

**Cape May Court House, NJ
TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE
WORKSESSION AGENDA
July 20, 2015 4:00 PM (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. 17-15 entitled "Establishing Work Session Meeting Nights" which was adopted by Township Committee of the Township of Middle on January 6, 2015.

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

Business Administrator Constance 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:**

Discussion – "GRANDE Plan"

Mayor Donohue:

- *Issues of drug abuse, homelessness, and poverty cannot be solved but rather worked on to minimize the occurrence.*

Committeemember Lockwood:

- *Discussed issues that affect the entire community including property maintenance, drug abuse and distribution, homelessness, traffic/pedestrian safety, and crime.*

Mayor Donohue:

- *Mentioned the progress of hotels/motels and the quality of ownership.*

Committeemember Clark:

- *Concerned with safety of pedestrians on Route 47.*
- *Believes there should be more barriers and lighting*

Chris Leusner:

- *Is concerned with traffic and pedestrian safety and believes additional lighting and crosswalks should be added.*
- *Spoke of New York Avenue and is pondering over a new design.*
- *Mentioned the CURE program provided by The Lighthouse Church to enforce drug and alcohol relapse prevention.*
- *Another issue of concern includes services for the homeless and Veterans.*
- *Crime has been reduced by 30% with the DDACT program.*
- *Officers has been applied on foot and on bikes in the area of Rio Grande.*

Finance:**Public Works & Engineering:****Legal:****Tax Collection/Tax Assessment:****Construction/Planning/Zoning:****Recreation:****Police / Animal Control:****Buildings and Grounds:****Sewer:****Economic Development:**Economic Development Council - Request for
"Area of Need"*Don Ayars, TRIAD Association:*

- *States that the area is in need of rehabilitation, not redevelopment.*

- Discussed the five-year tax abatement adopted by ordinance.
- Certain statutory requirements are to be met for a region to be considered an "area in need" of rehabilitation.

Committeemember Lockwood:

- Asked if whether municipal land or vacant land were being considered.

Don Ayars:

- Both types of land are eligible including commercial/industrial oriented.
- Requested that resolutions containing comments from the Planning Board be forwarded to the DCA for approval.

Carol Struett:

- The kind of land can be chosen.
- There are safeguards are in place.
- There is a tool in place to be utilized to entice buyers to accept tax abatement.
- Next step would be to obtain a report from the Planning Board.

Cheryl:

- Believes the tax abatement project would attract developers to the Township of Middle and would make for an incentive for them to invest.

***Committee plans on obtaining a report from the Planning Board**

Discussion regarding NJ DCA Application / CMC Open Space Application RE: Avalon Manor Fishing Pier

Mayor Donohue:

- Gave background information on previous application for the fishing pier.
- Proceeded by presenting the most recent opportunity in the form of a grant for additional funds to renovate the fishing pier and make it more accessible for people with disabilities.

Anne Garrison:

- Needs to separate ADA application from open space application.

Mayor Donohue:

- Does not believe one application would be accepted without the other.
- Applications balance each other, and second application would cover costs for "match".

Marc DeBlasio:

- Spoke about the structure of the fishing pier reconstruction.
- "Match" would cover out of pocket expenses.

Constance Mahon:

- There is no guarantee but there is a good chance for open space which would be a \$960,000 project.

Marc DeBlasio:

- August 17, 2015 is the County deadline.
- Deadline for ADA is in September.
- Ruling for ADA is in November.

Constance Mahon:

- Discussed proposed plan.
- Parking and signage to be addressed.

***Further discussion added to August 17, 2015 Work Session agenda to invite Avalon Manor residents.**

Personnel:**Zoning:****Township Clerk:****SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS:****PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Kimberly D. Krauss, Township Clerk

Motion to Adjourn Meeting – 5:06pm

1st Committeemember Clark

2nd Committeemember Lockwood

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

Minutes prepared by Krystel Arana, Keyboarding Clerk I