

**Cape May Court House, New Jersey  
TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE  
TOWNSHIP COMMITTEE  
WORK SESSION AGENDA  
May 20, 2024 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. 31-24 entitled "Establishing Work Session Meeting Nights" which was adopted by Township Committee of the Township of Middle on January 3, 2024.

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

Business Administrator/Township Clerk Kimberly Osmundsen, Deputy Township Clerk Emily Bartleson, Deputy Business Administrator Suzanne Schumann, Township Engineer Vincent Orlando & Municipal Solicitor Matt Rooney

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

Ridge Road Drainage

*Vince Orlando discussed 2016 work done on Ridge Road in regards to drainage. He further discussed the history of the road and the ground water table surrounding the road. He provided a proposal of raising the road to assist in correcting the drainage issues but then explained the issues they may face with this plan. He further discussed the costs of the project and explained that the numbers were based off his discussion with South State and a similar project they recently completed. He then continued to discussed the proposed plan.*

*Mayor Leusner discussed an article he read about a flooding issue in another municipality and a lawsuit brought against the town. He explained his concern to find a solution to help correct the drainage on the road.*

*Vince Orlando spoke of flooding in the area during 2012.*

*Committeeman Gandy raised concerns that raising the street will not correct the issue of flooding in resident's yards.*

*Vince Orlando explained that if they move forward with the project they will need to discuss the project with each resident and explain the impact that raising the road will have on their properties.*

*Mayor Leusner asked about option of pumping water out of the area.*

*Vince Orlando stated that it is not an option. Discussed similar situation he faced where pumping did not assist with reducing the flooding.*

*Committeeman Gandy continued to discuss concerns of residents and possible flooding of their yards.*

*Vince Orlando discussed street grade in relation to water runoff to people's property and how this change would affect that. He then continued to insist on the need to explain to residents the results of completing this project and the impact it will have on their properties.*

*Committeeman Gandy and Vince Orlando continued to review various properties on the street and their different elevations.*

*Mayor Leusner agreed that they need to discuss the proposal with all the residents on the road.*

*Committeeman Gandy agreed that they will need to have the residents sign off on an agreement to move forward with the project.*

*Kimberly Osmundsen asked about reducing the section of the road they are going to repave.*

*Vince Orlando explained the section of the road that he would be comfortable reducing the project to.*

*Kimberly Osmundsen discussed the flooding occurring on the properties and explained some of it is coming from behind the homes.*

*Vince Orlando discussed impact of the rainfall amount on the groundwater levels.*

*Committeeman Gandy and Vince Orlando went back and forth discussing options of pumping the out the waters and the various issues with that options.*

*Mayor Leusner suggested sending out an invite to residents to discuss this project.*

*Kimberly Osmundsen stated she will send out letter to invite residents to the July Work Session.*

**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:**

*Stan Doniger, Rio Grande, asked what would happen if the condemned the houses and relocated them or raised them up.*

*Committeeman Gandy explained those options are not feasible as the costs would be ridiculous.*

Motion to Adjourn Meeting – 4:45 PM

1<sup>st</sup>: Committeeman Gandy                      2<sup>nd</sup>: Committeeman Norris

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

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Kimberly D. Osmundsen, Township Clerk

Minutes prepared by: E. Bartleson