

**Cape May Court House, NJ
TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORKSESSION AGENDA
June 17, 2013 4:00 P.M. (prevailing time)**

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor's Announcement: I hereby declare that notice has been given to the Herald Times, the Atlantic City Press and posted on the bulletin board of the Middle Township Municipal Building, stating the time and place of the following meeting, as required in P.L. 1975, Chapter 231 of the State of New Jersey. (Sunshine Law).

Notice of this meeting was properly given in Resolution No. 18-13 entitled "Establishing Work Session Meeting Nights" which was adopted by Township Committee of the Township of Middle on January 3, 2013.

Present are Mayor Lockwood and Committeemember Donohue. Business Administrator Connie Mahon, Township Clerk Kimberly Krauss, Deputy Township Clerk Suzanne Stocker, Municipal Solicitor Marcus Karavan & Municipal Engineer Marc DeBlasio. *Committeemember DeLanzo was absent.*

FLAG SALUTE:**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND PROJECT UPDATES:****Administration:**

FEMA Update

Connie Mahon - The Federal Emergency Management Agency officially released the revised working maps for Atlantic, Hudson, Monmouth and Ocean counties today. As anticipated and after much scrutiny, the updated maps significantly reduce the scope of areas susceptible to major waves, known as "V" zones. Homes in those zones must be elevated on pilings, which could cost tens of thousands of dollars more than raising a home in less at-risk areas. According to news reports thousands of homes along New Jersey's coastline have been shifted out of the most at-risk flood zone. Cape May County working maps are anticipated in July or August and our Freeholder Director, Gerry Thornton remains vigilant in his efforts along with all of the elected officials in Cape May County to minimize the impact of the working maps.

The federal agency provided us with advisory maps late last year to serve as guidance for storm victims rebuilding in Hurricane Sandy's wake. They were considered worst- case scenario but residents and officials all over New Jersey balked at the expansion of the "V" zone which has since been re-evaluated and resulted in a better outcome in the 4 counties listed earlier.

To put this in perspective: the number of homes in the high-risk area in Brick Township jumped from 400 to 4,000 in the advisory maps, a designation that left many homeowners unsure whether they could afford to rebuild, the new working maps at least 3,000 homes to have been moved back into the "A" zone in the updated maps.

Finance:**Public Works & Engineering:**

Bike Path Phase 4 Discussion

Dan Lockwood - applied for \$730,000 for Phase 4 of the Bike Path for Indian Trail to Satt Blvd. Funded for \$300,000 total, construction and inspection services are eligible to be paid out of that total. How far can it get us and where do we allocate that money?

Marc DeBlasio - Program was much larger and were funded for half of it. Can do entire project and come up with additional money, or split the phases and have a Phase 4 and Phase 5. \$280,000 would cover about a mile of bike path, which would go to Main Street in Whitesboro. Phase 5 would be done in 2014 and would hopefully finish the project.

Mayor Lockwood - Asked if there was any merit in starting at Satt Boulevard and working north, as there are side streets to ride bikes through Whitesboro.

Marc DeBlasio - If you chose to flop sections, the out of pocket expenses will increase because that section is longer. It can be done, but changes the financial dynamic.

Committeemember Donohue - If you wanted to make striping on roads through Whitesboro, you would have to enforce no parking on the streets. Makes sense to proceed with Indian Trail south, and look at another phase at a later date.

Mayor Lockwood - North Wildwood's bike path is off of the side of the road, although that is a different situation than Middle Township.

Marc DeBlasio - We would have to look into an easement.

Committeemember Donohue - Could we look into additional signage with the extra money that we will have left over from this project? There was signage left of out Phase 1 and 2 which should be put into this

Phase. Maybe look into a grant for additional funds to add signage to other Phases.

Committeemember Donohue – Asked for time frame.

Marc DeBlasio – Waiting on authorization for design plan, hopes to be out to bid within next 2-3 months.

Tracey Taverner – Township will need Appropriation Ordinance for \$28,000 to cover engineering costs. That process could take 3-4 months.

Avalon Manor Paving Discussion

Marc DeBlasio – Landberg Construction awarded contract for this project. Private street openings have been opened but have not yet been closed and are waiting for final coating and settlement. There are about 5-6 of these openings. Landberg Construction started late in the project, the utility work is complete, but they are about 4-6 weeks behind schedule. Major hole opening on Sea Breeze lane which is not ready to be paved over yet. Two options: (1) Landberg can wait 30 days to allow more settlement and then come back in and finish the paving of the project; or (2) Allow contractor to leave for the summer and come back after Labor Day to finish the project after the areas have had extra time for settlement and to avoid paving failure. Public Works Department is pushing applications of street openings to finish up their projects so that Landberg can finish this project.

Marc DeBlasio - Spoke about elevation changes at intersection and “reduced flow” alterations by County. County was supposed to improve the intersection, but have since found out that is not going to happen. Design had to be reviewed and changed to allow intersection to be raised another 1’ or 1.25’.

There will be a crown in the road which will change the drainage pattern of the area.

Mayor Lockwood – Asked about condition of roads during wait period, approx. 10 weeks.

Marc DeBlasio – Roads would be cleaned up and nothing left other than work being done by road opening applicants.

William Lane – 420 Old Avalon Boulevard – Notice was sent to residents about street paving in fall 2012, concerned about the delay from these applicants for street openings. Lives across from the construction area, upset with staging area which is loud and dirty. Construction starts at 6:15am and should not be until 7am.

Mayor Lockwood – Asked Connie to discuss start time with contractor.

Alice Smith – 28 Chanel Road - Asked if there was a time frame for this project in the contract?

Mayor Lockwood – Yes, hoped that it would have been done by Memorial Day, but have experienced projects and Township is avoid spending additional money.

Wagner – 611 Old Avalon Boulevard – Spoke of large puddle in the road that runs into his yard. Spoke of emergency situation at marina last summer, ambulance took 45 minutes to get from entrance to marina due to flooding.

Catherine Beding – 612 Old Avalon Boulevard – Water of rain storm lays there for days. Sees drains installed throughout area, but does not see anyone on 600 block, thinks the adding of drains should be considered on the 600 block.

Peter Rollick – lives on boat at Marina – Has industrial background in “flow”. Took ambulance 45 minutes to assist him when he has a heart attack at marina on June 4, 2012. Spoke of “duck bill” not working properly.

Marc DeBlasio – Crowning of intersection is not being delayed, so flooding issues should be corrected. Intersection will be raised concurrent with Leonard’s Lane, delay is in the finale of the project. Advised that he will look into “duck bill” issue.

Mayor Lockwood - Three issues to be looked into on this project: checking duck bill, time of start, appearance of construction yard.

Mike Sowers – 138 Meadow View Lane – Spoke of pot holes not being filled in properly and asked if there was anything that can be done since the contractor is not fulfilling the time portion of the contract?

Marc DeBlasio – Contractor started late due to weather, issues with street openings – all of which are not the fault of the contractor.

Mayor Lockwood – They are a contractor who has worked for the Township before and a contractor which we would like to use again, we do not want them to think of the Township in a negative way and not bid in the future.

Legal:

Tax Collection/Tax Assessment:

Construction/Planning/Zoning:

Recreation:**Police:****Buildings and Grounds:****Sewer:****Grants:****Personnel:****Zoning:****Township Clerk:****SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS:****PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Jim McGill – Spoke of ethics board and the lack of the need for such a committee at this time. Ethics Board heard three cases last year which required outside counsel due to conflicts with board members. Board also requires training or do not show up which is an added expense for the board. Lower Township and Upper Township do not have Ethics Boards. Committeemember Donohue – Thanked Mr. McGill for speaking about this matter. Believes this should be considered to move forward to dissolve the board.

John Errico – 200 Stagecoach Road – Expressed concerns of Pierson clearing more area around their gravel pit to mine. They no longer have a buffer zone and are pumping 50,000-100,000 gallons a day. Called DEP last week they came out the following day and shut down the gravel pit for the day. Contacted Middle Township Zoning Office regarding water being pumped into wooded area and did not receive a call back until three weeks later, which was today, and was advised that this matter is being discussed at this Work Session.

Mayor Lockwood took Mr. Errico's contact information to contact to further discuss this matter.

Motion to Adjourn Meeting – 5:18pm

1st – Mayor Lockwood 2nd – Committeemember Donohue

Roll Call Vote: Committeemember Donohue, Mayor Lockwood

Kimberly D. Krauss, Township Clerk