



Town of Middletown
653 Locust Street
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 1, 2008

The Middletown Town Council met on Tuesday, April 1, 2008. President Jim Mundell, council members Dan Fountain, Lisa Hicks -Smith and Tim Mundell were all present. Jake Smith arrived shortly after the start of the meeting. Joel Harvey of Hayes Copenhaver Crider was present as legal council for the town. Following the pledge to the flag, the meeting proceeded.

1. President Mundell stated that this meeting was to serve as the Public Hearing for Ordinance 03-18-2008, to increase rates charged to customers of the Middletown Water Utility, Ordinance 03-18-2008-1 to increase the rates and charges of the Middletown Municipal Sewer Works and Ordinance 03-18-2008-2 to increase the electric rates charged to the customers of Middletown, Indiana.
2. Gene Riggs, 605 N 13th St., was first to address the council. He had questions concerning fund shortages in prior audits conducted by the State Board of Accounts. Lisa Hicks-Smith asked Joel to check the status of this matter.
3. Kurt Russell, 945 Locust St., stated that he felt the account balances were so messed up he questioned how putting more money into the accounts would correct the situation. He asked council why nothing had been done about the accounting mess before now. Tim Mundell stated that he had had contact with Ron Radford of State Board of Accounts and the the council was now trying to remedy the situation. Mr. Russell then questioned what policies were in place in reference to charge cards in use by town department heads. The council directed the clerk-treasurer to prepare policies concerning the use of the cards and the accountability of those using the cards that satisfy the procedures demanded by the State Board of Accounts.
4. Jake Smith stated that the last SBA audit made it clear that changes need to be made. Ron Koons informed about pole rental agreements between the town and the various utilities that use the poles. Jake stated that the utilities need to be on a business footing. The rates of these utilities should be examined on an annual basis.
5. Kurt Russell then stated that he thought all utility lines should be buried so that they would not be affected by Indiana weather. After much discussion, it was decided by Jim Mundell that Mr. Russell could research the cost of burying the lines for the town. This discussion closed the Public Hearing part of the meeting.
6. Kevin Lockhart, 453 N. 5th Street, presented council with a sketch and his plan to convert a mobile home he had moved on to his property into a full sized residence. Jim Mundell stated that No mobile homes are allowed in the Town of Middletown except in the mobile home park that was established prior to 1970. Jim Mundell also wants to talk to Terri Roberts from Henry County zoning and planning before discussing this issue any further. Dan Fountain asked Kevin who was going to occupy the building. Kevin stated that it would be a personal residence. Dan stated further that he had spoken to Dr. Goodman that very afternoon and that Dr. Goodman had told him that Kevin was building the place as an office for him. Lisa Hicks-Smith was then questioned as to whether or not she knew about the plans for this property. She had said in a prior meeting that this address may possibly be used for a business but because of client privacy rights she could not comment further. Dan Fountain made a motion to table this matter. Jim Casstevens then asked why Kevin did not get the proper permits and permission before he



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moved the mobile home on to the property. Kevin then replied that Terri Roberts had said it would be acceptable to proceed. Another citizen, Ed Riley stated that he prefers Not to have a mobile home on his street or in his town. Jim Mundell then seconded the motion to table this issue. Then there was a discussion of the meaning of Ordinance 152.01 passed on 03-04-69 in reference to mobile homes. Council then voted whether or not to table this issue. Jim, Tim, Dan and Jake voted to table. Lisa Hicks-Smith voted no.

7. Marilyn Riley was present concerning the issue of the town contracting a single hauler for its waste removal. Ron Kendall asked why the town didn't just go ahead and move on this issue and get it over with. Dan Fountain moved to table this issue until another time.
8. Gene Riggs informed Randy Wray that he had called MPD in reference to a family matter and that he had not been satisfied with the results he got. Randy will talk with Gene at a later time. Jim Mundell questioned Randy about whether or not an officer was being paid to dispatch while he was unable to do his regular duty. Randy informed council that PRN dispatchers are not guaranteed any specific number of hours in any given week. Jim Mundell then stated that he was not in favor of putting an officer on dispatch duty. Dan Fountain then said he thought council should discuss this in an executive session. Jim Mundell disagreed. Randy then stated that this was a personnel issue. Lisa Hicks-Smith then left the room because she felt it was not legal to proceed with the discussion. Dan Fountain then asked Randy not to comment further. Joel Harvey added that probably an executive session was in order. Dan Fountain made a motion for an executive session. Jake Smith seconded. Dan, Jake and Lisa voted in favor. Jim and Tim voted against having an executive session.
9. Ron Koons informed council that recent charges for service in the MLAC room by Comcast were not correct. This has always been a free service. Comcast was not receptive to this at first but Ron soon convinced them otherwise. He again reminded customers to call the town clerk if they are unable to resolve problems with Comcast. The complaints will be forwarded to him and he will try to get resolution. Bart Hudson stated he had had cable issues and had not been able to get through to Comcast or to Ron Koons.
10. David Real reported that two lift station pumps needed to be rebuilt. He also reported trouble with lift station in Crestwood Park. David thinks we should turn the station back to Crestwood. The sewer connections are not properly sealed and this is causing the pumps to burn up. Jim Mundell will meet with David Real and the management at Crestwood Park. Mundell then asked if town could paint white lines at stop corners so cars clearly can know where to stop. There was a general consensus among the council to do this.
11. Tracy Harrison informed council that Tammy Westrater was in need of written documentation as to her future in the home owned by the town. Dan said a letter was written and that he would see that Mrs. Westrater as well as the council got copies of the letter.
12. Dan Fountain asked if the town could get work release people from Henry County to paint curbs etc. for the town this spring. Also, he thinks we should form a committee to develop a plan for spring cleaning the town this year. The rest of the council were agreeable to this.
13. Kyle Metcalf encouraged all citizens to keep him informed when they spot violations by property owners of the home care ordinances.
14. Lisa Hicks-Smith stated that she and Sherry Fields had valued the property at 530 Columbia Ave. They agreed that a maximum value of \$5000 was a fair price for the town.



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15. President Mundell then approved the minutes as presented.
16. Dan made a motion to approve Ordinance 03-18-2008 by name and number only. Jake seconded. All voted in favor.
17. Dan made a motion to approve Ordinance 03-18-2008-1 by name and number only. Jake seconded. All voted in favor.
18. Dan made a motion to approve Ordinance 03-18-2008-2 by name and number only. Jake seconded. All voted in favor.
19. Tim Mundell made a motion to give the old tanker truck to the utility department. Dan Fountain seconded. Again, all voted in favor of the motion.
20. There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned by the president.












