Mayor Perry, May 16, 2019

Thank you for an excellent meeting in your office on Wednesday, May 8. We applaud your broad and long term vision for a sustainable Middletown Township.

As promised, we have done research to identify best practices and plans of comparable cities. We suggest several possibilities (details in attached document):

1. Adopt best practices of a leading city, such as Woodbridge Township, which is engaging in the Sustainable Jersey “Gold Star in Energy”. Immediately, Green Team Volunteers and interested Middletown officials should attend the Sustainable Jersey May 31 “Going for Energy Gold Workshop”, and the June 14 “2019 New Jersey Sustainability Summit”, as described below.
2. Examine the 20 year “City Comprehensive Plan” of the city of Champaign, IL. Its plan elements improve specific neighborhoods and have specific focus areas.
3. Join the peer-to-peer networking hub of the 1500 members of ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability).
4. Join the “LEED for Cities & Communities Program”. In 2019, the scope is greatly expanded, to include United Nations “Sustainable Development Goals”

After consideration of your challenge to create a long-term plan for all aspects of energy management, including the cost-benefit analysis, we have decided to accept that challenge. We propose to assemble a group of volunteer experts for a Green Energy Stakeholder Team (a sub team of a broader Sustainability Team?) that reports directly to the Township Committee, “advisory team” as you suggested. The long term plan needs real, actionable, measurable benchmarks with firm dates in the short and medium term. We suggest the administration consider short term initiatives to step up and prove conviction and dedication to environmental goals. Such steps would include committing to the Sustainable Jersey Gold Star in Energy.

The Green Energy Stakeholder Team’s first task is recruiting members. The team would define the scope, time-frame and goals of the plan. We believe the framework will begin with the Sustainable Jersey Gold Star in Energy, which is a well-defined process. Woodbridge is an example of a town that has achieved the Gold Star.

To recruit team members with the right skills (e.g., project management, risk management, energy, accounting, technical writing), we propose to use our Middletown for Clean Energy email list of about 150 people, plus the list you mentioned of 500 Middletown volunteers, in order to get stakeholders from throughout Middletown. We would need access to send a solicitation to the latter list.

Our next step is to start collecting data from the following sources:

* The May 31 Sustainable Jersey Going for Energy Gold Workshop in Ewing (announcement att.), which will feature the activities of those NJ cities that are already pursuing or have achieved the Gold Star in Energy. Middletown Township’s Registration would require at least a telephone consultation with the “Gold Star Team Lead” - presumably Amy Sarrinikolaou.
* The all-day June 14 NJ Sustainability Summit at Bell Works in Holmdel.
* Questionnaire and/or interviews with the Directors of all relevant Township departments and school administration to determine what they project to be their most important issues of risk and cost regarding energy use or climate-related consequences.
* Outreach to community groups of residents and businesses regarding their concerns.

We will need your authorization (or the Committee’s, at your discretion) and recognition as a Township resource to be admitted to any/all of these data collection sources to begin the work. We hope we can have your written concurrence soon.

We would hope to have regular reports to the Committee as needed by either party, as well as community outreach events, desirable to garner public support.

Sincerely,

Pat Arpin

Garry Brozyna

Harvey Cohen

Jan Dash

Bernard Dickman

Robert Erickson

John Luard

Pat Miller

Steve Miller

David Sugerman

Carol Van Kirk

Middletown for Clean Energy

**Going for Energy Gold Workshop**

In 2017 Sustainable Jersey announced a new level of recognition for silver certified communities - the Gold Star Standard, which recognizes towns that have achieved high levels of performance in key dimensions of sustainability.  The Gold Stars launched were the [Gold Star Standard in Energy and the Gold Star Standard in Waste](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013JC7zCyrQmq14VJX4RtA-ALXWDdP4XZWsoYVVnZTDjGcNmqYzCqJpOJowQabwQjDHQi0Pt7vUObZOkxlSOV81lpRIv21GpH49VbzgdvA2YAkw_sE4-AFy72gvkpu_wblRCbR2GSnzD1HIDhJwzK8ezACuOoweaNhNlfehjTNS5ZMQh-J-JVKYO6-36NFOMJIaqkj_Aa-QOc2VyUyycDCMPvHANUPrrMuxKB14aUgdWSQ1nke665JcQ==&c=0WywfNgW9No6YbgMaW8ma-SGuiQS7hGoPoFSvwJS4f1vt8yj6RZphw==&ch=99Q1sVHPQSW1DlCDYmHvV7dy4ilq-XbKamY6BLvG6GSjflWtfIo-og==).

 This workshop will feature working sessions to help municipalities complete the [required actions](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013JC7zCyrQmq14VJX4RtA-ALXWDdP4XZWsoYVVnZTDjGcNmqYzCqJpP6rY8rPSTRlqUxzmGYQZs7nP2EnUcu51S3PwY8gE_KvfXumKDAoszT6sJfSVZE72mu9jddo_2jaO4s7kV5s60YpHkZextvcgF96CjAe9gJb34PrOWlRJ3C3cbf4f59pnnvHVFpDb06yX2iCQjxcDsUDqWQMyztV9t4iRU69NDFXNQg041s6OObGtMFp5EngZYpwADfHZshzg-sphSjwVYoo5ba0FXo2731oa3HJPiBJk6tXTckuhiAMFf_v2zVvKsjXrtSn-2SPi75KdDK2OmgZVvKpid1AppMi_pCetLl7&c=0WywfNgW9No6YbgMaW8ma-SGuiQS7hGoPoFSvwJS4f1vt8yj6RZphw==&ch=99Q1sVHPQSW1DlCDYmHvV7dy4ilq-XbKamY6BLvG6GSjflWtfIo-og==) for the Sustainable Jersey **Gold Star Standard in Energy** in the solar, electric vehicle, and energy efficiency categories. There will also be information about the role of renewable government energy aggregation (R-GEA) in achieving the Gold Star and ample opportunity for municipalities to share success stories on reducing greenhouse gas reductions from municipal operations in order to meet the 3.6% annual GHG reduction rate required for the Gold Star Standard in Energy.

 If you are unable to attend the workshop but are working towards the Gold Star Standard in Energy, please register and check the box that indicates that you are available only for a phone consultation.

**Friday, May 31, 2019, 9:30am - 12:00pm**

The College of New Jersey, Education Building Room 212

2000 Pennington Road, Ewing, NJ 08628

[REGISTER](http://r20.rs6.net/tn.jsp?f=0013JC7zCyrQmq14VJX4RtA-ALXWDdP4XZWsoYVVnZTDjGcNmqYzCqJpKCzrCF36eQmYgurS_QsLANmGvYMZ8WxnFZJFX--sQ6LOMsEpN6Lg9mqLf9GUbX1JXLZtSGTKi9Z0jB20XiZvUAX8lpaiMI4PbfldiCdmZZAFv-XFoS9RlLrfQVuHp9gNPr4ty1C2h2qZZ29JUxwHCFciIoczeofQt17MLY_0ca66u9o4Rlp4jvYfoYcCLd_XFYpfzDLvmQhZMk6SRlo6cBMB1UxoxjeGA==&c=0WywfNgW9No6YbgMaW8ma-SGuiQS7hGoPoFSvwJS4f1vt8yj6RZphw==&ch=99Q1sVHPQSW1DlCDYmHvV7dy4ilq-XbKamY6BLvG6GSjflWtfIo-og==)