1E-99.11, et. seq. (the "Act"), has established a recycling fund, N.J.S.A. 13:1E-99.37, from which tonnage grants may be made to municipalities in order to encourage local source separation and recycling programs; and

WHEREAS, it is the intent and spirit of the Act to use the tonnage grants to develop new municipal recycling programs and to continue and expand existing programs; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has established an application process implementing the tonnage grant provision of the Act; and

WHEREAS, a Resolution authorizing the Township of Monroe to apply for such tonnage grants will memorialize the Township's commitment to recycling and indicate the assent of the Township Council to the requirements contained in the application for a tonnage grant under this Act; and

WHEREAS, such a Resolution shall designate the individual authorized to ensure that the application is properly completed and timely filed;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that the Township of Monroe hereby endorses the submission of a Municipal Recycling Tonnage Grant Application to the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, Bureau of Recycling and Planning; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Wayne Horbatt, Director of Recycling, Department of Public Works, 76 Gravel Hill-Spotswood Road, Monroe Twp., New Jersey 08831, shall be and is hereby designated as the individual to ensure that said Application is properly filed.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-079

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CANCELLATION OF TAX
REFUNDS AND/OR DELINQUENCIES OF LESS THAN FIVE
(\$5.00) DOLLARS.**

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, finds and declares that N.J.S.A. 40:5-17-1 empowers authorized municipal employees to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Council further finds and declares that the Municipal Tax Collector is qualified to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Council further finds and declares that it is in the best interests of the citizens of the Township of Monroe for the Municipal Tax Collector to be authorized to process the cancellation of tax credits and/or delinquencies of less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that the Municipal Tax Collector is hereby authorized to process the cancellation of tax refunds or delinquencies of less than Five (\$5.00) Dollars occurred during Calendar Year 2023 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17-1.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2024-080 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO
FERGUSON ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR SECTIONS “A” AND “B”
OF CONTRACT 531 “WATER METERS” BY THE MONROE
TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.). (per unit pricing)**

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2024 at 10:30 AM, two (2) sealed bids were received, publicly opened, and read aloud, by the Monroe Township Purchasing Manager for Contract 531, “Water Meters”, required by the M.T.U.D.; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. has submitted the lowest responsible and responsive bid for Sections A and B totaling \$307,787.25; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Manager, after consultation with the Utility Department Director, has recommended that a (1) one-year contract be awarded to Ferguson Enterprises, LLC in the amount of \$307,787.25, with an optional (1) one-year extension for year two, based on their submission. a copy of which is attached as exhibit B; 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-240004 a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; 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 one (1) year are contingent upon necessary funds being appropriated in future budgets by a subsequent governing body; and

WHEREAS, Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. has submitted all the required documents with their bid; 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 one (1) year contract with Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. in accordance with their submitted bid submitted for sections “A” and “B”;

(2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for material delivered by Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. in accordance with their bid;

(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 Ferguson Enterprises, LLC. shall provide a properly executed certificate of insurance as required by the specifications.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-081

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC FOR CONTRACT 530 - "BIOXIDE" BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (M.T.U.D.). (per unit pricing)

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2024 at 10:00AM one (1) sealed bid was received, and publicly opened and read aloud, by the M.T.U.D. Purchasing Agent for proprietary Bid No. 530, "BIOXIDE", required by the M.T.U.D for sewage treatment.

WHEREAS, the Township Purchasing Manager has recommended in a letter dated February 12, 2024, a (10) one-year contract be awarded to the low bidder EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC based upon the unit pricing and estimated quantities contained within their bid documents with an estimated annual total cost of \$400,400.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Township Chief Municipal Finance Officer has certified availability of funds in Certificate No. M-240005 a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; 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, EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC has submitted all the required documents with their bid; and

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 (1) one- year contract with an M.T.U.D. option for a an extension of an additional one (1) year term with the consent of the EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC for BIOXIDE for Monroe Township Utility Department; and

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 contract to EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC for "BIOXIDE", 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 (1) one-year contract EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC in accordance with their submitted bid;

(2) The Township Chief Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for material delivered by EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC in accordance with their bid;

(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 EVOQUA WATER TECHNOLOGIES, LLC shall provide a properly executed certificate of insurance as required by the specifications.

(5) Payments required in excess of the initial twelve (12) months are contingent upon necessary funds being appropriated in future budgets by the governing body.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2024-082 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 Six-Hundred Forty Thousand and no cents (\$640,000.00),

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-3-2024-083 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
TO ENTER INTO A COOPERATIVE PRICING AGREEMENT
WITH THE HUNTERDON COUNTY EDUCATIONAL
SERVICES COMMISSION (ESC) FOR MEMBER
PARTICIPATION IN A COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM.**

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A11-11(5) authorizes contracting units to establish a Cooperative Pricing System and to enter into Cooperative Pricing Agreements for its administration; and

WHEREAS, the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission, hereinafter referred to as the "Lead Agency" has offered voluntary participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the purchase of goods and services; and

WHEREAS, March 4, 2024, the Governing Body of the Township of Monroe, Middlesex County, State of New Jersey duly considered participation in a Cooperative Pricing System for the provision and performance of goods and services;

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

- 1- This resolution shall be known and may be cited as the Cooperative Pricing Resolution of the Township of Monroe, Middlesex County, New Jersey.
- 2- Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-11(5), the Township of Monroe is hereby authorized to enter into a Cooperative Pricing Agreement with the Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission Cooperative Pricing System.
- 3- The Hunterdon County Educational Services Commission shall be responsible for complying with the provisions of the revised statutes of the State of New Jersey.
- 4- This resolution shall take effect immediately upon passage.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-084

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH THE MONROE TOWNSHIP BOARD OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURCHASE OF A NEW PUBLIC & GOVERNMENT (PEG) STATION/SERVER AND VIDEO ON DEMAND SERVICES (VOD). (one time fee \$36,500 plus annual fees)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe and the Township of Monroe Board of Education seek to collaborate for the joint provision of a new broadcast server as well as cloud based video on demand services, which shall include technical support services, (“Cloud/VOD Services”), to be utilized mutually by both the Board of Education and the Township; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40A:65-1 et seq., the Parties desire to enter into this Shared Services Agreement for Cloud/VOD Services provided by Castus TV, which shall include technical support, and the arrangement for physical storage of the new server shall be on the property of the Board of Education; and

WHEREAS, The Township agrees to pay the one-time upfront costs for hardware and Cloud VOD set up services, which are currently approximated to total Thirty-Six Thousand Five Hundred Dollars (\$36,500); and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education and Township wish to enter in to 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 Board of Education and the Township 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**; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 4th day of March, 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.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-085

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENT.

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 thirteen thousand, four hundred thirty eight dollars and seventy three cents (\$13,438.73) for the amounts described on Schedule A and attached hereto

WHEREAS, good cause has been shown

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

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-086

RESOLUTION DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS OF THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY REGARDING THE 2022 ANNUAL AUDIT.

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:5-4 requires the governing body of every local unit to have made an annual audit of its books, accounts and financial transactions; and

WHEREAS, the Annual Report of Audit for Year 2021 has been filed by a Registered Municipal Accountant with the Municipal Clerk, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:5-6, and a copy has been received by each member of the governing body; and

WHEREAS, R.S. 52:27BB-34 authorizes the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey to prescribe reports pertaining to the local fiscal affairs; and

WHEREAS, the Local Finance Board has promulgated N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5, a regulation requiring that the governing body of each municipality shall, by Resolution, certify to the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey that all members of the governing body have reviewed, as a minimum, the sections of the annual audit entitled “Comments and Recommendations”; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Governing Body have personally reviewed, as a minimum, the Annual Report of Audit, and specifically the sections of the Annual Audit entitled “Comments and Recommendations”, as evidenced by the Group Affidavit Form of the governing body, attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, such Resolution of Certification shall be adopted by the Governing Body not later than forty-five days after the receipt of the annual audit, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5; and

WHEREAS, all members of the Governing Body have received and have familiarized themselves with, at least, the minimum requirements of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey, as stated aforesaid and have subscribed to the Affidavit, as provided by the Local Finance Board; and

WHEREAS, failure to comply with the regulations of the Local Finance Board of the State of New Jersey may subject the members of the local governing body to the penalty provisions of R.S. 52:27BB-52, to wit:

R.S. 52:27BB-52: A local officer or member of a local governing body who, after a date fixed for compliance, fails or refuses to obey an order of the director (Director of Local Government Services), under the provisions of this article, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, may be fined not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000.00) or imprisoned for not more than one year, or both, and in addition shall forfeit his office.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey hereby states that it has complied with N.J.A.C. 5:30-6.5 and does hereby submit a certified copy of this Resolution and the required Affidavit to said Board to show evidence of said compliance.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-086a

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING APPROVAL OF THE 2022 AUDIT CORRECTIVE ACTION PLAN.

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe has received a report of audit for the year ending December 31, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Division of Local Government Services requires that the Chief Financial Officer submits a Corrective Action Plan for all recommendations in the audit within 60 days of receipts of the report of Audit; and

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer, in accordance with the requirements promulgated by the Division of Local Government Services, has developed a plan to address the recommendations listed by the auditor; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Corrective Action Plan for the 2022 Annual Audit is hereby approved.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-087 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE 2024 DODGE DURANGO AWD USING THE CRANFORD COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM AND ACCESSORIES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (\$60,500.41)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe Police Department Patrol Division, County of Middlesex, has the need to purchase one (1) 2024 Dodge Durango AWD under the Cranford Cooperative Pricing System No. 47-CPCPS, from *Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. 1427 Bay Road Milford, DE 19963* an authorized vendor under the Cranford Cooperative Pricing System as follow:

(1) 2024 Dodge Durango Police, AWD \$43,675.00

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

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2400035 a copy of which are attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, wishes to purchase *emergency lights* to outfit the new vehicle from *East Coast Emergency Lighting 200 Meco Drive, Millstone Township, NJ 08535* under **Whelan New Jersey State Contract No. 17-FLEET-00768, 17-FLEET-00719, 17-FLEET-00761** for the Monroe Township Police Department at a total cost of **\$16,825.41**:

WHEREAS, the detailed accessories for the vehicle are attached hereto; and

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

WHEREAS, the Chief Financial Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2400036 copies of which are attached hereto as Exhibit "B";

WHEREAS, the total cost for the new Police vehicle and accessories is **\$60,500.41**.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby authorizes a contract be entered into with *Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. 1427 Bay Road Milford, DE 19963* for the purchase of *one (1) 2024 Dodge Charger* at a total contract price in the amount of **\$43,675.00**;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that *East Coast Emergency Lighting, 200 Meco Drive, Millstone Township, NJ 08535* is hereby awarded a contract for the purchase of *emergency lights* to outfit the new Police vehicle at a total contract price of **\$16,825.41**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2024-089 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF
CONTRACT WITH GREENLEAF LANDSCAPE SYSTEMS AND
SERVICES, INC. FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP LANDSCAPING
SERVICES FOR DETENTION BASINS, ISLANDS AND OPEN
SPACE PROPERTIES. (1 year extension)**

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2022 per Resolution No. R-3-2022-105, **Greenleaf Landscape Systems and Services, Inc.**, was awarded the 2022 Monroe Township Landscaping Services contract for detention basins, islands and open space properties, with an option to extend for two additional one-year periods; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2023 per Resolution No. R-2-2023-083, the Township extended the contract for one additional year expiring March 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe would like to extend the current landscaping contract with Greenleaf Landscape Systems and Services Inc. for an additional one-year period; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works inquired as to the willingness of Greenleaf Landscape Systems and Services Inc to extend their current contract; and

WHEREAS, the attached letter received January 26, 2024 indicates the willingness of Greenleaf Landscape Systems and Services, Inc. to extend the current contract from April 1, 2024 thru March 31, 2025, under the same terms, conditions and pricing contained within their original bid specification and contract; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available as set forth in Certificate No C-2200028, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the contract for Monroe Township Landscaping Services is being extended one year to March 31, 2024 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15 of the Local Public Contracts Law;

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 one-year extension of contract with **Greenleaf Landscape Systems and Services, Inc** under the same terms, conditions and pricing within their original bid specification submitted for Monroe Township Landscaping Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Department is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for the above referenced vendor in accordance with the original terms, conditions and pricing contained within their original 2022 contract entered into between the parties.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2024-090 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION
PERMIT FEES.**

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

Refund to:	Reason	Amount
Tesla Energy Operations, Inc. 1001 Lower Landing Road Suite 601 Blackwood, NJ 08012 ATTN: Permitting	Permit # 2023-3961 Requests refund due to permit cancelled. Homeowner at 12 Muirfield Blvd. has cancelled solar panel installation.	\$ 528.00
Sunrun Installation Services LLC. A/P 775 Fiero Lane, Suite 200 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	Permit # 2023-2432 Requests refund due to permit cancelled for work to be performed at 1 Cassandra Crt.	\$ 399.00
Sunrun Installation Services LLC. A/P 775 Fiero Lane, Suite 200 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	Permit # 2023-0917 Requests refund due to permit cancelled for work to be performed at 52 Green Ash St.	\$ 528.00
Sunrun Installation Services LLC. A/P 775 Fiero Lane, Suite 200 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	Permit # 2023-2890 Requests refund due to permit cancelled for work to be performed at 31 Casselberry Way.	\$ 341.00
Sunrun Installation Services LLC. A/P 775 Fiero Lane, Suite 200 San Luis Obispo, CA 93401	Permit # 2023-2399 Requests refund due to permit cancelled for work to be performed at 1 Fox Run.	\$ 327.00

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 \$528.00 and Sunrun Installation Services LLC., in the amount of \$399.00, \$528.00, \$341.00 and \$327.00.**

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-091 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY MECO, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ROADWAY VARIOUS LOCATIONS IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.
 (Decrease of \$63.99)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-5-2023-145, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on May 1, 2023, a contract was awarded to Meco, Inc. in connection with the 2023 Municipal Roadway – Various Locations - Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, the original total contract amount was \$1,477,843.15; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, in a letter dated January 29, 2024, requested approval of Change Order No. 1 and Final for the 2023 Municipal Roadway – Various Locations Improvements Project reflecting a **decrease of \$63.99** 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 **\$1,477,779.69**; 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-2300058, 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-3-2024-092 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY MECO, INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2023 MUNICIPAL ROADWAY VARIOUS LOCATIONS IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, Meco, Inc. has posted Performance Guarantees for the 2023 Municipal Roadway – Various Locations - Improvements Project; and

WHEREAS, Meco, Inc. 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 February 19, 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 Municipal Roadway – Various Locations - Improvements Project, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer’s letter dated February 19, 2024, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$147,777.91**. 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-3-2024-093 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY BRENNAN BROTHERS CONTRACTING LLC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUILDING DEMOLITION VARIOUS LOCATIONS PROJECT.
(Decrease of \$13,301.00)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-2-2023-082, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on February 6, 2023, a contract was awarded to Brennan Brothers Contracting LLC.. in connection with the Building Demolition Various Locations Project; and

WHEREAS, the original total contract amount was \$113,451.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Engineer, in a letter dated January 26, 2024, requested approval of Change Order No. 1 and Final for the Building Demolition Various Locations Project reflecting a **decrease of \$13,301.00** 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 **\$100,150.00**; 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-2300036, 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-3-2024-094

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY BRENNAN BROTHERS CONTRACTING LLC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE BUILDING DEMOLITION VARIOUS LOCATIONS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, Brennan Brothers Contracting LLC. has posted Performance Guarantees for the Building Demolition Various Locations Project; and

WHEREAS, Meco, Inc. 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 26, 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 Building Demolition Various Locations Project, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter dated January 26, 2024, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$10,015.00**. 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-3-2024-095

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE NJDOT 2023 INWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$140,000)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe seeks professional engineering, surveying, environmental and planning services in connection with the *NJDOT 2023 Inwood Estates Roadway Improvements Project*; and

WHEREAS, Center State Engineering possesses the technical expertise required to perform said professional engineering services for this project; and

WHEREAS, the fees for such services will not exceed one hundred forty thousand dollars (**\$140,000.00**); and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in Certificate No. C-2400038, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) authorizes the award of contracts for "professional services" without competitive bids and further provides that the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

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

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached contract with *Center State Engineering, 481 Spotswood-Englishtown Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831*, in accordance with the Agreement annexed hereto.
- (2) The Department of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for services rendered by Center State Engineering for the professional engineering, surveying and planning services in connection with *NJDOT 2023 Inwood Estates Roadway Improvements Project* in an amount not to exceed one hundred forty thousand dollars (**\$140,000.00**)
- (3) The Contract is awarded with the stipulation that *Center State Engineering* shall include within the Contract Mandatory Affirmative Action language and shall submit to the Township of Monroe any appropriate Affirmative Action document within the time period prescribed by law.
- (4) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-096

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2024 VARIOUS MUNICIPAL ROADWAY AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$200,000)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe seeks professional engineering, surveying, environmental and planning services in connection with the *2024 Various Municipal Roadway and Concrete Improvements Project*; and

WHEREAS, Center State Engineering possesses the technical expertise required to perform said professional engineering services for this project; and

WHEREAS, the fees for such services will not exceed two hundred thousand dollars (**\$200,000.00**); and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in Certificate No. C-2400037, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the Local Public Contracts Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq.) authorizes the award of contracts for "professional services" without competitive bids and further provides that the contract itself must be available for public inspection; and

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

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk be and are hereby authorized and directed to execute the attached contract with *Center State Engineering, 481 Spotswood-Englishtown Road, Monroe Township, NJ 08831*, in accordance with the Agreement annexed hereto.
- (2) The Department of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for services rendered by Center State Engineering for the professional engineering, surveying and planning services in connection with *2024 Various Municipal Roadway and Concrete Improvements Project* in an amount not to exceed two hundred thousand dollars (**\$200,000.00**).
- (3) The Contract is awarded with the stipulation that *Center State Engineering* shall include within the Contract Mandatory Affirmative Action language and shall submit to the Township of Monroe any appropriate Affirmative Action document within the time period prescribed by law.
- (4) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-097

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2024
TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.**

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to payment of normal operating expenses and no adequate provision has been made in the 2024 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 **\$54,007,705.00**;

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>
GENERAL GOVERNMENT:	
<u>Mayor</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 3,000.00
 <u>Council</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 9,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 4,800.00
 <u>Township Clerk</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 115,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 20,000.00
 <u>Elections</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 6,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 6,000.00
 ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE:	
<u>Administration</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 105,000.00
 <u>Human Resources</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 79,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 45,000.00
 <u>Transportation</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 170,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 25,000.00
 <u>Citizens Review Board</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 500.00
 <u>Insurance</u>	
General Liability	\$ 230,000.00
Workers Compensation	\$ 200,000.00
Group Health	\$ 3,000,000.00
Group Health-Broker	\$ 40,000.00
Health Waiver	\$ 20,000.00

Public Information and Public Advocate

Salaries & Wages	\$	30,000.00
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Recreation

Salaries & Wages	\$	240,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	55,000.00
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Human Relations

Salaries & Wages	\$	750.00
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Other Expenses	\$	500.00
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Economic Development Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	750.00
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Other Expenses	\$	500.00
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Parks

Salaries & Wages	\$	100,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	50,000.00
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Finance

Salaries & Wages	\$	135,000.00
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Data Processing	\$	88,000.00
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Special Accounting	\$	10,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	6,000.00
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Tax Collector

Salaries & Wages	\$	86,000.00
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Tax Sale Cost	\$	500.00
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Other Expenses	\$	7,000.00
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Tax Assessor

Salaries & Wages	\$	100,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	45,000.00
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Ambulance Service

Salaries & Wages	\$	770,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	15,000.00
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Police Department

Salaries & Wages	\$	2,800,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	330,000.00
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Police Department-911

Salaries & Wages	\$	250,000.00
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Emergency Mgt.

Salaries & Wages	\$	11,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	7,000.00

DEPARTMENT OF ENGINEERING:

Township Engineer

Other Expenses	\$	150,000.00
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DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:

Streets and Roads

Salaries & Wages	\$	650,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	120,000.00
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Vehicle Maintenance

Salaries & Wages	\$	85,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	120,000.00
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Solid Waste and Recycling

Other Expenses	\$	12,000.00
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Landfill

Other Expenses	\$	55,000.00
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Building and Grounds

Salaries & Wages	\$	240,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	250,000.00
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Community Services Act

Other Expenses	\$	140,000.00
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DEPARTMENT OF LAW:

Department of Law:

Other Expenses	\$	250,000.00
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Municipal Prosecutor

Salaries & Wages	\$	17,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	100.00
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Animal Control

Salaries & Wages	\$	55,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	10,000.00
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OTHER TOWNSHIP AGENCIES:

Zoning Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	40,000.00
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Other Expenses	\$	20,000.00
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Combined Agenda/Regular Meeting

March 4, 2024

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Planning Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	2,800.00
Other Expenses	\$	40,000.00

Division of Planning

Salaries & Wages	\$	90,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	15,000.00

Open Space and Farmland Preservation Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	750.00
Other Expenses	\$	200.00

Shade Tree Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	4,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	20,000.00

Environmental Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	1,100.00
Other Expenses	\$	1,400.00

Cultural Arts Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	6,800.00
Other Expenses	\$	15,000.00

Historic Pres. Commission

Other Expenses	\$	3,000.00
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Health Advisory Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	750.00
Other Expenses	\$	100.00

Senior Services

Salaries & Wages	\$	165,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	35,000.00

Recreation Advisory Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	1,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	1,200.00

Construction Official

Salaries & Wages	\$	375,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	11,000.00

OTHER TOWNSHIP AGENCIES:

Extended Sick Leave Fund

Salaries & Wages	\$	500.00
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Combined Agenda/Regular Meeting

March 4, 2024

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<u>Celeb. Pub. Event</u>	\$	40,000.00
<u>Utilities</u>	\$	525,000.00
<u>Central Mailing Equipment</u>	\$	22,000.00
<u>Unemployment Compensation</u>	\$	10,000.00
<u>PERS</u>		
Other Expenses	\$	2,709,844.00
<u>PFRS</u>		
Other Expenses	\$	3,194,403.00
<u>Defined Contribution Retirement Plan</u>	\$	10,000.00
<u>Social Security System</u>	\$	460,000.00
<u>Storm water Management</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	65,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	50,000.00
<u>Municipal Court</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	110,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	4,000.00
<u>Recycling Tax</u>	\$	2,500.00
<u>Public Defender</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	8,000.00
<u>Shared Services - Recycling</u>	\$	160,000.00
<u>911</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	50,000.00
<u>Shared Services - Fire Dist. & Bd.</u>		
FD#3/EMS	\$	32,500.00
<u>Library</u>	\$	1,044,000.00
<u>Ambulance Service</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	430,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	200,000.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$	21,352,247.00

Capital Improvement Fund	\$	100,000.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$	21,452,247.00
 <u>Water-Sewer Operations</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	1,000,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	2,250,000.00
Social Security	\$	25,000.00
PERS	\$	665,770.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$	3,940,770.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$	25,393,017.00

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

SO RESOLVED as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-098 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>
BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION	\$19,000.00
Salaries and Wages	
CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION	\$15,000.00
Other Expenses	
CLERK	\$5,000.00
Other Expenses	
CLERK	\$5,000.00
Other Expenses	

FINANCE Salaries and Wages	\$20,000.00
DIVISION OF PLANNING Other Expenses	\$10,000.00
ZONING BOARD Salaries and Wages	\$10,000.00
HEALTH BENEFIT WAIVER	\$30,000.00
DIVISION OF AMBULANCE Salaries and Wages	\$75,000.00
RECREATION Salaries and Wages	\$18,000.00
RECREATION Salaries and Wages	\$5,000.00
PARKS Salaries and Wages	<u>\$25,000.00</u>
TOTAL CURRENT FUND:	\$237,000.00
TRANSFER TO:	AMOUNT
BUILDINGS & GROUNDS Salaries and Wages	\$11,000.00
RECYCLING PROJECT	\$10,000.00
LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$75,000.00
EMPLOYEE GROUP INSURANCE	\$56,000.00
STREETS & ROADS Other Expenses	\$50,000.00
ACCUMULATED ABSENCES Salaries and Wages	\$35,000.00
TOTAL CURRENT FUND:	\$237,000.00

SO RESOLVED as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-099 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES TO PERFORM A DETAILED HYDRAULIC AND STRUCTURAL EVALUATION OF THE 1.8 MILLION GALLON ROUTE 522 STORAGE TANK FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”)

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) has a need for Professional Engineering Services in relation to performing a detailed hydraulic and structural evaluation of the 1.8 Million Gallon Route 522 Storage Tank; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2023, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., the Township of Monroe solicited Statements of Qualifications for General Water & Sewer Professional Engineering Services for the M.T.U.D. after advertisement on the M.T.U.D. website for not less than 10 days, Statements of Qualifications were publicly opened by the Township Business Administrator for calendar Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, after review of all the Statement of Qualifications by the review committee, H2M & Associates, Inc. was determined to be qualified to perform said engineering services; and

WHEREAS, H2M & Associates, Inc. has provided a proposal dated February 27, 2024 for the performance of said services for an amount not to exceed \$71,200.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the M.T.U.D. has reviewed the proposal, and recommended that a contract be awarded to H2M & Associates, Inc. based on their proposal for the above referenced work in the amount not to exceed \$71,200.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit C; 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-240008, 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 & Associates, Inc., for Professional Engineering Services, in accordance with the proposal;

(2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by H2M & Associates, Inc. in accordance with the attached proposal;

(3) The contract is awarded without through a fair and open RFQ 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) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-100

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF A UNIDIRECTIONAL HYDRANT FLUSHING PROGRAM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”)
(not to exceed \$34,700)**

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) has a need for Professional Engineering Services in relation to the development of a Unidirectional Hydrant Flushing Program; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2023, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., the Township of Monroe solicited Statements of Qualifications for General Water & Sewer Professional Engineering Services for the M.T.U.D. after advertisement on the M.T.U.D. website for not less than 10 days, Statements of Qualifications were publicly opened by the Township Business Administrator for

calendar Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, after review of all the Statement of Qualifications by the review committee, H2M & Associates, Inc. was determined to be qualified to perform said engineering services; and

WHEREAS, H2M & Associates, Inc. has provided a proposal dated February 27, 2024 for the performance of said services for an amount not to exceed \$34,700.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the M.T.U.D. has reviewed the proposal, and recommended that a contract be awarded to H2M & Associates, Inc. based on their proposal for the above referenced work in the amount not to exceed \$34,700.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit C; 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-240007, 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 & Associates, Inc., for Professional Engineering Services, in accordance with the proposal;

(2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by H2M & Associates, Inc. in accordance with the attached proposal;

(3) The contract is awarded without through a fair and open RFQ 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) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

R-3-2024-101 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR MANAGEMENT AND RE-CALIBRATION OF THE TOWNSHIP’S WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM HYDRAULIC MODEL FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”) (not to exceed \$40,000)

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) has a need for Professional Engineering Services in relation to the management and re-calibration of the Township’s Water Distribution System Hydraulic Model; and

WHEREAS, on November 1, 2023, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:11-1 et seq., the Township of Monroe solicited Statements of Qualifications for General Water & Sewer Professional Engineering Services for the M.T.U.D. after advertisement on the M.T.U.D. website for not less than 10 days, Statements of Qualifications were publicly opened by the Township Business Administrator for calendar Year 2024; and

WHEREAS, after review of all the Statement of Qualifications by the review committee, H2M & Associates, Inc. was determined to be qualified to perform said engineering services; and

WHEREAS, H2M & Associates, Inc. has provided a proposal dated February 27, 2024 for the performance of said services for an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

WHEREAS, the Director of the M.T.U.D. has reviewed the proposal, and recommended that a contract be awarded to H2M & Associates, Inc. based on their proposal for the above referenced work in the amount not to exceed \$40,000.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit C; 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-240006, 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 & Associates, Inc., for Professional Engineering Services, in accordance with the proposal;

(2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by H2M & Associates, Inc. in accordance with the attached proposal;

(3) The contract is awarded without through a fair and open RFQ 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) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

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 Resolutions Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Markel, the following Resolution was removed from the **CONSENT AGENDA** and considered separately:

R-3-2024-088 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH GAL’S LANDSCAPING, INC. FOR LANDSCAPING SERVICES FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP GROUNDS MAINTENANCE, SIGNS AND SNOW REMOVAL. (1 year extension)

WHEREAS, on March 2, 2022 per Resolution No. R-3-2022-107, **Gal’s Landscaping, Inc.**, was awarded the 2022 Landscaping Services and Snow Removal contract for Monroe Township with an option to extend for two additional one-year periods; and

WHEREAS, on February 6, 2023 per Resolution No. R-2-2023-085, the Township extended the contract for one additional year expiring March 31, 2024; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe would like to extend the current landscaping contract with Gal's Landscaping Services for an additional one-year period; and

WHEREAS, the Director of Public Works inquired as to the willingness of Gal's Landscaping, Inc. to extend their current contract; and

WHEREAS, the attached letter received January 26, 2024 indicates the willingness of Gal's Landscaping, Inc. to extend the current contract from April 1, 2024 thru March 31, 2025, under the same terms, conditions and pricing contained within their original bid specification and contract, including the amendment for snow removal dated 12/1/22; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available as set forth in Certificate No C-2200027, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, the contract for Monroe Township Landscaping Services is being extended one year to March 31, 2025 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15 of the Local Public Contracts Law;

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 one-year extension of contract with **Gal's Landscaping, Inc.**, under the same terms, conditions and pricing within their original bid specification submitted including the amendment for snow removal dated 12/1/22 for Monroe Township Landscaping Services; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Finance Department is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for the above referenced vendor in accordance with the original terms, conditions and pricing contained within their original 2022 contract entered into between the parties.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

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

Copy of Resolutions Duly Filed.

Administrator's Report – Administrator Weinberg answered that all videos are downloadable to answer Mrs. Arminio's earlier question.

Reported that the complaints regarding the outdoor air odor near the landfill has been alerted to NJDEP.

Thanked the Parks Department for their work in getting the fields ready for the sports season.

Lastly, he noted that the roads in need of improvement are currently being reviewed.

Engineer's Report – Engineer Rasimowicz stated that we will be going out to bid for the reconstruction of South Middlesex Avenue and shared that we have received a \$600,000 grant.

Council's Reports-

Councilwoman Siegel –

- Attended a flag raising and vigil for the anniversary of the Ukrainian War along with Council Vice-President Van Dzura and Councilman Markel.
- Shared her love of our Township Library as there is something for everyone there.
- Cultural Arts will be hosting a virtual tour honoring women artists on their website.
- The Mayor's Youth Advisory met this past month and spent time learning from various departments including the Clerk's Office and Planning & Zoning; she noted that Kyle Johannessen is their liaison, and they are currently working on a presentation regarding opioid addiction and mental health.

Councilman Markel –

- Updated all on the happenings of the Office of Aging Committee.
- Reminded everyone that March 8th is International Women's Day.
- The Senior Center will be holding a Holocaust Remembrance Day event on April 28th at 2:00pm.

Councilman Dipierro –

- Asked Attorney Shah for guidance on how to help the residents of Bentley Road; Attorney Shah stated that she will look into this with Engineer Rasimowicz.
- Commented that we cannot let a \$5 million grant go away, which is why this is important for the Township to match.
- Attended the Police Scam Awareness presentation given by Detective Bennett which was very informative and noted for those that may have missed it that it can be found on the website.
- Thanked the Clerk's Office, DPW and Health Department for the Rabies Clinic.
- Asked for a time frame on the County bridge inspections and repairs.
- Asked for a time frame on the County paving.
- Received a NIXLE regarding a missing person who happened to be on the spectrum. He reminded everyone that April is Autism Awareness Month and suggested reaching out to the Police Department, as well as nursing facilities so trackers can be put on those with mental ailments and/or autism.
- Thanked the DPW for fixing the well on Tyndale and Fernhead Ave.
- Asked how emails are responded to from residents and commented that residents should not feel attacked when asking questions. He went on to say that it is important to remain professional amongst each other as at the last meeting there was a lot of overtalking, etc. Councilman Dipierro stated that he had an email he would like to read aloud from a resident to which Attorney Shah stated that it should not be read out loud stating that we will research to see if it was responded to first.
- Urged all to attend the Board of Education's budget hearing which will be held March 5th at 6:30pm.
- Asked for a status update on the water leak in front of the firehouse located on Schoolhouse Road; Director Stroin stated that parts were ordered to fix the water line with 75% of them arriving. Councilman Dipierro asked who is paying for all the wasted water.

Council President Cohen –

- Shared that in the Library's April Bulletin the League of Women Voters will be holding a program on how government works and encouraged all to attend.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura –

- Reported that the Recreation Department has started to take applications for the Spring sports season; also sharing that the boy's hockey team won their very first championship and one of our girls' basketball players celebrated their 1,000 point. On a sad note, shared that Daniel Brix recently passed away at the age of 30; Daniel played basketball for Monroe before transferring to St. Joes. He became an assistant coach for the Colonia basketball team.
- Thanked the DPW for clearing the roadways during the snowstorms.
- Attended a vigil for the 2-year anniversary of the Ukrainian War hosted by the Leonid Foundation.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Dalina thanked Council for supporting the two ordinances and noted that the larger issue is preserving open space, so the Schoolhouse Road parcel of 34 acres is important.

Briefly gave an overview on the CDBG grant and the Green Acres grant applications.

Attended the police outreach regarding scams and crime trends and noted that the next presentation will be recorded. He also shared a personal story of how his mother fell victim to the “grandparent scam” where she was notified that her grandchild was in trouble and needed money which in turn caused her to be scammed out of almost \$9,000.

Noted the increase in flock cameras and the importance these have in helping to identify potential stolen vehicles. He added that we are trying to stay ahead of the curve and will continue to invest in doing so.

Shared that an eagle born in Monroe Township on March 10, 2023 will be celebrating its first birthday.

Participated in the “Read Across America” week at the schools and read “Penny, the Engineering Tail of the Fourth Little Pig” which was a favorite amongst the audience.

Listened to the Governor's budget presentation and was pleased with additional money going towards the ANCHOR and Senior Freeze programs. He went on to say that these are critical tax relief plans for our residents and urged all who may need help in applying to reach out to our Tax Office and Senior Center.

Reminded everyone that Makersfest will be held on March 16th at the Library.

The Easter Egg Hunt and Bonnet Contest will be held on March 23rd at the Soccer Complex.

Wished everyone a Happy Spring!

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 stated that at last month's meeting he raised concerns with engine braking and asked for additional signage to be placed. With that said, he thanked Councilman Dipierro and Administrator Weinberg on answering his email as signs are now in place and he commented that he hopes for this to be enforced by our Police Department and the truck drivers adhere.

Mr. Atanasio shared that a flock camera caught his wife speeding and issued her a summons; Mayor Dalina stated that the flock cameras do not record speed but he would look into this further.

Colleen Pace, 39A John Paul Jones Dr. – Ms. Pace asked what the plan for Valor Pointe was; Administrator Weinberg responded that there is a requirement for a certain number of affordable housing units to be built throughout the Township and former Mayor Tamburro put into fruition a veterans affordable housing project. He went on to explain that there are specific income limits that applicants would need to qualify under for consideration, but this is an 80 unit housing complex for veteran’s and their families. He noted that the plan is to fill with veterans only and they will be prioritized first. Ms. Pace asked if the housing is unable to be filled with veterans who else would qualify; Administrator Weinberg and Mayor Dalina stated that the Township will be aggressive in soliciting applicants. Administrator Weinberg stated that the project is approximately 40% complete and outreach will begin shortly.

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Parab thanked the Mayor and Council for the 15 acres of Open Space.

Thanked DPW for the clean up trees behind his house.

Attended the police presentation on scam awareness and is looking forward to that video being made available to the public.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos asked what corrective action plan was needed in regard to Resolution R-3-2024-086a; Administrator Weinberg answered that because the audit was late we needed to correct to submit in a timely fashion.

Jennie Ludas, 38 Ridgeview Rd. – Thanked the Mayor and Council for all their great events and programs and all the good that is done for the residents of the Township.

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 Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 8:50pm.

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