

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013

**PUBLIC HEARING
PROPOSED LOCAL LAW
“AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF LIMIT
ESTABLISHED IN GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW 3-c”**

A Public Hearing was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 6:30 PM in the boardroom of the Village Hall, 7 Stage Road, Monroe, NY on a proposed Local Law entitled “A Local Law Authorizing a Property Tax Levy in excess of the limit established by General Municipal Law 3-c.” The purpose of this proposed Local Law is to allow the Village to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Village of Monroe pursuant to General Municipal Law Section 3-c, and to allow the Village of Monroe to adopt a village budget for (a) village purposes and (b) any other special or improvement district governed by the Board of Trustees for fiscal year 2013 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by General Municipal Law 3-c. This local law, if adopted, will relieve the Village of the prohibition against increasing a tax levy by more than 2% as imposed by General Municipal Law 3-c. As the Village relies upon the assessments of the Town of Monroe and therefore cannot anticipate the impact of resolutions of tax certiorari matters or other unanticipated expenses the restrictions of General Municipal Law would potentially impose a great hardship upon the Village or require borrowing otherwise deemed unnecessary.

Present: Mayor Purcell; Trustee Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin
Also present: Village Clerk Carey

There was no one present for the Public Hearing. Mayor Purcell read the Public Hearing Notice and opened the hearing for comment or questions from the Board. There was no written correspondence received. On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Wright, with all in favor, no comment the hearing was closed at 6:45 PM.

**BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2013**

The first of the bi-monthly meeting of the Board of Trustees was held on Tuesday, February 5, 2013 at 7 PM in the Boardroom of the Village Hall, 7 Stage Road, Monroe, NY. Mayor James Purcell called the meeting to order and led in the pledge to the flag. Emergency exits were announced.

Present: Mayor Purcell; Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin
Also present: Village Clerk Carey

MINUTE APPROVAL: JANUARY 3RD AND 15TH

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Chan, the Minutes of the January 3, 2013 Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan and Conklin
Nays: None
Abstain: Trustee Wright (absent)

On a motion by Trustee Gormley seconded by Trustee Chan, the Minutes of the January 15, 2013 Meeting were approved.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin
Nays: None

BUDGETARY TRANSFERS / MODIFICATIONS:

On a motion by Trustee Gormley seconded by Trustee Conklin, with all in favor, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorized the Treasurer to make the following fund transfers / modifications to balance the budget:

<u>FROM:</u>	<u>TO:</u>
A2115 Planning Board Fees	A8025.450 Pl Bd Eng Contract \$5,000
A2260 Police Services	A3120.435 PD Grant Expenses 3,000

RESCIND RESOLUTION FOR F/T BILLING CONTROL CLERK POSITION:

Donna Piliere from Orange County Human Resources informed the Clerk following the January 15th Meeting that there is an eligible list in existence resulting from an exam in 2011, held at the request of the Village. A municipality has 60 days to canvass the list before expiration of that list. The list itself does not expire until 2014. Currently, there are 45 names on the list. Our part-time appointee did not take that test. No resident list can be established, as no one from the Village of Monroe is on the open competitive list. Pursuant to Civil Service Law, no provisional appointment may occur in the face of an open competitive list. On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Gormley, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees rescind their resolution of January 15, 2013, Minutes page 94, appointing Noelle C. Seman provisionally as a full-time Billing Control Clerk.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

NATIONAL MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS SOCIETY CHARITY WALK, 4/28/13:

On a motion by Trustee Chan seconded by Trustee Gormley, it was:

RESOLVED, contingent upon sign off by the Building Inspector and Acting Police Chief, the Board of Trustees approved the request of the National Multiple Sclerosis Society, New York, Jenny You, Coordinator, 733 Third Ave., Third Floor, New York, NY 10017, to use the commuter Parking Lot on Mill Pond Parkway and the Crane Park walking path to host their annual 1.5/3 mile walk on Sunday, April 28, 2013 from 6 AM to 2 PM. Approval was given for setup on 4/27 from 3-6 PM. Setup will include tents, tables, portable toilets, dumpster and a bouncy house. The event will be supervised by the Police Dept. and DPW Supt.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

RETIREMENT – POLICE CHIEF DOMINIC GIUDICE:

The Village has received notification from Police Chief Giudice and the NYS Retirement System that January 29, 2013 is the Chief's effective day of retirement. Mayor Purcell thanked Chief Giudice for his 31 years of service to the Village of Monroe and wished him well in his retirement.

BOND - MAVIS TIRES, 558 ROUTE17M (TM# 220-4-6.1)

On a motion by Trustee Gormley seconded by Trustee Chan, it was unanimously:

RESOLVED, the Board accepted the recommendation of the Planning Board's engineer, John O'Rourke, P.E., Lanc & Tully Engineering, and approved acceptance of a cash bond or local bank Letter of Credit as surety for public improvements in the amount of \$100,000 for the Mavis Tires project at 558 Route 17M.

BID: AQUATIC VEGETATION MANAGEMENT PROGRAM 2013

On a motion by Trustee Chan seconded by Trustee Gormley, with all in favor, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees authorized the Village Clerk to publish a “Request for Proposals” for the 2013 Aquatic Vegetation Management Program for the Mill Ponds.

WATER GENERATOR MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT RENEWAL – PEAK POWER:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Gormley, it was:

RESOLVED, in accordance with the Village procurement policy, the Board of Trustees approved the renewal of the system checkup for the Water Department’s generator with Peak Power Systems, Inc., 99 Sprague Ave., Middletown, NY 10940 for period 2/1/13 – 1/31/2014 in the amount of \$833.50. Funds to be allocated from budget line F8330.450.

Discussion followed. Trustee Conklin, liaison to the Water Department, will speak to Mr. Kennedy to see if it would be in the village’s best interest to put the generator maintenance out to bid. On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Gormley, motion was withdrawn. This matter was tabled to the February 19, 2013 Meeting for action.

WATER MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT: CORRPRO (WATER STORAGE TANK / CLARIFIER CATHODIC PROTECTION

On a motion by Trustee Gormley seconded by Trustee Chan, with all in favor, it was:

RESOLVED, in accordance with the Village’s Procurement Policy, the following agreement was approved:

Annual Water Storage Tank Inspection Agreement for Filtration Plant with Corrpro, Waterworks Division, P O Box 721, Medina, OH 44256 at a budgeted cost of \$710 for period 3/1/13 through 2/28/2014. Funds to be allocated from budget line F8330.450. It is further

RESOLVED, Mayor Purcell is authorized to sign the annual service agreement with Corrpro.

PD MAINTENANCE SUPPORT FOR NYS RICISCAN SYSTEM WITH COMNETIX, INC.

On a motion by Trustee Wright seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved an agreement with Comnetix, Inc., 2872 Bristol Circle, Suite 100, Oakville, ON L6H6G4 Canada for Level 11 Support for NYS Rici Live Scan System at a cost of \$2,973 from budget line A3120.450. Term February 1, 2013 through January 31, 2014. It is further

RESOLVED, the Board authorized Mayor Purcell to sign the agreement with Comnetix.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

EMINENT DOMAIN AUTHORIZATION: TM 207-1-10

On a motion by Trustee Chan seconded by Trustee Wright, with all in favor, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board authorized the Mayor to talk with the Village Attorney exploring Eminent Domain for property described as Tax Map # 207-1-10.

WATER BILLING SOFTWARE ON-LINE PAYMENT MODULE:

(see Minutes page 84)

On a motion by Trustee Gormley seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board approved the purchase of an additional module for on-line payments for the new billing software program through Software Consulting Associates, Inc., 54 Elizabeth Street, Suite 17, Red Hook, NY 12571 at a cost of \$6,300 allocated from budget line F8340.410. This module will enable credit card payments on-line directly credited to the customer account (not manually as we currently do), and enable those users to check their account billing and balances. (Total cost of Software package \$17,600 + \$6,300 =\$23,900.)

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

REFERENDUM EXPIRATION: TOWN WATER DISTRICT – ORCHARD HILLS WATER DISTRICT:

The time lapse on the resolution for Village Board endorsement of the Town of Monroe’s

Formatting a town water district – Orchard Hills Water District subject to a Permissive Referendum has expired 2/4/12. (see minutes page 85, 1/3/13)

LOCAL LAW #1 OF 2013 AUTHORIZING A PROPERTY TAX LEVY IN EXCESS OF THE LIMIT ESTABLISHED BY GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW 3-c:

On a motion by Trustee Conklin seconded by Trustee Wright, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees does hereby adopt Local Law #1 of 2013, “authorizing a property tax levy in excess of the limit established by General Municipal Law 3-c. The purpose of this Local Law is to allow the Village to override the limit on the amount of real property taxes that may be levied by the Village of Monroe pursuant to General Municipal Law 3-c, and to allow the Village of Monroe to adopt a budget for (a) village purposes and (b) any other special or improvement district governed by the Board of Trustees for the fiscal year 2013 that requires a real property tax levy in excess of the “tax levy limit” as defined by GML 3-c. This Local Law shall take effect upon filing with the Secretary of State.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

SUPPORT FOR NYS CONTACT INFORMATION FOR VACANT STRUCTURES:

On a motion by Trustee Wright seconded by Trustee Chan, the following resolution was adopted:

RESOLVED, the Village of Monroe Board of Trustees hereby go on record as supporting New York State regarding the proposed laws concerning contact information for vacant structures.

WHEREAS, vacant, abandon and foreclosed homes and structures have proliferated throughout New York State over the last five years; and

WHEREAS, vacant structures that are not maintained for months at a time degrade and depreciate the value of the vacant structure as well as the value of surrounding properties; and

WHEREAS, lending institutions that hold mortgages on said vacant structures do not always provide the contact information of a responsible party; and

WHEREAS, Assembly Bill A.88 and A.824, currently pending, would make it mandatory for lending institutions to provide contact information of responsible parties regarding vacant structures; and require good faith in obtaining a foreclosure; and

WHEREAS, the Village of Monroe Board of Trustees support the passage of said Bills.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Village of Monroe hereby supports the passage of said Bills and respectfully requests that the State Representatives who represent constituents in the Village of Monroe support the passage of said Bills.

Copies of this resolution will be forwarded to Senator William J. Larkin, Jr. (District 39), Assemblywoman Annie G. Rabbitt (District 98); Co-sponsor of this bill – Senator Ellen Jaffee (District 97); Assemblyman Michael P. Kearns (District 142).

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

PUBLIC COMMENT: # PRESENT 29 TIME: 7:20 PM

PBA President Anthony Amatetti read the following letter into the minutes in support of Lt. Alex Melchiorre for the position of Police Chief. See attached.



Monroe Police Benevolent Association



PO Box 1005 – Monroe, NY 10950
(845) 222-2297 - Fax (845) 782-2227

Anthony Amatetti
President

Darwin Guzman
Vice President

Christopher Gatto
Treasurer

Douglas Krauss
Secretary

February 5, 2013

Mayor James Purcell
Trustee Melinda MacDonald-Gormley
Trustee Theodore Wright
Trustee Wayne Chan
Trustee Irene Conklin

Dear Mayor Purcell and Board of Trustees,

We are writing to express our support for Lieutenant Alex Melchiorre for the position of Police Chief. This support is unanimous from every sworn and civilian member of the police department, many of whom are also village residents.

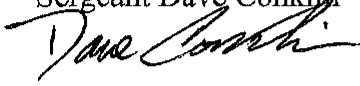
Throughout the years of what we considered questionable leadership by our former police chief, Lieutenant Melchiorre has been the glue that has held this department together. Most of the current programs, all of the grants we received and the department's accreditation program were all implemented by Lieutenant Melchiorre without complaint or discouragement as he watched others take credit for it. For many years we have witnessed Lieutenant Melchiorre's unwavering loyalty to this village and its residents.

In times when morale was at its lowest, he continued to remind us as a department that we had a responsibility to the people of this village and to continue to be our best each and every day. In this time of transition, Lieutenant Melchiorre has a vivid and clear plan for this department to move forward and progress into the future. His plan has always been for the betterment of the police department and the safety of the village of Monroe residents. His intimate knowledge of the village and his current staff gives him the ability to address any problems and utilize manpower to its fullest extent. Lieutenant Melchiorre is a village resident and a 37 year veteran of this police department.

Lieutenant Melchiorre has always been a true leader of this department and has been a mentor to us all. We all strongly feel that he has earned the opportunity to be our next police chief.

Yours Truly,

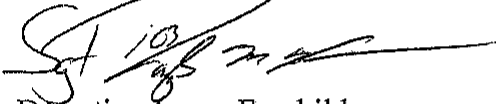
Sergeant Dave Conklin



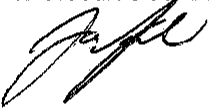
Sergeant Jeffrey DeLuca



Sergeant Douglas Krauss



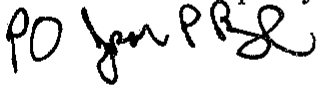
Detective James Frankild



Detective Darwin Guzman



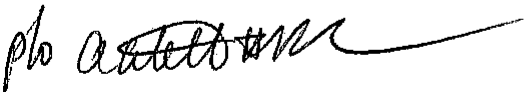
Police Officer Joseph Ryle



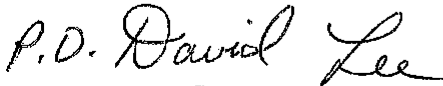
Police Officer Stephen Dunn



Police Officer Anthony Amatetti



Police Officer David Lee

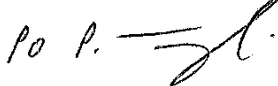


Police Officer Christopher Gatto



Police Officer Patrick Tenaglia

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Police Officer Kyle Mahoney



Police Officer Ambiorix GomezVega



Police Officer James Gayler



Police Officer Timothy Young



Dispatcher Patricia Housekeeper



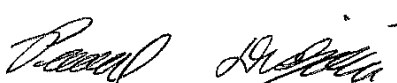
Dispatcher James Arndt



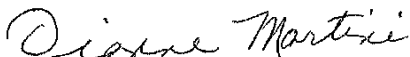
Dispatcher Michael Contaxis



Dispatcher Pawel Dudzinski



Administrative Secretary Dianne Martini



Sergeant Jeff DeLuca commented. He has worked for the Monroe Police Dept. 15 years. In the past 15 days he has seen more positive movement in the Police Department than he has seen in his entire 15 years. He's watched the Lieutenant sit back and allow others to take credit for his work for a lot of years. You are not going to find a better candidate for Chief than Alex Melchiorre. Discipline, teamwork and a sense of community are now at the forefront. Lt. Melchiorre is part of every event; has gotten every grant he has submitted for and yet never once tried to take credit. Lt. Melchiorre loves his community and he loves the job and respects those he works with. As a show of support tonight you have retirees, half of the Village of Harriman Police Dept. and half of the Police Department here. These people have seen what Lt. Melchiorre has done through the years and respect him. The morale at the Police Dept. has come full circle and we all agree that Lt. Melchiorre is the right man for the position of Chief. For the Board to hire from the outside you are telling us there is no future for us to advance and it tells us you've watched this guy do all this hard work for all these years and saying it doesn't matter. You're telling all of us here tonight that it's just a waste of our time. Alex Melchiorre carried us to where we are today and he should be given a chance to carry us to the future.

Retired Sergeant John Flood read the following statement: *Thank you Mr. Mayor and Board Members for giving me this opportunity to speak to you about Alex Melchiorre. I grew up in this Village and from 1981-2006 I worked with Alex at the Police Department. I first met Alex on a very cold and extremely windy morning in February 1978 at about 3 AM. I was inside a garage that my father had rented on Elm Street for his business. I was inside checking on a heater that we had used to keep chemicals from freezing. When I turned around there was a Monroe Police Officer standing inside the garage shining a flashlight in my face and questioning me about who I was and what I was doing in the garage. After I introduced myself and explained why I was there, he left. I remember telling my dad about the incident in the AM and how happy he was that at 3 AM on a morning like that there was a Police Officer checking that out of the way garage he had rented. I remember telling my dad how professional he was – hat and all. In 1980, I joined the*

Washingtonville Police Department and then in 1981 I was hired by the Village of Monroe Police on St. Patrick's Day. Within one week the Village of Monroe was host to the local St. Patrick's Day Parade. I had a traffic post on Route 17M and Ramapo St. that day and I can still remember Alex coming by and checking on me to make sure I was okay. In the following weeks and months it became clear to me that Alex was the "go to guy" if you needed anything. That is a position he held with me until my retirement. Alex has held the position of Patrolman, Detective, Detective Sergeant, Sergeant, Administrative Sergeant and Lieutenant. He always did his job to the best of his ability which is why he continued to get promoted over the years. Anyone that worked here will tell you that if you need something Alex is the guy to go to. If you needed help with a criminal case or an internal issue, Alex is the guy that everyone looks to for guidance. Alex and I worked together as partners when we were patrolman. Those were by far by best years in the Police Dept. We got a lot of work done and enjoyed coming to work each day. There were times it wasn't easy and we went on some very serious calls back then. As the senior man, Alex had to make some decisions as to how to handle each call. On more than one occasion I had to trust my life to his decisions. We always came out okay. I have yet to see a problem or issue at the Police Dept. he couldn't handle. In my opinion Alex should be promoted to Chief of Police. He will bring back much needed respect to the position of Police Chief. He will get and give the respect to and from the men and woman of the Police Dept. which has been missing for years. There will be a lot less people looking to leave and take jobs at other Police Departments. Alex has always had the best interest of the Police Department and its members at heart. Over my 25 years with the Police Department I have seen Alex guide and mentor several officers. Some of them are here this evening which speaks volumes to the respect Alex has from his men and staff. As for me, I feel so strongly about this that I made a 6 hour round trip spending over \$100 in gas and tolls and have lost a half day of work just to be here this evening. Just to make this clear, Alex and I are very good friends. I am the godfather to his son and he is my daughter's godfather. With that said even if I disliked Alex I would still recommend him for the position of Police Chief. After 37 years he deserves it!

Former Police Officer and PBA President and village resident Andy Loughlin commented. His fellow officers have shared the sentiment they all feel. Mr. Loughlin wanted to add that he has worked for a lot of bosses through the years. Lt. Melchiorre is one of the most capable Police Supervisor's he has ever worked for. He is a take charge person when something happens. He doesn't hesitate. He is proficient at what he does. Everyone here can tell you he has basically run that Police Department for some time. You have a great professional Police Department here. There is no corruption, you don't hear about dirty cops in Monroe, you don't hear about people not getting good service. Your Police Department provides good quality service. Bringing someone in from the outside would give the impression you have a corrupt police department. The department is doing its job! Bringing someone in from the outside, in Mr. Loughlin's opinion, is a huge disservice to the village residents as well as those who currently serve and protect this village. An 18 man police force you are not going to see a lot of chances for promotion. To hire from the outside takes away the motivation from those who work here. In summary, "if it's not broke – don't fix it!"

Retired Police Officer Greg Witte said he worked here 20 years. He started when Dom became Chief and watched it go downhill from there. He watched the internal struggle within the department. Lt. Melchiorre was criticized and it's not fair to hold him accountable when he was forced to work there. Don't hold it against the Lieutenant. He did the best he could to make things happen in the best interest of the department.

Sergeant Doug Krauss commented that for the past 6 years he's had the honor to work with Lt. Melchiorre and the Police Accreditation Program. The department has been reaccredited three times. The accreditation allows the village to receive reduction on its insurance. Lt. Melchiorre has been the project manager and overseer. The Monroe Police Department has been told they are superior to almost 90% of all other agencies. Lt. Melchiorre has been asked to be an auditor for the accreditation counsel. The Lieutenant has been nothing but a leader.

Mayor Purcell thanked everyone for their statements. The Board appreciated the support shown for Lt. Melchiorre.

F/T POLICE OFFICER APPOINTMENT: ANTHONY GROSSO EFFECTIVER 3/1/13

On a motion by Trustee Wright seconded by Trustee Chan, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approves the full-time appointment of Anthony Grosso to the position of Police Officer effective March 1, 2013. Mr. Grosso fills the vacancy created by the promotion of Darwin Guzman to Detective. Mr. Grosso is a transfer from the Town of Wallkill Police Department. His anniversary date is 6/1/12. The rate of pay for the position is \$45,746. Probationary period not to exceed 26 weeks.

Ayes: Trustees Gormley, Chan, Wright and Conklin

Nays: None

PROVISIONAL POLICE CHIEF APPOINTMENT: ALESSIO MELCHIORRE

On a motion by Trustee Wright seconded by Trustee Chan, with all in favor, it was:

RESOLVED, the Board of Trustees approved the appointment of Alessio Melchiorre to the position of Provisional Police Chief effective immediately at his current salary.

ADJOURNMENT:

On a motion by Trustee Chan seconded by Trustee Gormley, and carried, no further business, the meeting was closed at 7:50 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Virginia Carey

Village Clerk