

Cape May Court House, NJ
 March 3, 2025
 REGULAR MEETING
 FLAG SALUTE
 THIS MEETING IS BEING RECORDED:

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).

The Township Committee met on the above date at 6:00 PM at the Middle Township Municipal Building. Members present were Mayor Leusner, Deputy Mayor Gandy, Committeeman Norris, Township Clerk/Business Administrator Kimberly Osmundsen, Deputy Administrator Suzanne Schumann, Township Engineer, Vince Orlando & Municipal Solicitor Matt Rooney

1. PRESENTATION BY MAYOR AND COMMITTEE – MIDDLE TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL BOYS WRESTLING TEAM – SOUTH JERSEY GROUP 2 WRESTLING CHAMPIONS
2. QUESTION/ANSWER PERIOD ON AGENDA *(This question-and-answer session shall relate only to items as outlined and pending on current agenda. Issues and concerns not related to agenda item shall be withheld to public comment portion at the conclusion of meeting.)*
3. RESOLUTION – APPROVING PAYMENT FOR BILLS – BILL LIST A (GENERAL BILLS) – On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted. *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, the governing body thereof, that payment for the following bills in the amounts indicated are hereby approved:*

<i>Fund Description</i>	<i>Fund</i>	<i>Total</i>
<i>Current Fund PY</i>	<i>4.01</i>	<i>\$14,548.99</i>
<i>Current Fund CY</i>	<i>5.01</i>	<i>\$3,083,449.73</i>
<i>Sewer Utility PY</i>	<i>4.07</i>	<i>\$8,664.00</i>
<i>Sewer Utility CY</i>	<i>5.07</i>	<i>\$2,290.04</i>
<i>General Capital</i>	<i>C.04</i>	<i>\$1,795.66</i>
<i>Sewer Capital</i>	<i>C.08</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Grants</i>	<i>G.06</i>	<i>\$1,995.00</i>
<i>M.A.C.</i>	<i>M.24</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Emergency Housing</i>	<i>R.23</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Dog Trust</i>	<i>T.12</i>	<i>\$150.00</i>
<i>Forfeited Monies</i>	<i>T.13</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Sewer Escrow</i>	<i>T.16</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Trust Other</i>	<i>T.17</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Zoning Escrow</i>	<i>T.19</i>	<i>\$45.00</i>
<i>Zoning Escrow</i>	<i>E.19</i>	<i>\$525.00</i>
<i>Unemployment Trust</i>	<i>T.20</i>	<i>\$8.99</i>
<i>C.O.A.H</i>	<i>T.27</i>	<i>-</i>
<i>Recreation Trust</i>	<i>T.28</i>	<i>\$4,570.02</i>
	TOTAL	\$3,118,042.43

4. RESOLUTION – APPROVING MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING – On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted. *NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, the governing body thereof, that the following minutes are approved: 02/17/2025 Regular Meeting and 02/26/2025 Special Meeting*
5. REPORTS:
6. ORDINANCE 1720-25 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO SELL TOWNSHIP-OWNED LAND BY A PRIVATE AUCTION TO BE HELD AMONG CONTIGUOUS OWNERS OF BLOCK 1153 LOT 4 IN THE TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE – Following second reading, hearing, and consideration for adoption, Ordinance 1720-25 was adopted on motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call. *WHEREAS, the Local Lands and Buildings Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq) allows for the sale of municipally owned land at a private sale, instead of at an auction, not needed for public use; and WHEREAS, New Jersey Statute 40A:12-13(b)(5) provides the procedure for the sale of Township owned land in certain circumstances, and allows for a private sale of land by ordinance when the sale is to the owner of the real property contiguous to the Township owned parcel, provided that the property being sold is less than the minimum size required for development under the municipal zoning ordinance and is without any capital improvement thereon; except that when there is more than one owner with real property contiguous thereto, said property shall be sold to the highest bidder from among all such owners;*

and also provided that any such sale shall be for not less than the fair market value of the real property; and

WHEREAS, the Township owns a parcel of land identified as Block 1153, Lot 4 (the "Subject Property") in the Cape May Court House section of the Township that qualifies for such a land sale; and

WHEREAS, the Township has received a "Request Sheet for Sale of Township Owned Real Estate" submitted by Derrick Samuels, the owner of a property contiguous to the Subject Property; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Middle is of the opinion that the sale of the Subject Property is in the best interest of the Township, and that the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A: 12-13(b)(5) are present including but not limited to the fact that the Subject Property is less than the minimum size required for development in the zone district where same is located and the Subject Property is without any capital improvements and not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, moreover, there are in total one (1) owner of real estate who are contiguous to the Subject Property, specifically listed as follows:

Block 1153 Lot 3 - William J. Peter Jr.
802 Edgewood Ave
Rio Grande, NJ 08242-1218

WHEREAS, the one (1) owner shall be noticed and given an opportunity to participate in an open (private) auction limited to just the one (1) of them participating to purchase the parcel but at a price which is no less than the fair market value of the parcel; and

WHEREAS, the assessment of Block 1153 Lot 4 is \$900.00, and the Township Tax Assessor has stated in writing that the fair market value of the land is \$900.00, which the Township shall therefore make the minimum bid; and

WHEREAS, the applicable statute also requires that the municipality file with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs sworn affidavits verifying the publications of advertisements for the Ordinance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey that the Township may conduct a private auction to sell the Subject Property owned by the Township to contiguous owners of the same.

SECTION 1.

1. The Township Committee of the Township of Middle shall sell a portion of real property identified as Block 1153, Lot 4 to the highest bidder of an open (private) auction to be held on March 26, 2025 at 10:00am in the court room of the Township Hall, 33 Mechanic Street, Cape May Court House, New Jersey, at which time only those one (1) owner of property contiguous to that portion of Block 1153, Lot 4 which is offered for sale shall participate; and

2. The minimum bid shall be \$900.00; and

3. The auction shall be conducted by the Township's interim Chief Financial Officer, Neil Young; and

4. The winning bidder shall sign a contract of sale which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and the terms of which are incorporated herein in full; and

5. The winning bidder shall be provided a deed in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

6. Bidding may be made by an individual, corporation or other entity. Bids may also be submitted by a prospective purchaser's attorney, real estate agent or broker or other duly authorized representative. However, no commission shall be paid by the Township of Middle to any real estate agent or broker or other representative in connection with any sale; and

7. The Clerk or the Clerk's representative is to file the necessary affidavits with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and

8. The Mayor, Clerk, and any and all other Township Officials, are hereby authorized to sign those documents necessary to effectuate this transaction; and

9. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the minimum price for real property must be paid in cash, certified check, bank check or money order made payable to the Township of Middle by the successful bidder at the time of the public sale; said time and place set forth herein. This deposit shall be made subject to return in the event of rejection of said bid. The successful bidder shall be responsible for the cost of preparation of the deed of conveyance and any related documents for the transfer of title by the Township Attorney, or for the Township Attorney's review and approval of the documents, as well as the cost of recording the Deed with the Gloucester County Clerk. The balance, together with the costs of sale and legal expenses, must be deposited in full by either cash or certified bank check within twenty (20) days after the date of sale or acceptance of bid whichever is later at the office of the Township Clerk; and

10. Any and all costs associated with this transaction, including advertising and postage, are to be paid by the winning bidder; and

11. In the event that the successful bidder fails to close title, the bidder agrees to forfeit to the Township any and all monies deposited with the Township; and

12. All bids shall be referred to the Township Committee for review and final approval pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 12- 13, and the Township reserves the right to accept the highest bid or to reject any and all bids for any property. The Township reserves the right to reject all bids in each instance where the highest bid is not accepted and it is, in its discretion, to re- advertise the Subject Property for sale. The Township further reserves the right to waive any and all defects, informalities and irregularities in any bid. The deposits with respect to any unsuccessful bid and any rejected bid shall be returned; and

13. The Township makes no warranties whatsoever regarding said lands and assumes no responsibility for environmental conditions, known or unknown, regarding said lands and the successful bidder agrees to fully release and indemnify the Township with respect thereto. The bidder shall be fully responsible for the exercise of due diligence in determining all aspects of the condition of the land, including but not limited to, the determination of any title conditions, environmental conditions, zoning and development restrictions and any other condition or restriction that might impact the use of land. The Township sells the Subject Property "AS IS" in which the bidder releases the Township of all liability and responsibility of any said contamination, if found, on the site; and

14. The sale of such lands is subject to applicable New Jersey Law concerning the disposition of municipal real estate and all other applicable laws, regulations and ordinances of the State of New Jersey and the Township of Middle; and

15. The Township does not warrant or certify title to the Subject Property and in no event shall the Township be liable for any damages to the successful bidder if title is found defective or unmarketable for any reason, and the bidder waives any and all rights and damages against the Township, the sole remedy being the right to receive a refund of the deposit paid prior to closing in the event title is found defective or unmarketable. It is the right of the successful bidder to examine title prior to closing. In the event of closing and a later finding of a defect of title, the Township shall not be required to refund any money or correct any defect in title and shall not be held liable for damages. Acceptance of an offer to purchase shall constitute a binding agreement by the bidder and the successful bidder shall be deemed obligated to comply with the terms and condition contained herein; and

16. The deed of conveyance shall be subject to all matters of record which may affect title, what an accurate survey would reveal, the Ordinances of the Township of Middle, and the reservation of an easement for all natural or constructed drainage systems, swales, pipes, drains, inlets, waterways and easements, if any, on the land and a continued right of maintenance and flow thereof. The Township shall be without obligation to provide access, public or private, or to provide any improvements.

SECTION 2. All other ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 3. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage and publication, according to law.

7. ORDINANCE 1721-25 – AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE, COUNTY OF CAPE MAY, STATE OF NEW JERSEY TO SELL TOWNSHIP-OWNED LAND BY A PRIVATE AUCTION TO BE HELD AMONG CONTIGUOUS OWNERS OF BLOCK 964 LOT 8 IN THE OWNERSHIP OF MIDDLE – Following second reading, hearing, and consideration for adoption, Ordinance 1721-25 was adopted on motion by seconded by and passed on roll call.

WHEREAS, the Local Lands and Buildings Law (N.J.S.A. 40A:12-1 et seq) allows for the sale of municipally owned land at a private sale, instead of at an auction, not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, New Jersey Statute 40A:12-13(b)(5) provides the procedure for the sale of Township owned land in certain circumstances, and allows for a private sale of land by ordinance when the sale is to the owner of the real property contiguous to the Township owned parcel, provided that the property being sold is less than the minimum size required for development under the municipal zoning ordinance and is without any capital improvement thereon; except that when there is more than one owner with real property contiguous thereto, said property shall be sold to the highest bidder from among all such owners; and also provided that any such sale shall be for not less than the fair market value of the real property; and

WHEREAS, the Township owns a parcel of land identified as Block 964, Lot 8 (the “Subject Property”) in the Cape May Court House section of the Township that qualifies for such a land sale; and

WHEREAS, the Township has received a “Request Sheet for Sale of Township Owned Real Estate” submitted by Derrick Samuels, the owner of a property contiguous to the Subject Property; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Middle is of the opinion that the sale of the Subject Property is in the best interest of the Township, and that the criteria set forth in N.J.S.A. 40A: 12-13(b)(5) are present including but not limited to the fact that the Subject Property is less than the minimum size required for development in the zone district where same is located and the Subject Property is without any capital improvements and not needed for public use; and

WHEREAS, moreover, there are in total five (5) owners of real estate who are contiguous to the Subject Property, specifically listed as follows:

<i>Block 964 Lot 1 -</i>	<i>Shane Bellamy & Phillip Daino 319 Reeves Street Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-3213</i>
<i>Block 964 Lot 2 -</i>	<i>Carl Arenberg 27 3rd Ave Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-2340</i>
<i>Block 964 Lot 3 -</i>	<i>Katia G Rosas 311 Reeves Street Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-3213</i>
<i>Block 964 Lot 4 -</i>	<i>Steven Akers 407 W. Main Street Cape May Court House, NJ 08210-3109</i>
<i>Block 964 Lot 10 -</i>	<i>Addie Cook 2407 18th St SE Washington D.C. 20020-6313</i>

WHEREAS, the five (5) owners shall be noticed and given an opportunity to participate in an open (private) auction limited to just the five (5) of them participating to purchase the parcel but at a price which is no less than the fair market value of the parcel; and

WHEREAS, the assessment of Block 964 Lot 8 is \$3,800.00, and the Township Tax Assessor has stated in writing that the fair market value of the land is \$3,800.00, which the Township shall therefore make the minimum bid; and

WHEREAS, the applicable statute also requires that the municipality file with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services in the Department of Community Affairs sworn affidavits verifying the publications of advertisements for the Ordinance; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey that the Township may conduct a private auction to sell the Subject Property owned by the Township to contiguous owners of the same.

SECTION 1.

1. The Township Committee of the Township of Middle shall sell a portion of real property identified as Block 964, Lot 8 to the highest bidder of an open (private) auction to be held on March 26, 2025 at 10:30am in the court room of the Township Hall, 33 Mechanic Street, Cape May Court House, New Jersey, at which time only those five (5) owners of property contiguous to that portion of Block 964, Lot 8 which is offered for sale shall participate; and

2. The minimum bid shall be \$3,800.00; and

3. The auction shall be conducted by the Township's interim Chief Financial Officer, Neil Young; and

4. The winning bidder shall sign a contract of sale which is attached hereto as Exhibit "A" and the terms of which are incorporated herein in full; and

5. The winning bidder shall be provided a deed in the form attached hereto as Exhibit "B"; and

6. Bidding may be made by an individual, corporation or other entity. Bids may also be submitted by a prospective purchaser's attorney, real estate agent or broker or other duly authorized representative. However, no commission shall be paid by the Township of Middle to any real estate agent or broker or other representative in connection with any sale; and

7. The Clerk or the Clerk's representative is to file the necessary affidavits with the Director of the Division of Local Government Services, and

8. The Mayor, Clerk, and any and all other Township Officials, are hereby authorized to sign those documents necessary to effectuate this transaction; and

9. A deposit of ten percent (10%) of the minimum price for real property must be paid in cash, certified check, bank check or money order made payable to the Township of Middle by the successful bidder at the time of the public sale; said time and place set forth herein. This deposit shall be made subject to return in the event of rejection of said bid. The successful bidder shall be responsible for the cost of preparation of the deed of conveyance and any related documents for the transfer of title by the Township Attorney, or for the Township Attorney's review and approval of the documents, as well as the cost of recording the Deed with the Gloucester County Clerk. The balance, together with the costs of sale and legal expenses, must be deposited in full by either cash or certified bank check within twenty (20) days after the date of sale or acceptance of bid whichever is later at the office of the Township Clerk; and

10. Any and all costs associated with this transaction, including advertising and postage, are to be paid by the winning bidder; and

11. In the event that the successful bidder fails to close title, the bidder agrees to forfeit to the Township any and all monies deposited with the Township; and

12. All bids shall be referred to the Township Committee for review and final approval pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40A: 12- 13, and the Township reserves the right to accept the highest bid or to reject any and all bids for any property. The Township reserves the right to reject all bids in each instance where the highest bid is not accepted and it is, in its discretion, to re- advertise the Subject Property for sale. The Township further reserves the right to waive any and all defects, informalities and irregularities in any bid. The deposits with respect to any unsuccessful bid and any rejected bid shall be returned; and

13. The Township makes no warranties whatsoever regarding said lands and assumes no responsibility for environmental conditions, know or unknown, regarding said lands and the successful bidder agrees to fully release and indemnify the Township with respect thereto. The bidder shall be fully responsible for the exercise of due diligence in determining all aspects of the condition of the land, including but not limited to, the determination of any title conditions, environmental conditions, zoning and development restrictions and any other condition or restriction that might impact the use of land. The Township sells the Subject Property "AS IS" in which the bidder releases the Township of all liability and responsibility of any said contamination, if found, on the site; and

14. The sale of such lands is subject to applicable New Jersey Law concerning the disposition of municipal real estate and all other applicable laws, regulations and ordinances of the State of New Jersey and the Township of Middle; and

15. The Township does not warrant or certify title to the Subject Property, and in no event shall the Township be liable for any damages to the successful bidder if title is found defective or unmarketable for any reason, and the bidder waives any and all rights and damages against the Township, the sole remedy being the right to receive a refund of the deposit paid prior to closing in the event title is found defective or unmarketable. It is the right of the successful bidder to examine title prior to closing. In the event of closing and a later finding of a defect of title, the Township shall not be required to refund any money or correct any defect in title and shall not be held liable for damages. Acceptance of an offer to purchase shall constitute a binding agreement by the bidder and the successful bidder shall be deemed obligated to comply with the terms and condition contained herein; and

16. The deed of conveyance shall be subject to all matters of record which may affect title, what an accurate survey would reveal, the Ordinances of the Township of Middle, and the reservation of an easement for all natural or constructed drainage systems, swales, pipes, drains, inlets, waterways and easements, if any, on the land and a continued right of maintenance and flow thereof. The Township shall be without obligation to provide access, public or private, or to provide any improvements.

SECTION 2. All other ordinances in conflict or inconsistent with this ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict or inconsistency.

SECTION 3. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, the remaining portions of this ordinance shall not be affected thereby and shall remain in full force and effect, and to this end the provisions of this ordinance are hereby declared to be severable.

SECTION 4. This ordinance shall become effective immediately upon final passage and publication, according to law.

8. RESOLUTION – APPOINTMENT – NEW HIRE – On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, that the following employees are hereby appointed to the following position at the salaries opposite their names:

NAME	DEPARTMENT	TITLE	SALARY	EFFECTIVE
Natalya Schultz	Municipal Court	Clerk 1	\$30,000.00	02/24/2025
Anthony Piscopo	Municipal Court	Clerk 1	\$35,000.00	02/24/2025

9. RESOLUTION – ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RESIGNATION - On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.
 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee, the Governing Body of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, that the following resignations listed below, are acknowledged.

NAME	DEPARTMENT/BOARD	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Amanda DeVico	Environmental Commission	Member	2/20/2025
Joshua Moyer	Public Safety - Police	Police Officer	3/16/2025

10. RESOLUTION - ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF DISCONTINUATION OF UNCLASSIFIED APPOINTMENT - On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.
 BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee, the Governing Body of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May and State of New Jersey, that the following discontinuation of appointments listed below, are acknowledged.

EMPLOYEE	DEPARTMENT/BOARD	POSITION	EFFECTIVE
Colin Gery	Public Safety – Police	Class II SLEO Officer	02/24/2025

11. RESOLUTION – APPROVAL TO SUBMIT A GRANT APPLICATION LAIF-MIDDLE TOWNSHIP - 00054 AND EXECUTE GRNAT AGREEMENT WITH THE NEW JERSEY DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION – On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.
 WHEREAS, the New Jersey Department of Transportation accepts applications for the Local Aid Infrastructure Fund Program; and
 WHEREAS, this program is available to all counties and municipalities in the State of New Jersey; and
 WHEREAS, subject to funding appropriation, the Local Transportation Projects Fund is established to address specific focused local transportation issues throughout the State; and
 WHEREAS, these projects are approved at the discretion of the Commissioner; and
 WHEREAS, this grant program does not require a local match; and
 WHEREAS, the Township of Middle carefully considers grant programs that assist the City in achieving projects and programs that are priorities for the community; and
 WHEREAS, the Township of Middle wishes to apply for to the Local Aid Infrastructure Fund Program for a grant for paving of Beach Avenue: and
 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the governing body of the Township of Middle formally approves a Local Aid Infrastructure Fund Program grant application.
 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to submit an electronic grant application identified as LAIF-Middle Township-00054 to the New Jersey Department of Transportation on behalf of the Township of Middle.
 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Mayor and Clerk are hereby authorized to sign the grant agreement on behalf of the Township of Middle and that their signature constitutes acceptance of the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and approves the execution of the grant agreement

12. RESOLUTION – AMENDING VENDOR FEES – 4TH OF JULY FESTIVAL – On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.
 WHEREAS, it is in the best interest of the Township of Middle to establish a structured fee schedule for vendors for the annual 4th of July Festival, and
 WHEREAS, said fees should be established via resolution.
 NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, that it has been deemed necessary for the Township to charge the following amended fees for various vendor categories at the annual 4th of July Festival:

Category	Prior Fee	Amended Fee
CRAFT VENDORS	\$50.00	\$75.00
FOOD VENDORS	\$100.00	\$125.00

13. RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING THE RELEASE AND REFUND OF PERMIT FEES – JOE FULFORD - On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.
 WHEREAS, the Construction Official of the Township of Middle has certified to the Township Committee that Joe Fulford, submitted and paid \$2,298.00 for permit fees.
 WHEREAS, the Construction Official of the Township of Middle has certified to the Township Committee that Joe Fulford, is entitled to have \$2,298.00 refunded to them, for overpayment of building fee.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle that the appropriate Officials are authorized to refund the permit fees to Joe Fulford in the amount referenced above.

14. RESOLUTION - AWARD CONTRACT AND RATIFY AGREEMENT THROUGH NON-FAIR AND OPEN PROCESS – CME (CONSULTING & MUNICIPAL ENGINEERS) – AFFORDABLE HOUSING PLANNING SERVICES/CONSULTING – FOURTH ROUND - On motion by [redacted] seconded by [redacted] and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, the governing body thereof, that the Agreement between Consulting & Municipal Engineers and the Township of Middle provide affordable housing planning services as a non-fair and open contract pursuant to the provisions under the Pay to Play regulations.

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the appropriate officials are hereby authorized and directed to sign said agreement.

CME (Consulting & Municipal Engineers)
Affordable Housing Planning Services/Consulting – Fourth Round
Total Budget Estimate, Not to Exceed \$32,000.00

15. RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING GREEN CREEK VOLUNTEER FIRE COMPANY TO SOLICIT FUNDS IN THE ROADWAYS OF THE TOWNSHIP OF MIDDLE – On motion by [redacted] seconded by [redacted] and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS, Ordinance 1009-98 permits application to be made to the Township of Middle by charitable organizations to solicit funds in the roadway of the Township of Middle; and

WHEREAS, Green Creek Volunteer Fire Company has submitted an application to the Municipal Clerk as required per said ordinance; and

WHEREAS, the dates and times of the charitable solicitation are listed within the written application submitted by the Green Creek Volunteer Fire Company and attached to this Resolution; and

WHEREAS, the Chief of Police of the Township of Middle has reviewed the application of the Green Creek Volunteer Fire Company and has determined that there is no public safety reason for the Township of Middle to deny this application; and

WHEREAS, the County of County Cape May, via Resolution 70-25, has endorsed Greek Creek Fire Company’s application to solicit contributions along the roadway of Bayshore Road, CR603; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee, of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey, hereby grants permission for the Green Creek Volunteer Fire Company to solicit funds on the roadways of Middle Township on the dates as set forth on the attached application form.

16. RESOLUTION – APPROVE TRANSIENT MERCHANT VENDOR LICENSE – A&T ICE – On motion by [redacted] seconded by [redacted] and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS, A&T Ice has applied for a Vendor’s License to operate an ice cream truck in Middle Township,

WHEREAS, proper applications have been made to the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey and the proper fees have been paid.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May and State of New Jersey that the vendor applicant is hereby licensed by the Township of Middle to operate an ice cream truck in Middle Township from March 3, 2025 through December 31, 2025.

17. RESOLUTION – APPROVAL OF MOBILE FOOD VENDOR LICENSE – 2025 - On motion by [redacted] seconded by [redacted] and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS, the following company has applied to the Township of Middle for a license to operate as a Mobile Food Vendor within the confines of the Township, under the Code of the Township of Middle, and

WHEREAS, after review by the Township Solicitor and other appropriate Township Officials, the following application has been found to be in proper order and the fee paid in connection with the licensing process, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that each of the following licenses be, and are hereby authorized, for the calendar year of 2025:

License#	Vehicle/Trailer #	Owner	Tradename	Fee
MFV 01-25	01-25	Victoria Alkoc	Cousins Maine Lobster	\$75.00

FURTHER RESOLVED, that any license issued pursuant to the terms in accordance with the Code of the Township of Middle shall expire midnight of the 31st day of December of the year in which is issued unless sooner surrendered, suspended or revoked.

18. RESOLUTION – SUPPORTING CAPE MAY COUNTY’S APPLICATION TO THE U.S. COAST GUARD FOR REGIONAL DESIGNATION OF COUNTY AS A “COAST GUARD COMMUNITY” – On motion by [redacted] seconded by [redacted] and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS, the United States Congress, through federal legislation, has enabled the United States Coast Guard to designate a community having a special relationship with the Coast Guard as a “Coast Guard Community”, and

WHEREAS, the designation of “Coast Guard Community” may be awarded to an area that meets rigorous application standards, with only 14 such designations having been awarded to date across the nation; and

WHEREAS, the residents of Cape May County have enjoyed a unique relationship with Coast Guard personnel and their families for nearly a century, by virtue of, among other things, the Coast Guard’s ownership and maintenance of properties in municipalities throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, since as early as 1917 the Coast Guard has had a presence at what has grown into the 352-acre site in Cape May City, County of Cape May, now known as Training Center Cape May or "TRACEN"; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families reside both in on-base housing at TRACEN and in private housing located in municipalities throughout the County, including the Township of Middle, with the County comprised of 16 contiguous municipalities whose economic, social and civic structures are closely interdependent; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families interact with families throughout the County on a daily basis in all aspects of community living; and

WHEREAS, the Coast Guard presence at TRACEN today includes over 1,150 military and civilian personnel working at the base, providing recruit-level training for all entry-level recruits entering Coast Guard service and graduating an average of more than 2,300 recruits yearly, in addition to providing officer training and education, vessel support, air/sea rescue, investigative services, communications facilities, and homeland security services, all in furtherance of the continuous coastal patrol and defense of our nation; and

WHEREAS, Coast Guard personnel and their families also welcome over 41,000 additional guests and visitors annually into Cape May County; and

WHEREAS, Cape May County residents and businesses have a longstanding history of recognizing and supporting their Coast Guard neighbors, and wish to formalize their continuing commitment to these men, women and children and make known to the public their commitment by attaining the designation of "Coast Guard Community"; and

WHEREAS, the County of Cape May and the City of Cape May have engaged in a collaborative initiative to prepare and submit an application seeking the regional designation of "Coast Guard Community" for all of Cape May County, and Middle Township fully supports and desires the regional designation in light of its own substantial ties with Coast Guard personnel, families, visitors and friends;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle that:

- (1) The above recitals are incorporated herein by reference as though fully repeated;*
- (2) The appropriate officers of the Township of Middle are authorized and directed to execute individually or jointly any and all documents necessary and appropriate to support and complete the application by Cape May County for designation by the United States Coast Guard as an official "Coast Guard Community"; and*
- (3) The Township of Middle affirms its deep commitment to the United States Coast Guard, and pledges to continue its long history of full and unwavering support for Coast Guard personnel and their families.*

19. RESOLUTION – AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF A FAIR AND OPEN CONTRACT (ITEMS A THROUGH B) – On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

(A) *WHEREAS, the Township Committee has previously instituted a Fair and Open Process for the award of contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et. seq.; and*

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has followed the procedures that it has previously set forth for the award of specific contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has solicited proposals, and has publicly opened each proposal submitted, and has considered each proposal in light of criteria previously established by the Township, and has made a decision on each proposal submitted in light of those criteria;

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board has formally passed Resolution #2025ATTY, appointing Robert T. Belasco, Esquire, of The Belasco Law Firm, LLC, as Zoning Board Solicitor for 2025.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey that the following submission shall be awarded as follows:

Robert T. Belasco – Zoning Board Solicitor – Not to Exceed \$20,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this contract shall be effective until December 31, 2025.

(B) *WHEREAS, the Township Committee has previously instituted a Fair and Open Process for the award of contract pursuant to N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et.seq., and*

WHEREAS, the Township Committee has followed the procedures that it has previously set forth for the award of specific contracts; and

WHEREAS, the Township Committee had solicited proposals and placed the position on the township website as outlined in Resolution 446-24 dated November 18, 2024, and has publicly opened each proposal submitted, and has considered each proposal in light of criteria previously established by the Township, and has made a decision on each proposal submitted in light of those criteria, and

WHEREAS, the Zoning Board has formally passed Resolution #2025ENG, appointing Mr. Orlando.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey that the following submission shall be awarded as follows:

Vincent C. Orlando – Zoning Board Engineer - Not to exceed \$20,000.00

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to execute contracts with each of the above-mentioned individuals as necessary, to be followed with a resolution of award and certification as attached hereto.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this contract shall be effective until December 31, 2025.

20. RESOLUTION - AUTHORIZING APPLICATION – GOVERNOR’S COUNCIL ON SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER – MUNICIPAL ALLIANCE GRANT - On motion by _____ seconded by _____ and passed on roll call, the following resolution was adopted.

WHEREAS, the Governor’s Council on Substance Use Disorder (GCSUD) established the Municipal Alliances for the Prevention of Substance Use Disorder in 1989 to educate and engage residents, local

government and law enforcement officials, schools, nonprofit organizations, the faith community, parents, youth and other allies in efforts to prevent substance use disorder in communities throughout New Jersey. WHEREAS, the Township Committee of the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey recognizes that substance use disorder is a serious problem in our society amongst persons of all ages; and therefore has an established Municipal Alliance Committee; and, WHEREAS, the Township Committee further recognizes that it is incumbent upon not only public officials but upon the entire community to take action to prevent substance use disorder in our community; and, WHEREAS, the Township Committee has applied for funding to the Governor's Council on Substance Use Disorder through the County of Cape May; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Township of Middle, County of Cape May, State of New Jersey hereby recognizes the following:

1. The Township Committee does hereby authorize submission of a strategic plan for the FY 2026 Municipal Alliance grant for fiscal year 2026 in the amount of:

GCSUD GRANT FUND	\$13,511.00
Cash Match	\$3,377.75
In-Kind	\$10,133.25

2. The Township Committee acknowledges the terms and conditions for administering the Municipal Alliance grant, including the administrative compliance and audit requirements.

21. ENGINEER REPORT:

22. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Motion to adjourn meeting –

1st: 2nd:

Pass on Roll Call: