

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

**AGENDA MEETING
OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

NOVEMBER 25, 2019

AGENDA

1. Agenda Meeting Called to Order. (7:00 p.m.)

2. Salute to the Flag.

3. **ROLL CALL:**

Councilman Leonard Baskin
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen
Councilman Charles Dipierro
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider
Council President Stephen Dalina

4. Council President Dalina to request the following **SUNSHINE LAW** be read 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 January 2, 2019 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and **CRANBURY PRESS** on January 4, 2019;
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. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **SECOND READING** at the Monday, December 2, 2019 Regular Meeting:

O-11-2019-027 **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 78 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED "PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES"** (Bi-weekly paydays effective 1/1/2020)

O-11-2019-028 **ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DEED AND A CONSERVATION EASEMENT FROM MARGOS MARK SHAHINIAN AND BONNIE L. GRANITSKI AT 265 MOUNT'S MILLS ROAD, BLOCK 53, LOT 28.10.**

6. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **INTRODUCTION** at the Monday, December 2, 2019 Regular Meeting:

O-12-2019-029 **ORDINANCE ACCEPTING A DEED FROM NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR BLOCK 3, LOT 1.05 FOR FUTURE ROADWAY IMPROVEMENTS.**

7. **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the Monday, December 2, 2019 Regular Meeting: (R-12-2019-286 through R-12-2019-324)

R-12-2019-286 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 3 FOR THE PROVISION OF ROCK SALT.**

R-12-2019-287 **RESOLUTION CALLING FOR STUDY COMMISSION TO REVIEW THE OPEN PUBLIC RECORDS ACT.**

- R-12-2019-288** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SUBMISSION OF THE 2020 RECYCLING ENHANCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.
- R-12-2019-289** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURE OF THE TREE ESCROW FUND. (\$2000)
- R-12-2019-290** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF ADDITIONAL FEES TO SHAIN SCHAFFER, P.C. TO HANDLE THE MATTER OF CARRINGTON MORTGAGE SERVICES LLC. v. EDDUIL A. CAMACHO, ET. AL., AS EXTRAORDINARY LITIGATION. (\$3000)
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- R-12-2019-293** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AN ANNUAL SOFTWARE MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT WITH QUEUES ENFORTE DEVELOPMENT, INC. (Q.E.D.). (\$41,496)
- R-12-2019-294** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF A PERFORMANCE GUARANTEE POSTED FOR REGENCY AT MONROE, PHASE 10 PB-1151-14.
- R-12-2019-295** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY ROAD SAFETY SYSTEMS IN CONNECTION WITH THE TOWNSHIP WIDE GUIDERAIL REPLACEMENT PROJECT UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE.
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- R-12-2019-298** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR COSTCO WHOLESALE CORPORATION – PB-1159-14.
- R-12-2019-299** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY COMMERCIAL CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE PROSPECT PLAINS SOCCER COMPLEX CONCESSION AND RESTROOM CONSTRUCTION PROJECT UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE.
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- R-12-2019-314** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES FOR W&S 684.10, REGENCY @ MONROE, PHASE 10, PB-1151-14 POSTED TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D.).
- R-12-2019-315** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES FOR W&S 1108FM, MONROE PARKE FORCE MAIN, PB-1141-13 POSTED TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D.).
- R-12-2019-316** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF CASH MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE FOR W&S 1157, GARIBALDI AVENUE, PB-1175-15 POSTED THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT ("M.T.U.D.).

- R-12-2019-317** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES UPON THE POSTING AND ACCEPTANCE OF MAINTENANCE GUARANTEES FOR W&S 1182, 264 FERNHEAD AVE., BLOCK 178, LOTS 29-32 POSTED WITH THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”).
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- R-12-2019-324** RESOLUTION IDENTIFYING THE MONROE TOWNSHIP RECREATIONAL ENTITIES TO BE LISTED AS ADDITIONAL INSURED UNDER THE GARDEN STATE JOINT INSURANCE FUND.
- TITLE ONLY** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID FOR THIRD PARTY AMBULANCE BILLING. (Bid Opening 11/26/19 @ 2pm)
- TITLE ONLY** RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING BUDGET TRANSFERS.
- TITLE ONLY** RESOLUTION APPROVING TAX SETTLEMENT WITH FORSGATE GOLF/RDC FORSGATE.

- 8. Mayor’s Report.
- 9. Administrator’s Report.
- 10. Engineer’s Report.
- 11. Council’s Reports.
- 12. Public. (5 Minutes per Speaker)
- 13. Adjournment. Time: _____

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

TOWNSHIP OF MONROE
COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AGENDA MEETING – NOVEMBER 25, 2019

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

The Agenda Meeting was Called to Order at 7:00 p.m. by Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider with a Salute to the Flag.

UPON ROLL CALL by the Township Clerk, Patricia Reid, the following members of Council were present: Councilman Leonard Baskin, Councilwoman Miriam Cohen, Councilman Charles Dipierro and Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider.

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

ABSENT: Council President Stephen Dalina.

There were approximately thirty (30) members of the Public present in the audience.

Council Vice-President Schneider requested the Township Clerk to read the following **SUNSHINE LAW** into the record:

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

1. Posted on the Bulletin Boards within the Municipal Building on January 2, 2019 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
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Township Clerk Patricia Reid read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2019** Regular Council Meeting:

- | | |
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| O-11-2019-027 | ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 78 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE ENTITLED “PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES” (Bi-weekly paydays effective 1/1/2020) |
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Council Vice-President Schneider requested the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION UNDER THE CONSENT AGENDA** at the **MONDAY, DECEMBER 2, 2019** Regular Council meeting be reviewed, and any questions will be addressed: (R-12-2019-286 – R-12-2019-324; and additional Title Only Resolutions)

- | | |
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| R-12-2019-286 | RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING A SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH MONROE TOWNSHIP FIRE DISTRICT NO. 3 FOR THE PROVISION OF ROCK SALT. |
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Mayor’s Report – Mayor Tamburro commented that it is so nice to see so many young people from the 7th grade Civics class in attendance at tonight’s meeting. He explained that the Mayor and Council are in charge of setting the policies of the Township. All of the spending is approved administratively by the Council.

He wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

Administrator’s Report – Administrator Weinberg stated that he would save the majority of his report for the Regular Meeting but commented that it is nice to see so many young people in attendance at tonight’s meeting. He explained to them that this is an Agenda Meeting which gives us an opportunity to discuss what will be acted upon at the Regular Meeting in which is held for the action on those items to occur. The Ordinances set our law which then goes into our Code Book. The Council votes on Ordinances which become the law of the Township and Resolutions approve the financial items of the Township. He went on to further explain some of the jobs of the Township, such as, snow plowing since it is getting close to Winter. This is a small job compared to the many others that are done each and every day within the Township. He reaffirmed Mayor Tamburro’s statement that there are multiple parts of government and added that in New Jersey there are 565 municipalities and 21 counties.

Engineer’s Report – Engineer Rasimowicz reported that several pavement and roadway projects have been completed in the last two weeks and he will report further on them at the Regular Meeting.

Council's Reports:

Councilman Dipierro –

- Stated he would share his report at the Regular Meeting.

Councilwoman Cohen –

- Stated it was nice to see all of the young people in attendance at tonight's meeting. Councilwoman Cohen gave a brief overview on local government adding the importance of voting and exercising that right.

Councilman Baskin –

- Reported that he was a bit surprised when he met with Mr. Wallace at the Middle School and learned he would be teaching his Civic class about Monroe. He added that he thinks it is wonderful in Civics that you are able to learn about your local government.

Council Vice-President Schneider –

- Commented that it was nice to see all of the young smiling faces and hopes that maybe some will go into government but if not, then hopefully all will remember to exercise their rights to vote.
- Shared that she will be presenting DECA with a proclamation next week.
- Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

PUBLIC:

Rey Redington, 670A Windgate Ct. – Mr. Redington stated that the Agenda Meeting was done in record time and asked if there were any questions that the Mayor and Council had about anything on meeting since he arrived a few minutes late; Council Vice-President Schneider answered no.

Mr. Redington asked for clarification on Resolution R-12-2019-287; Councilman Baskin answered that many municipalities are faced with numerous OPRA requests. Mr. Redington asked if this was a concern of the Township to which Council Vice-President Schneider responded that a lot of the requests ask the same questions over and over again and there needs to be a review of the OPRA law. Administrator Weinberg added that at the end of 2001 the OPRA law was put into effect allowing citizens to come in and ask for records. Some records are required to be given out immediately, whereas others we have up to 7 days to produce under the OPRA law. In many ways it has been successful but in others it has caused a significant financial burden to many Township's because of the voluminous requests from requestors using the law for other reasons than what it was intended for and the municipalities having to have their legal department review to make sure the documents being requested can be released under the law. The legislature has asked for the towns to look at their OPRA logs so they can revisit the law and revise as needed. He further explained that in 2017 we received 550 requests, 2018 we received 721 requests and in 2019 we have received 933 requests so far. Mr. Redington asked a few further questions regarding the Township's OPRA requests and commented that he has asked numerous times questions of the Mayor and Council but was told to file an OPRA request and he asked for further clarification on that and if this has had anything to do with that; Township Attorney Greg Pasquale answered.

Lucille DiPasquale, 70 Ave K – Ms. DiPasquale commented that the Veteran's Day Service was wonderful and very moving. There was an Eagle Scout there who explained the monument that was there; Mayor Tamburro interjected to share that that was a project done by a young man who graduated from our high school and joined the Marines and then went into the Air Force. The monument is for a fallen war hero. Ms. DiPasquale commented that there is another part to the monument that will be a tablet which will hold all of the names of the people from our area that fought for the country.

She also commented that it is nice to see that the Civics class was brought back into the high school and thanked Mr. Wallace. She mentioned that the children also attended an Environmental Commission Meeting.

Student (Inaudible) – Asked what exactly does the Council do to help the community. Council Vice President Schneider answered that the Council is here to serve and set the rules and regulations for the community. She explained that the Township is broken up in to three wards. She added that she enjoys meeting people and if she is invited to attend a function she will be there to help. Council Vice-President Schneider added that the Council lives in the Township and they want to ensure that the Township is run properly adding that it is a great Township to live in. Councilwoman Cohen added that when the Mayor mentioned earlier about the Township having a budget it allows us to allocate services needed in the Township like snow removal and leaf pickup. Our job as Council is to make sure that the services are in place and running effectively and efficiently. Lastly, she added that we are ambassadors to the many wonderful things in this town. Councilman Baskin added that the money that is in the budget has allowed us to do many wonderful things in the Township, for example the two concessions stands built at the soccer fields and the many activities done throughout the year in the Township.

Kayla (student) – Kayla stated that she did not have a question but more of a comment in that the schools are very overcrowded. She goes to school at the middle school and as she walks through the hallways, she notices how crowded they are. She added that there are between 35-40 students in a class and feels it takes away from the individual time that can be spent with the teachers. Kayla stated that her Civics teacher commented that the more students in a class is not good for learning. She stated that the lockers are very small which makes it hard to shove everything necessary into them. Council Vice-President Schneider commented that she needs to bring her concerns to the Board of Education. She also commented that it is sad the referendums have not passed and people seem to have their heads in the sand when it comes to the high school. She told Kayla if she feels there is a safety concern, she needs to address it with the Board of Education. Kayla stated that she did attend a Board of Education meeting but did not have a chance to speak and noted that her brother goes to the high school and they have the same issues. Councilwoman Cohen added that unfortunately we have no say with the Board of Education as we are separate entities but she understands and agrees with her concerns. Kayla's mother introduced herself and asked if there was someone that represents the development of the town. Administrator Weinberg stated that we get that question a lot and he explained that we have three branches of government which are Executive, Legislature and Judiciary. He added that as many may or may not know the Supreme Court has ruled under the Mount Laurel ruling that all towns must have affordable housing. Our Township is under Court Order to meet this judgement and he explained further the challenges faced in doing this along with what our Court mandated number is and added that it is an unfunded state mandate that us along with other towns are facing. Councilwoman Cohen added that the Township has fought long and hard as our Mayor has met with Senator Sweeney to discuss our concerns with this. She added that we do our very best and Administrator Weinberg goes around the Township to discuss these issues at length and make the residents aware of what is going on. Councilman Baskin added that one of the forums he had attended stated that contacting the legislature with your concerns can not hurt. Kayla thanked the Mayor and Council for their answers and wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Cohen and seconded by Councilman Baskin, the Agenda Meeting of November 25, 2019 Adjourned at 7:41 PM.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilwoman Miriam Cohen	Aye
Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Stephen Dalina	Absent

Patricia Reid

PATRICIA REID, Township Clerk

Elizabeth Schneider

ELIZABETH SCHNEIDER, Council Vice-President

Minutes were adopted on December 23, 2019.