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#### **Phone controls for participants**

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

### **COMBINED AGENDA AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2021**

#### **AGENDA**

1. Agenda Meeting Called to Order. (6:30 p.m.)
2. Salute to the Flag.
3. **ROLL CALL:**  
Councilman Leonard Baskin  
Councilman Charles Dipierro  
Councilman Terence Van Dzura  
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider  
Council President Miriam Cohen
4. Council President Cohen to request the **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 December 29, 2020 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and noticed to the **CRANBURY PRESS** on January 1, 2021;
3. Posted on the Monroe Township website; and
4. Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.
5. Change of location of the September 1, 2021, meeting was noticed to the Home News Tribune and the Cranbury Press on August 30, 2021.

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:**

**Proclamation:**            *Om Parikh Day – September 12, 2021*

**Proclamation:**            *Childhood Cancer Awareness Month – September 2021*

6. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **SECOND READING** at the September 1, 2021 Regular Meeting:

**R-9-2021-206**            **RESOLUTION ADJOURNING THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE O-8-2021-019 ENTITLED “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS” AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO RESCHEDULE, RENOTICE AND READVERTISE THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**

**O-8-2021-019**            **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS.**

7. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **INTRODUCTION** at the September 1, 2021 Regular Meeting:

**O-9-2021-020**            **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 122 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 44.1 ENTITLED “SCHEDULE XVA: SPEED LIMITS”. (Adding 35 mph on Spotswood Englishtown Rd from Matchaponix Ave. to Cornell Ave.)**

**O-9-2021-021**            **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ACQUIRE TITLE TO PROPERTY BY DEED OF DEDICATION TO BLOCK 35.03, LOTS 27.01 LOCATED ON MOUNTS MILLS ROAD.**

8. **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the September 1, 2021 Regular Meeting: (R-9-2021-194 – R-9-2021-205)

**R-9-2021-194**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR GEORGE TARANTINO – BA-5103-15. (Mott Avenue)**

**R-9-2021-195**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR PROSPERITY FARMS – ENTRANCE ROAD – PB-1188-16. (Butcher Rd.)**

**R-9-2021-196**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH DOWN TO EARTH LANDSCAPING FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP TREE PLANTING. (10/1/21 – 9/30/22 – per original contract unit pricing)**

**R-9-2021-197**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A ONE TIME GRACE PERIOD FOR THE PAYMENT OF THIRD QUARTER TAXES 2021. (August 31<sup>st</sup>)**

**R-9-2021-198**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO GARDEN STATE LABORATORIES, INC. FOR CONTRACT 504, “WATER & WASTEWATER LABORATORY ANALYSIS SERVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”). (per unit pricing)**

**R-9-2021-199**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A PERSON-TO-PERSON TRANSFER OF A LIQUOR LICENSE CURRENTLY ISSUED TO BAJ SPIRITS, INC. (pocket license/inactive)**

**R-9-2021-200**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**

**R-9-2021-201**            **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF THIRD PARTY TAX LIEN PREMIUM PAYMENTS.**

- R-9-2021-202                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE APPLICATION FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES THAT WERE IMPACTED BY TROPICAL STORM HENRI.**
  
- R-9-2021-203                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HANNA'S MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY HVAC IMPROVEMENTS. (\$449,850)**
  
- R-9-2021-204                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF AN SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SURVEYING OF STORM AND SANITARY SEWER PIPELINES.**
  
- R-9-2021-205                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.**

9. Overview of Monroe Township Community Energy Aggregation Program Recommendations by Bob Chilton of Gabel Associates.

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

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

11. **Agenda Meeting Adjournment.**                                    Time: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

**REGULAR MEETING  
OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2021**

**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 **AUGUST 25, 2021**.

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

3. **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

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

**August 2, 2021 – Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting**

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

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

**R-9-2021-206 RESOLUTION ADJOURNING THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE O-8-2021-019 ENTITLED “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS” AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO RESCHEDULE, RENOTICE AND READVERTISE THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**

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

**O-8-2021-019 ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS.**

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

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

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

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

**O-9-2021-020** **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 122 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, ENTITLED "VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC", SPECIFICALLY SECTION 44.1 ENTITLED "SCHEDULE XVA: SPEED LIMITS".**  
(Adding 35 mph on Spotswood Englishtown Rd from Matchaponix Ave. to Cornell Ave.)

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_Nays\_\_\_

**O-9-2021-021** **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ACQUIRE TITLE TO PROPERTY BY DEED OF DEDICATION TO BLOCK 35.03, LOTS 27.01 LOCATED ON MOUNTS MILLS ROAD.**

MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_ ROLL CALL: Ayes \_\_\_Nays\_\_\_

6. **RESOLUTIONS for CONSIDERATION under the CONSENT AGENDA: (R-9-2021-194 – R-9-2021-205)**

**R-9-2021-194** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR GEORGE TARANTINO – BA-5103-15.**  
(Mott Avenue)

**R-9-2021-195** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR PROSPERITY FARMS – ENTRANCE ROAD – PB-1188-16.** (Butcher Rd.)

**R-9-2021-196** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH DOWN TO EARTH LANDSCAPING FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP TREE PLANTING.** (10/1/21 – 9/30/22 – per original contract unit pricing)

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**R-9-2021-202** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF UNIFORM CONSTRUCTION CODE APPLICATION FEES FOR RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES THAT WERE IMPACTED BY TROPICAL STORM HENRI.**

**R-9-2021-203** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO HANNA'S MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP LIBRARY HVAC IMPROVEMENTS. (\$449,850)**

**R-9-2021-204                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF AN SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SURVEYING OF STORM AND SANITARY SEWER PIPELINES.**

**R-9-2021-205                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.**

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

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

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

8. **Administrator’s Report.**

9. **Engineer’s Report.**

10. **Council’s Reports.**

11. **Mayor’s Report.**

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

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

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

13. **Adjournment.**                      MOTION: \_\_\_\_\_                      SECOND: \_\_\_\_\_

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

**TOWNSHIP OF MONROE**  
**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**MEETING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – September 1, 2021**

The Council of the Township of Monroe met remotely via Zoom for a Combined Agenda/Regular Meeting.

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

A moment of silence was held for the 13 United States service members who were killed in Afghanistan, as well as, to honor Lt. Trout a member of the Middlesex County Hazardous Materials Unit who died in the line of duty.

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

**ALSO, PRESENT:** Mayor Stephen Dalina, Business Administrator Alan M. Weinberg, Township Attorney Lou Rainone, Engineer Mark Rasimowicz and Utility Director Joseph Stroin.

There were approximately eighty-one (81) members of the Public who joined remotely.

Council President Miriam Cohen 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 December 29, 2020 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and **CRANBURY PRESS** on January 1, 2021;
3. Posted on the Monroe Township website;
4. Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice; and
5. The change of location for the September 1, 2021 meeting was Noticed to the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and **CRANBURY PRESS** on August 30, 2021.

In accordance with Chapter 3, Section 17 of the Monroe Township Code, Public Comment shall be limited to five (5) minutes running time unless further time is granted by the Council President.

Township Clerk Patricia Reid read aloud the proclamations for the month of September noting that Om Parikh Day is being held on September 12, 2021 and September 2021 is recognized as Childhood Cancer Awareness Month.

Mayor Dalina gave his condolences to the family of Lt. Trout who lost his life in the line of duty while working for the Middlesex County Hazardous Materials Unit. He noted that he went to elementary school with Mr. Trout and sent his heartfelt condolences to his family.

Mayor Dalina gave an overview of the events that took place within the Township during Hurricane Henri, a natural disaster; he stated he received a 5:00am warning and 30 minutes later a OEM call. The loss of property in and around the Township was absolutely devastating and the state of Rossmoor was indescribable and heart wrenching; Residents were being rescued by boat. He noted that the main concern was keeping the residents safe and thanked the 3 Fire Districts, Police Department, OEM, EMS, MTUD and County OEM for working hard in coordinating the safety effort that took place which was surmised as unbelievable, something he will never forget. Mayor Dalina overviewed the work being done by JCP&L, the Township's Construction Department and Engineer's Office in getting to each of the resident's homes to evaluate the safety of each and whether or not they were habitable. He extended thanks to the Senior Center and all of the volunteers for their help, and being a facility for displaced Residents, as well as the Library for stepping up to help with relief efforts. Also thanked surrounding Municipalities and Citizens for their help in the process.

Mayor Dalina reported that the next steps would be to ensure that the Township meets with the affected residents, along with the HOA to see what we can do and stated that we must work from every angle with everything being on the table to do whatever it takes to help our residents. He reminded all that we have always been Monroe Strong, time after time we always step up and we will do whatever it takes to get us through this and reminded the residents that we have their backs and are with them through every step of the way. Mayor Dalina added thanks to the Council and Administration for all their help along the way.

Township Clerk Patricia Reid read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021** Regular Council Meeting:

- R-9-2021-206**                    **RESOLUTION ADJOURNING THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE O-8-2021-019 ENTITLED “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS” AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO RESCHEDULE, RENOTICE AND READVERTISE THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**
- O-8-2021-019**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS.**

Township Clerk Patricia Reid read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **INTRODUCTION** at the **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021** Regular Council Meeting:

- O-9-2021-020**                    **ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 122 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 44.1 ENTITLED “SCHEDULE XVA: SPEED LIMITS”.**  
(Adding 35 mph on Spotswood Englishtown Rd from Matchaponix Ave. to Cornell Ave.)
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Township Clerk Patricia Reid read the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** at the **WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 1, 2021** Regular Council Meeting: (R-9-2021-194 – R-9-2021-205)

- R-9-2021-194**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR GEORGE TARANTINO – BA-5103-15.**  
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- R-9-2021-205**                    **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.**

Councilman Dipierro commented that he would like Resolution R-9-2021-194 considered separately.

Council President Cohen introduced Bob Chilton of Gabel Associates who gave an overview of the Monroe Township Community Energy Aggregation Program recommendations. He noted that four (4) bids were accepted for three different potential lengths of contract to see what the best market rate would be but unfortunately, the bids that came in today were approximately 15-20% higher than our current contract and current JCP&L tariff prices which is due to the changing market conditions. Mr. Chilton recommended for the Council to reject the bids that were received today and go out to rebid in the Spring when hopefully the market conditions will change. Administrator Weinberg added that in the current contract we are saving approximately 10% and have received an incredible amount of savings during our participation in this program over the course of 8 years, our 4<sup>th</sup> round, saving close to \$16 million dollars. He noted that as the market conditions change, the Township can go back out for bid and see what happens with the current market conditions.

Councilman Dipierro asked questions regarding the program and how residents who are on payment plans will be affected and noticed of the change and how Residents can opt-out; Mr. Chilton explained.

Councilman Van Dzura asked if any of the entities that submitted bids were tied into an ecologically friendly companies, such as solar; Mr. Chilton answered. Councilman Baskin asked how the solar farm energy, located on Hoffman Station Road, is being used; Mr. Chilton responded. Council Vice-President Schneider thanked Mr. Chilton for his presentation and asked whether she would still be receiving a bill for her electricity even though her home is uninhabitable; Mr. Chilton responded and stated that his thoughts would be to reach out to Constellation Energy to let them know.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Township Clerk Patricia Reid noted that she received an emailed question sent earlier this evening from Mr. Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Drive. Mr. Parab's question was in relation to Resolution R-9-2021-203, regarding the Library HVAC Improvement Project. Mr. Parab stated that the \$449,000+ cost seems expensive and asked how much will be paid by the State and Federal Government, as this should be covered by the Covid precautions Improvement Aide or other Aide. Administrator Weinberg responded that a few years ago this Council was successful in applying for the Library Construction Bond Act and that bond act will pay for 50% of the cost of this project with the other 50% being paid for by the Township.

**Michelle Arminio, 9 Nathaniel St.** – Mrs. Arminio asked for an explanation of the adjournment for O-8-2021-19.

Mrs. Arminio asked if we were referring to Local Finance Notice 2020-21 in having this meeting be held virtually opposed to being held in person due to the public health emergency.

Mrs. Arminio thanked the Mayor for his discussion about the storm and his concern for the but feels that we need to stop thinking about these storms as a surprise as she has heard on the news that we are 5x more likely to have these storms on a regular basis. She noted that in having the ability to look at the Master Plan we need to take a look at the trajectory of the developments in the Township and how climate change is affecting it all. She added that we need to be making real changes as the Township has a high water table, rivers and springs and we need to recognize that these storms are predictable with greater frequency and if we do not do something to curtail the development that impacts this then we will continue to have these devastating outcomes.

Attorney Rainone responds to the reason we carried the public hearing of Ordinance O-8-2021-019 to the next Council meeting was out of concern that the published notice stated that the meeting would take place in person, and we did not have the requisite 10 days to republish in time for the public to be noticed of the change, therefore Resolution R-9-2021-206 explains the rescheduling of the public hearing for Ordinance O-8-2021-019. So out of an abundance of caution we decided to hold the public hearing at the next Council Meeting and readvertise accordingly.

Attorney Rainone answered that the regulations for the public health emergency remain in effect for 90 days after the expiration, which brings us to September 30<sup>th</sup>. He noted that the Clerk and several Council members utilizing the Municipal Building for the meeting does not change the fact that the meeting is being held virtually and not in person, therefore the public would not be welcome to attend in person.

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz.** – Mrs. Panos asked about Resolution R-9-2021-194 and what the project was, what the bond was posted for and how much the reduction is.

Mrs. Panos asked in regard to Resolution R-9-2021-196 whether or not this was rebid or given an automatic extension.

Mrs. Panos asked in regard to Resolution R-9-2021-203 how many vendors have responded.

Engineer Rasimowicz answered regarding R-9-2021-194 that bond reduction was for the George Tarantino Project #BA-5103-15 which was being reduced from \$346K to \$125K.

Administrator Weinberg responded that there were six bidders for R-9-2021-203 and that in regard to R-9-2021-196 this was previously awarded with two one-year extensions built into the contract and that the one-year extension option was being utilized; Attorney Rainone clarified.

Mrs. Panos asked in regard to Resolution R-9-2021-199 when this license was last renewed, to which Township Clerk Patricia Reid explained that it was renewed within the last renewal cycle.

**Jay Foye, 431 Hoffman Station Rd.** – Mr. Foye thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing him to speak and extended his sympathies to Council Vice-President Schneider for her loss during the flood.

Mr. Foye stated that he has reached out to Engineer Rasimowicz regarding this issue as his neighbor has dumped illegal dirt on his property which has in turn flooded out his property and caused damaged to his pool liner; he has reached out to the Zoning Officer and the Engineer whose hands are tied and is coming before Council for direction on how to get this matter resolved. He added that he has always played by the rules and now that others are not, it is discouraging to see nothing being done to hold them accountable. Mr. Foye noted that he has been on the Township website and found Ordinance O-2-2021-003 which talks about water run off which is everything that is happening to not only him but also a few of his other neighbors; he noted that he has reached out to Councilman Dipierro who came out to look into the problem and he wanted to see what else Council can do; Engineer Rasimowicz stated that the neighbor has brought illegal material onto their property which is somewhat uphill from Mr. Foye's property. He noted that the Zoning Officer has been involved but he does not know if violations were issued, the police have been out and there is a record of that as well. Mr. Foye stated that people are coming in and doing what they want with no consequence which is unfair. Administrator Weinberg stated that the Zoning Officer did a cease-and-desist letter to the violator which will essentially play out through the court process. He noted that it is a civil matter between the neighbors, and we are limited with how much we can involve ourselves in outside of issuing the necessary violations. Attorney Rainone clarified the Townships involvement in the matter and what Mr. Foye's course of action could be. Director Stroin commented that the way it currently stands, Zoning Officer Chris Bevins has been working with Mr. Foye in trying to mitigate this issue. He gave a cease-and-desist letter which gave a timeframe for the resident to mitigate the issue and if he does not mitigate in that timeframe then he will go to court, with Mr. Foye being notified. Councilman Baskin added his concern with the trees being removed on the property. Council President Cohen summarized the course of action for Mr. Foye and stated that she hopes the Township will move on this situation expeditiously. Councilman Dipierro added that he did go out to look at the situation and suggested that the Township forester go out to access what has been done.

**Frances Yoffredo, 204 Docks Corner Rd.** – Mrs. Yoffredo stated that her home was destroyed and made inhabitable during Hurricane Henri; she shared her story of that morning and how frightened her and her husband were during this time. She shared about the Township’s response, stating that she understands that she is not the only who has been affected by this storm, but she feels that was being dismissed by 911 when she called for help and asked why the Fire Department would leave without checking to see if the utilities were turned off first. Mrs. Yoffredo also asked why the Governor didn’t did not come to see the devastation that happened to her home. She continued asking the Mayor and Council why this happened and if there is an investigation as to where all of this water came from and where we are in regard to getting help for the residents affected. Mrs. Yoffredo asked Mayor Dalina why it took so long to hear from him after the storm was over. She extended a heartfelt thanked to Councilman Dipierro for all of his help and guidance. Council President Cohen shared her condolences and Mayor Dalina stated that Mrs. Yoffredo has his cell phone number and implored for her to reach out and he will meet set up a time to meet with her. Councilman Dipierro commented that his heart is broken for her and asked that if there is anything that the Township can do to assist with this family’s loss then we need to step up and do it. He implored Mayor Dalina to please not leave any resident behind. Council President Cohen stated that we can direct Mrs. Yoffredo to the social workers at the Senior Center who can help. Mrs. Yoffredo stated that this was not just rainwater that destroyed her property and home, that this was raging water that came with such force that it even collapsed the street. Mrs. Yoffredo stated that she feels like she has been left behind.

**Robert Ingenito, 150 Tournament Dr.** – Mr. Ingenito asked when the traffic signal project would begin at the intersection of Mounts Mills Road and Spotswood Englishtown Road; Engineer Rasimowicz answered that we are in the process of doing the land acquisitions of 13 parcels which need to be acquired. Attorney Rainone stated that it would be an approximate 4-6 month process. Mr. Ingenito stated that the macadam needs to be resurfaced as he has noticed that the water on the roadway after a storm is always 6”-8”.

**Peter Tufano, 10 Catherine St.** – Mr. Tufano expressed his sympathies to Council Vice-President Schneider for the loss of her property, as well as, to Mrs. Yoffredo. He extended his appliance services to both residents if their insurance does not cover for the replacement and installation and stated that this is the time to come together to help one another.

Mr. Tufano stated that is experiencing a similar problem as Mr. Foye as his neighbor dumped 4 feet of clay soil in his yard, sloped from the roadway going into Mr. Tufano’s backyard, which resulted in the destruction of property on his property. He noted that he has reached out to Zoning Officer Chris Bevins who issued a stop work order, but he does not understand that how something being reported in July not being remediated until the end of August. He asked why his neighbor was allowed to leave the soil there with no ramifications, let alone unknowing as to whether the soil was contaminated which has possibly contaminated his entire backyard as well as a room in his home which is possibly contaminated as well. He stated that he does not understand why it has taken so long for a remedy; Attorney Rainone responded stating that we do not have the ability to make the neighbor remove the soil, we can find them guilty and fine them, but as far as compensation for the destruction to your property would be done on your behalf by going through the civil suit process.

**Tim Eosso, 2 Allison Court** – Mr. Eosso extended his condolences to Council Vice-President Schneider and all the residents for the loss of property during the flooding.

Mr. Eosso commended the Police department, Fire department, EMS, DPW and Construction Department for their response during the flood, a testament to what Monroe is about.

Mr. Eosso stated that we need to seriously look into the Master Plan and whether our infrastructure can handle storms like these in the future. He noted how scare it is for the residents, as well as the State to go through this and we need to contemplate about how much building we are doing.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President 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 Council Vice-President Schneider and seconded by Councilman Baskin, the Agenda Meeting was Adjourned at 8:04pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilman Van Dzura, the Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 8:04 pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Schneider and seconded by Councilman Van Dzura, the **CLAIMS** per run date of **8/25/2021** were approved for payment as written and presented.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Abstain
	Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Baskin and seconded by Councilman Van Dzura, the **MINUTES** of the **August 2, 2021 Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting** was approved as written and presented.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Baskin and seconded by Councilman Dipierro the following Resolution was moved for Adoption: (R-9-2021-206)

**R-9-2021-206                      RESOLUTION ADJOURNING THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING ON ORDINANCE O-8-2021-019 ENTITLED “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS” AND DIRECTING THE TOWNSHIP CLERK TO RESCHEDULE, RENOTICE AND READVERTISE THE SECOND READING AND PUBLIC HEARING.**

**WHEREAS**, Ordinance 0-8-2021-019 entitled “ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS” (the “Ordinance”) has been introduced and was scheduled for second reading and public hearing before the Township Council on September 1, 2021; and

**WHEREAS**, the September 1, 2021, meeting of the Township Council has been converted to a virtual meeting; and

**WHEREAS**, in order to comply with the terms of the Open Public Meetings Act, NJSA10:4-6, et seq, it is necessary to adjourn and carry the second reading and public hearing on the Ordinance to the October 4, 2021, meeting of the Township Council and to direct the Township Clerk’s office to reschedule, re-notice and republish the new date for the second reading and public hearing on the Ordinance.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 1st day of September 2021, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe (the “Council”) that:

1. The second reading and public hearing on Ordinance O-8-2021-019 entitled “Ordinance Amending Chapter 108; Article 16.1 of the Code of the Township of Monroe to Require Electronic Submission of Land Use Applications” is adjourned to the October 4, 2021, Township Council meeting.
2. Township Clerk’s office is directed to reschedule, re-notice and republish the new date for second reading, public hearing and possible adoption of the Ordinance in accordance with the requirements of the Open Public Meetings Act.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin Aye  
Councilman Charles Dipierro Aye  
Councilman Terence Van Dzura Aye  
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider Aye  
Council President Miriam Cohen Aye

Copy of Resolution Duly Filed.

Council President Cohen asked for a motion and second to table Ordinance O-8-2021-019 until the October 4, 2021 Council Meeting.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Schneider and seconded by Councilman Van Dzura the following Ordinance was **TABLED** until the October 4, 2021 Council Meeting.

**O-8-2021-019                    ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 108; ARTICLE 16.1 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO REQUIRE ELECTRONIC SUBMISSION OF LAND USE APPLICATIONS.**

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin Aye  
Councilman Charles Dipierro Aye  
Councilman Terence Van Dzura Aye  
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider Aye  
Council President Miriam Cohen Aye

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

**O-9-2021-020                    ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 122 OF THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, ENTITLED “VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC”, SPECIFICALLY SECTION 44.1 ENTITLED “SCHEDULE XVA: SPEED LIMITS”. (Adding 35 mph on Spotswood Englishtown Rd from Matchaponix Ave. to Cornell Ave.)**

Councilman Dipierro stated that he and Councilman Van Dzura requested a copy of the traffic study but have not received it; Township Clerk Patricia Reid and Township Attorney Rainone answered that it is on the secured website noted as Special Report. Administrator Weinberg further clarified that the report is on the secured website and it was added after the conversation they have had. He also added that this is on for first reading only so they will have a chance to review it before voting on it at the next meeting.

Engineer Rasimowicz also answered that the recommendation from Councilman Dipierro for the speed limit reduction has been reviewed and it does not meet the requirements of being reduced down to 25mph.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin Abstain  
Councilman Charles Dipierro Aye  
Councilman Terence Van Dzura Abstain  
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider Aye  
Council President Miriam Cohen Aye

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.  
O-9-2021-020

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

**O-9-2021-021                    ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE TO ACQUIRE TITLE TO PROPERTY BY DEED OF DEDICATION TO BLOCK 35.03, LOTS 27.01 LOCATED ON MOUNTS MILLS ROAD.**

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin Aye  
Councilman Charles Dipierro Abstain  
Councilman Terence Van Dzura Aye  
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider Aye  
Council President Miriam Cohen Aye

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.  
O-9-2021-021

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Van Dzura and seconded by Council Vice-President Schneider the following Resolutions were moved for Adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA**: (R-9-2021-195 – R-9-2021-205, with the exception of R-9-2021-194 which will be considered separately)

**R-9-2021-195                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR PROSPERITY FARMS – ENTRANCE ROAD – PB-1188-16.** (Butcher Rd.)

**WHEREAS, Monroe 33 Developers** has posted Performance Guarantees for the Prosperity Farms Entrance Road project (PB-1188-16); 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 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 Prosperity Farms Entrance Road project (PB-1188-16), be released as reflected in the Township Engineer's letter dated August 2, 2021, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantee is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$12,511.35**. 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 feels the funds currently being held in escrow with the township will be sufficient.

**SO RESOLVED,** as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-196                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF CONTRACT WITH DOWN TO EARTH LANDSCAPING FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP TREE PLANTING.** (10/1/21 – 9/30/22 – per original contract unit pricing)

**WHEREAS,** on October 7, 2019 per Resolution No. R-10-2019-258, **Down to Earth Landscaping**, was awarded the Monroe Township Tree Planting contract; and

**WHEREAS,** the current contract renewal expires on September 30, 2021 and the Township has an option to extend for one additional one-year period; and

**WHEREAS,** the Township Qualified Purchasing Agent inquired as to the willingness of Down to Earth Landscaping to extend their current contract; and

**WHEREAS,** the attached letter dated July 22, 2021 indicates the willingness of **Down to Earth Landscaping** to extend the current contract from October 1, 2021 thru September 30, 2022, under the same terms, conditions and pricing contained within their original bid specification and contract; and

**WHEREAS,** the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available as set forth in Certificate No. **C-1900072**, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

**WHEREAS,** the contract for Monroe Township Tree Planting is being extended one year to September 30, 2022 in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-15 of the Local Public Contracts Law;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the one-year extension of contract with Down to Earth Landscaping under the same terms, conditions and pricing within their original bid specification submitted for Monroe Township Tree Planting; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Finance Department is hereby authorized and directed to pay Invoices for the above referenced vendor in accordance with the original terms, conditions and pricing contained within their original 2019 contract entered into between the parties;

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-197                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXTENSION OF A ONE TIME  
GRACE PERIOD FOR THE PAYMENT OF THIRD QUARTER  
TAXES 2021. (August 31<sup>st</sup>)**

**WHEREAS**, due to circumstances beyond the control of the Township of Monroe, the property tax bills for the third quarter of 2021 may not be mailed to taxpayers within the statutory time constraints; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 54:4-66, said taxes are due and payable by August 1, 2021 with a ten (10) day grace period; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector for the Township of Monroe has requested and recommends that this Council extend the grace period for the payment of third quarter taxes for a reasonable time after the tax bills are prepared and mailed to the taxpayers; and

**WHEREAS**, the Tax Collector recommends that the grace period be extended “one time” for twenty-five days from the date of mailing, however, that payments received after the grace period shall accrue interest from the statutory due date of August 1, 2021 which grace period shall be in lieu of, and not, in addition to, any other applicable grace period; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Council believes the extended grace period is warranted by the delay in the preparation and mailing of tax bills;

**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 grace period for payment of third quarter taxes for 2021 be and is hereby extended this “one time” to **August 31, 2021** and provided, however, that payments received after the statutory due date of August 1, 2021, which grace period shall be in lieu of, and not, in addition to, another applicable grace period.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-198                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO  
GARDEN STATE LABORATORIES, INC. FOR CONTRACT 504,  
“WATER & WASTEWATER LABORATORY ANALYSIS  
SERVICES FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY  
DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”). (per unit pricing)**

**WHEREAS**, on August 4, 2021 at 10:00 A.M., Two (2) sealed bids were received, publicly opened and read aloud, by the Monroe Township Utility Department Purchasing Agent for Contract 504, “WATER & WASTEWATER LABORATORY ANALYSIS SERVICES”, as required by the M.T.U.D.

**WHEREAS**, the M.T.U.D. Purchasing Agent after consultation with the M.T.U.D. Water and Sewer Superintendents, and the M.T.U.D. Director, by copy of a letter dated August 4, 2021, has recommended that, a (2) two-year contract be awarded to Garden State Laboratories, Inc. of Hillside, NJ based on unit pricing and estimated quantities (estimated annual total \$94,295.00), a copy of which is attached as exhibit B; and

**WHEREAS** the Township Council has reviewed the recommendations made by the M.T.U.D. Purchasing Agent regarding said bid; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Township Chief Finance Officer has certified availability of funds in Certificate No. M-210022 a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

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

**WHEREAS**, Garden State Laboratories Inc. has submitted all the required documents to be submitted with the bid; and

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

(1) The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized a two (2) year contract with Garden State Laboratories Inc., in accordance with their bid;

(2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by Garden State Laboratories Inc. in accordance with their bid;

(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 the Township Attorney affirms the findings of the M.T.U.D. Purchasing Agent, and that Garden State Laboratories Inc. shall provide the required performance bond and insurance certificate as required by the specifications.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-199                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A PERSON-  
TO-PERSON TRANSFER OF A LIQUOR LICENSE CURRENTLY  
ISSUED TO BAJ SPIRITS, INC. (pocket license/inactive)**

**WHEREAS**, an application has been filed with the Monroe Township Council for a Person-to-Person Transfer of Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1213-32-005-005 heretofore held by BAJ Spirits, Inc., having no sited place of business as it is a pocket license; and

**WHEREAS**, the submitted application form is complete in all respects, the transfer fees having been paid and the license having been properly renewed for the 2021-2022 licensing term; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicants are qualified to be licensed according to all standards established by Title 33 of the New Jersey Statutes, regulations promulgated thereunder, as well as pertinent local ordinances and conditions consistent with Title 33; and

**WHEREAS**, the applicants have disclosed and the issuing authority has reviewed the source of all funds used in the purchase of the said license and all additional financing obtained in connection with the licensed business;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey does hereby authorize and approve the transfer of the aforesaid Plenary Retail Consumption License No. 1213-32-005-005 to Anaya Spirits, LLC; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Township Clerk is hereby directed to endorse the license certificate as follows:

“This license, subject to all of its terms and conditions, is hereby transferred to Anaya Spirits, LLC., effective September 1, 2021.”

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-200                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE 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 One Hundred Forty Six Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Eight dollars and Ninety Nine cents (\$146,498.99) for the amounts described on Schedule A and attached hereto

**WHEREAS**, good cause has been shown

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.



**R-9-2021-201                      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 Eighteen-Thousand Six-Hundred dollars and no cents (\$18,600.00),

**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-9-2021-202                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE WAIVER OF UNIFORM  
CONSTRUCTION CODE APPLICATION FEES FOR  
RESIDENTIAL PROPERTIES THAT WERE IMPACTED BY  
TROPICAL STORM HENRI.**

**WHEREAS**, Tropical Storm Henri, which occurred on or about August 22, 2021, created serious dangers to life, health and safety of the residents of the Township of Monroe; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe being mindful of the hardships this natural disaster has already caused to the residents of the Township and wishes to take action to relieve some of the burden suffered by residential property owners by waiving the application fees required by the Uniform Construction Code to repair the damage to residential properties by this natural disaster; and

**WHEREAS**, there is authority for the waiver of application fees required by the Uniform Construction Code as a result of a natural disaster in NJSA52:27D-126(b) and NJAC5:23-4.19(b)(5).

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 1st day of September 2021, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe (the "Council") that:

1. Uniform Construction Code application fees for residential properties impacted by the natural disaster designated as Tropical Storm Henri, which occurred on or about August 22, 2021 shall be waived for residential properties so impacted for a period of sixty (60) days from August 22, 2021; and

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-203                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT TO  
HANNA'S MECHANICAL CONTRACTORS FOR MONROE  
TOWNSHIP LIBRARY HVAC IMPROVEMENTS. (\$449,850)**

**WHEREAS**, on August 26, 2021 six (6) sealed bids were received by Monroe Township regarding the **Monroe Township Library HVAC Improvement Project**; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township Architect, by copy of letter dated August 26, 2021, has recommended **Hanna's Mechanical Contractors 44 N. Main St. Milltown, N.J. 08850**, to be awarded the contract based upon their bid submission in the amount of **\$449,850.00**; 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-2100038** 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 *Hanna's Mechanical Contractors* for the **Monroe Township Library HVAC Improvement Project**, at a total contract price of **\$449,850.00**; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with *Hanna's Mechanical Contractors*; and

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

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the contract is awarded with the stipulation that *Hanna's Mechanical Contractors* 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-9-2021-204                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ADOPTION AND EXECUTION OF AN SHARED SERVICES AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE AND THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY UTILITIES AUTHORITY IN CONNECTION WITH THE SURVEYING OF STORM AND SANITARY SEWER PIPELINES.**

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to the Uniform Shared Services and Consolidation Act, N.J.S.A. 40:65-1, et seq., any local unit may enter into an agreement with any other local unit or units to provide or receive any service that each local unit participating in the agreement is empowered to provide or receive within its own jurisdiction, including services incidental to the primary purposes of any of the participating local units; and

**WHEREAS**, as part of the ongoing investigation into the source/cause of odors emanating from the BFI Landfill, and to assist in determining the possibility of these odors traveling along preferential pathways within the Inwood Estates neighborhood, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection has requested that the Township camera survey approximately 6,500 feet of storm and sanitary sewer pipeline; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township and the Authority have engaged in a cooperative effort to develop a scope of work which outlines the camera surveying to be performed by a qualified contractor selected by the Authority from the Authority's maintenance network, in order to survey the storm and sanitary sewer pipelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Township desires to engage the Authority to undertake the selection of a qualified contractor to perform the surveying of storm and sanitary sewer pipelines under the terms and conditions set forth herein, and to permit the Authority to oversee the services provided by the selected qualified contractor to perform said surveying.

**WHEREAS**, the Township and the Authority and its staff and professionals have negotiated the terms and conditions of a Shared Services Agreement.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** on this 1st day of September 2021, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe (the "Council") that:

1. The Township is hereby authorized to execute the Shared Services Agreement to provide the camera surveying by a qualified Contractor selected by the Authority; and
2. Pursuant to N.J.S.A. § 40A:65-4(b), a copy of the executed Shared Services Agreement shall be filed, for informational purposes, with the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs.

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

**R-9-2021-205                    RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE AWARD OF A CONTRACT TO A THIRD-PARTY POWER SUPPLIER TO PROVIDE ELECTRIC GENERATION SERVICE TO MONROE TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ENERGY AGGREGATION (MTCEA) PROGRAM PARTICIPANTS AND TO PROVIDE GOVERNMENT ENERGY AGGREGATION SERVICES IN CONNECTION WITH THE MTCEA PROGRAM PURSUANT TO N.J.A.C. 14:4-6.**

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

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

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

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

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

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

**WHEREAS**, the Township of Monroe, in its capacity as Lead Agency, publicly noticed and issued on August 2, 2021 a Request for Proposals (RFP) for the provision of electric generation service and government energy aggregation services for the fifth round of the MTCEA Program (MTCEA Round-5) and has solicited proposals from qualified suppliers in New Jersey; and

**WHEREAS**, the RFP provided for a two- stage process that included: Stage 1 for the submission of supplier questions and comments and the submission of qualification documents by interested New Jersey Board of Public Utilities (NJBPU) -licensed electric power suppliers; and Stage 2 for the submission of price proposals; and

**WHEREAS**, the RFP provides for the submission of separate pricing for electric generation service for three potential contract durations (term) beginning December 2021 as follows: either 12 months (until December 2022), 17 months (until May 2023) or 24 months (until December 2023) ; and

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

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

**WHEREAS**, during Stage 1 non-binding Notices of Intent and other qualification documents were received from four (4) NJBPU-licensed electric power suppliers; and

**WHEREAS**, a number of supplier questions and comments were received and, as a result, on August 19, 2021, document entitled ‘Responses to Supplier Questions, Clarifications and Addendum No.1’ was issued and distributed to all suppliers that had submitted a Notice of Intent to Propose; and

**WHEREAS**, Stage 2 price proposals and accompanying Transmittal Letters were submitted by four (4) NJBPU -licensed electric power suppliers by the 12:00 noon September 1,2021 deadline set forth in the RFP; and

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

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the evaluation of qualifications and proposals and analysis of price proposals submitted on September 1, 2021, the Monroe Township Council has determined that no contract award shall be made at this time.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Monroe Township Council shall make no contract award as a result of the price proposals submitted on September 1, 2021; said price proposals are hereby rejected on the basis that the award of a contract based thereon is not in the best interests of the Township and the potential MTCEA-Round 5 participants.

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

Copy of Resolutions Duly Filed.

**UPON MOTION** made by Council Vice-President Schneider and seconded by Councilman Baskin, the following Resolution was moved for Adoption and considered separately:

**R-9-2021-194                      RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REDUCTION OF  
 PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED FOR GEORGE  
 TARANTINO – BA-5103-15.  
 (Mott Avenue)**

**WHEREAS**, George Tarantino posted Performance Guarantees in the amount of \$346,397.30 for Mott Avenue, Block 95, Lot 1 and Block 92, Lot 1 project (BA-5103-15); and

**WHEREAS**, George Tarantino. has requested a reduction in Performance Guarantees posted; and

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 108-13.1 F and G of the Code of the Township of Monroe, the Township Engineer has inspected the work performed and the work to be completed and has recommended the Township Council approve the reduction of the Performance Guarantees, as detailed in his letter dated August 2, 2021, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit A:

	<u>Bond Portion</u>	<u>Cash Portion</u>
Current	\$ 311,757.57	\$ 34,639.73
Reduce to	\$ 112,578.47	\$ 12,508.72

; 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 Performance Guarantees posted for **George Tarantino BA-5103-15** be reduced, as reflected in the Township Engineer’s letter annexed hereto. This approval for reduction of Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the provision of replacement guarantees and the resolution of any outstanding balances attached to project escrow accounts; and

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

**SO RESOLVED**, as aforesaid.

ROLL CALL: Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
Councilman Charles Dipierro	Abstain
Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

Copy of Resolutions Duly Filed.

**Administrator's Report** – Administrator Weinberg echoed what the Mayor and Council said and extended thanks to the employees, as well as the residents for all of their hard work and cooperation during the flood; he noted that the OEM will monitor the storm tonight and continue to monitor through the duration.

Noted that Mayor Dalina will give an update on the BFI Landfill during his report but did state that Director Stroin is working hard on the force main design, and we are progressing forward as this is a priority to have connected and make it much safer for the residents.

Administrator Weinberg gave a brief overview of the Energy Aggregation Program and stated that the tariff rate should be better once we can get passed the month of December, but did note that the pricing will be significantly lower through December.

Reminded everyone that the community fireworks celebration is being held on Friday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> and hopes everyone can gather together to enjoy.

Lastly, wished everyone a safe evening as they weather tonight's storm.

**Engineer's Report** – Engineer Rasimowicz commented that the storms and rain that have come through our area is like nothing seen before; there has been a tremendous amount of rain approximately 9 inches in a short period of time and areas flooded that have never seen flooding before. He noted that his office along with the Construction Department is looking at the areas flooded and what can be done to help the situation.

Updated on a few projects within the Township; the Camelot development has been completed with a few Punch list items and restoration work wrapping up that project.

The Old Bridge-Englishtown Road and Mounts Mills Road traffic signal improvement project is in the process of land acquisition (13 parcels) needed to move forward.

The Renaissance 33 punch list work has been completed by our contractors as that was the project that the Township removed their bond to get the work completed.

The Stonebridge punch list work being done by Lennar is wrapping up with landscaping and tree replacement and should be completed by early Fall.

Lastly, we will be going out to bid next week for demolition of the old police station and farmhouse with an award at the October 4<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting.

### **Council's Reports:**

#### **Council Vice-President Schneider –**

- Thanked everyone for their kind remarks tonight and Mr. Tufano for offering help; she shared her experience during the storm and flooding. She stated that she is currently staying with her daughter who lives locally and is very blessed and fortunate. She extended her sympathies to all who have lost their homes during this terrible storm and thanked the Township for all of their hard work and assistance during this trying time. Grateful to all family and friends.

#### **Councilman Baskin –**

- Spoke with Mrs. Yofreddo, who lives on Docks Corner Road, at the resource fair held in Rossmoor for the flood victims and hopes she is able to receive whatever assistance is available to her and her family.
- Reminded everyone that on September 25<sup>th</sup> the Monroe Township Historical Commission will be sponsoring an old-time baseball game and invited all to attend.
- Congratulated the Indian community for the picnic they had to celebrate the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of India's independence.

#### **Councilman Dipierro –**

- Commented regarding the devastation throughout the Township and on Docks Corner Road and stated that he is not sure if there is any recourse for these residents who have been affected as he is not a lawyer, but each and every resident should be protected and not left behind. He stated that we have come together as a community and need to continue to be strong and work together as a team.
- He commended the First Responders who used a rubber raft to help people during the flooding.
- Regarding Basin 17 located on Cornell Avenue, our DPW and Jamesburg Fire Company had cleared that out back in June and suggested that we clear out the basins on an annual basis to better maintain them. He noted that more manpower may be needed to do this but it is something worth considering.
- On August 14<sup>th</sup> our MTUD changed a 65-year-old valve on the corner of Forsgate Drive and Applegarth Road and saved us approximately 1/5 of the cost if we had to get a contractor out to do

it. He praised Director Stroin and his team for a job well done and noted that they can continue to do more work for the Township if given the resources to do so. He added that they should be rewarded with thanks for a phenomenal job.

- Commented that he would like to see the old building located on Daniel Ryan Field hooked up to the sewer.
- Attended the meeting of the Shade Tree Commission and was asked by the Chair for an update on the County's plan for the intersection of Applegarth and Prospect Plains Road; Engineer Rasimowicz commented that there were no new updates from the County engineers but stated that they are working with Conrail. Councilman Dipierro commented that he would like to see a left turn signal coming onto Applegarth to which Engineer Rasimowicz stated that the ultimate design is to have dedicated left turning lanes and protected left turning signals, adding that the intersection upgrades will require the State's full improvements.
- Councilman Dipierro asked if there were any updates on the water situation on Bentley Road; Director Stroin stated that there was a meeting with the developer and the plans for water and sewer are going through tentative review with the hopes of being approved. With that said, based on the developer's schedule, we hope to move forward in getting water and sewer to the residents.
- Asked for any updates on the transportation situation for special need residents; Administrator Weinberg answered that this is something being looked into, and a discussion has taken place with both Mayor Dalina and Director Karen Theer of the Senior Center to include in the upcoming budget for next year. Councilman Dipierro stated that he is on the County's ADA Committee and asked if the funds given to the Senior Center to help the residents can be utilized instead for this need. Administrator Weinberg commented that the Senior Center does receive significant grants for buses and transportation needs and it is being looked into if we can meet the need for special needs transportation legally with these grants.
- Listened to the Board of Education meeting and it was mentioned that a shared service agreement for use of the athletic fields and track field at the middle school was being looked into. Councilman Dipierro asked if this is something similar to the shared service agreement, we have for the tennis courts; Mayor Dalina commented that he has been working with the Board of Education president in regard to this and there has been a discussion on how we can help. He noted that the shared services for use of the tennis courts worked well and stated that this is perhaps something else we can move forward on. Administrator Weinberg added that a conversation will be had with Council before moving forward.
- Noted that the pavement on Spotswood-Englishtown Road from Rue Road to the Stone Museum is failing badly and the asphalt is in dire need of reconstruction.

**Councilman Van Dzura –**

- Expressed his condolences to the resident's who have experienced losses during the flooding and extended thanks to the First Responders for all they have done. He stated that we read about tragedies that take place elsewhere and you feel bad, but it is a whole different feeling when it hits home and listening to what the residents have gone through. He went on to commend everyone who attended the resource fair and noted that he is proud that all were able to come together during this difficult time. "Monroe helping Monroe".
- He recommended that Mr. Foye and Mr. Tufano obtain legal counsel to help them recoup their losses from the issues with the illegal dumping done by their neighbors. He added that although the Township has some recourse, the money fined does not go back to the affected so they would have better recourse through the civil process.
- National Night Out was a success.
- The concerts in the park were a huge success and thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended.
- Received the report from the engineer hired to handle the BFI matter and urged all to go through it.
- Noted that during the month of August the State's Cannabis Commission put forth their regulations and he has mentioned to Township Attorney Rainone that he would like to keep this on the Township's radar as we have a wide discretion in terms of what we could do.
- Lastly, commented that the Master Plan has so many integral aspects to it and how it relates to education, Open Space and how much tax revenue would be received along with how many residents we could have living within the Township. He stated that the three open houses were held and we are now nearing the end of our survey and hopes to accumulate the responses received and is eager to see the recommendations from the professionals.

**Council President Cohen –**

- Expressed her concerns and condolences for all that has happened within the Township.

**Mayor's Report –** Mayor Dalina gave a report on the Covid19 vaccination numbers and percentages and reminded all that we are still in the midst of the pandemic. He stated that our OEM is gathering the information needed regarding the booster shots and information will be conveyed to the residents once solidified.

Happy to see the State Grant for the Library on the agenda and noted that this is wonderful news and nice to see money coming back to be utilized at the library which is the Crown Jewel of the Township.

Received the report on the BFI landfill which is exciting to see; he added that this solidifies the route that we need to take to protect our residents, with the force main being the way to go. He noted that a letter will be sent to Inwood Estates residents sharing the pertinent information needed in moving forward.

Reminded everyone that the observation of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of 9/11 will be held on Saturday starting at 8:46am and invited all to attend. He stated that one of the more important things to him as Mayor is to attend our Memorial Day, Veteran's Day and 9/11 observations as they are very important to remember.

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Township Clerk Patricia Reid noted that she received an emailed question sent earlier this evening from Mr. Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Drive. Mr. Parab stated that since Covid vaccinations are not yet available for children under 11 years old, the Parents of these children are worried to send them to school. Mr. Parab asked that the Mayor reach out to the Governor to ask for a virtual teaching option to be made available for those children 11 and below, until they are vaccinated. Mayor Dalina responded that he does not want to contradict anything that the Board of Education may be doing in regard to that, therefore that would be the appropriate entity to handle that request.

Mr. Parab asked in his email how many residents are vaccinated per age group to which Mayor Dalina referred back to his report made earlier.

Lastly, Mr. Parab asked in his email if there is a plan to present the Master Plan reexamination to the public prior to presenting to the Planning Board and what is the timeline for that; Councilman Van Dzura answered that the deadline for the last of the comments of the survey was on August 31<sup>st</sup>. He noted that approximately 1,700 residents responded, and the deadline may or may not be extended to allow for more resident's responses to be received. He further explained that once that is done, the responses will be accumulated so a given timeframe is hard to pinpoint but he believes within the next few months. He stated that there is another subcommittee meeting being held in the next few weeks and after that they may have a more exact date.

**Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz.** – Mrs. Panos expressed her sympathies to all who have been affected by the flooding.

Attended an event last night in Concordia where a tribute to the 13 servicemen who died in Afghanistan was held which was very moving.

Stated that earlier tonight she attended an Environmental Commission meeting held via ZOOM and questioned if the natural resource inventory was finalized in 2006 or in 2020 as she later saw referenced. She stated that she was directed to the Planning Board but it states there that it is "under review" and wanted to question the liaison as to which version was correct; Administrator Weinberg answered that the Environmental Resources Inventory was updated in 2020 and it is available online as well. Mrs. Panos asked for Councilman Van Dzura to consider this resource document in the Master Plan review. Mrs. Panos also stated that she is willing to volunteer to be on any committee that needs reviewing of the resource documents as she has a background in doing that.

**Linda Spinner, 210 Diamond Spring Dr.** – Ms. Spinner commented that her heart goes out to all who have been affected by the flooding as she speaks from experience in knowing what it is like to have your life changed by flooding. She stated that this is not a climate issue but an over building issue and shared that she lost her father in a flood back in 1973. Ms. Spinner stated that she lives in Stonebridge and was fortunately unaffected by the flooding but again is speaking from experience.

Ms. Spinner commented that she participated via ZOOM last month's meeting and mentioned that during the public portion there were people who had matters needing answers and Council President Cohen stated that they would be addressed at the end of the public portion but they never were. She asked if Council President Cohen remembered her statement made at that meeting, to which Council President Cohen commented that she did and she apologizes if a satisfactory response was not received at that meeting. Ms. Spinner suggested that going forward, whether in person or via ZOOM, that the matters addressed by the public be answered as they are brought forth instead of at the very end.

Lastly, thanked Councilman Dipierro for his help on the advisement of certain matters.

**Peter Tufano, 10 Catherine St.** – Mr. Tufano commented that he is upset at post on Facebook from Mr. Benson who was seen at a meeting with senior voters talking about how he has made New Jersey more affordable for seniors. He noted that in the photo op posted, a member of the Board of Education, Mayor Dalina and Councilman Van Dzura can be seen supporting Mr. Benson. Mr. Tufano commented that he knows they are all good people but cannot understand for the life of him why they stood in the room with a man who has lied to seniors that he has saved them money when he and Senator Linda Greenstein have done nothing to get the school district fair funding. Mr. Tufano asked Mayor Dalina and Councilman Van Dzura for their stance to which Council President Cohen responded that the question directed to the Mayor and Council first goes through her and then whomever she directs to answer and in response to Mr. Tufano's question she stated that the Mayor and Council are entitled to be there, and neither are required to give an answer justifying their reasons for attending, to which Mr. Tufano commented that no answer is an answer to his question.

**Brian Fabiano, 19 Patricia Pl.** – Mr. Fabiano commented that he appreciates the commitment of this Council to have a meeting during this storm with emergency alerts going off and unbeknownst to them a tornado touching down nearby.

Mr. Fabiano echoed what everyone has said tonight regarding the flooding and commented that this has been a tragic event for all affected. He added that he does not know where all of this water is coming from but Councilman Van Dzura said it best that this is not the time for politics but a time to remain Monroe Strong.

Regarding the flooding, Mr. Fabiano asked what the Council and experts believe is causing it and asked if they believe it is from over development.

Mr. Fabiano commented on the meetings going back to ZOOM and stated that it was published that no public input would be available and asked if this jeopardizes people's right to have their voices heard.

Lastly, at the Board of Education meeting it was mentioned that a Shared Service agreement was being worked on between the Mayor and Board of Education for the Township to fund improvements of the high school football field for new turf amongst a number of other items and asked how the Township planned to pay for the estimated \$1.7 million in repairs and upgrades. He commented that the conversations have not been held in public so he was hoping for some clarification to be made, to which Administrator Weinberg reiterated what he shared earlier and added that this would have to be approved upon by both parties with an open conversation happening prior to and final decisions were made.

Council President Cohen commented that Mr. Fabiano was incorrect with his comment about the meeting being published incorrectly, to which Township Clerk Patricia Reid clarified that an error was made but immediately addressed when found and the correct information was communicated to the newspaper, Township website, Facebook and sent to OEM.

Lastly, Mr. Fabiano asked what the impact of changing the meetings to virtual would have on other programs; Township Attorney Rainone stated that Mr. Fabiano was incorrect in his conclusion about the meetings turning back to an all-virtual platform, as this meeting was changed due to the impending storm, otherwise all meetings will be held in person.

**Melissa Dziewa, 5 Lori St.** – Mrs. Dziewa thanked everyone for moving forward with the force main in regards to the BFI landfill issue, as everyone has not only been helpful in getting a resolution but also very responsive to the resident's concerns over in Inwood Estates. Mrs. Dziewa asked what the timeframe of the force main project was, to which Director Stroin responded that he anticipates that the force main should be completed before April. Mrs. Dziewa asked if it was possible to have Inwood Estates repaved once the force main project is complete, to which Administrator Weinberg answered that ultimately that is the goal to of the Mayor and Council to have that development repaved once all of the work is completed.

**Piyush Patel, 51 Violet Court North** – Mr. Patel asked for the Mayor and Council to reach out to Governor Murphy and ask for virtual option for children who are unvaccinated. Council President Cohen reiterated Mayor Dalina's stance in not wanting to interfere with the school boards lead on this situation.

**Pradeep Byram, 20 Potomac Ave.** – Mr. Byram commented that it is unfortunate the elected officials are not standing up for the residents in reaching out to the Governor about a virtual option for children who are unvaccinated. Mr. Byram unfortunate as elected official not standing up for the residents in reaching out to the Governor about virtual options for children who are unvaccinated.

Mr. Byram commented that there has been rapid development over the last 8-10 years in the Monroe South section of the Township and asked what the plans are to develop parks and recreation areas on that side of town; Administrator Weinberg commented that this is something that will be addressed as he understands the need for that area to have more recreational facilities and parks. He added that this is something that will be a part of the discussion of the Master Plan and encouraged Mr. Byram to participate in that discussion as well.



Mr. Byram commented that this is something that has been brought up over the course of three years with no resolution and does not understand how the Mayor and Council turns a blind eye to the lack thereof. Administrator Weinberg commented that Mr. Byram has great points and they will be addressed with the Master Plan review and added that these developments are built as part of our affordable housing settlement and affordable housing does not require that parks be built as part of the settlement. Council President Cohen noted that Mr. Byram's time was up.

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

**UPON MOTION** made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilman Van Dzura, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 9:26pm.

ROLL CALL:	Councilman Leonard Baskin	Aye
	Councilman Charles Dipierro	Aye
	Councilman Terence Van Dzura	Aye
	Council Vice-President Elizabeth Schneider	Aye
	Council President Miriam Cohen	Aye

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

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

Minutes were adopted on: November 3, 2021