



Town of Middletown
658 Locust Street
Middletown, IN 47356
office: (765) 354 2268
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 29, 2008

The Middletown Town Council met on Tuesday, April 29, 2008 in a special budget meeting. President Jim Mundell, council members Tim Mundell, Jake Smith, Dan Fountain and Lisa Hicks-Smith were all present. After the pledge to the flag, the meeting proceeded. President Mundell called on Randy Wray for his suggestions on how to cut expenses within his department.

1. Police Chief Randy Wray reported that dispatchers wages and benefits cost the town \$115,669 per year. Sheriff Baker of Henry County Sheriff Department said the county central dispatch could do our dispatch for about \$52,472 per year. This could save the town \$63,197 per year. This would require substantial changes in EMS and Fire Department operations. Also, there would be no one to handle walk-in emergencies. Phil Chandler, Chief EMS Officer, stated that no changes could be made until Henry County can be sure that they can dispatch to us. Fire Chief Brian Rednour did not know whether or not his radios were compatible with the HC radios. Chief Wray had also investigated our communication networks. He is checking into what kinds and how many services each department needs and also into government plans which are less expensive than regular charge plans.
2. David Real recommended selling surplus equipment from town inventories of vehicles and equipment. Real also questioned the amount of expense for communications.
3. Jake Smith noted that the town has never in its history had a 39% cut in its budget. He feels there is no where else to cut. Chief Wray has some good ideas, but it still is not enough. Lisa also feels we are going to have to reduce our number of employees.
4. Tim Mundell had a presentation that included the following reductions: 1. Layoff of one police officer. 2. Limit all other officers to 32 hours pay per week. 3. Limit all utility department employees to 32 hours per week. 4. This plan would not layoff any dispatchers. No action was taken on any of the above presentations.
5. The council then unanimously agreed on a capital spending freeze for the civil town general fund line items. The motion was made by Dan Fountain and seconded by Lisa. All voted yes.
6. The issue of the council members not taking their salary from the town arose. Dave Copenhaver explained that the law requires the salaries be paid according to the salary ordinance. If council members want to donate their salaries to the town, that would be acceptable, but the salaries would still be taxable on Federal Income Tax Return to the donating council member.
7. After much heated discussion, Lisa Hicks-Smith made a motion for council to continue, and hopefully finish, the budget recommendations at the next regular council meeting. The motion was seconded by Dan Fountain. All members voted in favor of the motion.
8. Dave Copenhaver will prepare an ordinance to allow the clerk-treasurer to borrow funds between the various departments. This will be presented at the next meeting.
9. There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.



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<i>Jim Hall</i>	<i>James E. Hanson/C.O.</i>
<i>John Smith</i>	<i>[Signature]</i>
<i>John [Signature]</i>	<i>James [Signature]</i>