

**Cape May Court House, New Jersey  
TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
WORK SESSION AGENDA  
August 16, 2021 5:00 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. 26-21 entitled "Establishing Work Session Meeting Nights" which was adopted by Township Committee of the Township of Middle on January 7, 2021.

Members present are Mayor Donohue, Deputy Mayor Gandy, and Committeemember Norris

Business Administrator/Township Clerk Kimberly Krauss, Deputy Business Administrator Suzanne Schumann, Deputy Township Clerk Andrea Singley, Township Engineer Vincent Orlando & Municipal Solicitor Marcus Karavan

**FLAG SALUTE:****PRESENTATIONS OR DISCUSSIONS:**

Eagle Scout Service Project Presentation –  
Julianna Nelson

*Julianna Nelson:*

- *Gave background on her scouting career; explained project to place 4 benches and fishing rod holders on the pier in Ockie Wisting Park; presented Committee with proposed sketches*

*Mayor Donohue:*

- *Asked if she will be building the benches*

*Julianna Nelson:*

- *Explained she had two benches that were donated and would build the additional two benches; explained building process*

*Mayor Donohue:*

- *Explained the project must be approved by the Township Engineer, Vince Orlando*

*Kimberly Krauss:*

- *Explained Township must be sure the County will approve the changes that were not approved through the original open space grant*

*Vince Orlando:*

- *Explained barrier that may be presented with the County's approval of the project*

*Nancy Sittineri:*

- *Asked if there was room to change the colors of the benches Julianna plans to build; further stated she would provide her contact information to Julianna to discuss further*

*Mayor Donohue:*

- *Discussed placing benches at various Township parks that do not have the same restrictions*
- *Asked about deadline to complete the project*

*Julianna Nelson:*

- *Stated she must make Eagle Scout before her 18<sup>th</sup> birthday which is in October*

*William Clower:*

- *Explained Julianna also needs time to raise money to help with the project; stated she must have the project approved by the Township and the Eagle Scouts before she can begin to raise money*

Recreation and Open Space Survey  
Findings – Nancy Sittineri, Grants  
Coordinator / Input for Shell Bay Pier  
Improvements

*Nancy Sittineri:*

- *Discussed grant applied for in 2020 for open space projects and surveys done for the same*
- *Explained an important point for the community is to keep the rural integrity of the Township; spoke of questions about family activities explained most responsive request was about the bike trail*
- *Spoke of questions presented about what the Township needs; Stated that most responses were for more bike activities; explained this could be accomplished by exploring activities off the bike trail; continued to discuss different family activity options*
- *Stated there were requests for security upgrades to the current recreational areas and additional playground items*
- *Explained there were also requests for apps to download to get information on what is going on within the Township*
- *Continued to discussed various requests such as additional festivals and shuttles services to wineries and breweries*
- *Discussed age geographic and response type from individuals of the survey*

*Kimberly Krauss:*

- *Asked how many total responses were received*

*Nancy Sittineri:*

- Stated there were 234 responses; explained the survey was available for two and a half weeks then continued to advertise before closing the survey

Mayor Donohue:

- Discussed similarities in the requests and preferences in the answers in this survey compared to the original survey completed years prior; explained benefits of pushing forward with Shell Bay Pier project to help comply with many of the requests in the survey
- Commented on the proposed kayak racks and ramps at the Shell Bay Pier as well as potential parking solutions

Vince Orlando:

- Stated launching at Shell Bay Pier may be an issue

Mayor Donohue:

- Asked what the specific issue would be

Kimberly Krauss:

- Explained the issue would be the fast-moving tide

Vince Orlando:

- Mentioned he was more concerned with access to water there

Mayor Donohue:

- Discussed recent implementation of a kayak ramp in Sea Isle

Vince Orlando:

- Spoke of issue previously in the location that was damaged during a storm; explained ramp may just need to be taken out during the off season

Mayor Donohue:

- Discussed various areas in the Township that had been improved through Open Space Grants

Nancy Sittineri:

- Explained Norbury Landing would be the next Open Space request around December

Committeeman Norris:

- Stated the biggest request was for walking and hiking paths; explained he would love to see some unpaved walking trails

Nancy Sittineri:

- Spoke of a small walking trail at Ockie Wisting Park

Mayor Donohue:

- Discussed original plan for the trail at Ockie Wisting

Nancy Sittineri:

- Suggested taking a look at it on an aerial

Mayor Donohue:

- Reviewed various walking trails around the Township

Nancy Sittineri:

- Discussed County's plan; spoke about the August 4<sup>th</sup> cooperative meeting with the County and other municipalities; explained Middle Township's Share of the County Open Space
- Further explained stake holders meeting is coming up and she can firmly state that the Township would like to have Scotch Bonnet Pier repaired and reopened; discussed the County's request for acreage for open space
- Also discussed number of non-profit properties within Middle Township

Mayor Donohue:

- Mentioned that the Township has 53% of preserved open space
- Spoke of having balance throughout the County

Nancy Sittineri:

- Discussed the amount of area that Middle Township hosts Cape May County
- Spoke of document given to them to help better understand what Middle Township has within the County

Peter Jespersen, CMCH:

- Spoke of meetings with Leslie Gemino about the amount of acreage that Cape May County that is currently preserved; more than 65%

John Lauricella, Cape May Court House:

- Suggested moving forward with private entities to help with various projects

Mayor Donohue:

- Mentioned that building partnerships is always the goal; provided examples

Ed Dillio, CMCH:

- Stated he does not feel that Middle Township is the place to allow hunting and if it is allowed it should be restricted to bows only
- Explained he would like a program for children to teach them about the safety with firearms

Mayor Donohue:

- Explained that hunting in Middle Township is done on private property with owner permission

Ed Dillio, CMCH:

- Discussed deer encounters on his own property; spoke of concerns regarding coyotes within the Township
- Commented on the benefits of having cameras to help with crime

Peter Jespersen, CMCH:

- Spoke of requests made from Court House residents for pocket parks, etc.
- Discussed appearance of Court House as the County seat and need to enhance the same

Mayor Donohue:

- Stated a developer is looking into the KD building for a community center; spoke of meetings with Commissioner Morey and other county representatives to help make improvements to downtown Cape May Court House
- Discussed county's involvement in downtown Cape May Court House

Peter Jesperson, CMCH:

- Used bushes in front of Doctor's Inn as an example

Mayor Donohue:

- Discussed various other towns' downtown areas

Peter Jesperson, CMCH:

- Spoke of challenges with the State regarding paving of Route 9

Mayor Donohue:

- Discussed different roads located throughout the Township and who is responsible for them

Peter Jesperson, CMCH:

- Mentioned previous conversations with Mayor Donohue regarding a town square; would be a good focal point

Mayor Donohue:

- Responded that he liked that concept

Peter Jesperson, CMCH:

- Continued to provide suggestions to improve various areas in the center of town

Proposed Ordinance to Amend Ch. 250 -  
Prohibit the Keeping of Roosters on  
Properties under 5 Acres

Kimberly Krauss:

- Elaborated on information provided by Code Enforcement regarding regulating restrictions on roosters

Chief Leusner:

- Spoke of increasing issues with complaints regarding rooster and noise caused by them
- Explained reason for adding this language to the ordinance

Kimberly Krauss:

- Asked if people currently with roosters that have less than 5 acres can be grandfathered in

Chief Leusner:

- Explained the Police Department has been enforcing the noise ordinance reflective of residents with roosters, so no they would not be grandfathered

Ed Dillio, CMCH:

- Discussed purpose of roosters and his own experience with roosters

Kimberly Krauss:

- Explained this is a recommended ordinance for the governing body and the introduction would be on the regular meeting agenda

Committeeman Norris:

- Asked if there is a list of properties that have roosters under five acres

Chief Leusner:

- Stated they have been taking the position that there are no roosters allowed due to the current ordinance

**DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS AND PROJECT UPDATES:**

**Administration:**

**Finance:**

**Public Works:**

**Engineering:**

**Legal:**

**Tax Collection:**

**Tax Assessment:**

**Construction/Planning/Zoning:**

**Recreation:**

**Police / Animal Control/ Code Enforcement:**

**Buildings and Grounds:**

**Sewer:**

**Economic Development:**

**Personnel:**

**Zoning:**

**Township Clerk:**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** *NONE*

Motion to Adjourn Meeting – 5:51pm

1<sup>st</sup>: Committeeman Gandy

2<sup>nd</sup>: Committeeman Norris

Roll Call Vote: Committeeman Gandy, Committeeman Norris, Mayor Donohue

---

Andrea N. Singley, Deputy Township Clerk

Minutes prepared by E. Bowman