



Town of Middletown
653 Locust Street
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office: (765) 354 2268
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

May 20, 2008

The Middletown Town Council met at its regular meeting on May 20, 2008. President Mundell opened the meeting with the pledge to the flag. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson took roll call. Present were Dan Fountain, Jake Smith, Lisa Hicks-Smith, Jim Mundell and Tim Mundell. President Mundell then asked council to change the date of the next meeting from June 3, 2008 to June 10, 2008. He noted that June 3 was the date for the Fair Parade and that traditionally the meeting date is moved to the next week. All members consented to this change. Next, Jim informed the council that they would be hosting a Roundtable meeting for IACT on July 2, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. at the American Legion here in Middletown. All members consented. Dan Fountain was put in charge of door prize procurement.

1. Daniel A. Hedden, CPA with H. J. Umbaugh made a presentation based on Town Funds that were reported to the DLGF. The utilities were excluded from this presentation. The figures were based upon the pay 2008 1782 notice. Mr. Hedden concluded that the amount approved by the DGLF is reasonable. The town should develop budgets to match revenue streams. The figures indicate that the town budget total spending should be based on \$695,000 of available revenues. He further stated that the town may have to shift levies during the transition period. Mr. Jim Mundell questioned the legality of shifting funds. These loans are legal with board permission and they must be repaid. The next phase of planning will deal with the utility operations.
2. Jake Smith asked if council needed to do anything immediately to deal with the cash flow problem. Dave Copenhaver is preparing the documents needed to obtain a tax anticipation loan.
3. Steve Pfenninger presented figures to council dealing with the town insurances. The savings made by increasing deductibles were weighed against the cost to the town of paying for any claims. Steve will provide a history of past usage of the policies. Tim Mundell made a motion to table this issue until further information was available. Dan Fountain seconded. All voted yes.
4. Ken Norfleet wants his TIF area turned over to the Town of Middletown. Dave Copenhaver said the next step of the process was to have Terri Roberts of the Henry County Planning Commission present this to her commission for their signatures and approval. Jim Mundell asked to table this issue until after Dave spoke with Terri Roberts. All members consented.
5. Mrs. Patty Schwalm asked about the status of the Town's Web Site. Dan Fountain gave an update. Payment for this site is to come out of TIF funds.
6. Officer Mike Vacarro was present representing Police Chief Randy Wray. He read a letter from Wray asking council to approve \$1000 for overtime for his force to cover the Middletown fair. Lisa indicated that the Lions Club usually contributes money toward this cause. Jake recommended that the Town make up the difference between what the Lions contribute and the \$1000. He then made a motion to this effect. Dan seconded. All members voted yes.
7. Utility Superintendent, David Real, stated that the water department would be backwashing and flushing hydrants. Lisa added that the town had recently dealt with a spill into the sewer system from E-biofuel. Dave Copenhaver will prepare a pre-dump sewer constraint ordinance for council review.
8. Ron Koons reported that he had put the information warning town residents not to blow grass clippings and leaves into the streets on the local access cable channel.



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9. Kyle Metcalf, Code Enforcement Officer, said that all fallen limbs should be removed from properties by June 1. He also presented copies of the town code enforcement citation.
10. President Mundell approved minutes from previous meetings.
11. Dave Copenhaver opened bids for surplus equipment that had been advertised for sale by the town utilities. High bids were as follows: Bush Hog-\$75 by Eric Lohrey, Bucket Truck-\$3025 by Carl Spears and Chipper Truck-\$450 by Ed Riley. Tim Mundell made a motion to accept these highest bids. Jim Mundell seconded. All voted yes. All the high bidders were present.
12. Dan Fountain presented the council with copies of the current civil penalty schedules and also a proposal for new rates. He also said that the citation form has been approved by the New Castle City Court.
13. Lisa Hicks-Smith is researching three grants that may help pay for the planning services that the town is receiving from Umbaugh. Lisa requested an executive session to discuss personnel matters. Dave will prepare notice for newspapers. Dan Fountain made a motion to have an executive session. Lisa seconded. The vote was: Dan-yes, Lisa-yes, Jake-yes, Tim-no and Jim-no. The motion carried. The meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, May 27, 2008 at 6:00 P.M.
14. Jim Mundell made a motion to adopt the budget proposal presented three weeks ago by Tim Mundell. Tim Mundell seconded. Tim then made statements concerning his position on police department cuts. He also stated that the dog issue was settled. Jim agreed to strike the dog issue from the proposal. The vote was: Jim & Tim-yes and Lisa, Dan & Jake-no. The motion was defeated.
15. Dan Fountain made a motion to have Dave, Jim and Dan Hedden work on an ordinance to create a user fee to pay for hydrant rental instead of using money from the general fund to pay this. This was a proposal in Tim Mundell's presentation. Tim seconded the motion. All voted yes. Motion carried.
16. There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

Jim Mundell _____ *James E. Hanson / Clerk-Treasurer*
James Mundell _____ *[Signature]*
Lisa Hicks Smith _____ *Jake Smith*