



Town of Middletown
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 11, 2008

The Middletown Town Council met on Tuesday, March 11, 2008. President Jim Mundell, council members Jake Smith, Dan Fountain, Lisa Hicks-Smith and Tim Mundell were all present. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson noted that all members were present. Dave Copenhaver, town attorney was also present. After the pledge to the flag, the minutes were approved as presented. This meeting was rescheduled from March 4, 2008 due to the inclement weather on the original date.

1. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson informed the council that the water account was depleted and to keep more checks from being returned he had had to transfer a loan from the general fund to the water account. This action requires council approval. Dan Fountain made a motion to transfer the \$14,000 request. Tim Mundell seconded. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Next, Hanson presented a quote from Keystone Software for a Meter Reading device interface to change file formats from Sensus to Neptune format. The quote was in the amount of \$1500 for the training and software. This will link the new meter-readers with the computer software that does the billing. Dan Fountain made a motion to accept the quote. Jake Smith seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.
3. The contract with REMC that was approved at the February 5, 2008 council meeting was presented for signatures. All members signed the contract.
4. Mrs. Joyce Ashton was present to request that the area near her home be patrolled on a regular basis. It seems that the parking lot at the business across the street is being utilized after business hours. She was advised to call the police department at any time she feels that things are not right over there. Also, she wondered when the property clean up campaign was going to move forward as is indicated on channel 21. Mr. Mundell told her that this was an ongoing process.
5. The next item for discussion was the utilities rate increase. There was discussion of the presentation made by former council member Dave Wagner. Each member had additional information to share. After much discussion and some input from the public, the consensus was to consider a 10% increase in all the utility departments. Dave Copenhaver will prepare the proper documents for the council to move forward with the rate increases. The public hearing on this matter will be held on April 1, 2008.
6. Dave Copenhaver informed council that a Sheriff's Sale will be held on Tuesday, the 8th of April, 2008, at 10:00 A. M. at the office of the sheriff of Henry County, Indiana to receive bids on the property known to the town as 530 Columbia Ave. Dave requested council to let him know how much the town wanted to bid on the property. This is the procedure that is to be followed for the town to recover their expense for clearing the place of the rundown house that was there. The town expense for this was \$10,766.54. Council will inform him on the amount at the next regular meeting.
7. David Real informed council that the project at First Merchants Bank was proceeding as scheduled.
8. Ron Koons reported that there have been many problems with the change of the cable company to Comcast. One of the biggest problems is slow service on outages. People having unresolved problems with service should call Ron. Also, if possible, calls should be made between 9AM and 5PM. This insures that patron's calls are handled by the Anderson staff. He advises all customers



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to read the booklet they received from Comcast concerning consumer's rights. People do not need to agree to binding arbitration.

9. Dan Fountain and Ron Koons from the Web Site Committee gave all department heads a letter concerning the town web-page and what each department needed to do to have input in their specific page. All requests must be submitted no later than Friday, April 4th.
10. Mike Vaccaro, subbing for Chief Randy Wray, stated that the Police Academy will allow the town credit for \$1500 of training in exchange for the old police car that we are getting rid of. After discussion it was decided to have Randy advertise the car for sale to the public. After any bids are received council will decide the prudent way to dispose of the car. Also discussed was the need for some training in the procedures used when a burglar alarm sounds. All parties need to be informed of the correct procedures.
11. GOOD NEWS! Lisa Hicks-Smith welcomed Nutrition Consultants and Associates to Middletown. Their new offices are at 107 N 5th St. They are dietitians who specialize in pediatric services for children with Diabetes, Food Allergies and Eating Disorders.
12. Jim Mundell asked who the members of the Park Board are. Jake Smith informed council that the members are: John Rhodes, President, A. J. Hamilton, Dave Chandler, Sue Cooper, Patsy Johnson and Susan Smith. Further questions were directed to the park board which meets on the 1st Tuesday of each month.
13. There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned by the president.












