

**Cape May Court House, NJ
TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORKSESSION AGENDA
May 19, 2014 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. 16-14 entitled "Establishing Work Session Meeting Nights" which was adopted by Township Committee of the Township of Middle on January 6, 2014.

Members present are Mayor Donohue, Committeemember Lockwood and Committeemember Clark.

Business Administrator Connie Mahon, Township Clerk Kimberly Krauss, Deputy Township Clerk Suzanne Stocker, Municipal Solicitor Marcus Karavan & Municipal Engineer Marc DeBlasio.

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

Flood Plain Easement Program

Beth Friday, NJ Fish and Wildlife:

- Program helps property owners affected by the storm- buy easement and pay for removal of structures through easement. Township would be "sponsor" and would be owner of record. Purpose of program is to restore flood plain. Received three applications from Middle Township residents for program- too late for sponsorships.
- Stafford Township, Eagleswood Township currently participating in program.
- Can purchase partial properties if it is large property.
- NRCS federal agency under Department of Agriculture, federal money, no state money involved.
- Mayor Donohue would like to reach out to other towns for their opinion on how the program is.

Tax Rebate Card

Mayor Donohue- recapped previous discussion on property rate card, spoke of chamber meeting last week with economic development council- goal to get 20 local businesses to enroll in program. Cards would be sponsored by local businesses and mail to residents. Middle Township would be 8th town to enroll in program. Other towns say it is a good program.

Bette McGurk-believes program is small business vs. small business, most small businesses already discount and can't afford to discount any more. Will not benefit for food shopping or clothing because they are large chain stores, will only benefit restaurants-would rather see it benefit something other than property tax relief.

Committeemember Clark- may see potential problem if business community does not enroll to program- may not receive sponsorship by bank. Thinks magic number for businesses to enroll is twenty.

Route 47 Activity

Committeemember Clark- Several fatalities on Route 47 have occurred this year, provided copy of letter previously sent to VanDrew regarding rumble strips on center line of Route 47 and possibly shoulders. Would like to resend letter from Township to VanDrew and to State regarding this request.

Connie Mahon- will prepare new letter to send and attach previous letter.

Committeemember Clark- mentioned fire district also sending letter.

Finance:**Public Works & Engineering:****Legal:****Tax Collection/Tax Assessment:****Construction/Planning/Zoning:**

DECO 2001, 414 Garden State Parkway- Request for Zoning Change

Tom Hillegass, Esquire was present with Lou DeLosso to discuss request for zoning change. Mr. DeLosso presented committee with history of approvals in 1987 and the request for this parcel to receive a zoning change to move forward with planned project. Mr. DeLosso indicated that after approvals in 1987, the master plan changed the zoning for this parcel which no longer permits the anticipated use.

Marc Karavan indicted that this is a unique property and the approvals are contingent upon a situation that the applicant has no control over.

Mayor Donohue would like to further discuss this matter with Elizabeth Terenick, Middle Township's planner, to obtain her opinion on the proposed planning change.

Sam Kelly- concerned with residential area being close by, confused as to who has jurisdiction over matter as it was previously scheduled at planning board recently.

Mayor Donohue- master plan revisions through committee.

Sam Kelly- concerned with zoning going from RC to TC with increase in property value (per MLS).

Lou DeLosso- letter wrote to Mayor and forwarded to planning board, received unanimous through planning board and transferred back to Committee.

-flag lot, no residential use adjacent to property.

David May- advised that zone TC is recommended if the parcel is put into Towne Center as recommended by the planning board and believes that the committee should agree with this recommendation.

Bette McGurk- concerned with having septic and being put into sewer district.

Recreation:

Police / Animal Control:

Buildings and Grounds:

Sewer:

Economic Development:

Personnel:

Zoning:

Township Clerk:

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

No Public Comment

Kimberly D. Krauss, Township Clerk

Motion to Adjourn Meeting – 5:26 PM

1st Committeemember Clark

2nd Committeemember Lockwood

Roll Call Vote: Committeemember Clark, Committeemember Lockwood, Mayor Donohue