

**\*\* The public will be able to view this meeting via the following YouTube link: <https://youtu.be/gQB2Gm-q1EM>**

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

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

**MARCH 6, 2023**

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

2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG.**

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Councilwoman Miriam Cohen  
Councilman Charles Dipierro  
Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider  
Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel  
Councilman Terence Van Dzura

4. Township Clerk Patricia Reid 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 30, 2022 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and the **CRANBURY PRESS** on December 30, 2022;
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:**

*Save Soil Day – March 21, 2023*

6. **ORDINANCE(S) for SECOND READING** at the March 6, 2023 Regular Meeting:
- O-2-2023-006      ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY AND/OR PROPERTY INTERESTS REQUIRED FOR A ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON PROSPECT PLAINS ROAD FROM STONAKER DRIVE TO APPLGARATH ROAD.**  
(18 minor acquisitions for traffic light improvements at the intersection of Prospect Plains Rd. and Applegarth Rd.)
- O-2-2023-007      BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$7,105,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$6,766,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**
- O-2-2023-008      BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS OPEN SPACE RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$4,650,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,428,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF. (phase 1 – Township-wide park improvements)**

**O-2-2023-009**                    **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 62, LOT 3.05 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 319 SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD.** (future Senior Affordable Housing)

**O-2-2023-010**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 79 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 79-90.1 ENTITLED “SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS”.** (Sergeant minimum requirement from 3 years to 5 years)

7.        **ORDINANCE(S) for INTRODUCTION** at the March 6, 2023 Regular Meeting:

**O-3-2023-011**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 122 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED, “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 122-30 ENTITLED “NO PARKING”.** (Buckelew Ave., Cranbury-Half Acre Rd., Cranbury Station Road, Hoffman Station Road, Union Valley-Half Acre Rd)

8.        **RESOLUTIONS for CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the March 6, 2023 Regular Meeting: (R-3-2023-092 – R-3-2023-115)

**R-3-2023-092**                    **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP 2023 ANNUAL BUDGET TO APRIL 3, 2023.**

**R-3-2023-093**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH 2023 VARIOUS MUNICIPAL ROADWAY AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS.** (\$185,000)

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**R-3-2023-096**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR STONEBRIDGE, PHASE 2, PERIMETER ONLY – PB-945-05.** (Federal Rd.)

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**R-3-2023-099**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW 2023 DODGE DURANGOS USING THE CRANFORD COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”).** (\$75,782)

**R-3-2023-100**                    **RESOLUTION CANCELING RESOLUTION NO. R-5-2022-142 AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2023 DODGE DURANGO USING THE CRANFORD COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT.** (\$37,776)

- R-3-2023-101 RESOLUTION DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE WITH REGULATIONS OF THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD OF THE STATE OF NEW JERSEY REGARDING THE 2021 ANNUAL AUDIT.**
- R-3-2023-102 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN RELATION TO HYDRAULIC PLANNING AND MODEL MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”). (\$20,000)**
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- R-3-2023-104 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**
- R-3-2023-105 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY FISCHER CONTRACTING, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE NORTH STATE HOME, LOWER MATCHAPONIX & SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD PEDESTRIAN & ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (Increase of \$24,922.61)**
- R-3-2023-106 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE ACCEPTANCE OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE POSTED FOR THE ORCHARDS – SOUTH VILLAGE PB-1089-10. (Cranbury Half Acre Rd)**
- R-3-2023-107 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO LAKE MANAGEMENT SCIENCES, INC. FOR 2023 WET BASIN MAINTENANCE. (\$18,723.92)**
- R-3-2023-108 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**
- R-3-2023-109 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY MECO INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2022 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-3-2023-110 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY FERNANDES CONSTRUCTION INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2021 PARKING LOT AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-3-2023-111 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ACCEPT CERTAIN DONATED ITEMS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR USE BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.**
- R-3-2023-112 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO DLA PIPER LLP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE BFI REPUBLIC LANDFILL. (\$45,000 – reallocating funds appropriated for Van Ness Feldman to DLA Piper LLP.)**
- R-3-2023-113 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO MECO, INC. FOR THE DPW, CONSTRUCTION & SOFTBALL PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$426,065.80)**
- R-3-2023-114 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFERS.**
- R-3-2023-115 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2023 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.**

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

OPEN: MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_  
CLOSE: MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_ SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_

10. **Agenda Meeting Adjournment.**

Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**MARCH 6, 2023 REGULAR MEETING TO FOLLOW**

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 6, 2023**

**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 **MARCH 1, 2023**.

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

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

**February 6, 2023 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting**

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

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

**O-2-2023-006** **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY AND/OR PROPERTY INTERESTS REQUIRED FOR A ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON PROSPECT PLAINS ROAD FROM STONAKER DRIVE TO APPLLEGARTH ROAD.**  
(18 minor acquisitions for traffic light improvements at the intersection of Prospect Plains Rd. and Applegarth Rd.)

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

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

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

**O-2-2023-007** **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$7,105,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$6,766,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

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

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

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

**O-2-2023-008 BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS OPEN SPACE RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$4,650,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,428,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF. (phase 1 – Township-wide park improvements)**

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

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

**O-2-2023-009 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 62, LOT 3.05 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 319 SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD. (future Senior Affordable Housing)**

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

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

**O-2-2023-010 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 79 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 79-90.1 ENTITLED “SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS”. (Sergeant minimum requirement from 3 years to 5 years)**

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

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- R-3-2023-108**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**



**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

**MEETING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – March 6, 2023**

The Council of the Township of Monroe met at the Monroe Township Municipal Building, 1 Municipal Plaza, for the Combined Reorganization and 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, Patricia Reid, the following members of Council were present: Councilman Charles Dipierro, Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider, 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, CFO George Lang, Utility Director Joseph Stroin, Township Attorney Louis Rainone, Engineer Mark Rasimowicz and Deputy Clerk Tanya Pannucci.

There were approximately twelve (12) members of the Public in attendance.

Township Clerk Patricia Reid read the following **SUNSHINE LAW** into the record:

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

1. Posted on the Bulletin Boards within the Municipal Building on December 30, 2022 and remains posted at that location for public inspection.
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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.

Councilwoman Cohen proclaimed March 21, 2023 as Save Soil Day.

Township Clerk Patricia Reid read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **MONDAY, MARCH 6, 2023** Regular Council Meeting:

- |                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
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- R-3-2023-105 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY FISCHER CONTRACTING, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE NORTH STATE HOME, LOWER MATCHAPONIX & SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD PEDESTRIAN & ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT. (Increase of \$24,922.61)**
- R-3-2023-106 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE ACCEPTANCE OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE POSTED FOR THE ORCHARDS – SOUTH VILLAGE PB-1089-10. (Cranbury Half Acre Rd)**
- R-3-2023-107 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO LAKE MANAGEMENT SCIENCES, INC. FOR 2023 WET BASIN MAINTENANCE. (\$18,723.92)**
- R-3-2023-108 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**
- R-3-2023-109 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY MECO INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2022 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-3-2023-110 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY FERNANDES CONSTRUCTION INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2021 PARKING LOT AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-3-2023-111 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ACCEPT CERTAIN DONATED ITEMS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR USE BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.**
- R-3-2023-112 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO DLA PIPER LLP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE BFI REPUBLIC LANDFILL. (\$45,000 – reallocating funds appropriated for Van Ness Feldman to DLA Piper LLP.)**
- R-3-2023-113 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO MECO, INC. FOR THE DPW, CONSTRUCTION & SOFTBALL PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$426,065.80)**
- R-3-2023-114 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET APPROPRIATION RESERVE TRANSFERS.**
- R-3-2023-115 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2023 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.**

Councilman Dipierro requested Resolution R-3-2023-108 to be considered separately.

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

**Public Comments:**

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plaza** – Mrs. Panos asked in regard to Ordinance O-2-2023-006 how many acquisitions were done by eminent domain; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is for 18 minor acquisitions and eminent domain would only come into play if an agreement could not be made between the Township and the property owner. Attorney Rainone added that if that was necessary it would not have to come to Council.

Mrs. Panos asked how many senior units will Ordinance O-2-2023-009 produce; Administrator Weinberg answered that this will produce 30 senior affordable housing units which saves us having to build 120 market rate units. Attorney Rainone added that we are in compliance with our settlement agreement with the Court.

Mrs. Panos asked why an extension is needed in regard to R-3-2023-092 and if it had anything to do with having a problem collecting taxes; Administrator Weinberg answered that this resolution is to extend the introduction of the budget and most towns introduce their budgets in April and adopt in May so we are in compliance.

Mrs. Panos asked which roads were included in R-3-2023-093 and R-3-2023-103; Administrator Weinberg answered that the list of roadways is still being finalized in regard to R-3-2023-093 but for R-3-2023-103 this will tackle roadways located in Inwood Estates as we are receiving a grant from the State for \$270,000, as well as approximately \$170,000 from the County as part of the CDBG funding. Attorney Rainone added that these resolutions are done separately because of the CDBG funding.

Mrs. Panos asked if the vehicles being purchased in R-3-2023-099 are electric/green/hybrid and if not then why; Administrator Weinberg stated that these vehicles are for the Construction Department and are not electric/green/hybrid vehicles as the only electric/green/hybrid vehicle available through the Co-op is a mustang which is not conducive to what the need is for. Mrs. Panos asked if R-3-2023-100 should have been a part of R-3-2023-099 to which Administrator Weinberg answered that the vehicle being purchased in R-3-2023-100 is for the Planning & Zoning Department and the resolution revokes prior authorization to purchase a vehicle due to the fact it did not come to fruition which is why the resolution is done separately.

Mrs. Panos asked how many wet basins are included in regard to R-3-2023-107; Administrator Weinberg answered that most of this is funded through a trust fund we have set up for wet basin maintenance and covers approximately 30 locations.

Mrs. Panos asked if we have the maintenance guarantee for resolutions R-3-2023-109 and R-3-2023-110; Administrator Weinberg answered that we do have the maintenance guarantees.

Mrs. Panos asked if BFI has made any contribution towards the costs of R-3-2023-112; Administrator Weinberg answered that the attorney handling the BFI case has transferred law firms so this resolution reallocates the money authorized previously to his new firm so he can continue handling.

Lastly, Mrs. Panos commented that she is disappointed that the vehicles are not electric and suggests to table until they can be obtained.

**George Gunkelman, 5 Kelly Ct.** – Mr. Gunkelman asked in regard to R-3-2023-097 if the issues at Stonebridge have been resolved; Engineer Rasimowicz responded that the bond release is for sitework and Attorney Rainone followed that this release has nothing to do with what Mr. Gunkelman is referencing. Engineer Rasimowicz added that he what he is referencing is a lawsuit that took place and this is the settlement.

Mr. Gunkelman asked what the use is for in regard to R-3-2023-098 and for an explanation of the amount of \$71,000 annually; Director Stroin responded that this is for a corrosion inhibitor that is used for water treatment and the \$71,000 is an estimate and dependent on a number of different factors.

Mr. Gunkelman asked for an explanation of R-3-2023-102; Director Stroin explained that this is in place for every new development that comes on so we do not have issues with the fire flow or any other issues that may come up throughout the system.

Mr. Gunkelman commented that the parking lot improvement project costs seem high, per R-3-2023-113, and asked when the municipal complex will be paved; Administrator Weinberg answered that we received 13 bids and came in under the engineer's estimate. He went on to explain that the improvements are much needed for that area and many improvements are tied into that project, as well as, the municipal lot which will be done in the near future.

**Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr.** – Mr. Parab asked in regard to R-3-2023-103 if the HCD Committee was a township committee that is open to the public to attend; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is a township committee and the public can attend the meetings which have been advertised and noticed as required.

Mr. Parab commented that he is in favor of O-2-2023-008 and asked if there were any examples as what Recreation improvements are to come; Administrator Weinberg stated that this is outlined in the current edition of the Monroe News but went on to explain that this will be done in phases with the first phase having five parks constructed which will include pickleball and volleyball courts, playground areas and an expansion of the Community Garden to name a few.

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

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the Agenda Meeting was Adjourned at 6:54pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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 Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 6:54pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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 **3/1/2022** were approved for payment as written and presented.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Abstain
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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 **MINUTES** of the **February 6, 2023 Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting** were approved as written and presented.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel	Aye
	Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

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

**O-2-2023-006**                      **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL PROPERTY AND/OR PROPERTY INTERESTS REQUIRED FOR A ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON PROSPECT PLAINS ROAD FROM STONAKER DRIVE TO APPLGARATH ROAD.**  
(18 minor acquisitions for traffic light improvements at the intersection of Prospect Plains Rd. and Applegarth Rd.)

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

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5, the Township has the power to acquire any real property for a public purpose through a negotiated agreement process; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 20:1-1, et seq., the Township has the power to acquire interests in real property through the exercise of the power of eminent domain though condemnation; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township is undertaking a roadway improvement project to Prospect Plains Road in the Township between Stonaker Drive and Applegarth Road (the “Project”); and

**WHEREAS**, the Project requires the acquisition of interests in properties in the form of property acquisitions, Right-of-Way Easements, and Drainage, Temporary Construction, and Permanent Maintenance Easements; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township desires to acquire interests in certain lands as shown herein:

1. Parcel 3 (PARCEL-3) – part of (hereinafter “p/o”) Lot 68, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 455 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
2. Parcel 4 (PARCEL-4) – p/o Lot 66.01, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 2,963 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb, overall roadway widening;
3. Parcel 5 (PARCEL-5) – p/o Lot 67, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 9,186 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
4. Parcel 6 (TCE-6A) – p/o 60.02, Block 56 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 570 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
5. Parcel 6 (TCE-6B) – p/o 60.02, Block 56 consisting of a second temporary construction easement on said parcel of approximately 570 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
6. Parcel 7 (PDE-7) – p/o Lot 6, Block 40 consisting of a permanent drainage easement of approximately 825 square feet needed for proposed drainage improvements;
7. Parcel 7 (TCE-7) – p/o Lot 6, Block 40 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,617 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
8. Parcel 8 (TCE-8A) – p/o Lot 60.03, Block 56 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 225 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
9. Parcel 8 (TCE-8B) – p/o Lot 60.03, Block 56 consisting of a second temporary construction easement needed on said parcel of approximately 390 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
10. Parcel 9 (PARCEL-9) – p/o Lot 59, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 6,002 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
11. Parcel 10 (PARCEL-10) – p/o Lot 58, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 1,272 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
12. Parcel 11 (PME-11) – p/o Lot 3, Block 201 consisting of a permanent maintenance easement of approximately 1,393 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and paving encroachments;
13. Parcel 11 (TCE-11) – p/o Lot 3, Block 201 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 262 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
14. Parcel 12 (TCE-12) – p/o Lot 2.01, Block 201 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,782 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
15. Parcel 13 (ROWE-13) – p/o Lot 22, Block 41 consisting of a right-of-way easement of approximately 848 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel;
16. Parcel 14 (PARCEL-14) – p/o Lot 1, Block 41 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 167 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel;
17. Parcel 14 (TCE-14) – p/o Lot 1, Block 41 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 373 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
18. Parcel 15 (PARCEL-15) – p/o Lot 1, Block 45 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 4,495 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb, traffic control devices, paving and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel.
19. Parcel 16 (PARCEL-16) – p/o Lot 1.09, Block 42 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 2,087 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb, paving, traffic control devices, and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel.
20. Parcel 16 (TCE-16) – p/o Lot 1.09, Block 42 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 2,414 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk, and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
21. Parcel 17 (TCE-17) – p/o Lot 1.10, Block 42 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 346 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
22. Parcel 18 (PARCEL-18) – p/o Lot 1.05, Block 42 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 3,904 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk and overall roadway widening that will encroach on said parcel.
23. Parcel 18 (TCE-18) – p/o Lot 1.05, Block 42 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 5,442 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
24. Parcel 19 (PARCEL-19) – p/o Lot 8.02, Block 47.01 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 8,137 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening that will encroach on said parcel.
25. Parcel 20 (TCE-20) – p/o Lot 8.01, Block 47.01 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,150 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED**, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey:

1. The acquisition by negotiated agreement or exercise of the power of eminent domain through condemnation of the following interests in properties is hereby authorized for the purposes of the roadway improvement project to Prospect Plains Road in the Township between Stonaker Drive and Applegarth Road:
  1. Parcel 3 (PARCEL-3) – part of (hereinafter “p/o”) Lot 68, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 455 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
  2. Parcel 4 (PARCEL-4) – p/o Lot 66.01, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 2,963 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb, overall roadway widening;
  3. Parcel 5 (PARCEL-5) – p/o Lot 67, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 9,186 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
  4. Parcel 6 (TCE-6A) – p/o 60.02, Block 56 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 570 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  5. Parcel 6 (TCE-6B) – p/o 60.02, Block 56 consisting of a second temporary construction easement on said parcel of approximately 570 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  6. Parcel 7 (PDE-7) – p/o Lot 6, Block 40 consisting of a permanent drainage easement of approximately 825 square feet needed for proposed drainage improvements;
  7. Parcel 7 (TCE-7) – p/o Lot 6, Block 40 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,617 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  8. Parcel 8 (TCE-8A) – p/o Lot 60.03, Block 56 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 225 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  9. Parcel 8 (TCE-8B) – p/o Lot 60.03, Block 56 consisting of a second temporary construction easement needed on said parcel of approximately 390 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  10. Parcel 9 (PARCEL-9) – p/o Lot 59, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 6,002 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
  11. Parcel 10 (PARCEL-10) – p/o Lot 58, Block 56 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 1,272 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening;
  12. Parcel 11 (PME-11) – p/o Lot 3, Block 201 consisting of a permanent maintenance easement of approximately 1,393 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and paving encroachments;
  13. Parcel 11 (TCE-11) – p/o Lot 3, Block 201 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 262 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  14. Parcel 12 (TCE-12) – p/o Lot 2.01, Block 201 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,782 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving encroachments;
  15. Parcel 13 (ROWE-13) – p/o Lot 22, Block 41 consisting of a right-of-way easement of approximately 848 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel;
  16. Parcel 14 (PARCEL-14) – p/o Lot 1, Block 41 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 167 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel;
  17. Parcel 14 (TCE-14) – p/o Lot 1, Block 41 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 373 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
  18. Parcel 15 (PARCEL-15) – p/o Lot 1, Block 45 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 4,495 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb, traffic control devices, paving and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel.
  19. Parcel 16 (PARCEL-16) – p/o Lot 1.09, Block 42 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 2,087 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb, paving, traffic control devices, and limit of disturbance/grading that will encroach on said parcel.
  20. Parcel 16 (TCE-16) – p/o Lot 1.09, Block 42 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 2,414 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk, and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
  21. Parcel 17 (TCE-17) – p/o Lot 1.05, Block 42 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 346 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on Lot 1.10, Block 42.
  22. Parcel 18 (PARCEL-18) – p/o Lot 1.05, Block 42 consisting of a fee taking of approximately 3,904 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk and overall roadway widening that will encroach on said parcel.
  23. Parcel 18 (TCE-18) – p/o Lot 1.05, Block 42 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 5,442 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.
  24. Parcel 19 (PARCEL-19) – p/o Lot 8.02, Block 47.01 consisting of a fee taking of approximately

8,137 square feet needed for proposed sidewalk, curb and overall roadway widening that will encroach on said parcel.

25. Parcel 20 (TCE-20) – p/o Lot 8.01, Block 47.01 consisting of a temporary construction easement of approximately 1,150 square feet needed for proposed limit of disturbance/grading, curb, sidewalk and paving that encroaches on said parcel.

2. The Township Attorney and Business Administrator are hereby authorized to take all actions necessary to acquire the above referenced property interests through negotiations or condemnation.

3. The Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign and witness, respectively, any contract of sale or other documents necessary to acquire the interests in the properties listed.

**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 or parts thereof in conflict with the provisions 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 Councilwoman Schneider and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-006** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**No Public Comment.**

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-006** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Siegel 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-2-2023-006                    ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY  
NEGOTIATED AGREEMENT OR EMINENT DOMAIN OF REAL  
PROPERTY AND/OR PROPERTY INTERESTS REQUIRED FOR A  
ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT ON PROSPECT PLAINS  
ROAD FROM STONAKER DRIVE TO APPLGARH ROAD.  
(18 minor acquisitions for traffic light improvements at the intersection of  
Prospect Plains Rd. and Applegarth Rd.)**

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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-2-2023-007                    BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL  
IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN  
THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING  
\$7,105,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF  
\$6,766,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE  
PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

**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 \$7,105,000, including a \$148,000 down payment from the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the purpose described in Section 3(a) and including the aggregate sum of \$191,000 as the several down payments for the other improvements or purposes as 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.

Section 2. In order to finance the cost of the several improvements or purposes not covered by application of the several down payments negotiable bonds are hereby authorized to be issued in the principal amount of \$6,766,000 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 &amp; Estimated Cost</u>	<u>Estimated Maximum Amount of Bonds &amp; Notes</u>	<u>Period of Usefulness</u>
a) Purchase of an existing facility and land for future affordable Senior Housing, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$3,100,000	\$2,952,000	40 years
b) Various 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.	\$1,700,000	\$1,619,000	10 years
c) Acquisition of AXON police equipment, including all related costs and expenditures incidental thereto.	\$2,100,000	\$2,000,000	10 years
d) Land acquisition of the corner of Applegarth Road and Prospect Plains Road, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto	\$80,000	\$76,000	40 years
e) Acquisition of projector equipment for Council chambers, including all related costs and expenditures incidental.	\$20,000	\$19,000	5 years
f) Municipal Building roof replacement, including all work and materials necessary therefor and incidental thereto.	\$105,000	\$100,000	10 years
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$7,105,000</b>	<b>\$6,766,000</b>	



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.

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 23.41 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 \$6,766,000, and the obligations authorized herein will be within all debt limitations prescribed by that Law.

(d) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$305,500 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 or improvements described in Section 3 hereof shall be applied either to direct payment of the cost of the improvements 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 Councilwoman Schneider and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-007** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**George Gunkelman, 5 Kelly Ct.** – Mr. Gunkelman asked for an explanation of what some of the capital improvements are; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is connected to O-2-2023-009 which acquires property for senior affordable housing costing approximately \$1.3 million, as well as, \$1.7 million for roadway improvements, \$2.1 million for police equipment, such as license plate readers, cameras and tasers, \$180,000 for land acquisitions, \$105,000 for a new roof and \$20,000 for improvements of the Council Chambers. Mr. Gunkelman commented that police equipment does not sound like traditional capital improvements to which Administrator Weinberg answered that there is a 10 year lifespan which makes it bondable.

**Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr.** – Mr. Parab asked for some clarification on how often the bond is paid, noting that it seems like it is equivalent to taking a loan from a bank; Attorney Rainone answered that it is paid quarterly and part of the budget with the exception of water utility bonds.

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plaza** – Mrs. Panos asked if the Durangos were being purchased with the bond to which Attorney Rainone answered that they were not a part of this Ordinance.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Schneider and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-007** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

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

**O-2-2023-007**                    **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$7,105,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$6,766,000 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.**

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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-2-2023-008**                    **BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS OPEN SPACE RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$4,650,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,428,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF.** (phase 1 – Township-wide park improvements)

**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 the improvement or purpose described in Section 3(a), there is hereby appropriated the sum of \$4,650,000, including the sum of \$221,500 as the down payment for the improvement or purpose to be provided from the Open Space and Recreation Trust Fund.

**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 \$4,428,500 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 recreation improvements at Community Garden, the Senior Center, Patriots Park, the Monroe Township Soccer Complex and Veterans Park, 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 \$4,428,500 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) An aggregate amount not exceeding \$650,000 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 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.** To the extent the Township receives any grant moneys for any of the recreation improvements described in Section 3(a) hereof, the Township will take further action to appropriate such amount in order to supplement the purpose.

**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 real 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 Councilwoman Schneider and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-008** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**No Public Comment.**

Councilman Dipierro asked if there was an amount and a list available to the public for reference; Attorney Rainone answered that Section 3 in the Ordinance explains the improvements to be made. Administrator Weinberg added that this Ordinance allows us to move forward with the design and detail and the pricing will come from meetings with stakeholders as they happen. Councilman Dipierro commented that it would be nice to have something to show the public now so they can see the designs. Administrator Weinberg explained that we are looking to have a sand volleyball court at Veteran’s Park on Avenue K, as well as, a playground, parking and picnic area at the Community Garden located on Applegarth Road, permanent lights, parking lot expansion and pickleball courts at the Soccer Complex near the Post Office, volleyball courts at Patriots Park and pickleball and volleyball courts at the Senior Center.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-008** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

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

**O-2-2023-008                    BOND ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR VARIOUS OPEN SPACE RECREATION IMPROVEMENTS IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY, APPROPRIATING \$4,650,000 THEREFOR AND AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF \$4,428,500 BONDS OR NOTES OF THE TOWNSHIP TO FINANCE PART OF THE COST THEREOF. (phase 1 – Township-wide park improvements)**

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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-2-2023-009                    ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 62, LOT 3.05 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 319 SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD.** (future Senior Affordable Housing)

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

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:12-5, the Township has the power to acquire any real property for a public purpose through a negotiated agreement process; and

**WHEREAS**, in June of 2021, a former assisted living facility known as Meadowview Care Center, which was located at Block 62, Lot 3.05 on the Official Tax Map of the Township of Monroe, more commonly known as 319 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road, (the “Property”), was closed by order of the state due to health and safety concerns; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township determined that the potential now exists to acquire the Property and construct or have constructed a municipally sponsored 100% affordable housing project on the Property, the units of which may be applied towards the Township’s ongoing and future constitutional obligation to provide its fair share of the regional need for low- and moderate-income housing or for other municipal public purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, Monroe Capital Partners, LLC, a New Jersey limited liability company, and the Township have agreed to the voluntary conveyance of Block 62, Lot 3.05 located at 319 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road to the Township for a consideration of \$3,000,000.00; and

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

1. The acquisition by negotiated agreement of Block 62, Lot 3.05 located at 319 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road from Monroe Capital Partners, LLC is hereby authorized.
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 Councilwoman Schneider and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-009** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plaza** – Mrs. Panos asked who we are acquiring the property from; Attorney Rainone answered that the property owner is Monroe Capital Partners, LLC and the property is appraised at \$2.5 million but we will pay \$3 million.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-009** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

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

**O-2-2023-009**                    **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION OF BLOCK 62, LOT 3.05 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE MORE COMMONLY KNOWN AS 319 SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD.** (future Senior Affordable Housing)

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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-2-2023-010**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 79 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 79-90.1 ENTITLED “SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS”.** (Sergeant minimum requirement from 3 years to 5 years)

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

**SECTION 1.** Chapter 79-90.1C entitled “Specific Qualifications” of the Code of the Township of Monroe, shall be amended as follows: additions in blue ~~deletions in red~~

**§79-90.1 C**     **Sergeant.**

- (1) ~~Three~~ **Five** years as patrolman in the Monroe Township Police Department or a police department of comparable size.
- (2) Successful at written and oral examination given by the New Jersey State Chiefs Police Association.
- (3) One-year probationary period.

**SECTION 2.** All Ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with the provisions of this Ordinance be and the same are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

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

**SECTION 4.** This Ordinance shall take effect twenty days after final passage, adoption and publication according to law.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-010** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

**No Public Comment.**

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-2-2023-009** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Schneider 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-2-2023-010**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 79 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, ENTITLED “POLICE DEPARTMENT RULES AND REGULATIONS”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 79-90.1 ENTITLED “SPECIFIC QUALIFICATIONS”. (Sergeant minimum requirement from 3 years to 5 years)**

ROLL CALL:                    Councilman Charles Dipierro                    Aye  
   Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider                    Aye  
   Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel                    Aye  
   Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura                    Aye  
   Council President Miriam Cohen                    Aye

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

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

**O-3-2023-011**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 122 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED, “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 122-30 ENTITLED “NO PARKING”. (Buckelew Ave., Cranbury-Half Acre Rd., Union Valley-Half Acre Rd/Cranbury Station Rd)**

ROLL CALL:                    Councilman Charles Dipierro                    Aye  
   Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider                    Aye  
   Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel                    Aye  
   Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura                    Aye  
   Council President Miriam Cohen                    Aye

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the following Resolutions were moved for Adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA:** (R-3-2023-092– R-3-2023-115) with the exception of R-3-2023-108.

**R-3-2023-092**                    **RESOLUTION APPROVING THE EXTENSION OF THE INTRODUCTION AND APPROVAL OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP 2023 ANNUAL BUDGET TO APRIL 3, 2023.**

**WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5** provides that the governing body shall introduce and approve the annual budget in the case of a municipality not later than February 10th of the fiscal year; and

**WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 40A:4-5.1** there exists a need to extend the date upon which to introduce and approve the Monroe Township 2023 annual budget to April 3, 2023 due to the need for receipt of revenue figures;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the extension of the introduction and approval of the Monroe Township 2023 annual budget to April 3, 2023.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-093**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH 2023 VARIOUS MUNICIPAL ROADWAY AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS. (\$185,000)**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe seeks professional engineering, surveying and planning services in connection with the *2023 Various Municipal Roadway and Concrete Improvements*; 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 and fifty thousand dollars (**\$185,000.00**); and

**WHEREAS**, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in Certificate No. C-2300040, 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 *2023 Various Municipal Roadway and Concrete Improvements* in an amount not to exceed one hundred and fifty thousand dollars (**\$185,000.00**).
- (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-3-2023-094                      RESOLUTION    AUTHORIZING    EXECUTION    OF    A  
PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH CENTER  
STATE ENGINEERING FOR PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING  
SERVICES IN CONNECTION BLOCK 62 LOT 3.05 KNOWN AS  
319 SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD. (\$15,000)**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe seeks professional engineering services, with the preparation of Survey, Description and Phase I Environmental Report in connection with Block 62 Lot 3.05; 319 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road formerly known as Meadowview Care; and

**WHEREAS**, Center State Engineering possesses the technical expertise required to perform said professional engineering services for this project which includes project design, preparation of plans and specifications, contract preparation, contract administration and construction inspection; and

**WHEREAS**, the fees for such services will not exceed Fifteen thousand dollars (**\$15,000.00**); and

**WHEREAS**, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in Certificate No. C-2300042, 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 **preparation of Survey, Description and Phase I Environmental Report in connection with Block 62 Lot 3.05; 319 Spotswood Gravel Hill Road formerly known as Meadowview Care** in an amount not to exceed Fifteen thousand dollars (**\$15,000.00**).
- (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-3-2023-095                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF MUNICIPAL  
RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR YEAR  
2023.**

**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-3-2023-096                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF  
PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR  
STONEBRIDGE, PHASE 2, PERIMETER ONLY – PB-945-05.  
(Federal Rd.)**

**WHEREAS**, Lennar Company/ Lori Gardens Associates II, LLC. has posted Performance Guarantees for the Stonebridge Phase 2, Perimeter Only, project PB-945-05; and

**WHEREAS**, a request was made for the 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 has recommended release of the Performance Guarantees; and

**WHEREAS**, no maintenance guarantee is required pursuant to the settlement agreement between the parties as approved by the Superior Court; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council has reviewed and hereby approves the recommendation 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 by Lennar Company/ Lori Gardens Associates II, LLC. for the Stonebridge Phase 2, Perimeter Only, project PB-945-05 be released as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter dated February 15, 2023 and attached hereto.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that such action be conditioned upon the resolution of any outstanding escrow balances associated with administration of this project by Township Officials.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.



(3) The contract is 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 Klenzoid, Inc. shall provide the required insurance certificate and performance bond, 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-3-2023-099                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF TWO NEW  
2023 DODGE DURANGOS USING THE CRANFORD  
COOPERATIVE PRICING SYSTEM FOR THE MONROE  
TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”). (\$75,782)**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe Utility Department, County of Middlesex, has the need to purchase two (2) Dodge Durangos 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:

<b>(2) 2023 White Dodge Durango Police, AWD</b>	<b>\$37,891.00 each</b>
(Including 1 extra key fob)	
	<b>Total: \$75,782.00</b>

**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. M-230010 a copy of which are attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

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

(1) Authorizes the Utility Department to purchase said vehicles from Hertrich Fleet Services Inc. using the Cranford Cooperative Pricing System Contract No. 47-CPCPS at a total contract price of \$75,782.00; and

(2) The Township Chief Financial Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for said vehicles delivered by Hertrich Fleet Services, respectively; and

(3) The contracts awarded through the Cranford Cooperative Pricing System Contract No. 47-CPCPS are considered a fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, as well as being exempt from public bidding by the Township.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-100                      RESOLUTION CANCELING RESOLUTION NO. R-5-2022-142  
AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF ONE (1) 2023  
DODGE DURANGO USING THE CRANFORD COOPERATIVE  
PRICING SYSTEM FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP  
PLANNING & ZONING DEPARTMENT. (\$37,776)**

**WHEREAS**, Resolution No. R-5-2022-142 adopted by the Monroe Township Council at the May 2, 2022 council meeting authorized the purchase of one (1) 2022 4WD Ford Explorer in the amount of \$30,372.85 under the Educational Services Commission of New Jersey Cooperative Purchasing Program; and

**WHEREAS**, on February 2, 2023 the finance department received an email stating the Ford Explorer has been balanced out, which means they will not be manufacturing the order and there is no way to order a replacement vehicle at this time, causing the purchase and resolution authorizing such to be cancelled; and

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Planning and Zoning Department still has the need for one (1) Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) and would like to purchase the vehicle under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing Agreement No. 47-CPCPS, from *Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. 1427 Bay Road Milford, DE 19963* an authorized vendor under the Cranford Police Cooperative Pricing System as follow:

<b>(1) 2023 Dodge Durango AWD</b>	<b>\$37,776.00</b>
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**WHEREAS**, it is required by law that any “state contract” purchase which exceeds the bid threshold of the Township (\$40,000.00) in aggregate, be authorized by the governing body; and

**WHEREAS**, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2300041, a copy of which are attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, hereby cancels Resolution No. R-5-2022-142 and authorizes a contract be entered into with *Hertrich Fleet Services, Inc. 1427 Bay Road Milford, DE 19963* for the purchase of *one (1) 2023 Dodge Durango* at a total contract price in the amount of **\$37,776.00** for the Department of Planning and Zoning.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-101                      RESOLUTION DEMONSTRATING COMPLIANCE WITH  
REGULATIONS OF THE LOCAL FINANCE BOARD OF THE STATE  
OF NEW JERSEY REGARDING THE 2021 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-3-2023-102                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO  
H2M & ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR GENERAL ENGINEERING  
SERVICES IN RELATION TO HYDRAULIC PLANNING AND  
MODEL MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE MONROE  
TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”). (\$20,000)**

**WHEREAS**, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) may have at times, during the year, a need for Professional Engineering Services in relation to performing hydraulic planning and model maintenance services related to our water system; and

**WHEREAS**, on December 5, 2022, 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 2023; 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 10, 2023 for the performance of said services for an amount not to exceed \$20,000.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS**, the Purchasing Agent has reviewed the proposal with the Director of the M.T.U.D., and abased on their discussion has 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 \$20,000.00, 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-230011, 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 modify and 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-3-2023-103                      RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE 2023 PROJECT PROPOSALS  
AS RECOMMENDED BY THE HOUSING AND COMMUNITY  
DEVELOPMENT CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.  
(\$166,380 – Inwood Estates Roadway Improvements Project - ADA  
Crosswalks and Ramp Improvements)**

**WHEREAS**, on February 22, 2023 the Housing and Community Development Citizens Advisory Committee (“HCD Citizens Advisory 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; and

**WHEREAS**, the HCD Citizens Advisory Committee has submitted to the Township Council for its review, the 2023 Project Proposal Application for:

**INWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT –  
ADA CROSSWALKS AND RAMP IMPROVEMENTS; and**

**WHEREAS**, upon the Township Council’s review of the 2023 Project Proposal Application, as recommended by the HCD Citizens Advisory Board, it hereby renders its endorsement of the attached 2023 Project Proposal for:

**INWOOD ESTATES ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT –  
ADA CROSSWALKS AND RAMP IMPROVEMENTS; and**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, that it hereby endorses the 2023 Project Proposals, as recommended by the HCD Citizens Advisory Committee; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that three (3) copies of the 2023 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-3-2023-104                    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 Forty-Four Thousand Four-Hundred dollars and no cents (\$44,400.00),

**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-3-2023-105                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF CHANGE ORDER NO. 1 AND FINAL SUBMITTED BY FISCHER CONTRACTING, INC. IN CONNECTION WITH THE NORTH STATE HOME, LOWER MATCHAPONIX & SPOTSWOOD GRAVEL HILL ROAD PEDESTRIAN & ROADWAY IMPROVEMENT PROJECT.**  
(Increase of \$24,922.61)

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Resolution No. R-4-2022-125, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on April 4, 2022, a contract was awarded to Fischer Contracting, Inc. in connection with the North State Home Road, Lower Matchaponix and Spotswood Gravel Hill Road Pedestrian & Roadway Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS**, the original total contract amount was **\$780,285.08**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer, in a letter dated February 20, 2023, requested approval of Change Order No. 1 and Final for the North State Home Road, Lower Matchaponix and Spotswood Gravel Hill Road Pedestrian & Roadway Improvements Project reflecting an **increase of \$24,922.61** in the purchase amount, as the result of a reduction of unnecessary bid items, as well as additional items added to the contract that were found necessary during the progression of construction, as reflected in the attached change order; and

**WHEREAS**, the current purchase price including this change order is **\$805,207.69**; 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-2200034, 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-3-2023-106                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE ACCEPTANCE OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE POSTED FOR THE ORCHARDS – SOUTH VILLAGE PB-1089-10.** (Cranbury Half Acre Rd)

**WHEREAS**, **K. Hovnanian at Monroe NJ, LLC.** has posted Performance Guarantees for the Orchards – South Village Project PB-1089-10; and

**WHEREAS**, a request was made for the 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 has recommended release of the Performance Guarantees; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council has reviewed and hereby approves the recommendation 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 Orchards - South Village Project PB-1089-10, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter dated February 15, 2023, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantee is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$994,444.45**. 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.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, in accordance with the Monroe Township Code, the developer shall maintain funds in the engineering inspection escrow account in the amount of fifty percent (50%) of the original deposit, however the Township Engineer's office recommends the funds currently being held in escrow with the Township is sufficient.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-107                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO LAKE MANAGEMENT SCIENCES, INC. FOR 2023 WET BASIN MAINTENANCE. (\$18,723.92)**

**WHEREAS**, on February 17, 2023, the Township of Monroe has solicited proposals for Wet Basin Maintenance for 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, Center State Engineering Associates, Inc. has solicited proposals from a total of five (5) pond maintenance companies and received one (1) response as follows (includes permits and treatment):

**Lake Management Sciences, Inc.** Branchville, N.J. - \$18,723.92

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer has reviewed the proposals received and, by copy of letter dated February 22, 2023, recommends the award of contract to **Lake Management Sciences, Inc., P.O. Box 2395 Branchville, N.J. 07826**, in the amount of **\$18,723.92** and any additional services as needed; and

**WHEREAS**, no contract that is subject to the requirements of Article 3 of the Affirmative Action Regulations pursuant to Public Law 1975, Chapter 127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27-1, et seq.) shall be awarded by the Township of Monroe, nor shall any monies be paid thereunder, to any contractor, subcontractor of business firm that has not agreed and guaranteed to comply with Affirmative Action Regulations and to afford equal opportunity in the performance of the contract in accordance with the affirmative action plan approved under the terms established in the above-cited regulations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of contract, to **Lake Management Sciences, Inc.**, for 2023 wet basin maintenance for a total contract price of **\$18,723.92**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township's Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as evidenced by Certificate No. C-2300045, a copy of which is attached hereto; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Lake Management Sciences, Inc.**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay **Lake Management Sciences, Inc.** in accordance with the contract entered into between the parties; and

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-109                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY MECO INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2022 ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**WHEREAS, Meco Inc.** has posted Performance Guarantees for the 2022 Roadway 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 22, 2023, 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 2022 Roadway Improvements Project, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter dated February 22, 2023, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$163,342.97**. 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-3-2023-110                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY FERNANDES CONSTRUCTION INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE 2021 PARKING LOT AND CONCRETE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**

**WHEREAS, Fernandes Construction Inc.** has posted Performance Guarantees for the 2021 Parking Lot and Concrete Improvements Project; and

**WHEREAS, Fernandes Construction 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 20, 2023, 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 2021 Parking Lot and Concrete Improvements Project, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter dated February 20, 2023, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$22,076.50**. 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-3-2023-111                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ACCEPT CERTAIN DONATED ITEMS OF PERSONAL PROPERTY FOR USE BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP HISTORIC PRESERVATION COMMISSION.**

**WHEREAS,** the Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission has adopted policies and procedures for the collection and acceptance of donated personal property; and

**WHEREAS,** several Monroe families have approached representatives of the Historic Preservation Commission seeking to donate items of personal property identified in Attachment A to this resolution; and

**WHEREAS,** the Township of Monroe is seeking authority from the Monroe Township Council to accept the donations of items of personal property identified in Attachment A, and thereafter appropriate the items of personal property identified in Attachment A for use by the Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission; and



**NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey authorizes the Business Administrator of the Township of Monroe, or his designee, to accept all donated items of personal property identified in Attachment A to this resolution, at no cost to the Township of Monroe; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey authorizes the Business Administrator of the Township of Monroe, or his designee, to appropriate all donated items of personal property identified in Attachment A for use and appropriate caretaking by the Monroe Township Historic Preservation Commission; and

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-112                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO  
DLA PIPER LLP FOR ENVIRONMENTAL LEGAL SERVICES  
IN CONNECTION WITH THE BFI REPUBLIC LANDFILL.  
(\$45,000 – reallocating funds appropriated for Van Ness Feldman to DLA Piper  
LLP.)**

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe seeks environmental legal counsel services in connection with the post-closure care and monitoring of the BFI Republic Landfill; and

**WHEREAS**, at the August 2, 2021 council meeting, the Township Council approved Resolution No. R-8-2021-192 authorizing award of contract to Van Ness Feldman for environmental legal services in connection with the BFI Republic Landfill in an amount not to exceed \$50,000; and

**WHEREAS**, Andrew Cooper, Esq. who’s been handling the matter has relocated from Van Ness Feldman to the firm DLA Piper LLP; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council would like to reallocate the funds for the environmental legal services in connection with the BFI Republic Landfill from Van Ness Feldman LLP. to DLA Piper LLP; and

**WHEREAS**, DLA Piper LLP possesses the legal expertise required to perform said environmental legal counsel services for this project; and

**WHEREAS**, the fees for such services will not exceed forty-five thousand dollars (**\$45,000.00**); and

**WHEREAS**, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds for such an engagement in Certificate No. C-2300046, 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 “consulting services” without competitive bids as a non-fair and open contract award 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 ***DLA Piper LLP, 500 Eighth Street, NW Washington, D.C. 20004*** under a non-fair and open process in accordance with the Agreement annexed hereto;
- (2) The Department of Finance is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for services rendered by ***DLA Piper LLP*** for environmental legal counsel services in connection with the post-closure care and monitoring of the BFI Republic Landfill in an amount not to exceed forty-five thousand dollars (**\$45,000.00**);
- (3) The Contract is awarded with the stipulation that ***DLA Piper LLP*** 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-3-2023-113                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO MECO,  
INC. FOR THE DPW, CONSTRUCTION & SOFTBALL  
PARKING LOT IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT. (\$426,065.80)**

**WHEREAS**, on February 28, 2023, thirteen (13) sealed bids were received by Monroe Township regarding the **2023 DPW, Construction & Softball Parking Lot Improvements Project**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Engineer, by copy of letter dated March 1, 2023, has recommended **MECO, Inc. P.O. Box 536 Clarksburg, N.J. 08510**, to be awarded the Base Bid plus all Add Alternates, based upon their bid submission in the amount of **\$426,065.80**; and

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

**WHEREAS**, the Township's Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. C-2300047, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of bid to **MECO, Inc.** for the **2023 DPW, Construction & Softball Parking Lot Improvements Project**, at a total contract price of **\$426,065.80**; and

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

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

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

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-3-2023-114                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET APPROPRIATION  
RESERVE TRANSFERS.**

**WHEREAS**, there are certain 2022 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 2022 accounts:

<u>CURRENT FUND TRANSFER FROM</u>	<u>TRANSFER AMOUNT</u>
DIVISION OF AMBULANCE SERVICES Salaries and Wages	\$150,000.00
RECREATION OE	\$ 50,000.00
PARKS Salaries and Wages	\$ 25,000.00
MUNICIPAL COURT Salaries and Wages	\$ 10,000.00

BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION OE	\$ 10,000.00
PUBLIC INFORMATION Salaries and Wages	\$ 15,000.00
PUBLIC INFORMATION OE	\$ 10,000.00
HUMAN RESOURCES Salaries and Wages	\$ 13,000.00
HUMAN RESOURCES OE	\$ 10,000.00
DIVISION OF ASSESSMENT Salaries and Wages	\$ 17,000.00
DIVISION OF ASSESSMENT OE	\$ 20,000.00
TOWNSHIP OF ATTORNEY OE	\$ 45,000.00
CONSTRUCTION Salaries and Wages	\$ 25,000.00
<b>TOTAL CURRENT FUND:</b>	<b>\$400,000.00</b>

**TRANSFER TO:** **AMOUNT**

ACCUMULATED ABSENCES	\$200,000.00
STREETS AND ROADS OE	\$200,000.00
<b>TOTAL CURRENT FUND:</b>	<b>\$400,000.00</b>

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid

**R-3-2023-115                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2023 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 2023 temporary appropriations for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purposes above mentioned; and

**WHEREAS**, the total emergency temporary Resolutions adopted in Year 2023, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20), including this Resolution, is **\$42,314,060.92;**

**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>
<b>GENERAL GOVERNMENT:</b>	
<u>Mayor</u>	
Salaries & Wages	\$ 5,000.00
Other Expenses	\$ 3,000.00

Council

Salaries & Wages	\$	9,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	4,800.00

Township Clerk

Salaries & Wages	\$	115,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	20,000.00

Elections

Salaries & Wages	\$	6,000.00
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**ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE:**

Administration

Salaries & Wages	\$	105,000.00
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Human Resources

Salaries & Wages	\$	66,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	20,000.00

Transportation

Salaries & Wages	\$	165,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	25,000.00

Citizens Review Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	500.00
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Insurance

Group Health	\$	3,000,000.00
Group Health-Broker	\$	40,000.00

Public Information and Public Advocate

Salaries & Wages	\$	30,000.00
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Recreation

Other Expenses	\$	55,000.00
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Human Relations

Salaries & Wages	\$	700.00
Other Expenses	\$	500.00

Economic Development Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	700.00
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Parks

Salaries & Wages	\$	100,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	40,000.00

Finance

Salaries & Wages	\$	135,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	6,000.00

Tax Collector

Salaries & Wages	\$	86,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	7,000.00

Tax Assessor

Salaries & Wages	\$	120,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	45,000.00

Ambulance Service

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

Police Department

Salaries & Wages	\$	2,600,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	250,000.00

Police Department-911

Salaries & Wages	\$	240,000.00
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Emergency Mgt.

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

**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS:**

Streets and Roads

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

Vehicle Maintenance

Salaries & Wages	\$	75,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	120,000.00

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	\$	220,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	250,000.00

Community Services Act

Other Expenses	\$	140,000.00
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**DEPARTMENT OF LAW:**

Department of Law:

Other Expenses	\$	160,000.00
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Municipal Prosecutor

Salaries & Wages	\$	17,000.00
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**DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND WELFARE:**

Division of Health Contr.

Other Expenses	\$	55,000.00
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Animal Control

Salaries & Wages	\$	50,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	5,000.00

**OTHER TOWNSHIP AGENCIES:**

Zoning Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	40,000.00
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Planning Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	2,800.00
Other Expenses	\$	20,000.00

Division of Planning

Salaries & Wages	\$	90,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	5,000.00

Open Space and Farmland Preservation Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	700.00
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Shade Tree Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	6,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	3,000.00

Environmental Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	1,000.00
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Cultural Arts Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	6,400.00
Other Expenses	\$	15,000.00

Historic Pres. Commission

Salaries & Wages	\$	2,000.00
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Health Advisory Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	700.00
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Senior Services

Salaries & Wages	\$	165,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	30,000.00

Recreation Advisory Board

Salaries & Wages	\$	1,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	2,500.00

Construction Official

Salaries & Wages	\$	350,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	11,000.00

**OTHER TOWNSHIP AGENCIES:**

<u>Utilities</u>	\$	440,000.00
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<u>Unemployment Compensation</u>	\$	10,000.00
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PERS

Other Expenses	\$	2,480,556.00
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PFRS

Other Expenses	\$	3,094,751.00
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Defined Contribution Retirement Plan

\$	8,000.00
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Social Security System

\$	460,000.00
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Storm water Management

Other Expenses	\$	25,000.00
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Municipal Court

Salaries & Wages	\$	100,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	4,000.00

Public Defender

Salaries & Wages	\$	8,000.00
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<u>Shared Services - Recycling</u>	\$	160,000.00
<u>911</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	49,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	12,000.00
<u>Library</u>	\$	1,023,000.00
<u>Ambulance Service</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	430,000.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$	19,088,607.00
<u>Water-Sewer Operations</u>		
Salaries & Wages	\$	350,000.00
Other Expenses	\$	1,704,000.00
PERS	\$	601,824.00
Social Security	\$	50,000.00
<u>Subtotal</u>	\$	2,705,824.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$	21,794,431.00

2. That said emergency temporary appropriations will be provided for in the 2023 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.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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 Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Schneider, the following Resolutions were removed from the **CONSENT AGENDA** and considered separately: (R-3-2023-108)

**R-3-2023-108                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector for the Township of Monroe has recommended this Council's approval to make refunds for tax overpayments in the amount of Fifteen Thousand Five Hundred Eighty-One dollars and Eighty-Seven cents (\$15,581.87) for the amounts described on Schedule A and attached hereto; and

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

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that the Township's 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.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Abstain
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	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** – Reported that we will be doing a \$1.5 million roadway improvement project and went on to thank the Mayor and Council for approving this now which will allow for this to take place during the summer months in July and August before school starts.

Extended thanks to the Clerk's Office for their work in handling the rabies clinic as it was another well run clinic.

Reminded those looking for work that the Recreation Department is looking to hire camp counselors for this season.

Stated that the budget focuses on affordability and touted that the Township had a 0% healthcare increase.

Shared that Joe Slomian received the NJ Clean Communities Council Municipal Coordinator's Award which will be presented at our April 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

Working on the Energy Tax Receipts which is something the State took away from municipalities approximately 20 years ago and last year we received our first down payment towards that as the Mayor has been working on having the legislature adds it back in which will help with affordability.

Thanked the Parks & Recreation Department for their hard work in getting all of the fields ready.

**Engineer's Report** – Reported that the Veteran's Park ADA project is still under construction as the concrete has been poured and is due to be completed at the end of May.

The Old Bridge – Mounts Mills Road intersection improvements project is being handled by the County and they are due to go out to bid in 1-2 months.

### **Council's Reports –**

#### **Councilman Dipierro –**

- Reported that on February 18<sup>th</sup> the Fire Elections were held and all budgets passed.
- Reminded everyone that on March 14<sup>th</sup> a Special Election will be held for the Board of Education. He wished the Clerk's Office and poll workers luck and urged everyone to come out and exercise their right to vote. He noted that the money in the school budget is a shortfall due to what we receive from the State funding.
- Asked if we own Turtlegate on Old Church Road; Administrator Weinberg answered no. Engineer Rasimowicz added that when the developer is off bonds the property will then be transferred to the Township. Councilman Dipierro asked if there was a list of what needs to be completed; Engineer Rasimowicz stated that he will look into the status and report back.
- Commented the Post Office looks terrible with dead trees and poor lighting and stated that if they will not maintain then we should take action as this can become very problematic for those going there especially at night.
- Regarding the intersection improvements over on Mounts Mills Road and Spotswood-Englishtown Road, paving and light improvements are needed as there are stockpiles with no permits and proper approvals and you are not permitted to stockpile stumps or asphalt. He stated that he hopes to get the developer to be neighborly and suggested to make this area part of the 2023 paving project if they are not.
- Recommended that on Bordentown Turnpike, specifically near the Smith property, that we include in our capital improvements to do drainage and paving in that area since they have complained, and that area is problematic.
- Thanked the County, DPW and Center State for the pothole paving done today on Applegarth Road.

#### **Councilwoman Schneider –**

- Shared that on April 18<sup>th</sup> at 2:00pm and the Library there will be a presentation about the Holocaust with one of the last survivors present.
- Reported that the Human Relations Commission has teamed up with Muslims 4 Peace to raise money and collect items for Turkey and Syria.
- Wished everyone a Happy St. Patrick's Day.



**Councilwoman Siegel** –

- Shared that in reading the proclamation for “Save Soil Day” she learned that 52% of soil has been degraded and is thankful for learning a bit more about the importance of doing all we can to save our soil.
- Great to see News 12 come out and tour our Township.
- Attended the Community Garden meeting and shared that a lot of great events will be happening this season there including plant sales, visiting the grounds and seeing the beehive that has been placed there as well.
- Invited to attend the Read Across America event held at Applegarth School.
- Cultural Arts will have a live performance by the Princeton Symphony Orchestra on March 28<sup>th</sup>.
- The MTHS Environmental Action Club will be doing a presentation on sustainability, conservation and wildlife on March 18<sup>th</sup> at the Library at 11:00am.
- Gave a shout out to the Mayor’s Youth Advisory who teamed up with Nancy Fitchelberg, who started the “Soup for Rossmoor” program and also made Valentine cards for some Seniors. They have also learned about municipal government and planning and zoning.

**Council Vice-President Van Dzura** –

- Shared that on February 23<sup>rd</sup> the Township turned 185 years old; the Monroe Oak is 330 years old.
- February 24<sup>th</sup> was the 1 year anniversary of the War in Ukraine; proud that President Biden took a tour of the war zone.
- February 25<sup>th</sup> was proclaimed to be a “Day of Hate for Anti-Semitism” which is absolutely disgusting. Police forces and our government took preventative measures to ensure that everyone was kept safe in the event these extremists tried committing acts of violence.
- Noted that there were 3 mass shootings which took place in a row. We have had more mass shootings this year than there were days in a month. Commented his disdain in the introduction of a bill by the House of Representatives which would make the AR-15 the national gun of the United States.
- Thanked Chrissy Skurbe for inviting him to participate in Read Across America where he read Green Eggs & Ham, it was a wonderful experience.
- Attended the Citizen Review Board meeting and reported that the NJ Juvenile Justice Commission is still working to find a location for their northern site, as they have identified a central and southern location but are still working on the plans to bring to fruition.

**Council President Cohen** –

- Attended the Read Across America event at the schools which was a lovely experience.
- Attended synagogue during the “Day of Hate for Anti-Semitism” and noted that a sheriff officer was patrolling the parking lot in the event there was an issue.
- Very excited to see our township featured on News 12.

**Mayor’s Report** – Mayor Dalina shared that after enduring Tropical Storm Henri, he asked for more federal funding to help alleviate a disaster like this from ever happening again in the Township, and was pleased that Senator Menendez and Congresswoman Bonnie Watson Coleman came here to the municipal building to announce that \$1.1 million has been pledged to help with flood mitigation for southern Middlesex County.

Very proud that the recycling yard will be paved as it is much needed and will make it not only look much nicer but more functional as thousands of residents use the yard.

Reported that the monies approved for capital improvements will help the Police Department modernize their equipment as they are in need of upgrading which will in turn help prevent crime and keep everyone safe. Such items include automatic license plate readers and modern dashcams, as well as, body cameras and tasers.

Detailed the park improvements, which is due to the resident’s voicing their concerns and needs in wanting more recreational areas during the Master Plan survey.

Shared that he sent a letter to Governor Murphy regarding the state funding received for the schools, noting that it is not enough but he is happy with what has been received and hopes that it will continue to increase to get us to eventually receiving our fair share. He also commented that he is excited to see the expansion of the senior freeze program, as well as, the ANCHOR program.

Welcomed Nancy Harrigan in her new role as Senior Center Director and wished a fond farewell to Karen Theer who revolutionized the programs made available to the Senior Center and put her heart in soul in all that she did there as she has retired.

Very excited to have had the opportunity to have Monroe featured on News 12; shared that it was an interesting experience that started very early and highlighted local businesses including Mind the Gap, Amici Bakery, Special Strides, Make-A-Wish, Mrs. Kumar’s Indian Cuisine, The Bearded One BBQ and Forsgate Country Club.

Honored to have attended the Clearbrook Veteran's Medals Ceremony where the State Department of Veteran's Affairs handed out approximately 40 medals.

Attended Read Across America and read "Tomorrow Most Likely" which was a book recommended by Mrs. Dalina a very fulfilling experience to participate in.

Reminded everyone that March 14<sup>th</sup> is the Special School Election regarding the referendum and urged all to do your research and get out and vote.

Highlighted that on March 25<sup>th</sup> there will be a Community Cleanup taking place on Perrineville Road, across from Stop and Shop.

Lastly, Maker fest will also be held on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 12:00pm at the Library.

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

#### **Public Comments –**

**Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr.** – Mr. Parab urged everyone to go out and vote on March 14<sup>th</sup> for the Special School Election as it is very important as our schools are overcrowded and special education students are bused to different schools because of the overcrowding issue and deserve to be with their siblings and friends, which voting "yes" will help correct this issue.

Thanked Mayor Dalina for writing to our Governor regarding the state funding, commenting that he is pleased that we have received \$1.6 million but hopes that in the future it will be more.

Inquired as to how many seniors have benefitted from the Senior Freeze Program; Administrator Weinberg answered that \$1.3 million goes directly to homeowners and the Homestead Rebate is approximately \$3 million. He stated that he did not have the number of individuals but would look it up.

**Debra Schneider, 23 Hardwick Rd.** – Ms. Schneider asked how much the franchise fee is that is paid by Comcast and Verizon to the Township; Administrator Weinberg stated that the franchise fee is a percentage charged to each customer on their bill which is in turn sent to municipalities as part of the Franchise Act. CFO Lang added that it is approximately 2-3.5% of sales which equates to a couple hundred thousand dollars received. He added that it is listed in the budget as a line item which he offered to show her afterwards. Ms. Schneider commented that there is animosity between the public and Comcast.

**Chrissy Skurbe, 21 Preakness Dr.** – Mrs. Skurbe thanked the Mayor and Council for their participation during Read Across America.

Thanked the Mayor's Office for sharing the information regarding the referendum and stated that the Board of Education has met with various communities to discuss the details of the referendum and to answer any questions. She noted that the next referendum presentation is being held at Applegarth School on Thursday at 6:00pm and invited the public to attend.

In regard to state funding, she commented that the money received is appreciated but noted that we are still severely underfunded and asked the Mayor to implore that the State reconsider implementing impact fees as the builders do not support our schools but build in our Township which is why our schools are overcrowded. Mrs. Skurbe added that we do not receive what other towns receive and if we did then we would not have to go forth with a referendum to address these issues.

Lastly, reminded everyone to go out to vote.

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plaza** – Mrs. Panos thanked Recreation Director, Mary Lange, for scheduling pickle ball games in the evening as she requested in a letter sent to her. Very pleased and wanted to acknowledge Mrs. Lange's attentiveness in getting this done.

Mrs. Panos asked where she could read the "Save the Soil" proclamation in full to which she was directed to view it fully on the Township's website.

Mrs. Panos asked for the timeframe of when the work will begin on Mounts Mills Road so it will not interfere with traffic flow and school buses from picking up children for school.

Mrs. Panos asked for the address of Monroe Capital Partners, LLC; Administrator Weinberg answered that he would need to look up the address and we do not have LLC information on file.

Lastly, Mrs. Panos questioned how bad the vehicles were that were being replaced as she feels that the Council should reconsider purchasing the Durango's until green vehicles are available.

**George Gunkelman, 5 Kelly Ct.** – Mr. Gunkelman asked for more information regarding the relief received for the flooding mitigation stating that the watershed contributed to the flooding in Rossmoor. He asked how many retention and detention ponds there were and if the Township could ask for the responsible parties to give an idea of what the capacity is and have the professionals recommend to the County to look at what could be done to possibly expand.

Mr. Gunkelman commented on the Post Office saying that it looks terrible with many dead trees and broken lighting which makes it hazardous. He stated that we need to ask the federal officials when they will budget to make necessary improvements. He suggested that maybe the Shade Tree Commission could be of help with resources and help assist in making some improvements.

Lastly, Mr. Gunkelman stated a number of resolutions were approved that have spending attached to them and asked if they are being spent out of last years budget or current year; Administrator Weinberg explained that this is to authorize bonds and those can take months before money can be spent and once spent then immediately BAN is issue which is a short 1 year note that covers the interest payment and then gets rolled into the current fund operating budget for next year and the BANS can be in place anywhere from 1-10 years and ultimately they will get rolled into permanent financing. He went on to explain that the debt service is part of the budget and as mentioned earlier the amount of money that we have bonded has gone down. Mr. Gunkelman commented that the expenses approved at tonight's meeting then will be a part of our budget that will be approved in May; Administrator Weinberg stated that if money should be spent from these bonds then they would roll into the BAN. CFO Lang explained further.

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilwoman Schneider 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 Schneider and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 8:16pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilwoman Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel	Aye
	Council Vice-President Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

*Patricia Reid*  
\_\_\_\_\_  
PATRICIA REID, Township Clerk

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

Minutes were adopted on April 3, 2023.