

**MONROE CHARTER TOWNSHIP  
MONROE COUNTY, MICHIGAN  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
August 15, 2023  
7:00 p.m**

**CALL TO ORDER**

A meeting of the Monroe Charter Township Board was called to order by Supervisor Alan Barron at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 15, 2023 from the Monroe Charter Township Hall, 4925 East Dunbar Road, Monroe County, Michigan.

**ROLL CALL**

**Present:** Supervisor Barron, Clerk Smith, Trustee's Janssens, Raymo, Manor and Howe.

**Excused:** Treasurer Barton

**Others Present:** Chief Cherney, Attorney McCormick and twenty (20) audience members.

**INVOCATION/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Consider recommending approval of Pin Seekers LLC's request for a Class "C" liquor license at 15261 South Dixie Highway, Monroe, MI 48161, Property I.D. #5812-010-348-03 (property owner, Meram Investment LLC), under Charter Township of Monroe Liquor License Ordinance No. 149.**

**PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS**

There were no comments.

**ADJOURN PUBLIC HEARING**

**Motion #1.** Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to adjourn the public hearing at 7:03 p.m.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Regular Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023 and Workshop Minutes of August 8, 2023).**

**Motion #2.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Janssens to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes of June 20, 2023, Regular Meeting Minutes of July 18, 2023 and Workshop Minutes of August 8, 2023, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**APPROVE PAYMENT OF BILLS/INVOICES**

**Motion #3.** Motion by Howe, supported by Manor to approve the payment of bills/invoices as listed by the Clerk, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

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**ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS REPORT**

**Motion #4.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Smith to accept the Zoning Board of Appeals Report, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Smith yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**FIRE DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**Motion #5.** Motion by Janssens, supported by Smith to accept and place on file the Fire Department Report for the month of July 2023, as presented.

Roll call vote: Janssens yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**SHERIFF DEPARTMENT REPORT**

**Motion #6.** Motion by Howe, supported by Raymo to accept and place on file the Sheriff Department Report for the month of July 2023, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Raymo yes, Smith yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. **Financial Reports:**
  - 1. Clerk's 2023 Budget Summary Report, period ending July 31, 2023.
  - 2. Treasurer's Monthly Statement of Bank Accounts & Investments, period ending July 31, 2023.
  
- B. **General Reports:**
  - 1. Supervisor.
  - 2. Building Official.
  - 3. Blight Report.
  - 4. Zoning Enforcement Officer.
  
- C. **Communications:**

**Motion #7.** Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to accept the Consent Agenda and place on file, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**RESOLUTION**

**Resolution #23-07, recommending approval of Pin Seekers LLC's request for a Class "C" liquor license at 15261 South Dixie Highway, Monroe, MI 48161, Property I.D. #5812-010-348-03 (property owner, Meram Investment LLC), under Charter Township of Monroe Liquor License Ordinance No. 149.**

**Motion #8.** Motion by Smith, supported by Manor to approve Resolution #23-07, recommending approval of Pin Seekers LLC's request for a Class "C" liquor license at 15261 South Dixie Highway, Monroe, MI 48161, Property I.D. #5812-010-348-03 (property owner, Meram Investment LLC), under Charter Township of Monroe Liquor License Ordinance No. 149, as presented.

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**PUBLIC AND BOARD COMMENTS**

Scott Burns advised the Board that they are opening up a bar with golf simulators, axe throwing and fowling.

Trustee Howe inquired on training required for those that will be serving alcohol.

Jonathan Konicki confirmed that there would be T.I.P. training which is required by the Michigan Liquor Control Commission.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Manor yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**ORDINANCES**

**Waive the second reading and adopt General Ordinance No. 156, Liquor License Ordinance Amendment (an amendment to Chapter 5, Article IV, Section 5-70, of the Monroe Charter Township Code of Ordinances), regarding the transfer of location of an existing liquor license for sale, service or allowing the consumption of alcoholic liquor on the premises; Transfer of ownership of an existing liquor license without a transfer of a location of such license, all to reference Liquor Licenses, and to have published in the Monroe News and become effective immediately upon publication.**

**Motion #9.** Motion by Smith, supported by Howe to waive the second reading and adopt General Ordinance No. 156, Liquor License Ordinance Amendment (an amendment to Chapter 5, Article IV, Section 5-70, of the Monroe Charter Township Code of Ordinances), regarding the transfer of location of an existing liquor license for sale, service or allowing the consumption of alcoholic liquor on the premises; Transfer of ownership of an existing liquor license without a transfer of a location of such license, all to reference Liquor Licenses, and to have published in the Monroe News and become effective immediately upon publication, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approve James Jacobs Architect to engage construction documents for Township Hall renovations and addition.**

**Motion #10.** Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to approve James Jacobs Architect to engage construction documents for Township Hall renovations and addition, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve contract with Monroe County Road Commission to clean certified alley between Bacon and Union Streets. Monroe County Road Commission will split cost.**

**Motion #11.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to approve contract with Monroe County Road Commission to clean certified alley between Bacon and Union Streets. Monroe County Road Commission will split cost.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

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**NEW BUSINESS (Con't)**

**Approve Clerk and Deputy Clerk to attend MTA Clerks Retreat on September 26-27 in Harbor Springs, to include registration, lodging and meals.**

**Motion #12.** Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to approve Clerk and Deputy Clerk to attend MTA Clerks Retreat on September 26-27 in Harbor Springs, to include registration, lodging and meals, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve seeking bids and using ARPA funds for remainder of Township Park, parking lot, Barron's Way and Nature Trail resurfacing.**

**Motion #13.** Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to approve seeking bids and using ARPA funds for remainder of Township Park, parking lot, Barron's Way and Nature Trail resurfacing, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Open sealed bids for sale of fire boat.**

**Motion #14.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Janssens to consider the sealed bid for the sale of the fire boat from Greg Reno in the amount of \$1,500.00, as it sits but with the pump, as presented.

**BOARD COMMENTS**

Clerk Smith stated that she would be willing to accept a bid for \$1,500.00 without the pump. The trailer is worth that much. The Township still needs to purchase a boat and we may need that pump.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Manor no, Smith no, Howe no, Barron no. **Motion denied.**

**Approve two (2) month leave of absence for Firefighter Daniel Liddy, effective September 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023, as recommended by Chief Cherney.**

**Motion #15.** Motion by Manor, supported by Howe to approve two (2) month leave of absence for Firefighter Daniel Liddy, effective September 1, 2023 to October 31, 2023, as recommended by Chief Cherney, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve sending firefighter Nicholas Ottinger to Medical First Responder Class at Luna Pier Fire Department beginning September 9, 2023, at a cost of \$650.00.**

**Motion #16.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to approve sending firefighter Nicholas Ottinger to Medical First Responder Class at Luna Pier Fire Department beginning September 9, 2023, at a cost of \$650.00, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider authorizing Supervisor and Clerk to sign contract with Consumers Energy for installation of two (2) streetlights in the Estates of Wellington. (A petition has been submitted by the majority of property owners within the assessment district).**

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**NEW BUSINESS (Con't)**

**Motion #17.** Motion by Smith, supported by Manor to consider authorizing Supervisor and Clerk to sign contract with Consumers Energy for installation of two (2) streetlights in the Estates of Wellington, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider bid from David Hoffman and Sons to demolish house at 13747 LaPlaisance Road at a cost of \$15,000.00 and to authorize the attorney to place a lien on the property.**

**Motion #18.** Motion by Smith, supported by Howe to Consider bid from David Hoffman and Sons to demolish house at 13747 LaPlaisance Road at a cost of \$15,000.00 and to authorize the attorney to place a lien on the property, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve annual payment of \$1,000.00 to the Monroe Conservation District and authorize Supervisor to sign service agreement.**

**Motion #19.** Motion by Smith, supported by Janssens to approve annual payment of \$1,000.00 to the Monroe Conservation District and authorize Supervisor to sign service agreement, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Janssens yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve use of Nature Center for "Walk of Warmth", sponsored by Monroe County Opportunity Program on November 4, 2023, with fees being waived.**

**Motion #20.** Motion by Raymo, supported by Janssens to approve use of Nature Center for "Walk of Warmth", sponsored by Monroe County Opportunity Program on November 4, 2023, with fees being waived, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve use of Township Hall for Southpointe Homeowners Associations Annual meeting on October 25, 2023.**

**Motion #21.** Motion by Smith, supported by Manor to approve use of Township Hall for Southpointe Homeowners Associations Annual meeting on October 25, 2023, with fees, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider Special Event for Pansy Heath, Pastor of I Am Church, to be held on August 27, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

**Motion #22.** Motion by Smith, supported by Howe to consider Special Event for Pansy Heath, Pastor of I Am Church, to be held on August 27, 2023, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Howe yes, Manor yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider Special Event for URB Cannabis, 14515 LaPlaisance Road, to be held on September 4, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m.**

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**NEW BUSINESS (Con't)**

**Motion #23.** Motion by Smith, supported by Manor to consider Special Event for URB Cannabis, 14515 LaPlaisance Road, to be held on September 4, 2023, from 10:00 a.m. – 6:00 p.m., as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider Special Event for Terrance Gerin, Big Daddy's Boat Yard, 13931 Bridge Drive, to be held on September 8, 2023, from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. (This event is not open to the public).**

**Motion #24.** Motion by Manor, supported by Raymo to consider Special Event for Terrance Gerin, Big Daddy's Boat Yard, 13931 Bridge Drive, to be held on September 8, 2023, from 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m., as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Raymo yes, Howe yes, Smith yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider request of Anna Sloan, LLC (Monroe Cultivation) to extend the September 3, 2023, deadline to obtain a State of Michigan License for a marihuana grower at 15600 S. Telegraph Road, for an additional 6 months or until March 3, 2024. (see Zoning Enforcement Officer's comments).**

**Motion #25.** Motion by Howe, supported by Raymo to consider request of Anna Sloan, LLC (Monroe Cultivation) to extend the September 3, 2023, deadline to obtain a State of Michigan License for a marihuana grower at 15600 S. Telegraph Road, for an additional 6 months or until March 3, 2024, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Janssens no, Smith yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for SSDLG, LLC, of 14750 LaPlaisance Road, Unit #240, from 8/8/23 – 8/8/24.**

**Motion #26.** Motion by Smith, supported by Howe to consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for SSDLG, LLC, of 14750 LaPlaisance Road, Unit #240, from 8/8/23 – 8/8/24, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Janssens no, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Hempnotize Kitchen, LLC, of 14731 S. Telegraph Road, from 7/11/23 – 7/11/24.**

**Motion #27.** Motion by Howe, supported by Smith to consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Hempnotize Kitchen, LLC, of 14731 S. Telegraph Road, from 7/11/23 – 7/11/24, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Smith yes, Janssens no, Manor yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Hempnotize, LLC, of 14733 S. Telegraph Road, from 10/20/23 – 10/20/24.**

**Motion #28.** Motion by Raymo, Manor supported by to consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Hempnotize, LLC, of 14733 S. Telegraph Road, from 10/20/23 – 10/20/24, as presented.

Roll call vote: Raymo yes, Manor yes, Smith yes, Janssens no, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

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**NEW BUSINESS (Con't)**

**Consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Nu Group, LLC, of 14498 LaPlaisance Road, from 10/20/23 – 10/20/24.**

**Motion #29.** Motion by Howe, supported by Smith to Consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Nu Group, LLC, of 14498 LaPlaisance Road, from 10/20/23 – 10/20/24, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Smith yes, Janssens no, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Anna Sloan, LLC, of 14515 LaPlaisance Road, from 10/5/23 – 10/5/24.**

**Motion #30.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to consider approving renewal of marihuana business license for Anna Sloan, LLC, of 14515 LaPlaisance Road, from 10/5/23 – 10/5/24, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Howe yes, Manor yes, Janssens no, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Authorize payment to Herkimer Radio in the amount of \$5,051.80 for Fire Department pager equipment.**

**Motion #31.** Motion by Manor, supported by Raymo to authorize payment to Herkimer Radio in the amount of \$5,051.80 for Fire Department pager equipment, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve bid in the amount of \$14,620.00 from Sieb Plumbing to install air conditioning unit at Fire Station #1, using funds from fire millage.**

**Motion #32.** Motion by Smith, supported by Howe to approve bid in the amount of \$14,620.00 from Sieb Plumbing to install air conditioning unit at Fire Station #1, using funds from fire millage, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve purchase of a new server for the Township Hall from Kinzit, in the amount of \$35,000.83, using ARPA Funds.**

**Motion #33.** Motion by Smith, supported by Howe to approve purchase of a new server for the Township Hall from Kinzit, in the amount of \$35,000.83, using ARPA Funds, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Howe yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve purchase of new server for Fire Station #1 from Kinzit, in the amount of \$19,553.41, using Fire Millage Funds.**

**Motion #34.** Motion by Manor, supported by Janssens to approve purchase of new server for Fire Station #1 from Kinzit, in the amount of \$19,553.41, using Fire Millage Funds, as presented.

Roll call vote: Manor yes, Janssens yes, Smith yes, Howe yes, Raymo yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve payment using ARPA Funds for sealing parking lot at Township Hall (approved last month).**

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**NEW BUSINESS (Con't)**

**Motion #35.** Motion by Howe, supported by Smith to approve payment using ARPA Funds for sealing parking lot at Township Hall, as presented.

Roll call vote: Howe yes, Smith yes, Raymo yes, Manor yes, Janssens yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**Approve payment using Fire Millage Funds for sealing of parking lot at Fire Station #1 (approved last month).**

**Motion #36.** Motion by Smith, supported by Manor to approve payment using Fire Millage Funds for sealing of parking lot at Fire Station #1, as presented.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Manor yes, Raymo no, Janssens yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Public comments began at 7:39 p.m. and ended at 8:05 p.m.

There were five public comments.

William Bruck addressed the Board discussing bills in the House of Representatives and their impact. Mr. Bruck also explained that he will be present now that he has retired from the military.

Other comments were clarification on the alley clean-up, reconsideration of microbusinesses and blight on Laplaine Road.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion #37.** Motion by Smith, supported by Raymo to adjourn the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

Roll call vote: Smith yes, Raymo yes, Janssens yes, Manor yes, Howe yes, Barron yes. **Motion carried.**



Christina Smith, Clerk  
Monroe Charter Township

Attested:



Alan Barron, Supervisor  
Monroe Charter Township