

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

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

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

APRIL 7, 2025

1. **AGENDA MEETING CALLED TO ORDER.** (6:30 p.m.)
2. **SALUTE TO THE FLAG.**
3. **MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR CHRIS TERRANOVA**
Passed away on 3/8/25. Beloved Paramedic who worked with EMS Station 2 for 6 months each year.

4. **ROLL CALL:**

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

5. Township Clerk Christine Robbins reads the **SUNSHINE LAW** into the record.

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

1. Posted on the Bulletin Boards within the Municipal Building on December 27, 2024 and remains posted at that location for public inspection;
2. Printed in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** and the **CRANBURY PRESS** on December 27, 2024;
3. Posted on the Monroe Township website; and
4. Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

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

6. **PROCLAMATIONS and PRESENTATIONS:**

Proclamations:

“National Donate Life Month” – April 2025

“National Arab American Heritage Month” – April 2025

“Monroe Township Library Week” - April 6-12, 2025

“National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week” – April 13-19, 2025

“Arbor Day”- April 25, 2025

Presentation:

Recognizing Alan Weinberg for his service to Monroe Township.

7. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **SECOND READING** at the April 7, 2025 Regular Meeting:

O-3-2025-006 **BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$406,000 FROM DEVELOPER PAYMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOUTHFIELD ESTATES PUMP STATION AND THE HIDDEN POND PUMP STATION IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY. (Old Church Rd./Brentwood Pl.)**

8. **ORDINANCE(S)** for **INTRODUCTION** at the April 7, 2025 Regular Meeting:

O-4-2025-007 **ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.**

O-4-2025-008 **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ONE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 52, LOT 2.05.**
(Buckelew/Schoolhouse for Fire Dept. Easement)

O-4-2025-009 **ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS FOR APPLGARTH ROAD AND JOAN WARREN WAY.**

O-4-2025-010 **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE UNDER CHAPTER 108 SECTION 6.23 TO AMEND THE MEDICAL FACILITY REQUIREMENT IN THE PLANNED RETIREMENT COMMUNITY DISTRICT 2. (“PRC-2”)**

9. **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the April 7, 2025 Regular Meeting: (R-4-2025-077 – R-4-2025-102)

R-4-2025-077 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 2010 VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE DEPARTMENT. (Auction Date: April 25, 2025 @ 10am)**

R-4-2025-078 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR REMOUNT OF (2) AMBULANCES TO BAYSHORE INVESTMENTS D/B/A VCI EMERGENCY VEHICLE SPECIALISTS USING THE HGACBuy NATIONAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE. (\$494,811.14)**

R-4-2025-079 **RESOLUTION APPOINTING PRITESH VAGHANI AS ALTERNATE 4 TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.**

R-4-2025-080 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISCHARGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING LIEN GIVEN ON 1014 MORNING GLORY DRIVE.**

R-4-2025-081 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE 2025 RECYCLING ENHANCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.**

R-4-2025-082 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE MUNICIPAL RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR YEAR 2025.**

R-4-2025-083 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH JAMES P. NOLAN & ASSOCIATES FOR 2024 TAX APPEAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE. (Additional \$2,300)**

R-4-2025-084 **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A CONTRACT AWARDED TO CUSTOM LANDSCAPING AND LAWN CARE INC. FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP 2025 LANDSCAPING SERVICES. (Cranbury Station Rd basins – additional \$2,900.00)**

R-4-2025-085 **RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION. (3 yr terms - Nancy R. Mitrocsak, Barbara Bart, Marilyn Gonyo & 2 yr term – Sherry Freedman)**

- R-4-2025-086** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY AND THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR THE PROVISION OF RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES OF DESIGNATED RECYCLABLES.**
(3-year agreement - \$7.36 per unit per month)
- R-4-2025-087** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEE.** (Cancellation of Power Wall - \$936.00)
- R-4-2025-088** **RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIMOTHY STOESSLER AS QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT AND SETTING THE BID THRESHOLD.** (\$44K)
- R-4-2025-089** **RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD.** (2 yr term Andrea Pellezzi, Member and unexpired 2 yr term Arnold Riback, Alternate 1)
- R-4-2025-090** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.**
- R-4-2025-091** **RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF KEVIN J. MCGOWAN AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE AND WHO SHALL SERVE AS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR.**
- R-4-2025-092** **RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER FOR THE GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND.** (Kevin McGowan, Lori Olah & Danielle Racioppi)
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- R-4-2025-094** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING FROM THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT FOR 330 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD, ALSO KNOWN AS BLOCK 60 LOT 28.04 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR OPEN SPACE PURPOSES.** (\$2 million)
- R-4-2025-095** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2025 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.**
- R-4-2025-096** **RESOLUTION APPOINTING PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER.** (Kevin McGowan)
- R-4-2025-097** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO BAY HEAD INVESTMENTS INC. FOR AMBULANCE MAINTENANCE, PARTS & REPAIRS.** (1 yr. contract with 2 yr. option to extend - Not to exceed \$84,000)
- R-4-2025-098** **RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT NEW JERSEY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 14 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GOVERNOR SUPPORT PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSED “NJ CLIMATE SUPERFUND ACT”.**
(Assembly Bill No. 4696 and Senate Bill No. 3545)
- R-4-2025-099** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES TO H2M ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR 522 WATER STORAGE TANK REHABILITATION PROJECT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”).** (\$145,900)
- R-4-2025-100** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY S & G PAVING INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING SITE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-4-2025-101** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO FREEHOLD CARTAGE INC. FOR SEWAGE HAULING SERVICES (M.T.U.D.).**
(\$51,820)

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R-4-2025-102 RESOLUTION INTRODUCING THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

ROLL CALL: Ayes ___ Nays ___

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

MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

ROLL CALL: Ayes ___ Nays ___

8. **Administrator’s Report.**

9. **Engineer’s Report.**

10. **Council’s Reports.**

11. **Mayor’s Report.**

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

OPEN: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

CLOSE: MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

13. **Adjournment.** MOTION: _____ SECOND: _____

Time: _____

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

MEETING OF THE MONROE TOWNSHIP COUNCIL – April 7, 2025

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

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

A Moment of Silence was held for Chris Terranova who passed away on March 8, 2025. Chris was a beloved Paramedic who worked with EMS Station 2 for 6 months each year.

UPON ROLL CALL by the Township Clerk, Christine Robbins, the following members of Council were present: Councilman Charles Dipierro, Councilman Michael Markel, Councilwoman Rupa P. Siegel, Council Vice-President Terrence Van Dzura and Council President Miriam Cohen.

ALSO PRESENT: Mayor Stephen Dalina, Assistant Business Administrator Kevin McGowan, CFO Lori Olah, Utility Director Joe Stroin, Engineer Mark Rasimowicz, Township Attorney Sapana Shah and Deputy Clerk Tanya Pannucci.

There were approximately one hundred (100) members of the Public in attendance.

Township Clerk Christine Robbins read the following **SUNSHINE LAW** into the record:

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

1. Posted on the Bulletin Boards within the Municipal Building on December 27, 2024 and remains posted at that location for public inspection.
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4. Sent to those individuals who have requested personal notice.

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

Council President Cohen read aloud the following proclamations:

Proclamations:

“National Donate Life Month” – April 2025

“National Arab American Heritage Month” – April 2025

“Monroe Township Library Week” - April 6-12, 2025

“National Public Safety Telecommunicators Week” – April 13-19, 2025

“Arbor Day”- April 25, 2025

Presentation:

Recognizing Alan Weinberg for his service to Monroe Township.

Mayor Dalina presented a plaque to Alan Weinberg in recognition of his service to Monroe Township. He extended his appreciation to Mr. Weinberg for all his hard work, dedication and unwavering support in his role as Business Administrator, noting that Alan has been his right-hand man, and he could not have done the job he has without him. Mayor Dalina stated that Alan has left the Township in a better place and has made a lasting impression that the Township will not forget. Mr. Weinberg thanked the Mayor and Council, as well as all his colleagues for their support in the 8+ years he has worked for the Township. He shared that “you are only as good as the team that you have”, which made his job much easier and allowed the Township to achieve many financial goals and services to its residents. Mr. Weinberg extended his heartfelt thanks, stating this has been the highlight of his career thus far.

Council President Cohen wished Alan well on his next chapter, sharing that she started on Council when Alan became Business Administrator, and they learned about the Township together. She went on to say that Alan made it his duty to carefully keep everyone informed and know he will do the same with his next employer.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura complimented Mr. Weinberg on his intelligence, professionalism and dedication in working hard to get the job done. He noted Alan's quick with and extended well wishes in his next chapter.

Councilman Markel thanked Alan for all he has done, noting that he has always done a great job and always kept him informed. He commented that he is sad to see him go but knows he will do well in his next chapter and wished him good luck as he will be missed.

Councilwoman Siegel extended congratulations to Alan and noted that she will miss him for his knowledge and friendship.

Councilman Dipierro commented that Alan's knowledge is second to none and he truly became part of the Monroe Township family. He thanked him for all his hard work and dedication and wished him luck in his next endeavor.

A five-minute recess was taken for photos, with the meeting resuming at 6:52pm.

Township Clerk Christine Robbins read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **SECOND READING** at the **MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025** Regular Council Meeting:

O-3-2025-006 **BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$406,000 FROM DEVELOPER PAYMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOUTHFIELD ESTATES PUMP STATION AND THE HIDDEN POND PUMP STATION IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY. (Old Church Rd./Brentwood Pl.)**

Township Clerk Christine Robbins read the following entitled **ORDINANCES** for **INTRODUCTION** at the **MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025** Regular Council Meeting:

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O-4-2025-008 **ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ONE PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 52, LOT 2.05.**
(Buckelew/Schoolhouse for Fire Dept. Easement)

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O-4-2025-010 **ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE UNDER CHAPTER 108 SECTION 6.23 TO AMEND THE MEDICAL FACILITY REQUIREMENT IN THE PLANNED RETIREMENT COMMUNITY DISTRICT 2. ("PRC-2")**

Mayor Dalina – Mayor Dalina stated that he understands there are strong feelings regarding Ordinance O-4-2025-010 as proof is shown by the huge turnout tonight. He went on to say that there has been a struggle gathering data, but he has been committed to hearing both sides of the story and has heard from a number of residents, as well as the general public and further explained that the Ordinance proposed would place Stonebridge in the same position as the other 14 planned retirement communities allowing their community to make their own determination regarding nursing. Mayor Dalina added that this is not whether nursing services are beneficial because without question they are, but he feels that the Stonebridge community should have their own voice. He stated that our Township's emergency services are second to none and he understands and deeply respects Stonebridge's decision and will always encourage to have nursing services.

Council President Cohen – Council President Cohen stated that she has a unique perspective on this issue, as a member of the Township Council, former HOA board member and President, as well as being a registered nurse for over 50 years as she knows how important nursing services are as it has been her life's work. She went on to say that the matter on tonight's agenda is not about the quality or quantity of nursing services as she knows how valuable they are, sharing further that in her community she feels the nurse is a wonderful benefit to the residents and has and always will continue to advocate for those services as a

resident. She went on to say that as a municipal government elected official, we should not restrict a private community from making this kind of decision for themselves as we have for the other 14 communities as this is the fair thing to do as elected officials.

Councilwoman Siegel – Councilwoman Siegel stated that she too has struggled with this issue and has spent months talking with many of the residents of Stonebridge, hearing all perspectives. To echo Mayor Dalina and Council President Cohen, she stated that the nurse at Stonebridge provides an amazing service which she would want and advocate for as she is the daughter of two doctors and a significant part of her father’s practice involved making house calls. She went on to say that she knows how valuable the nurse is and conveyed how happy she is to hear that most of our senior communities do employ a nurse by their own choice. As Mayor Dalina pointed out, none of us really know the original intent for this particular provision in the PRC-2 zone over 20 years ago and not criticize any policy decisions made by our predecessors but she must do what she thinks is fair and equitable in her role as a Council person. She went on to add that while the zoning ordinance was not designed to single out a particular community, the effect is that the 24/7 nursing requirement only applies to one of the 15 senior communities. Councilwoman Siegel lastly added that she is supporting tonight’s Ordinance O-4-2025-010 and at the same time will continue to encourage Stonebridge to support nurse services if and when the matter comes before their HOA for a vote within the community.

Councilman Markel – Councilman Markel shared that he is in support of Ordinance O-4-2025-010 as he feels that Stonebridge should be at the same level as all the other communities and hopes that they do continue on with the best possible nursing care although we do have an amazing EMS Department as well.

Councilman Dipierro – Councilman Dipierro stated that as a real estate broker he feels differently, sharing that the original Ordinance was put into place, which enabled developer’s to reap all the monetary benefits from the residents who purchased these homes, to have nursing services provided within their community due to the fact the Township lacked a hospital, which was supposed to be built but never came to fruition. He went on to say that he will not disclose how he is voting but shared that he has received many emails about this issue and understands the Council’s thoughts, but he sees this issue differently as this was put in place for the safety of our residents.

Council Vice President Van Dzura – Council Vice-President Van Dzura stated that a strong argument can be made either way and he wants to listen first before making his decision.

Council President Cohen read the following entitled **RESOLUTIONS** for **CONSIDERATION** under **CONSENT AGENDA** at the MONDAY, APRIL 7, 2025 Regular Meeting:
(R-4-2025-077 – R-4-2025-102)

- | | |
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- R-4-2025-100** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY S & G PAVING INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING SITE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.**
- R-4-2025-101** **RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO FREEHOLD CARTAGE INC. FOR SEWAGE HAULING SERVICES (M.T.U.D.). (\$51,820)**
- R-4-2025-102** **RESOLUTION INTRODUCING THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.**

Councilman Dipierro requested Resolutions R-4-2025-084 and R-4-2025-100 to be considered separately.

Public Comments –

Barbara Levine, 38 Timber Hill Dr. – Mrs. Levine stated that she is a Stonebridge resident and explained that the Council’s vote will not remove the nurse but instead allow Stonebridge the flexibility to make changes accordingly. She went on to say that a 2/3 vote would be required, and it allows for Stonebridge to be in parity with the other communities.

Gary Busman, 7 Monarch Rd. – Mr. Busman stated that he is in support of Ordinance O-4-2025-010 as long as 2/3 of the vote is given by the residents of Stonebridge.

Regarding Ordinance O-4-2025-007, Mr. Busman asked what permits the Township to exceed the 3.5%; Administrator McGowan answered that this Ordinance allows for all Townships to exceed the budget by 3.5%.

Regarding R-4-2025-093, Mr. Busman complimented the Township and Zoning Board Attorney’s for their work on the “Bald Eagle’s Nest” litigation which founded the Township victorious in the case.

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Prakash stated that he is happy to hear the Township is acquiring the land on Schoolhouse Road per R-4-2025-094 and suggested that we look to acquire land near the Senior Center for recreational use and playgrounds.

Mr. Prakash asked what is being proposed for the budget; Administrator McGowan answered that tonight the budget is being introduced, the total is \$76.4 million.

Bob Levine, 85 Timber Hill Dr. – Mr. Levine stated that he wanted to clarify Ordinance O-4-2025-010 as the reason this is necessary is because Stonebridge should be equal to the other senior communities. He went on to explain that the HOA Board does not make the final decision, the residents with 2/3 of the vote do. He added that when he moved into Stonebridge, he was never told that the other senior communities were not under the same purview.

Ava Baron, 113 Cobblestone Blvd. – Ms. Baron thanked the Mayor and Council for allowing her to speak. She went on to voice that the nursing requirement is a huge expenditure and currently the residents of Stonebridge have no voice. Ms. Baron added that the requirement as it reads currently is glaringly unfair and as emotionally compelling as some of the stories that have been shared are, it has diverted the attention away from the question at hand.

Stanley Fisher, 112 Timber Hill Dr. – Mr. Fisher stated regarding Ordinance O-4-2025-010, this is an uphill battle as the Stonebridge HOA says that nothing will change unless a 2/3 vote is received by its residents but he was told that it could change, and the Board could have asked the Township to codify. He went on to say that he is opposed to the amendment as the survey was sent via email but if you did not register your email address then you did not get to vote in the survey.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos asked for clarification on Ordinance O-4-2025-007; CFO Lori Olah explained that we do this Ordinance every year to put aside the money that we do not spend as this gives us the ability to have this bank in the event we need it.

Sandra Rothfarb, 91 Diamond Spring Dr. – Ms. Rothfarb stated that Stonebridge decided for itself to have a nurse and the residents moving in should have familiarized themselves with the requirement. She went on to say that it is reckless for the Stonebridge HOA to say that a nurse is not needed and this has divided the community.

Chrissy Skurbe, 21 Preakness Dr. – Mrs. Skurbe stated that her mother moved to Monroe Township

and currently lives in the Stonebridge community where she feels that having a 24-hour nurse is not only beneficial but also why she loves living there as it gives her peace of mind. Mrs. Skurbe asked for the Mayor and Council to look at why this requirement was put into place by Mayor Pucci years ago as taking the nurse away from the residents who were told there would be a 24/7 nurse would be irresponsible. Mrs. Skurbe stated that the Mayor and Council need to do their due diligence before voting on this Ordinance.

EMS Director Rich Morris added that their EMS services are primary for Monroe Township only as they have no other agreements with other towns. He stated that their last ambulance available always stays in Monroe and reiterated that they do not have primary response to anyone other than Monroe.

Mark Schiffman, 184 Diamond Spring Dr. – Mr. Schiffman stated that he agreed with Mrs. Skurbe's comments as he feels that although our EMS does provide excellent service, Stonebridge needs a nurse to help with our EMS as well at least until they arrive on scene. He went on to say that he has utilized the nurse and knows several residents who have been saved by the nurse.

Paul Onish, 10 Aquaduct Dr. – Mr. Onish shared that he was a former Stonebridge HOA Board Member and as much as he appreciates the various protections that the Township provides, he respectively asks that the Mayor and Council stay out of the affairs of their private community.

Michael Frisch, 119 Timber Hill Dr. – Mr. Frisch stated that he feels this situation is because of a few people who got together and want to make decisions for all of the community and he feels that the community should make their own decision.

Howard Entin, 129 Timberhill Dr. – Mr. Entin stated that he wanted to keep his comments away from the emotion of the situation and speak to the core of the issue which is allowing Stonebridge to have parity with the other senior communities. He added that any board who sought to eliminate the nurse completely would be a short lived board as clearly the community wants to have the nurse but how that works is what should be up for the decision of the community.

Joseph & Deborah Pavlichko, 182 Diamond Spring Dr. – Mrs. Pavlichko stated that the current HOA Board has no intention of changing the current nursing services and does not support the removal of such services, but changing this requirement opens the door to allow for that change. She went on to say that residents have bought into the Stonebridge community because of the 24/7 nursing services provided, which is one of the reasons why she and her husband bought in that community. Mrs. Pavlichko shared a personal story that caused her and her husband to utilize the nurse's services and believes that because of the nurse's quick determination, her husband's life was saved. Mrs. Pavlichko added that there is no dollar amount that can be placed on the value of someone's life and as wonderful and responsive as our EMS services are within the Township, the nurse in Stonebridge is a safeguard for those residents and should not be taken away.

Peter Rendeiro, 62 Draw Bridge Dr. – Mr. Rendeiro stated that this is more than nurses. He went on to say that the residents of Stonebridge have the right to determine our own course and it is about home rule.

Paul & Glenda Beller, 14 Cobblestone Blvd. – Mrs. Beller commented that this is a very important agenda item, sharing that 17 years ago she moved to Monroe Township from Columbia, Maryland. Mrs. Beller went on to say that the 24/7 nursing services sold her into moving to the Stonebridge community and now she feels like the rug is being pulled out from under her.

Bernard Meyer, 155 Cobblestone Blvd. – Mr. Meyer stated that there are two issues being presented before us, one is whether Stonebridge should be subject to the rules that no other planned retirement community has, and two the level of medical service that the residents of Stonebridge need and are willing to pay. He stated that this should be up for the residents of the community to decide and this is a country where the majority rules and a 2/3 vote is not only a super majority but a very high bar to achieve. Mr. Meyer urged the Council to pass the amendment as nothing has been said tonight to prevent that from happening.

Allan Tannenbaum, 26 Diamond Spring Dr. – Mr. Tannenbaum commented that we are not here to debate if we need a nurse, the fire department and EMS can be there within two minutes, the debate is about the right to decide as the nurses do a great job.

Ellen Panzer Schwartz, 19 London Dr. – Mrs. Schwartz commented that healthcare is very important to

her and is her wheelhouse. She went on to say that she has never lived in a HOA or a senior community before moving into the Greenbriar community but finds them all to be phenomenal. While she agrees with everyone that it is important to have quality services she stated that everyone should be calling 9-1-1 first as she would not touch anyone without first calling 9-1-1. Mrs. Schwartz extended her thanks and appreciation to all of the healthcare workers and her empathy with the Stonebridge community.

Council President Cohen asked if we have a 24-hour paramedic from Robert Wood Johnson available to which EMS Director Rich Morris answered yes.

William Waldman, 234 Diamond Spring Dr . – Mr. Waldman stated that this should be a democratic choice as he does not want to lose the nurse but feels that this is the community’s decision.

Herb Freilich, 14 Aquaduct Rd. – Mr. Freilich stated that there are approximately 50 members of the Stonebridge community here tonight and the entirety of the community should have a say not just the 50 or so residents that came out tonight. Mr. Freilich also stated that out of the 15 planned retirement communities in the Township, 12 have opted not to have a nurse and Stonebridge should also have the same courtesy to choose whether they want a nurse or not.

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

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the Agenda Meeting was Adjourned at 8:17pm.

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

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilman Markel, the Regular Meeting was Called to Order at 8:25pm.

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

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **CLAIMS** per run date of **4/2/2025** were approved for payment as written and presented.

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

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

March 3, 2025 - Agenda and Regular Combined Meeting

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

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

O-3-2025-006 BOND ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING \$406,000 FROM DEVELOPER PAYMENTS TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE SOUTHFIELD ESTATES PUMP STATION AND THE HIDDEN POND PUMP STATION IN AND BY THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE, IN THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX, NEW JERSEY.

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

Section 1. \$406,000 is hereby appropriated by the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, New Jersey (the "Township"), from payments received from Gables Plaza LLC to provide for the improvement of the Southfield Estates Pump Station and the Hidden Pond Pump Station.

Section 2. The Township hereby certifies that it has adopted a capital budget or a temporary capital budget, as applicable. The capital or temporary capital budget of the Township is hereby amended to conform with the provisions of this ordinance to the extent of any inconsistency herewith. To the extent that the purposes authorized herein are inconsistent with the adopted capital or temporary capital budget, a revised capital or temporary capital budget has been filed with the Division.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect after final adoption and publication and otherwise as provided by law.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-3-2025-006** was **opened**. All were in favor, none opposed.

No Public Comment.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilman Markel, the **PUBLIC HEARING for Ordinance O-3-2025-006** was **closed**. All were in favor, none opposed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, **Ordinance No. O-3-2025-006** was passed on Second Reading and Final Adoption:

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

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was Introduced on First Reading for Final Passage:

O-4-2025-007 ORDINANCE TO EXCEED THE MUNICIPAL BUDGET APPROPRIATION LIMITS AND TO ESTABLISH A CAP BANK.

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

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, an Ordinance of which the following is the title was Introduced on First Reading for Final Passage:

**O-4-2025-008 ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ONE
PROPERTY KNOWN AS BLOCK 52, LOT 2.05.
(Buckelew/Schoolhouse for Fire Dept. Easement)**

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

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

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

**O-4-2025-009 ORDINANCE APPROVING THE TRAFFIC SIGNAL
IMPROVEMENTS FOR APPLGARTH ROAD AND JOAN
WARREN WAY.**

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

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

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

**O-4-2025-010 ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF
MONROE UNDER CHAPTER 108 SECTION 6.23 TO AMEND
THE MEDICAL FACILITY REQUIREMENT IN THE PLANNED
RETIREMENT COMMUNITY DISTRICT 2. (“PRC-2”)**

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

Copy of Ordinance Duly Filed.

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Dipierro and seconded by Councilwoman Siegel, the following Resolutions were moved for Adoption under the **CONSENT AGENDA: R-4-2025-077– R-4-2025-102**, with the exception of Resolutions R-4-2025-084, R-4-2025-100 and R-4-2025-102 which will be considered separately.

**R-4-2025-077 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE PUBLIC AUCTION OF A 2010
VOLKSWAGEN TIGUAN BY THE MONROE TOWNSHIP POLICE
DEPARTMENT. (Auction Date: April 25, 2025 @ 10am)**

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe Police Department came into possession of a 2010 Volkswagen Tiguan, VIN# WVGBV9AX0AW529016 with an odometer reading of 200,046 miles; and

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

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

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

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe that the Township Business Administrator or his designated representative shall conduct a public auction for the sale of one (1) 2010 Volkswagen Tiguan on April 25, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. in front of the Township of Monroe Emergency Medical Services Building, Two Municipal Plaza, Monroe Township, New Jersey 08831.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minimum opening bid for the vehicle shall be \$7,475.00. At the end of the auction, the highest bidder shall deposit an amount equal to 10% percent of the final bid price in cash. There shall be no other forms of payment accepted. The balance shall be paid by certified check delivered to the Township Clerk’s office between the hours of 9:00 am and 12 noon within five (5) days after the conclusion of the auction. Upon payment in full, the Clerk’s office shall provide the purchaser with the signed documents necessary to complete the transaction with the Motor Vehicle Commission. In order to obtain the title for the vehicle, the highest bidder shall be responsible for submitting the appropriate documents and payments to the Motor Vehicle Commission in accordance with the Notice of Public Auction issued by the Township.

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

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-077						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-078

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF CONTRACT FOR REMOUNT OF (2) AMBULANCES TO BAYSHORE INVESTMENTS D/B/A VCI EMERGENCY VEHICLE SPECIALISTS USING THE HGACBuy NATIONAL COOPERATIVE PURCHASING PROGRAM FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE. (\$494,811.14)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe EMS Dept. requires two (2) ambulance remounts to bring old units up to safe standards; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe is permitted to join national cooperative purchasing agreements under the authority of N.J.S.A. 52:34-6.2(b)(3), and has joined the National Purchasing Cooperative H-GACBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program with authorization by Council Resolution No. R-1-2021-030; and

WHEREAS, the HGACBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program has, after competitively bidding, awarded a contract for the required ambulances under its contract #AM10-23 titled “Ambulances, EMS, and Other Special Service Vehicles” for said ambulances; and

WHEREAS, VCI has submitted (2) two proposals dated November 4, 2024 required Ambulance Remounts in the amounts of TYPE III F-450 Remount \$229,917.88 and TYPE I F-550 Remount of \$264,983.96, which meet the requirements of the Township, for a **total price of \$494,901.84**, a copy of the proposal is attached hereto as Exhibit “B” and “C”, respectively; and

WHEREAS, it is required by law that any like commodity purchase which exceeds the bid threshold of the Township (\$40,000.00) in aggregate, be authorized by the governing body; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Township Chief Finance Officer has certified availability of funds in Certificate No. C-2500034 copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

WHEREAS, The Purchasing Manager has followed the guidelines issued by the Division of Local Government Services via LFN 2012-10 for purchasing through a National Purchasing Cooperative including the advertising of a notice to award a contract via a National Co-op in the Home News and on the Township website, which included a ten-day comment period in which none were received; and

WHEREAS, the Purchasing Manager has recommended this award in a letter dated 3/7/25, attached hereto as Exhibit “D”; and

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

- (1) Authorizes the Township to contract for (2) ambulance remounts as referred to above, from VCI using the H-GACBuy Cooperative Purchasing Program; and
- (2) The Township Chief Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for said ambulances delivered by VCI; and
- (3) The contracts are awarded through this Cooperative Purchasing Program are considered fair and open contract in accordance with the Local Public Contracts Law, as well as being exempt from public bidding by the Township. Copies of the HGACBuy award documentation and VCI required form submittals are on file in the Clerk’s Office

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-078						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-079 RESOLUTION APPOINTING PRITESH VAGHANI AS ALTERNATE 4 TO THE MONROE TOWNSHIP ZONING BOARD OF ADJUSTMENT.

WHEREAS, Manmeet Singh Viridi resigned from the Zoning Board of Adjustments creating a vacancy in the Alternate 2 position; and

WHEREAS, all Alternate positions moved up as follows; Thomas Kole filled the unexpired Alternate 2 position expiring December 31, 2025 and Gerry Guidice filled the unexpired Alternate 3 position expiring December 31, 2025; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy now exists in the Alternate 4 Member position; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council approves the appointment of **Pritesh Vaghani** as an Alternate 4 Member to fill the unexpired term of Gerry Guidice commencing immediately and expiring 12/31/2025; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the following membership of the Zoning Board of Adjustment have been duly moved, seconded and approved by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on April 7, 2025.

		<u>Appointed</u>	<u>Term</u>	<u>Expiration</u>
Kelly Carey		01/01/2024	4 yrs.	12/31/2027
Louis Masters		01/01/2024	4 yrs.	12/31/2027
Marino Lupo		01/01/2023	4 yrs.	12/31/2026
Vincent LaFata		01/01/2022	4 yrs.	12/31/2025
Gary Busman		01/01/2022	4 yrs.	12/31/2025
Rajani Karuturi		01/01/2025	4 yrs.	12/31/2028
Donato Tanzi		01/01/2025	4 yrs.	12/31/2028
Arnold Jaffe	-Alt. 1	01/01/2025	2 yrs.	12/31/2026
Thomas Kole	-Alt. 2	01/01/2024	2 yrs.	12/31/2025
Gerry Guidice	-Alt. 3	01/01/2024	2 yrs.	12/31/2025
Pritesh Vaghani	-Alt. 4	01/01/2024	2 yrs.	12/31/2025

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-079						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-080 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE DISCHARGE OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING LIEN GIVEN ON 1014 MORNING GLORY DRIVE.

WHEREAS, on June 5, 2008, Shannin L. Clarkson (“Clarkson”) gave a recapture mortgage in accordance with the State’s Affordable Housing Program, to the Township of Monroe requiring Clarkson to pay the sum of \$102,000.00 to the Municipality upon the first non-exempt sale of their property having an address of 1014 Morning Glory Drive, (the “Property”) as provided under the rules of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.5(c), said mortgage having been recorded with the Middlesex County Clerk on June 16, 2008, in Mortgage Book 13026 on Pages 0311-0318 *et seq.* (“Clarkson’s Affordable Housing Lien”); a copy of said mortgage is attached as Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS, on June 24, 2024 , Clarkson sold the Property to Matthew and Saraanne Tkachuk, (“Tkachuk’s”); Clarkson executed a deed in the mandatory form required for ownership units subject to restrictive covenant required by N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.5(d) transferring title to the Property to the Tkachuk’s for the sum of \$227,580.00, said deed having been recorded with the Middlesex County Clerk on July 15, 2024 in Deed Book 19498, page 1300 *et seq.*; a copy of said deed is attached as Exhibit “B”; and

WHEREAS, on June 26, 2024, the Tkachuk’s gave a recapture mortgage in accordance with the State’s Affordable Housing Program to the Township of Monroe requiring the Tkachuk’s to pay the sum of \$112,420.00 to the Municipality upon the first non-exempt sale of their property having an address of 1014 Morning Glory Drive, as provided under the rules of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance Agency set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.5(c), said mortgage having been recorded with the Middlesex County Clerk on July 15, 2024, in Mortgage Book 19498 on Page 1335 *et seq.*; a copy of said mortgage is attached as Exhibit “C”; and

WHEREAS, Clarkson’s Affordable Housing Lien qualifies for discharge under the New Jersey Fair Housing Act, N.J.S.A. 52:27D-301 et seq. and the rules of the New Jersey Housing and Mortgage Finance agency set forth in N.J.A.C. 5:80-26.1 et seq.; and

WHEREAS, Clarkson sold the Property to the Tkachuk’s, and the Tkachuk’s executed a new affordable housing recapture mortgage in favor of the Township; accordingly, Clarkson’s Affordable Housing Lien should be discharged; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Mayor and Township Clerk are authorized and directed to execute the Discharge of Mortgage, annexed hereto as Exhibit “D”.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-080						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-081 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE 2025 RECYCLING ENHANCEMENT GRANT APPLICATION TO THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT.

WHEREAS, The County of Middlesex in continuing to recognize the importance of recycling and the role that the individual municipalities play in conjunction with the County towards achieving an exemplary recycling rate has proposed to provide grant monies to municipalities through the Recycling Enhancement Grant (REG) Program; and

WHEREAS, the intent of the REG Program is to provide funds to qualifying municipalities to be used for recycling compliance and enforcement to enhance a municipality’s recycling program; and

WHEREAS, it appears to be in the best interest of the Township of Monroe and its citizens to apply for this grant; and

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, that the Public Works Director and Recycling Coordinator are hereby authorized to submit the attached application for consideration of a grant to the Middlesex County Division of Solid Waste Management.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-081						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-082 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING SUBMISSION OF THE MUNICIPAL RECYCLING TONNAGE GRANT APPLICATION FOR YEAR 2025.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-082						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-083 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH JAMES P. NOLAN & ASSOCIATES FOR 2024 TAX APPEAL LEGAL SERVICES FOR THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE. (Additional \$2,300)

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-12-2023-293, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on December 20, 2023, authorized a Professional Service Contract with James P. Nolan and Associates for Tax Appeal Legal Services required by the Township of Monroe for calendar year 2024 in an amount not to exceed \$40,000.00; and

WHEREAS, Resolution No. R-12-2024-330 adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on December 18, 2024, authorized the Professional Service contract for 2024 Tax Appeal Legal Services to be increased by \$12,000.00, with the new contract amount not to exceed \$52,000.00; and

WHEREAS, the 2024 final bill came in and an additional \$2,300.00 is needed to close out 2024 Tax Appeal Legal Services, making the new contract amount not to exceed \$54,300.00; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the request and has found same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in Certificate Nos. C-2400010, copy of which is attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, authorization is hereby given to increase and modify the 2024 Tax Appeal Legal Services contract in the amount of Two thousand three hundred dollars (\$2,300).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the amendments to the agreements attached hereto.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-083						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-085 RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION. (3 yr terms - Nancy R. Mitrocsak, Barbara Bart, Marilyn Gonyo & 2 yr term – Sherry Freedman)

WHEREAS, the Honorable Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, by copy of letter dated March 18, 2025, has appointed the following members:

Nancy R. Mitrocsak	Member	3 Year Term	1/1/2025 – 12/31/2027
Barbara Bart	Member	3 Year Term	1/1/2025 – 12/31/2027
Marilyn Gonyo	Member	3-Year Term	1/1/2025 – 12/31/2027
Sherry Freedman	Alternate II	2-Year Term	1/1/2025 – 12/31/2026

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of the Township of Monroe requires the Advice and Consent of the Council for the above appointment.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Township Council hereby provides its Advice and Consents to the above new appointments to the **CULTURAL ARTS COMMISSION**.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-085						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-086 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE MIDDLESEX COUNTY IMPROVEMENT AUTHORITY AND THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR THE PROVISION OF RECYCLING COLLECTION SERVICES OF DESIGNATED RECYCLABLES. (3-year agreement - \$7.36 per unit per month)

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Solid Waste Management Act, N.J.S.A. 13:1E-1, et seq., each county within the State of New Jersey is deemed a solid waste management district; and

WHEREAS, each solid waste management district is responsible for developing a solid waste management plan that sets forth the strategy for disposing and/or recycling of solid waste generated within the geographic boundaries of the respective county; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Chosen Freeholders (the “Board”) of the County of Middlesex (the “County”) has adopted the Middlesex County Solid Waste Management Plan, as the same has been amended from time to time (the “County Plan”); and

WHEREAS, the County Plan designates the Middlesex County Improvement Authority (the “Authority”) as the sole implementing agency responsible for the implementation of the County’s Recycling Plan; and

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is desirous of contracting with the Authority, as more fully set forth in the attached “Agreement for the Provision of Recycling Collection Services of Designated Recyclables”

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 above referenced Agreement with the Middlesex County Improvement Authority be executed by the Mayor and Township Clerk; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the term of this Agreement shall commence on March 31, 2025 and shall continue until March 30, 2028 unless this Agreement is terminated or extended as provided in the attached Agreement.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-086						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-087 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF CONSTRUCTION PERMIT FEE. (Cancellation of Power Wall - \$936.00)

WHEREAS, the Construction Official, by copy of letter dated March 19, 2025, copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”, has recommended the Council approve the following construction permit refund:

Refund to:	Reason	Amount
Tesla Energy Operations Inc. 1001 Lower Landing Road Suite 601 Blackwood, N.J. 08012 Attn: Permit Coordinator	Permit # 2024-3513 Requests refund due to permit cancelled. Homeowner at 1 Byrne Court has cancelled powerwall installation.	\$ 936.00

WHEREAS, Council has reviewed the recommendation of the Construction Official and finds the request for the above refund to be reasonable;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the request is hereby authorized and that a refund be made to **Tesla Energy Operations in the amount of \$936.00.**

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-087						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-088 RESOLUTION APPOINTING TIMOTHY STOESSLER AS QUALIFIED PURCHASING AGENT AND SETTING THE BID THRESHOLD. (\$44K)

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-9(b), contracting units that have appointed a Qualified Purchasing Agent are authorized to take advantage of a higher bid threshold pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-3, giving municipalities the ability to increase their bid threshold to **\$44,000.00**; and

WHEREAS, the Honorable Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, by copy of letter dated April 1, 2025, has requested the advice and consent of the Township Council to appoint **Timothy Stoessler**, as **Qualified Purchasing Agent**, commencing April 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, N.J.A.C. 5:34-5 et seq. establishes the criteria for qualifying as a Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, Timothy Stoessler possesses the designation of Qualified Purchasing Agent; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council is desirous of appointing Timothy Stoessler as the Qualified Purchasing Agent for Monroe Township, hereby authorizing him to exercise the duties of purchasing agent pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A:11-2(30), with specific relevance to the authority, responsibility and accountability of the purchasing activity of the Township of Monroe as well as granting him authorization to negotiate and award such contracts below the bid threshold; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, and State of New Jersey, that they hereby consent to the appointment of Timothy Stoessler as Qualified Purchasing Agent for the Township of Monroe and the bid threshold shall be set at **\$44,000.00**.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, in accordance with N.J.A.C. 5:34-5.2, the Township Clerk is hereby authorized and directed to forward a certified copy of this Resolution to the Director of the Division of Local Government Services.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-088						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-089 RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE RE-APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS TO THE AFFORDABLE HOUSING BOARD. (2 yr term Andrea Pellezzi, Member and unexpired 2 yr term Arnold Riback, Alternate 1)

WHEREAS, due to the vacancy of Member on the Affordable Housing Board, the Honorable Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, by copy of letter dated April 1, 2025, has appointed Andrea Pellezzi to fulfill that opening with a term commencing January 1, 2025 and expiring on December 31, 2026:

WHEREAS, all Alternate positions will move up as follows: Arnold Riback to fill the unexpired Alternate 1 term of Andrea Pellezzi commencing immediately and expiring December 31, 2025 which leaves a vacancy in the Alternate 2 position; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of the Township of Monroe requires the Advice and Consent of the Council for such appointments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that the Township Council hereby provides its Advice and Consent and confirms the appointment of **Andrea Pelezzi** to serve on the **Affordable Housing Board as Member** for a two (2) year term, commencing January 1, 2025 and expiring on December 31, 2026 and **Arnold Riback** to serve on the **Affordable Housing Board as Alternate 1** fulfilling the unexpired term of Andrea Pellezzi commencing immediately and expiring on December 31, 2025.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-089						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-090 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF TAX OVERPAYMENTS.

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector for the Township of Monroe has recommended refunds for tax overpayments in the amount of One Hundred Ninety-Five Nine One Hundred Seventy Dollars and Eighty-Six cents (\$195,970.86) as described on Schedule A attached hereto; and

WHEREAS, one (1) of the overpayments on the attached Schedule A, the owners and residents have met all the requirements for a Totally Disabled Veteran Exemption as prescribed by New Jersey Statute 54:4-3.30 for exempt status until the applicant passes or the home is sold; and

WHEREAS, good cause has been shown.

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

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the exemptions are granted and taxes on the approved 100% Permanently and totally disabled veteran be cancelled and that the Tax Assessor and the Tax Collector are herewith authorized to adjust their records accordingly; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a certified copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the Tax Assessor, Tax Collector and Chief Financial Officer; and

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-090						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-091 RESOLUTION GRANTING ADVICE AND CONSENT TO THE APPOINTMENT OF KEVIN J. MCGOWAN AS DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE AND WHO SHALL SERVE AS BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR.

WHEREAS, the Honorable Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, in the County of Middlesex, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:69A-43 and Chapter 3, Article VI of the Code of the Township of Monroe, has appointed Kevin J. McGowan as **Director of the Department of Administration and Finance** and shall thereby serve as Township **Business Administrator**; and

WHEREAS, the appointment as Director of the **Department of Administration and Finance** shall be effective April 7, 2025 and shall run coterminous with the term of Stephen Dalina, Mayor of the Township of Monroe, or until the appointment and qualification of their successor; and

WHEREAS, the Administrative Code of the Township of Monroe requires the advice and consent of the Council for such appointments;

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 appointment of Kevin J. McGowan as **Director of the Department of Administration and Finance** and to thereby serve as the **Business Administrator** for the Township of Monroe.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-091						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-092 RESOLUTION APPOINTING FUND COMMISSIONER AND ALTERNATE FUND COMMISSIONER FOR THE GARDEN STATE MUNICIPAL JOINT INSURANCE FUND. (Kevin McGowan, Lori Olah & Danielle Racioppi)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe in Middlesex County is a member of the Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund; and

WHEREAS, it is required for the Township of Monroe to have representation on the Board of Commissioners.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED on this 7th day of April 2025, by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that:

1. Kevin J. McGowan is hereby appointed to fulfill the two-year term of Alan Weinberg as Fund Commissioner representing the Township of Monroe on the Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Board of Commissioners, effective immediately and expiring December 31, 2025.
2. Lori Olah and Danielle Racioppi are hereby appointed as Alternate Fund Commissioners representing the Township of Monroe on the Garden State Municipal Joint Insurance Fund Board of Commissioners.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-092						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-093 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A PROFESSIONAL SERVICE CONTRACT WITH PETER A. VIGNUOLO, ESQ. WITH THE FIRM OF CLARKIN & VIGNUOLO, P.C. FOR 2024 DEFENSE OF ZONING BOARD LITIGATION (additional \$1,219.87)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-4-2025-127, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on April 1, 2024, authorizing a Professional Service Contract with Peter A. Vignuolo and Clarkin & Vignuolo, P.C. for defense of the Township of Monroe Zoning Board’s litigation; and

WHEREAS, the hourly rate shall be \$195.00/hour; not to exceed \$5,000 in regard to the handling of lawsuits filed against the Zoning Board of Adjustment; and

WHEREAS, Peter A. Vignuolo and Clarkin & Vignuolo, P.C. has requested a modification to said contract for legal fees incurred in excess of the budgeted amount, in connection with the Township of Monroe Zoning Board’s litigation, and has requested authorization for an additional \$1,219.87; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the request and has found same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified the availability of funds in Certificate No. C-2400047, a copy of which is attached hereto;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey authorization is hereby given to modify said contract in the amount of One Thousand Two Hundred Nineteen Dollars and Eighty-Seven Cents (\$1,219.87) and the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the amendment to the agreement attached hereto.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-093						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-094 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDING FROM THE COUNTY OF MIDDLESEX AND THE EXECUTION OF A GRANT AGREEMENT FOR 330 SCHOOLHOUSE ROAD, ALSO KNOWN AS BLOCK 60 LOT 28.04 ON THE OFFICIAL TAX MAP OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MONROE FOR OPEN SPACE PURPOSES. (\$2 million)

WHEREAS, the Township of Monroe has acquired a Conservation Easement as to the property located on 330 Schoolhouse Road, Monroe, New Jersey known as Block 60, Lot 28.04 on the official tax map of the Township of Monroe (the “Property”) from Warren B. Barnes, Bruce N. Barnes, Robert S. Barnes, and James C. Barnes consisting of approximately 33.61 acres for open space purposes; and

WHEREAS, the County of Middlesex has agreed that it will provide a grant (the “Grant”) to the Township of Monroe in the amount of TWO MILLION DOLLARS (\$2,000,000.00) to assist the Township of Monroe in its acquisition of a Conservation Easement; and

WHEREAS, as a condition of accepting the Middlesex County Grant for the open space acquisition of the Property the Township of Monroe must enter into a Grant Agreement with Middlesex County in a substantially similar form to the Grant Agreement attached hereto and made a part hereof; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council of the Township of Monroe finds that it is in the best interests of the Township, its residents, the residents of the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey to accept the Grant from Middlesex County and enter in to the Grant Agreement.

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

1. The governing body does hereby authorize the acceptance of the grant from Middlesex County for the Conservation easement located at 330 Schoolhouse Road, Monroe, New Jersey and known as Block 60 Lot 28.04 of the official tax map of the Township of Monroe.
2. The governing body authorizes the Mayor to execute and the Township Clerk to witness the Grant Agreement with Middlesex County in substantially similar form to the one attached hereto and made a part hereof subject to the review of the Township Attorney.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-094						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-095 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EMERGENCY 2025 TEMPORARY BUDGET APPROPRIATIONS.

WHEREAS, an emergent condition has arisen with respect to payment of normal operating expenses and no adequate provision has been made in the 2025 temporary appropriations for the aforesaid purpose, and N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20 provides for the creation of an emergency temporary appropriation for the purposes above mentioned; and

WHEREAS, the total emergency temporary Resolutions adopted in Year 2025, pursuant to the provisions of Chapter 96, P.L. 1951 (N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20), including this Resolution, is **\$51,257,400.00;**

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED (not less than two-thirds of all the members thereof affirmatively concurring) that in accordance with the provisions of N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20:

1. Emergency temporary appropriations be and the same are hereby made for payment of the following entitled operating expenses:

<u>ACCOUNT NAME</u>	<u>TEMPORARY APPROPRIATION AMOUNT</u>
---------------------	---------------------------------------

OTHER TOWNSHIP AGENCIES:

<u>2025 Distracted Driving Grant</u>	\$	12,250.00
TOTAL BUDGET	\$	12,250.00

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

SO RESOLVED as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-095						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-096 RESOLUTION APPOINTING PUBLIC AGENCY COMPLIANCE OFFICER. (Kevin McGowan)

WHEREAS, pursuant to regulations promulgated by the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Office of Administrative Action, the Township is required to appoint a Public Agency Compliance Officer on an annual basis; and

WHEREAS, said position shall act as the liaison official for matters concerning P.L. 1975, c.127 (N.J.A.C. 17:27) and must have the authority to make the appropriate corrections to the Township’s contracting procedures; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council hereby appoints **Kevin J. McGowan, Business Administrator**, to the position Public Agency Compliance Officer, effective April 7, 2025 and expiring December 31, 2025;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this Resolution shall be forwarded to the State of New Jersey, Department of the Treasury, Office of Affirmative Action, CN 209, Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0209;

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-096						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-097 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO BAY HEAD INVESTMENTS INC. FOR AMBULANCE MAINTENANCE, PARTS & REPAIRS. (1 yr. contract with 2 yr. option to extend - Not to exceed \$84,000)

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2025, one (1) sealed bid was received by Monroe Township regarding Monroe Township **Ambulance Maintenance, Parts & Repairs**; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) recommends in his letter dated March 31, 2025, a copy of which is attached hereto, that the contract be awarded to **Bayhead Investments, Inc. (dba VCI), 43 Jefferson Ave., Berlin, NJ with a service location at 3560 Kennedy Rd., South Plainfield, N.J.**, in the amount of \$84,000 for the Monroe Township Ambulance Maintenance; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the recommendations made by the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) regarding said bid; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate Nos. C-2500035, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of a contract to **Bayhead Investments, Inc. (dba VCI)** for the Monroe Township Ambulance Maintenance, Parts and Repairs at the unit pricing provided by the bidder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Bayhead Investments, Inc. (dba VCI)** for a contract term ending on April 6, 2026, with the provision authorizing the Business Administrator to extend for a period of two (2) additional one (1) year extensions with the consent of the bidder under the same terms, conditions and pricing; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Certified Municipal Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay **Bayhead Investments, Inc. (dba VCI)**, in accordance with the contract entered into between the parties; and

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

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-097						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-098

RESOLUTION REQUESTING THAT NEW JERSEY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 14 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE GOVERNOR SUPPORT PASSAGE OF THE PROPOSED “NJ CLIMATE SUPERFUND ACT”.
(Assembly Bill No. 4696 and Senate Bill No. 3545)

WHEREAS, the proposed "NJ Climate Superfund Act" (S3545 / A4696), pending before the New Jersey Legislature would impose liability on large fossil fuel companies for certain climate change related damages they caused; and

WHEREAS, State Legislators have recognized the need to take further steps to address the impacts of climate change on municipalities across New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, copies of S3545 and A4696 are attached hereto as Attachment A; and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey expressly requests that Legislative District 14 representatives and Governor Murphy support the legislation described in this Resolution, and consider similar measures pending in both the State Assembly and State Senate that aim to prevent and address the impacts of Climate Change in the State of New Jersey; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Township of Monroe send a copy of this resolution to all Legislative District 14 representatives and the Office of the Governor; and

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-098						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-099 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF A PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR CONSTRUCTION ENGINEERING SERVICES TO H2M ASSOCIATES, INC. FOR 522 WATER STORAGE TANK REHABILITATION PROJECT FOR THE MONROE TOWNSHIP UTILITY DEPARTMENT (“M.T.U.D.”). (\$145,900)

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) has the need for Professional Construction Engineering Services for the 522 Water Tank Rehabilitation project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.5 et seq, after advertisement on the M.T.U.D. and Township’s website for not less than 10 days, Statements of Qualifications for General Water & Sewer Engineering Services were publicly opened for calendar Year 2025; and

WHEREAS, H2M Associates, Inc was selected as a qualified firm to perform these services; and

WHEREAS, H2M Associates, Inc. has submitted a proposal dated March 5, 2025, for the required work totaling \$145,900.00, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit “A”; and

WHEREAS, the M.T.U.D. Director reviewed the proposal in detail and has found it to be acceptable, and recommends a contract be awarded to H2M Engineering, Inc. in the amount of \$145,900.00, a copy of which is attached as Exhibit “B”; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to N.J.A.C. 5:30-5.4, the Township Chief Finance Officer has certified availability of funds in Certificate No. M-250015, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "C"; and

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

- (1) The Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized to enter into a contract with H2M Associates, Inc. for Professional Construction Engineering Services, in accordance with the proposal submitted in the amount of \$145,900.00.
- (2) The Township Chief Finance Officer is hereby authorized and directed to pay invoices for services rendered by H2M Associates, Inc. in accordance with the attached proposal;
- (3) The contract is awarded without competitive bidding through a fair and open RFQ/RFP process as a “professional service” in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:11-5(1)(a) of the Local Public Contracts Law because the contract is for a service performed by persons authorized by law to practice a recognized profession that is regulated by law;
- (4) The contract award is subject to H2M Engineering, Inc. providing the required valid certificate of insurance is provided.
- (5) A notice of this action shall be printed once in the Home News Tribune.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-099						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

R-4-2025-100 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING RELEASE OF PERFORMANCE GUARANTEES POSTED BY S & G PAVING INC. UPON THE POSTING OF A MAINTENANCE GUARANTEE IN CONNECTION WITH THE EMERGENCY SERVICES BUILDING SITE IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT.

WHEREAS, S & G Paving Inc. has posted Performance Guarantees for the **Emergency Services Building Site Improvements Project**; and

WHEREAS, S & G Paving Inc. has requested a release of the Performance Guarantees posted for this project; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 108-13.1 F and G of the Code of the Township of Monroe, the Township Engineer, by copy of letter dated March 25, 2025, 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 Emergency Services Building Site Improvements Project, be released as reflected in the Township Engineer’s letter dated March 25, 2025, attached hereto. This approval for release of the Performance Guarantees is conditioned upon the posting of a maintenance guarantee in the amount of **\$10,065.22**. Such maintenance guarantee shall run for a period of not less than two years from the date of memorialization of such action by the Council.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-100						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro					X	
Councilman Markel	X		X			
Councilwoman Siegel			X			
Council V. President VanDzura		X	X			
Council President Cohen			X			

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the following Resolution was removed from **CONSENT AGENDA** to be considered separately:

R-4-2025-084 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING MODIFICATION TO A CONTRACT AWARDED TO CUSTOM LANDSCAPING AND LAWN CARE INC. FOR MONROE TOWNSHIP 2025 LANDSCAPING SERVICES.
(Cranbury Station Rd basins – additional \$2,900.00)

WHEREAS, pursuant to Resolution No. R-3-2025-071, adopted by the Monroe Township Council at its meeting held on March 3, 2021, a contract was awarded to **Custom Landscaping and Lawn Care, Inc., 1900 Englishtown Road, Monroe Twp., N.J. 08831**; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Department of Public Works Supervisor, in attached correspondence dated March 14, 2025, has requested the current contract be modified to include the mowing, site maintenance, spring and fall cleanup of the Cranbury Station Road basins (Pops Farm Market) beginning April 1, 2025; and

WHEREAS, Custom Landscaping and Lawn Care, Inc. has provided an estimate for the additional work at a cost not to exceed an additional \$2,900.00 to the current contract price; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the request and has found same to be reasonable; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has certified in Certificate No. C-2500031/32, a copy of which is attached hereto, that sufficient funds are available;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it hereby authorizes the contract with Custom Landscaping and Lawn Care, Inc., be modified in the amount of *Two Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$2900.00)*.

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-084						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro					X	
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel	X		X			
Council V. President VanDzura		X	X			
Council President Cohen			X			

UPON MOTION made by Councilman Markel and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the following Resolution was removed from **CONSENT AGENDA** to be considered separately:

R-4-2025-101 RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING AWARD OF BID TO FREEHOLD CARTAGE INC. FOR SEWAGE HAULING SERVICES (M.T.U.D.).
(\$51,820)

WHEREAS, on March 28, 2025, five (5) sealed bids were received by Monroe Township regarding Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) **Sewage Hauling Services**; and

WHEREAS, the Monroe Township Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) recommends in his letter dated April 3, 2025, a copy of which is attached hereto, that the contract be awarded to **Freehold Cartage, Inc. P.O. Box 5010, Freehold, NJ 07728** in the amount of \$51,820.00 for the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) Sewage Hauling Services, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A"; ; and

WHEREAS, the Township Council has reviewed the recommendations made by the Qualified Purchasing Agent (QPA) regarding said bid; and

WHEREAS, the Certified Municipal Finance Officer has determined that sufficient funds are available, as set forth in Certificate No. M-250014, a copy of which is attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Council of the Township of Monroe, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that it has rendered its advice and hereby consents to the award of a contract to **Freehold Cartage, Inc.** for the Monroe Township Utility Department (M.T.U.D.) Sewage Hauling Services at the pricing provided by the bidder; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Township Clerk are hereby authorized and directed to execute a contract with **Freehold Cartage, Inc.** for a two-year contract term ending on April 6, 2027, with the provision authorizing the Business Administrator to extend for a period of one (1) additional one (1) year extension with the consent of the bidder under the same terms, conditions and pricing; and

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

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

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-101						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro	X		X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel		X	X			
Council V. President VanDzura			X			
Council President Cohen			X			

UPON MOTION made by Councilwoman Siegel and seconded by Council Vice-President Van Dzura, the following Resolution was removed from **CONSENT AGENDA** to be considered separately:

R-4-2025-102 RESOLUTION INTRODUCING THE 2025 MUNICIPAL BUDGET.

Section 1.

Municipal Budget of the TOWNSHIP of MONROE, County of MIDDLESEX for Fiscal Year 2025.

BE IT RESOLVED that the following statements of revenues and appropriations shall constitute the Municipal Budget for the Year 2025;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said Budget be published in the **HOME NEWS TRIBUNE** in the issue of **APRIL 25, 2025.**

The Governing Body of the **TOWNSHIP of MONROE** does hereby approve the Budget for the Year 2025;

SO RESOLVED, as aforesaid.

RECORDED VOTE: R-4-2025-102						
COUNCIL	MOTION	SECOND	AYE	NAY	ABSTAIN	ABSENT
Councilman Dipierro			X			
Councilman Markel			X			
Councilwoman Siegel	X		X			
Council V. President VanDzura		X	X			
Council President Cohen			X			

Administrator’s Report – Administrator McGowan thanked the Mayor and Council for appointing him in this new role as Business Administrator.

Gave a brief update on the Township’s Round 4 Affordable Housing progress; reported that our Planner calculated a need of 378 affordable housing units, which was presented to the Mayor and Council and adopted at the January 29th Council Meeting. He went on to say that there were two challenges to our calculation, one from the N.J. Builder’s Association and the other from Fair Share Housing, which was then ordered to go through the mediation process. Ultimately, the N.J. Builder’s Association withdrew their challenge, and we compromised with Fair Share Housing, increasing our obligation to 460. Administrator McGowan went on to report that the Township has begun the plan to achieve that number and is aggressively demanding a set aside for affordable housing units. Our veteran’s housing development is 100% affordable and has saved the Township 300 market rates units from being built. He added that there have been discussions at the Planning Board meetings to allow for the zoning of affordable housing units as the Township is only responsible for providing the zoning to allow the affordable housing units to be built. Lastly, he reminded everyone that we are still building from our Round 2 and Round 3 obligations.

Engineer’s Report – Engineer Rasimowicz reported that because of the weather there has not been a lot of construction happening.

Reported that demolition permits are being obtained for the renovations being done at James Monroe Park.

Paving in Inwood Estates will begin in May.

Council’s Reports –

Councilman Dipierro –

- Welcomed Kevin McGowan in his new role as Business Administrator.
- Reported that a construction project sign is missing at Inwood Estates.
- Inquired as to the progress of the Police Department’s renovations; Engineer Rasimowicz reported that the construction is moving along with the addition drying out and the roof and siding on. He went on to say that the contractor’s have begin working on the interior and rough inspections have started as well.
- On April 25th there will be a tree planting ceremony at Barclay Brook School beginning at 1:00pm.
- Thanked Mayor Dalina for having the Shade Tree section of the Township website updated with pertinent forms and information.
- Reported that he heard there were 29 residents living at Valor Pointe with 19 of those residents being veterans.
- Extended thanks for the streetlights being repaired and now functional.
- Inquired if there were any updates on water and sewer connections for Bentley Road; Director Stroin stated that the building plans are still moving forward with the developer but there has not been any movement forward in regard to water and sewer yet.
- Reported that the Township met with representatives from JCP&L and asked if there were any proposals on LED lighting to which Administrator McGowan stated that there has not been.
- Reported that the bridges on Federal Road and Rue Road are in need of resurfacing; Engineer Rasimowicz responded that there has not been an update from the County.
- Reported that he has received a lot of phone calls regarding quad and dirt bike riding on Township property and private property and questioned what can be done, suggesting that more of a police presence be on both Monmouth and Texas Road.
- The Board of Education will introduce their budget at their May 5th meeting.
- Attended on March 15th, along with Council President Cohen and Councilwoman Siegel, the “Seniors at Play” performance at the Senior Center noting that it was a well-attended and enjoyable event and thanking all that performed.
- Attended Softball Opening Day on April 5th which was a lot of fun, filled with great games. Thanked Joe Molinaro for all his hard work in dedication.
- Attended the Monroe Ice Hockey’s semifinal game in West Orange where unfortunately they fell short 9-3. Suggested that the team get recognized at an upcoming Council Meeting.

- Reminded all that the Dey Farm will have a historical tour from 1:00-4:00pm on the first Sunday of the month.

Councilman Markel –

- Joked that under our new Business Administrator Kevin McGowan’s leadership, the Township is still standing.
- Inquired as to how many veterans are living at Valor Pointe to which Administrator McGowan answered that he believed there to be 26 residents currently but Councilman Dipierro is reporting different so he will confirm and report back. Administrator McGowan reported that 37 units are set aside exclusively for veterans with the other 43 being veteran preference.
- Commented that the direction of the country will eventually affect Monroe Township.
- Thanked CFO Lori Olah for her hard work on preparing the budget.

Councilwoman Siegel –

- Attended the “Seniors at Play” performance at the Senior Center which had over 450 attendees and received a standing ovation.
- Welcomed Kevin McGowan in his new role as Business Administrator.
- Welcomed a new veterinarian in town, Monroe Parke Vet and wished them much success.
- Reported that there will be a DPW Informational Drop-In Session held at the Library on April 15th from 10:00am to 12:00pm.
- Invited all to check out the Library’s “Book Bike” at the Dey Farm.

Council Vice-President Van Dzura –

- Stated that we were lucky to have had Alan Weinberg as our Administrator and now with Kevin stepping in and taking over the transition is seamless and he is confident that Kevin will do a great job in this new role.
- Shared that the Township was successful in the “Bald Eagle’s Nest” lawsuit.
- As a former Recreation Advisory member, shared his excitement in attending Softball’s Opening Day.
- Inquired about the progress with getting veterans into Valor Pointe; Administrator McGowan stated that Conifer is in charge of managing all of the applications but he will confirm the numbers that have been reported and update all once received.
- Wished everyone a Happy Easter.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Dalina read his budget address into the record as transcribed below:

“ It is my privilege to present to you the proposed budget for the fiscal year 2025. This budget comes at a time of rising financial pressures, not only on our township government but also on our residents. Like many of you, we are facing increased utility costs, higher healthcare expenses, and other fixed costs affected by inflation. We know these pressures are real, and they are being felt throughout our community.

Despite these challenges, we have worked hard to craft a fiscally responsible budget that keeps our township on a path of safety, and sustainability. Our goal is to maintain the services that matter most to you while keeping taxes as low as possible.

This year’s budget reflects a modest 1.5 cent increase in the property tax rate. We understand that any tax increase is a burden, and that is why we have worked diligently to keep this increase as low as possible. For the average homeowner in Monroe, this increase equates to just \$4.00 per month. We recognize the importance of affordability, and this budget continues my commitment to tightening our belts and being mindful of your hard-earned dollars.

We have made difficult choices to ensure that the budget remains balanced, prioritizing essential services while foregoing all new major additions to the operating budget. The one exception is public safety. We must continue to invest in the safety and security of our community, and as such, we have authorized the addition of three new police officers and two new EMS personnel. It is crucial that we continue to prioritize public safety. These additions will help ensure that we maintain response times and services for our residents. Public safety remains the cornerstone of a thriving community, and we are committed to investing in it despite the pressures we face.

I work hard to engage with the community, gather feedback, and ensure that this budget reflects the values and needs of our residents. I appreciate the time and effort that so many of you have taken to share your thoughts with myself and the Township Council, and I am grateful for your continued support as we navigate these difficult times”.

Welcomed Kevin McGowan in his new role as Business Administrator and believes he will continue to lead the administrative portion of our government with much success and leadership.

Highlighted a few notable events, such as “Read Across America” and recognizing our Library during “Library Week” which is held from April 16-22, 2025. Also mentioned that a new episode of The Mayor Dalina Show is available to view on the Township’s website which is all about getting to know the library.

Attended Sy Lipper’s 99th Birthday celebration.

Attended the Opening Day celebration for baseball and softball this past Saturday, noting that the rain held off just enough to kick off the new season.

The Stonebridge Veterans Club has invited all veterans and their guests to a showing of the film “Good Morning Vietnam” to be held in the Stonebridge Ballroom.

Invited all to check out the Township’s website for more information on the Mayor’s Wellness Bike Ride.

Asked everyone to hold the Levinson Family in their thoughts and prayers as longtime resident and former Recreation Advisory Board Member Bob Levinson has passed away.

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

Public Comments –

Gary Busman, 7 Monarch Rd. – Mr. Busman congratulated Kevin McGowan on his new role as Business Administrator and asked if he would be in attendance at the Zoning Board meetings to which Administrator McGowan answered yes.

Mr. Busman commented that not enough veterans seem to be applying for Valor Pointe and asked what Conifer was doing to market the development as he does not want to see unoccupied units.

Mr. Busman commented that he is in support of Ordinance O-4-2025-010 as the real discussion is parity and it is important to understand the difference.

Rachel Dawn Davis, Manalapan Resident – Ms. Davis introduced herself as Public Policy and Justice Organizer for Waterspirit and shared that she would like to propose an Ordinance for the Township to adopt to “Skip the Stuff” which would reduce nonessential single use plastics, etc.

Prakash Parab, 33 Dayna Dr. – Mr. Parab congratulated Kevin on his new role as Business Administrator.

Mr. Parab asked for clarification on our affordable housing obligation as he understood that the Township’s Round 3 obligation was 850 units and wanted to know if we are adding an additional 400+ units to our Round 4 obligation; Administrator McGowan answered that 850 units were our Round 3 obligation which the Township needed to implement zoning to allow for 850 units to be built. He went on to say that Round 4 is starting this year and would be an additional 400+ units which we would need to implement the zoning for.

Mr. Parab shared that the school budget will be an approximate \$45/month increase per household.

Lastly, Mr. Parab asked for an explanation on the grant money used to purchase the land at 330 Schoolhouse Road; Administrator McGowan answered that the Township purchased the development rights and put the property into Farmland Preservation. This property is a beautiful 34-acre piece of land which is now protected from being built on.

Brian Thompson, Monmouth Beach Resident – Mr. Thompson introduced himself as Monmouth Beach Environmental Commissioner, Member of Beyond Plastics Advisory Board as well as retired News 4 journalist who covered N.J. in his reporting. He stated that he was here in support of Ms. Davis’s “Skip the Stuff” Ordinance and spoke about the importance of package reduction and asked for the Township’s support in this mission. Mr. Thompson also mentioned the importance of considering a “Construction Sawdust Containment” Ordinance, which he stated he would send more information on to the Mayor and Council via email.

Lucille Panos, 1208C Lindera Plz. – Mrs. Panos welcomed Kevin McGowan in his role as Business Administrator commented that he has large shoes to fill.

Commented that she hopes each of the Council members follow up Valor Pointe as it is important to support our veterans.

Mrs. Panos asked what the value of the average house in the Township is to which Administrator McGowan responded \$337,000.

Mrs. Panos stated that she does not know what the motivation of the Council is, but she found Council Vice-President Van Dzura’s rant at last month’s meeting unacceptable.

Michelle Arminio, 9 Nathaniel St. – Mrs. Arminio commented that it is unacceptable to object to the content of someone’s speech.

Regarding the “Bald Eagle’s Nest” lawsuit, Mrs. Arminio commented that we very rarely win against developer’s and was wondering if they planned to file an appeal; Administrator McGowan stated that there is a notice of further appeal to the Supreme Court but he is unsure if they will take it. Mrs. Arminio commented that we can only truly be happy if they do not appeal.

Regarding Ordinance O-4-2025-009 which pertains to the improvements on Joan Warren Way, Mrs. Arminio asked what else needs to be done as the traffic signal is operational; Engineer Rasimowicz responded that this is a Middlesex County traffic signal and was a tri-party agreement between the County, the Township and the developer and once the traffic signal is built and functioning one of the conditions of the County accepting it is the Township has to accept it first and then the County can accept it at their next Commissioner’s meeting and will then be maintaining that traffic signal.

Mrs. Arminio asked if 30% affordable housing build out for Round 4 can be maintained; Administrator McGowan explained that the Township first has to develop the implementation plan which will then need to be adopted by the Planning Board and Council and will need to include specific project sites and we will be aggressively pursuing a 30% set aside for the specific sites.

Mrs. Arminio stated that she was disappointed in the veteran’s housing numbers but we need to do whatever we can and apply pressure to provide just for veterans.

Welcomed Kevin McGowan in his new role as Business Administrator and wishes him well.

Bob Valentine, 68 Union Valley Rd. – Mr. Valentine asked how the County’s new tax rate will impact the Township; Administrator McGowan stated that County taxes went up 1.4 cents and ours went up 1.5 cents. Mr. Valentine stated that he would like to hear more from the Council on how they are going to address the budget issues as he feels that they are too compliant. Mr. Valentine went on to address some concerns he had with the budget, commenting that he feels that the entire process is disrespectful to the community in that an 80-page document gets no time to be addressed by the public.

UPON MOTION made by Council Vice-President Van Dzura 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 Van Dzura and seconded by Councilman Dipierro, the Regular Meeting was Adjourned at 9:36pm.

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

Christine Robbins

CHRISTINE ROBBINS, Township Clerk

Miriam Cohen

MIRIAM COHEN, Council President