



Borough of Middlesex
Mayor and Council Regular Meeting
~ Minutes ~

1200 Mountain Ave
Middlesex, NJ

Linda Chismar
732 356-7400 x238
www.middlesexboro-nj.gov

Tuesday, March 10, 2020

7:00 PM

Municipal Building

MAYOR'S STATEMENT

UNDER THE PROVISIONS OF N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 ET SEQ., NOTICE OF THE TIME AND PLACE OF THIS MEETING WAS GIVEN BY WAY OF AN ANNUAL MEETING NOTICE TO THE STAR LEDGER, COURIER NEWS AND HOME NEWS, AND POSTED AT BOROUGH HALL.

SALUTE TO FLAG

ROLL CALL

Mayor John Madden
Council President Jack Mikolajczyk
Councilman Jeremiah Carnes
Councilman Jason Carr
Councilman James Eodice
Councilwoman Amy Flood
Councilman Douglas Rex

Also Present:

Marcia Karrow Administrator
Christopher Corsini Borough Attorney

Others Absent:

Also in attendance from Middlesex High School for the 2020 Elks Youth Shadow Program were: Jake Gartner (Mayor), Henry Giron Guerra (Council President), Ronit Sheth (Council Member), Abigail Quast (Council Member), Samantha Nordhaus (Council Member), William Kozak (Council Member) and Nicole Cresitello (Borough Clerk).

PRESENTATIONS

1. Rockefeller Group

Representing the Rockefeller Group for this presentation was Attorney Rich Goldman, Keith Abramson, Vice President of Redevelopment from Rockefeller Group and Matt Welks of Langan Engineering.

Attorney Goldman reiterated that Rockefeller Group has developed this plan for the redevelopment area that the borough has declared "an area in need of redevelopment". Rockefeller Group is working to develop a Class A warehouse building. They have already developed 5 buildings in Piscataway, which adjoin this property, that is the former Union Carbide site. He indicated that the Middlesex Borough project would consist of 400,000 square feet of a warehousing building, which meets all the requirements

of the redevelopment plan. After this presentation, they are hoping to move along to the Joint Land Use Board.

Mr. Abramson, indicated that the Rockefeller Group has been a national developer for 40 years which is headquartered in New York and has developed over 5 million square feet in New Jersey over the last 5 years.

Matt Welks, Langan Engineering, the site civil engineer for the project worked with Rockefeller on the Piscataway site and will be designing the parcels to reflect what they proposed to build at the site. The layout is in compliance with the redevelopment site and consists of 400,000 square feet of warehouse accessible by two driveways along Baekeland Avenue. The truck traffic will be via one entrance on Baekeland Avenue and one on River Road, which is in compliance with the redevelopment plan. They will also be installing 171 trees, 300 evergreens and 300 shrubs for a buffer and have included full LED lighting that complies with town ordinances.

In Piscataway they installed sidewalks and a bike lane and also will be installing both sidewalks and a bike lane in Middlesex to comply with ADA requirements. The warehousing will have shifts and they expect 20% of their traffic to be truck traffic. The trucks will be travelling through Piscataway and not in the borough. There will also be 2 small offices in the building, so that if needed, the building can be split for rental purposes. The height will be similar to the size in Piscataway and is in compliance with the plan. There will be 56 loading docks and they have proposed 334 parking stalls. The traffic impact study has been done for this site and the building is set back 96.1 feet.

Council discussed their concern which included:

- Cedar Avenue recent issues to be addressed in the traffic study
- Requested explanation of Piscataway's PILOT Agreement with reference to Baekeland Avenue
- Explanation of the truck traffic pattern
- Potential to add solar to this site in the future
- How far road improvements extend on Baekeland Avenue
- Number of parking spaces

Concerns from the public came from Kevin Redzinski, Dave Polakiewicz, Evan Walters and Rich Rutkowski and included the following:

- If a traffic study was done for this project and if the new waive restrictions in Piscataway were taken into account.
- Concerns for the size of the facility and how much funding would it generate for the borough.
- If incentives/contributions would be made by the developer, as was done with the Community Center in Piscataway
- Concern with future children not benefitting from tax dollars (because of PILOT) going towards their education
- Concern that the intersection of Baekeland Avenue and River Road is dangerous now and why it is not being addressed in this project.

Administrator Karrow indicated the borough is in negotiations with Rockefeller Group regarding the PILOT with the intention to have them go to the Joint Land Use Board at a Special Meeting on April 1 to start this application.

Attorney Goldman indicated that this is a true Class A distribution center and with this project the borough will have created a market which can now potentially increase development. Also, he indicated that the financial element is a benefit to the town and the community and stated that he appreciated working with the staff and would like to see everyone happy with the results.

APPOINTMENTS

PROCLAMATIONS

1. Elks Youth Week - March 9 - March 13, 2020

WHEREAS, the Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks has designated the week of March 9, 2020 as Elk's Youth Week to honor America's Junior Citizens for their accomplishments, and to give fitting recognition to their services to Community, State and Nation; and

WHEREAS, Middlesex Elks 1488 will sponsor an observance during that week in tribute to the Junior Citizens of this Community; and

WHEREAS, no event could be more deserving of our support and participation than one dedicated to these young people who represent the nation's greatest resource, and who in the years ahead will assume the responsibility for the advancement of our free society; and

WHEREAS, our Youth need the guidance, inspiration and encouragement which we alone can give in order to help develop those qualities of character essential for future leadership; and go forth to serve America; and

WHEREAS, to achieve this worthy objective we should demonstrate our partnership with Youth, our understanding of their hopes and aspirations and a sincere willingness to help prepare them in every way for the responsibilities and opportunities of citizenship.

NOW THEREFORE, I John L. Madden, Mayor of the Borough of Middlesex do hereby proclaim the week of March 9, 2020 as Elk's Youth Week and urge all departments of government, civic, fraternal and patriotic groups and our citizens generally, to participate wholeheartedly in its observance.

2. National Poison Prevention Week

WHEREAS, Congress designated the third full week in March to be National Poison Prevention Week (NPPW) in 1961 and since then this week has helped to raise national awareness of the dangers of potentially dangerous medicines, household products and chemicals, environmental contaminants, and other substances; and

WHEREAS, poison centers across the country will focus the public's attention on the free, lifesaving services provided by poison centers, as well as, educating the public on ways to prevent poisoning exposures; and

WHEREAS, the New Jersey Poison Control Center, a division of the Department of Emergency Medicine at Rutgers New Jersey Medical School provides 24/7 expert poisoning treatment advice, drug information, and prevention education at no cost to the public accessing center services through the Poison Help number at 1-800-222-1222, chat (www.njpies.org <<http://www.njpies.org>>), or text 973-339-0712; and

WHEREAS, specialized medical professionals (doctors, pharmacists, and nurses) provide accessible, free, and confidential healthcare to all; and

WHEREAS, poison center services save healthcare dollars by eliminating thousands of unnecessary emergency department/room visits and decreasing lengths of stays for patients hospitalized for poisoning through telemedicine services/capabilities; and

WHEREAS, the poison center is instrumental in the surveillance and management of poisoning exposures across the state, including the use, misuse, and abuse of; medications, legal and illicit drugs, environmental contaminants, bioterrorism agents, and common household products and chemicals; and

WHEREAS, the state's poison control center is involved in New Jersey's efforts in homeland defense, counterterrorism, emergency preparedness and response, and biosurveillance; and

WHEREAS, unintentional poisoning is the leading cause of unintentional injury death in New Jersey outnumbering deaths by motor vehicles and firearms; and

WHEREAS, a poison is defined as anything that can cause harm if taken in the wrong amount, in the wrong way or by the wrong person; and

WHEREAS, although most reported poison exposures involve children five (5) years old and younger; most poisoning deaths occur in adults aged 20 to 59; and

WHEREAS, overdose deaths from prescription opioids, over-the-counter medications, and illegal drugs remain at epidemic proportions for both New Jersey and the United States; and

WHEREAS, lead exposure and carbon monoxide (CO) poisoning remain major public health concerns; and

WHEREAS, vaping and e-cigarette devices pose a serious risk of nicotine poisoning, as well as serious potentially deadly vaping associated lung illnesses, also referred to as EVALI; and

WHEREAS, poison center experts encourage the public not to guess, wait for symptoms, or waste time looking up medical information online when potential poisoning exposures occur; and

WHEREAS, all residents should save the Poison Control Center's number, 1-800-222-1222, in their cell, home, and office phones because a fast response can make all the difference in preventing serious injury and saving lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, John Madden, Mayor of Middlesex Borough do hereby proclaim the week of March 15-21, 2020 as National Poison Prevention Week in New Jersey and encourage all citizens to pledge their commitment to ensuring the safety of themselves, their families, and their community.

ORDINANCE(S) FOR INTRODUCTION

The Borough Clerk read ordinance 1993-20 by title:

ORDINANCE 1993-20

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING CHAPTER 26 (ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE) OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex desires to disband the Borough's Economic Development Committee as incorporated in Chapter 26 (Economic Development Committee) of the Municipal Code of the Borough of Middlesex; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 26 was created pursuant to the Borough's plenary ordinance authority as established in N.J.S.A. 40A:48-2, and can thus be disbanded pursuant to that same authority; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex, in the County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, that Chapter 26 of the Municipal Code of the Borough of Middlesex be repealed in its entirety.

SECTION I.

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION II.

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

SECTION III.

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law.

RESULT:	FIRST READING [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 3/24/2020 7:00 PM
MOVER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Council President	
SECONDER:	James Eodice, Councilman	
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex	

The Borough Clerk read ordinance 1994-20 by title:

ORDINANCE 1994-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 224-12 IN THE BOROUGH CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX ENTITLED "FLOOD DAMAGE PREVENTION" TO SET FEES FOR JURISDICTIONAL DETERMINATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT PERMITS

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex seeks to amend its Flood Damage Prevention ordinance to set fees for jurisdictional determination and Development Permits; and

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that Chapter 224 of the Municipal Code thereof is hereby amended as follows, with additions marked **thusly** and deletions marked ~~thusly~~:

Section I

Chapter 224-12 is hereby amended and shall appear in its entirety as follows:

A Development Permit shall be obtained before construction or development begins, including placement of manufactured homes, within any area of special flood hazard established in § 224-7A. Application for a Development Permit shall be made on forms furnished by the Construction Official and may include, but not be limited to; plans in duplicate drawn to scale showing the nature, location, dimensions, and elevations of the area in question; existing or proposed structures, fill, storage of materials, drainage facilities; and the location of the foregoing. Specifically, the following information is required:

- a) Elevation in relation to mean sea level, of the lowest floor (including basement) of all structures;
- b) Elevation in relation to mean sea level to which any structure has been floodproofed.
- c) Certification by a registered professional engineer or architect that the floodproofing methods for any nonresidential structure meet the floodproofing criteria in § 224-17B(2); and
- d) Description of the extent to which any watercourse will be altered or relocated as a result of proposed development.
- e) **Upon completion of the project, an elevation certificate and a topographical as-built survey.**

The following fees shall be applicable:

- a) **If it cannot, in the sole discretion of the Local Administrator or their designee, be readily determined from the information provided to the municipality whether the proposed activity takes place within an area of special flood hazard and therefore requires a Development Permit, then a fee of \$50 shall be charged in order to investigate and make such determination.**
- b) **In all cases where a Development Permit is required, a fee of \$300 shall be submitted with the Application.**
- c) **In all cases where a Development Permit is required, there shall be an additional fee of \$300 for final review of the elevation certificate and survey, which shall be paid prior to the issuance of a Certificate of Occupancy or Certificate of Approval from the Construction Department.**

Section II

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section III

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section IV

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law but, in no event, less than 20 days after its final passage by the Borough Council, where such approval is required pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:69A-181(b).

RESULT:	FIRST READING [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 3/24/2020 7:00 PM
MOVER:	Jeremiah Carnes, Councilman	
SECONDER:	James Eodice, Councilman	
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex	

The Borough Clerk read ordinance 1995-20 by title:

ORDINANCE 1995-20

AN ORDINANCE CREATING A NEW CHAPTER 24 OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX ENTITLED "REDEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE"

WHEREAS, it is the desire of the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex to create a committee of Borough elected officials and professionals to review and evaluate potential redevelopment projects; and

WHEREAS, the Borough is empowered to create such a committee pursuant to authority granted thereto by N.J.S.A. 40:48-2; and

BE IT THEREFORE ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex in the County of Middlesex and State of New Jersey that Chapter 24 of the Municipal Code of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey entitled "Redevelopment Committee" is created and inserted into the Municipal Code pursuant to the provisions hereof:

Section I:

A new chapter shall be inserted into the Municipal Code of the Borough of Middlesex as Chapter 24, shall be entitled as "Redevelopment Committee," and shall contain the following provisions:

Chapter 24: Redevelopment Committee

24-1 Establishment

Pursuant to the power conferred to this municipality in N.J.S.A. 40:48-2, there is hereby established a Redevelopment Committee to review and evaluate potential redevelopment projects within the Borough of Middlesex. The term "Committee," when used by itself in this Chapter, shall refer to the Middlesex Borough Redevelopment Committee.

24-2 Appointment; Membership; Term

- A. The Committee shall consist of five (5) members, and shall consist of the following five individuals: 1) the Mayor; 2) the chairperson of the Joint Land Use Board; 3) the Class III member of the Middlesex Borough Joint Land Use Board; 4) a member of the Borough Council as selected thereby; 5) the Borough's Redevelopment Attorney as selected and duly appointed by the Borough Council.
- B. The Mayor shall serve on the Committee for the length of his term in office. The four (4) other members of the Committee shall serve for their respective period of appointments to their qualifying positions.

24-3 Organization; Meetings

- A. The Mayor shall serve as the chairperson of the Committee, but may designate another member to serve as an interim member of the Committee in his absence or upon his recusal from a matter. The Mayor may, at his discretion, also appoint a member of the Borough's staff to serve as a secretary of the committee.
- B. The Mayor may convene the Committee on an as-needed basis for the review and evaluation of redevelopment projects that are pending in the Borough. The Committee shall provide adequate notice of its meetings pursuant to the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq, shall provide an agenda and keep minutes and records of its meetings to the greatest extent practicable, and shall set aside a public comment portion for each meeting as contemplated in N.J.S.A. 10:4-6 et seq.

19-4 Duties and Functions

- A. The Committee shall, at the request of the Mayor, convene to review and evaluate potential redevelopment projects that are pending in the Borough. The Committee may enact its own procedures and requirements to conduct this review and evaluation and may also utilize such forms and require such submissions as it deems necessary.
- B. The Committee may, as determined by its membership and in the course of its review and evaluation of potential redevelopment projects, meet with individual developers, land use board members, members of the public, and other stakeholders to obtain information and procure differing viewpoints.
- C. The Committee may, as necessary and upon its own initiative, issues such reports memorializing its conclusions and recommendations (if any) either at the conclusion of its review and evaluation of potential redevelopment projects, or at any stage prior to said conclusion that may seem practicable.

Section II

All ordinances or parts of Ordinances inconsistent with this Ordinance are hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

Section III

If any section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision of this Ordinance shall be adjudged invalid, such adjudication shall apply only to this section, paragraph, subdivision, clause or provision and the remainder of this Ordinance shall be deemed valid and effective.

Section IV

This ordinance shall take effect upon adoption and publication in the manner required by New Jersey general law.

RESULT:	FIRST READING [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 3/24/2020 7:00 PM
MOVER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Council President	
SECONDER:	Douglas Rex, Councilman	
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex	

ORDINANCE(S) FOR PUBLIC HEARING AND FINAL ADOPTION

The Borough Clerk read ordinance 1992-20 by title:

ORDINANCE 1992-20

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 407 (VEHICLES AND TRAFFIC), ARTICLE VI (PARKING RESTRICTED), SECTION 407-18 ENTITLED FURTHER RESTRICTIONS OF THE MUNICIPAL CODE OF THE BOROUGH OF MIDDLESEX SO AS TO EXTEND THE PARKING PROHIBITION ALONG LINCOLN BOULEVARD FROM C STREET TO ASHLAND ROAD

SECTION I. NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex that Chapter 407, Article VI of the Municipal Code of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, is hereby modified through this amendment to Section 407-18 entitled Further Restrictions so as to extend the parking prohibition along Lincoln Boulevard, which pursuant to the current ordinance commences at the Bound Brook border and extends to C Street, from the Bound Brook border to Ashland Road.

Amendment to the existing Section referenced above denoted in boldface and strikethrough.

407-18 **Further Restrictions**

A. Parking of vehicles is hereby prohibited on:

- (1) Marlborough Avenue, both sides, from its intersection with Bound Brook Road to its intersection with Wellington Avenue.
- (2) Lincoln Boulevard, south side, Madison Avenue to the Bound Brook Borough line.
- (3) Lincoln Boulevard, north side, ~~C Street~~ **Ashland Road** to the Bound Brook Borough line.
- (4) South Lincoln Avenue, both sides, from the southerly curblin of Bound Brook Road to a point 230 feet south thereof.
- (5) North Lincoln Avenue, west side, from the northerly curblin of Bound Brook Road to a point 125 feet north thereof.
- (6) Wellington Avenue, south side, Marlborough Avenue to Pomander Walk.

- (7) Hawthorne Avenue, north side, Marlborough Avenue to Pomander Walk.
- (8) Lydecker Place, west side, for its entire length.
- (9) Cedar Avenue, both sides, between Harris Avenue and Voorhees Avenue.
- (10) Harris Avenue, south side, from Cedar Avenue east for a distance of 212 feet.
- (11) South Lincoln Avenue between Denton Place and Martin Street.
- (12) Denton Place, north side, between South Lincoln Avenue and Coleman Street.
- (13) Ramsey Road, northwest side, for a distance of 100 feet from Greenbrook Road.
- (14) Shearn Drive, west side, for a distance of 130 feet from Union Avenue.
- (15) Shearn Drive, east side, for a distance of 50 feet from Union Avenue.

B. No-parking signs in accordance with law shall be installed to afford proper notice to the public.

SECTION II. If any part of this ordinance is for any reason held to be invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions of the ordinance.

SECTION III. Should any section, paragraph, sentence, or clause of this ordinance be declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reasons, 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 severable.

SECTION IV. This ordinance shall take effect in the time and manner provided by law.

Mayor Madden opened the Public Hearing on Ordinance No. 1992-20. Seeing that there were no public comments, Mayor Closed the Public Hearing on Ordinance No 1992-20.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Council President
SECONDER:	James Eodice, Councilman
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex

ADOPTION OF MINUTES

MAYOR'S REPORT

No Report was given.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council President Mikolajczyk

We had a preliminary budget meeting on Saturday March 7th. This meeting was attended by the Mayor, Councilman Carr, Business Administrator Karrow, Acting CFO Benson and our representative Ms. Michelle Swisher, our Financial Consultant from Supplee Clooney. Although all of the information is not finalized including the final surplus numbers we were afforded a fairly detailed look into our 2020 budget in preparation for the full budget review later this month. We have several hurdles to overcome in this budget and it is too early to get too far into the details except to say cost controls are going to be necessary at this time however one item I would like to mention tonight is recycling. All indications are that for 2020 our fees in just this one item will increase by \$150,000 over 2019 actual expenditures. I fully expect this to be an item we address in 2020 as not separating recycling, curbside bulk pick-up expenses and an overall tightening of our procedures to ensure waste pick up is for our residents only are going to be closely looked at to ensure we are keeping our costs in check.

Councilman Carnes**Coffee with Council**

February's meeting was a great success as Middlesex Boroughs Tax assessor, Tom Reilly, gave a slide show about the upcoming reevaluation. He also had a question and answer section where residents engaged with their concerns of the reevaluation. We are aware of the Friday timing and will be discussing very soon we will have guests speak on topics that are related to our community at every meeting, March guest has yet to be determined.

Department of Public Works

- Sweeping program starts March 30th weather depending
- Bulk trash season is here, each household is issued 3 bulk tickets, you'll need a ticket and a Government issued ID will be needed in order to use this service.

Culture and Heritage Committee

While we're in development phase, grant research is being conducted which includes conversations and meetings with organizations to Middlesex County and Somerset County organizations for successful and productive formation. This will also be a Mayor appointed committee, and no appointments have been made at this time.

Joint Land Use Board

Layla Transport is going to be carried tentatively scheduled for the 1st or 2nd April meeting
Dunkin tentatively scheduled for a March 25th

Councilman Carr

1. *Reminder* - All residents and business owners are invited to attend the 5th annual Coffee with a Cop event on Saturday March 21st, between 9am and 11am at the Middlesex Elks Lodge.
 2. This past Friday Mayor Madden and Councilman Carr attended the 2020 Redevelopment Forum in New Brunswick organized by New Jersey Future. We had the opportunity to hear from representatives from New Jersey Future, New Jersey Economic Development Authority, USEPA, and NJDEP along with several design, engineering and planning professionals. The overall theme of the Forum this year focused on the impacts of climate change and the adaptations and considerations all municipalities will be required to address in their development planning and implementation through future reform. The Mayor and Councilman attended 2 smaller group breakout sessions. The first group session focused on a panel discussion with the CEO of the NJ Economic Development Authority about the future of redevelopment incentives and the proposed programs from the NJEDA for both the municipalities and developers. The second group session was a collection of 5 minute rapid fire presentations from 12 different presenters. Examples of some of the presentations were:
 - Strategies on reaching out to our community to collaborate and listen on redevelopment.
 - Understanding New Jersey's Land Bank Law.
 - Implementation of Opportunity Zones.
 - Pathways to progress on contaminated Brownfield properties.
 - Advantages to encourage redevelopment of existing buildings as opposed to starting from scratch.
-

Councilman Eodice

On March 4th the OEM held its quarterly meeting. Various items were discussed, including the Fire Department Carnival coming up in April. It was also mentioned that there will be a Cert Graduation here at Borough Hall at the April 28th Council Meeting.

Lastly, the Board of Health has been communicating with the County Preparedness Division regarding Coronavirus. There is information on Corona on the Health page of the Borough's website, and it has been recommended that residents keep an eye on the Middlesex County Health Department website for the most up to date and accurate local information; and the CDC website is also a good resource as well. Residents should also be mindful of any calls, messages or emails from Middlesex Schools as they will have relevant information parents will want to know.

Councilwoman Flood

Housing and Community Development

This Committee has in the past been referred to as the HUD Committee.

Council passed the resolution last meeting to approve the recommended use of funds for the 2020 Community Development Block Grant. Approved project proposals were submitted to the Middlesex County Housing and Community Development Office on March 3, 2020.

A few members will attend the county housing and development committee meeting on April 28th to acquaint themselves with possible ways to utilize this annual grant in the future.

The Housing and Development Committee will meet again on Thursday, April 2nd at 7PM.

Anyone who visits the borough website might be confused when viewing the "HUD" Committee page. I have spoken with our business administrator about updating that page. We expect that improvement will be visible soon.

Recreation Department Committee

With the conclusion of winter sports, our Recreation Director reports a sizable increase in participation and a successful new Fundamentals Program addressing basketball skills and drills for grades K-2. She reports a large increase in wrestling participation with 5 participants advancing to states in Trenton.

Registration is complete for spring sports, and ongoing for summer activities.

An alternate Easter Egg Hunt plan is in place as per warnings of COVID so as not to waste funds.

Community Day has been renamed Borough Bash. It will take place on August 29, 2020 with a rain date of August 30, 2020. More details to follow.

Councilman Rex

Shade Tree meets this Thursday, so I have nothing to report tonight. I will have a report for the next Council Meeting.

For the Senior Department I have a monthly report for February generated by Middlesex County from data supplied by staff at the Senior Center. Melissa is looking at possibly having a bi-monthly Report for the Council.

February, 2020

Assisted Transportation - 272 Total - Includes medical, errand/shopping, recreational, and trips to/from Senior Center

Home Delivered Meals - 445 Total - aka Meals on Wheels. Delivered Monday - Friday

Information & Assistance - 195 Total - Includes walk-in and phone queries. Assistance with homebound

services, Medicare/health insurance questions/paperwork (SHIP Counseling), tax applications/prep, financial planning/needs, home health services, wellness checks/programs/presentations, senior housing, homeless/disability counseling, etc.

Thank you Mayor. I have nothing else.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Administrator's Report

March 10, 2020

Items with asterices* have updates

- I. Flood Management:
 - II. Update of Sewer Projects:
 - i. Phase I:
 - a. Additional work on George Street
 - b. Funds remaining
 - c. O & M Manual required by DEP - no update
 - d. I/I Study
 - e. Sampling Program - no update
 - ii Phase II Funding: Pending with i-bank (DEP) - no update
 - iii Phase IV (Sewer Bypass)
- III. *Update on Other Public Works Projects:
 - i. *Streetscape Project
 - ii. South Avenue Reconstruction
 - iii. Safe Routes to Schools - no update
 - iv. Road Design (2019 DOT Grant)
 - v. Road Design (2020 DOT Grant)
- IV. Update on Other Projects:
 - i. Library HVAC System
 - ii. Mountain View Park
- V. *Video Taping of Meetings
- VI. *Miscellaneous
 - i. Dredging of Lake/Mosquito Control Commission
 - ii. *MCUA right of way for construction project under consent agenda
 - iii. *Budget
 - iv. *Eagle scout project - dog park
 - v. *Presentations at Upcoming Meetings
 - vi. *JIF MEL Training Credit

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Dave Polakiewicz, 240 Hazelwood Ave.

- Questioned the Borough surplus and that it is available in the budget.

Frank Ryan, 303 Maple Street

- Questioned the "Community Day" and why it was being held since fireworks were eliminated in the budget.
- Questioned recycling bags and if we could eliminate the wording "Middlesex Recycling" to save money
- Requested that the borough eliminate twice a week garbage in the summer because of cost of running vehicles and have the borough enforce the ordinance that all garbage be put out in cans with lids to eliminate any animal infestation.

- Questioned the bamboo between Foreign Express and Raritan Avenue coming from Bound Brook and how it will effect the trunk line for the sewer for the wetland area if the bamboo gets into the pipes
- Questioned the park bench at the corner of Shepherd Avenue and Route 28 and requested that it be removed and that it be replaced with a Christmas Tree and relocate the bench.
- Congratulated the Elks students that participated in the Council Meeting and hopes that this would inspire them to run for council.

Kevin Redzinski, 441 Fairview Avenue

- Questioned the uploading of the meeting minutes to the borough website, similar to what is done with the Board of Education and if it will be done moving forward.
- Commented that the Governing Body should have seen the shrinking surplus.
- Requested that the council consider having the forensic audit.

Joe DeScenza, 321 Salvatore Avenue

- Congratulated the Elks students on their great job participating with the Council Meeting.
- Spoke from experience that the Attorney General did a thorough audit with regard to the former mayor's indictment and felt that any borough funds that were taken illegally would have been addressed with the Attorney General's investigation.

Rich Rutkowski, 211 Maple Street

- Commended the Elks students on their participation in the meeting.

The above individual's concerns were addressed by Mayor Madden, Administrator Karrow, Attorney Corsini and Council members.

NEW BUSINESS/CONSENT AGENDA/RESOLUTIONS

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Council President
SECONDER:	Jason Carr, Councilman
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 88-2020

ACCEPTANCE OF STANDING REPORTS

The Governing Body hereby accepts the following Reports itemized below:

1. Acceptance of the January, 2020 Fire Chief's Report
2. Acceptance of the Board of Fire Officer's Report which includes:
 - a. Joe Eckert has returned from a leave of absence effective 1/7/20.
 - b. Matthew Gould has taken a 3 month leave of absence effective 2/11/20.
 - c. Sean Kaplan is a qualified driver of Engine 23 and Truck 18.
 - d. Chris DuBois is a qualified driver of Engine 23, Truck 18 & Truck 25.
 - e. Mike Lane is a qualified driver of Truck 24.
 - f. Jonathan Poltorak has been accepted as an active member of the Middlesex Fire Department.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 89-2020

APPOINTMENT OF CHIRAG D. MEHTA, ESQ. OF THE LAW FIRM KING, MOENCH, HIRNIAK & MEHTA FROM MARCH 10, 2020 - DECEMBER 31, 2020 AS THE BOROUGH PROSECUTOR

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex wishes to appoint Chirag D. Mehta, Esq., of the firm King Moench Hirniak & Mehta, LLP, 51 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 2F, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 as the Borough Prosecutor for the Borough of Middlesex for the period of March 10, 2020 to December 31, 2020 at a fee set forth in the Agreement, a copy of which is available in the Borough Clerk's Office.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey as follows:

1. Chirag D. Mehta, Esq. of the firm King Moench Hirniak & Mehta, LLP, 51 Gibraltar Drive, Suite 2F, Morris Plainss, NJ 07950 is hereby appointed as the Borough Prosecutor for the Borough of Middlesex for the period of March 10, 2020 through December 31, 2020 at a fee set forth in the Agreement, a copy of which is available in the Borough Clerk's Office.
2. This contract is being awarded pursuant to a fair and open process in accordance with N.J.S.A. 19:44A-20.4 et seq.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 90-2020

CANCELLING SMALL SEWER BALANCES

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, finds and declares that N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1 empowers authorized municipal employees to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex, further finds and declares that the Municipal Tax Collector is qualified to process the cancellation of tax refunds and/or delinquencies of less than Ten (\$10.00) Dollars, and

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex that the Municipal Tax Collector is authorized to process the cancellation of sewer delinquencies of less than ten (\$10.00) Dollars for the 2019 billing year in accordance with N.J.S.A. 40A:5-17.1.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 91-2020

**ACKNOWLEDGING THE CHANGE IN STATUS FOR CERTAIN PROPERTIES UNDER
THE SENIOR CITIZEN/DISABLED PERSON TAX DEDUCTIONS**

WHEREAS, certain Senior Citizens/Disabled Persons were the owners of property in the Borough of Middlesex on or before October 1, 2018, and

WHEREAS, said Senior Citizens/Disabled Persons did file their claims for the Senior Citizen/Disabled Person deduction with the proper official of the Borough of Middlesex, Middlesex County prior to December 31, 2019; and

WHEREAS, the Tax Collector has disallowed the following Senior Citizen/Disabled Person deduction for the 2019 year totaling \$23.29.

Name: Errickson, Kimberley
Block/Lot: 283/41
Amount: \$23.29
Reason: Sale of Property
Year: 2019

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Borough Council of the Borough of Middlesex, Middlesex County, that the Chief Financial Officer of the Borough of Middlesex, Middlesex County be instructed to post to the books the collection of taxes receivable as detailed.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 92-2020

**AUTHORIZING THE TAX COLLECTOR TO REFUND OVERPAYMENT OF PROPERTY
TAXES ON BLOCK 84, LOT 19 - *Item Removed from Consent***

WHEREAS, the owner of 24 Ramsey Road, Block 84 Lot 19, has been declared a 100% Disabled Veteran, and;

WHEREAS, 100% Disabled Veterans are exempt from property taxes, and;

WHEREAS, 1st Qtr. 2020 payment in the amount of \$1,828.20 was made on 1/24/2020, by the mortgage company prior to the passing of Resolution # 73-2020, and;

WHEREAS, the mortgage company has requested and is entitled to a refund, and;

NOW THEREFORE, a check in the amount of \$1,828.20 should be made payable to:

Lereta
901 Corporate Center Dr.
Pomona, CA 91768

RESULT:	TABLED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]	Next: 3/24/2020 7:00 PM
MOVER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Council President	
SECONDER:	Jason Carr, Councilman	
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex	

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 93-2020

APPROVAL TO ADVANCE PATROLMAN SCOTT CHRISTOFIDES TO PATROLMAN CLASS "A" AT AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$114,364 EFFECTIVE MARCH 12, 2020

WHEREAS, Police Officer Scott Christofides is eligible for advancement in grade pursuant to Article XV of the Police Department Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, On March 2, 2020 Chief Geist recommended Police Officer Scott Christofides be advanced in grade.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Police Officer Scott Christofides be and is hereby advanced in grade to Patrolman Class "A" effective March 12, 2020 at an annual salary of \$114,364.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 94-2020

APPROVAL TO ADVANCE PATROLMAN PAUL STEFFANELLI TO PATROLMAN CLASS "A" AT AN ANNUAL SALARY OF \$114,364 EFFECTIVE MARCH 12, 2020

WHEREAS, Police Officer Paul Steffanelli is eligible for advancement in grade pursuant to Article XV of the Police Department Ordinance; and

WHEREAS, On March 2, 2020 Chief Geist recommended Police Officer Paul Steffanelli be advanced in grade.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey that Police Officer Paul Steffanelli be and is hereby advanced in grade to Patrolman Class "A" effective March 12, 2020 at an annual salary of \$114,364.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 95-2020

**ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF KAREN WICK FROM THE CONSTRUCTION
OFFICE EFFECTIVE MARCH 6, 2020**

The Governing Body hereby accepts the resignation of Karen Wick from the Construction Office effective March 6, 2020.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 96-2020

**ACCEPTING THE RESIGNATION OF TANIA TROVATO FROM THE OFFICE OF AGING
& SENIOR SERVICES EFFECTIVE FEBRUARY 26, 2020**

The Governing Body hereby accept the resignation of Tania Trovato as a substitute Meals on Wheels Driver for the Office on Aging and Senior Services effective February 26, 2020.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 97-2020

**INCREASING THE ENGINEERING FEES FOR REMINGTON & VERNICK ENGINEERS
FOR ADDITIONAL ENGINEERING WORK NEEDED IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED
\$20,000 FOR THE SANITARY SEWER MAIN IMPROVEMENTS**

WHEREAS, Remington and Vernick has provided the Borough with Engineering, Design, Permitting & Construction Management Services for the Various Sanitary Sewer Main Improvements in the Borough in the amount of \$339,400, and

WHEREAS, the Borough desires to do further work using contract monies, including but not limited to investigative (camera) and additional lining work, for which the services of Remington and Vernick will be needed; and

WHEREAS, this additional work is also reimbursable through the same NJEIT Loan that the borough is presently using to pay for additional contract work; and

WHEREAS, Remington & Vernick is requesting that the current contract in an amount not to exceed \$339,400 be increased by \$20,000.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Borough Council of Middlesex, County of Middlesex, State of New Jersey, as follows:

1. The Governing Body hereby approves increasing the budget for Remington & Vernick for the Engineering, Design, Permitting & Construction Management Services for the Various Sanitary Sewer Main Improvements in the Borough to an amount not to exceed \$359,400.
2. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

The Acting CFO hereby certifies funds in the amount of the additional \$20,000 are available in Account No. C-04-17-907-000-050.

Caroline Benson, Acting CFO

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 98-2020

**WAIVING THE MOUNTAIN VIEW PARK PERMIT FEES FOR THE FIRE DEPARTMENT
CARNIVAL FROM APRIL 19, 2020 - APRIL 26, 2020**

The Governing body hereby approves waiving the Mountain View Park Permit Fees in the amount of \$1500.00 for the Fire Department Annual Carnival.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 99-2020

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY CLERK TO EXECUTE THE STORMWATER
MANAGEMENT AGREEMENT WITH PIPELINE REALTY MIDDLESEX LLC**

The Governing Body hereby authorizes the Mayor and Deputy Clerk to execute the Stormwater Management Agreement with Pipeline Realty Middlesex LLC.

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 100-2020

**AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR AND DEPUTY CLERK TO EXECUTE THE DEVELOPER'S
AGREEMENT WITH PIPELINE REALTY MIDDLESEX LLC FOR BLOCK 351, LOT 2 -**

Item Removed from Consent

The Governing Body hereby authorizes the Mayor and Deputy Clerk to execute the

Developer's Agreement with Pipeline Realty Middlesex LLC for Block 351, Lot 2.

RESULT:	ADOPTED BY CONSENT VOTE [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jeremiah Carnes, Councilman
SECONDER:	Jack Mikolajczyk, Council President
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex

NON-CONSENT AGENDA/RESOLUTIONS

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 101-2020

EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 allows for a Public Body to go into closed session during a Public Meeting; and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex has deemed it necessary to go into closed session to discuss certain matters which are exempted from the Public; and

WHEREAS, the regular meeting of this Governing Body will reconvene.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Governing Body of the Borough of Middlesex will go into closed session for the following reason listed below as outlined in N.J.S.A. 10:4-12 and the minutes will be kept, and once the matter involving the confidentiality of the items no longer require confidentiality, the minutes can be made public.

1. OLMV Litigation
2. Straight Edge Site Plan Issues - Potential Litigation

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jason Carr, Councilman
SECONDER:	Amy Flood, Councilwoman
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex

The Borough Clerk read the following resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Middlesex that:

RESOLUTION 102-2020

PAY ALL CLAIMS

THE DISBURSING OFFICERS BE AND THEY ARE HEREBY AUTHORIZED TO PAY THE ATTACHED CLAIM LIST AS PRESENTED, IF FOUND CORRECT, AND APPROVED BY

THE FINANCE COMMITTEE. EXCLUDED VOUCHERS MAY BE PAID UPON BEING FOUND ACCEPTABLE.

RESULT:	ADOPTED [UNANIMOUS]
MOVER:	Jason Carr, Councilman
SECONDER:	Amy Flood, Councilwoman
AYES:	Mikolajczyk, Carnes, Carr, Eodice, Flood, Rex

AGENDA WORKSHOP ITEM

1. Borough Fees

Borough Administrator discussed increasing the borough discretionary fees that have not been increased for many years. Barrie Palumbo supplied constructions fees, and the Borough Administrator discussed increasing the Liquor licenses by 20%, which is the maximum statutory amount that they could be increased per year. Council agreed to introduce two ordinances at the March 24, 2020 Meeting to increase the construction fees and liquor license fees.

Additional Borough licensing fees will be addressed in the near future and brought back to Council.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR ON AGENDA WORKSHOP ITEMS

EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. OLMV Litigation
2. Straight Edge Site Plan Issues - Potential Litigation

ADJOURNMENT

The next Regular Meeting will be March 24, 2020

Respectfully yours,

Borough Clerk