

SAMPLE RESOLUTION

A RESOLUTION OF THE COMMITTEE OF MIDDLETOWN IN SUPPORT OF 100% CLEAN ENERGY

WHEREAS, over 250 letters have been submitted by Middletown Township residents demanding the Township adopt targets of 100% renewable electrical energy by 2030 and net-zero greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions in all energy sectors by 2050; and

WHEREAS, all Middletown residents care that Middletown Township is a place where their children and grandchildren can flourish for generations to come; and

WHEREAS, Middletown has a goal of being a leader among New Jersey towns in achieving Sustainable Jersey Silver Certification and Gold Star in Energy; and

WHEREAS, clean energy sources such as wind and solar are now more affordable than fossil fuel sources; and energy efficiency measures that drive down energy demand are the most cost effective means to reduce fossil fuel consumption while reducing energy costs; and

WHEREAS, renewable energy represents an enormous economic opportunity for Middletown to create jobs in an emerging industry, increase economic security and expand prosperity for local residents, save our shoreline, reduce air pollution and associated public health risks, reduce the strain on water resources, and save consumers money; and

WHEREAS, documented impacts of continued reliance on fossil-fuel energy include but are not limited to increased occurrences of sea level rise, extreme weather events (e.g. floods and droughts), adverse impacts on shore and marine ecosystems, an increase in medical emergencies, and adverse effects on economic value chains; and

WHEREAS, it is less expensive to plan for and mitigate these impacts, than to respond to emergencies when they happen; and

WHEREAS, quickly transitioning to 100 percent clean energy provides Middletown Township an opportunity to access first-mover advantage in the range of products, services and know-how that transitioning to a climate-compatible future brings; and

WHEREAS, Sustainable Jersey provides extensive support for the Middletown Green Team to successfully complete the required actions toward 100% clean energy; and

WHEREAS, cities across the state and nation have made commitments to transition to 100 percent clean energy, and Middletown Township strives to remain a leader among its peer cities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT MIDDLETOWN TOWNSHIP:

1. Create an inclusive Clean Energy Stakeholder Team, to consist of a Committee member, representatives of relevant Township departments such as Green Team, Environmental, Planning, Public Works, Parks, Health and Administration, a representative from Monmouth County Planning, and an equal number of citizen stakeholders from across Middletown, including a representative(s) of the renewable energy sector, plus expert consultants such as Sustainable Jersey, as needed.

The Stakeholder team would:

- Issue interim reports and hold interim public readouts to promote transparency and buy-in;
- Identify specific proposed actions (within the constraints of Middletown resources including volunteer citizen contributions) to be implemented over the next 10 years that set the trajectory toward Sustainable Jersey certifications, as well as a broader goal of 2050 net zero emissions;
- Include a transition to 100 percent clean electricity in the form of wind and solar and energy efficiency measures within the electricity sector by 2030;
- Deliver a “Stakeholder Plan” to the Middletown Township Committee within 6 months of the date of enactment of this resolution.

2. Within two months of receipt of the “Stakeholder Plan”, the Middletown Township Committee enacts the Plan.

Introduced on April 15, 2019, by:

Adopted on [DATE] as attested by