



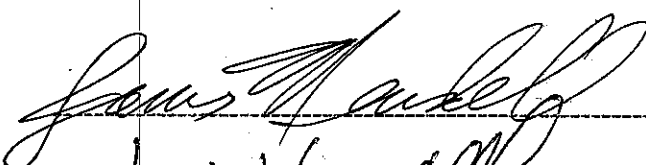
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

NOVEMBER 18, 2008

The Middletown Town Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 18, 2008 at 7:00 P.M. in the council meeting room. The meeting was called to order by council president, Jim Mundell. Clerk-Treasurer, Jim Hanson, noted that council members, Dan Fountain, Jake Smith, Lisa Hicks-Smith and Tim Mundell were also present. Following the pledge to the flag, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved by President Mundell.

1. President Mundell began with a presentation concerning the LOIT tax. The county council will vote on it. There are three possible options that could be adopted. If the county and the City of New Castle opt for the tax, there will be no further vote needed by the rest of the county. Dave Copenhaver will keep us informed as to what the county does.
2. Angie Kendall from the Ameriana Bank informed council that there would be a presentation on Internet Safety by Police Chief Randy Wray at the bank on Wednesday evening, November 19, 2008 at 6:00 P.M. The public is invited.
3. Jim Mundell stated that he had spoken to Don McNeal about whether or not the part of Beechwood Ave. north of Mill Street is town property or private property. Don thought the road was given to the county while the area in dispute was still in the county. If so, the town would have taken ownership of it when they incorporated this area into the town limits. Dave Copenhaver will try to have an answer at the next council meeting.
4. Tracy Harrison gave a brief summation of the last Water Board meeting discussions concerning a privacy policy for the utility department. She reported that she, Rick Hines and Jake Smith had attended a meeting concerning the next phase of wellhead protection. She also mentioned the discussions with Hurst about the new computer program for the water works. The next meeting of the Water Board will be December 3, 2008 at 9:30 A.M. in the training room at the city building.
5. Eric Lohrey thanked the utility department for the prompt service in getting him a temporary service installed at his construction site.
6. Phil Chandler announced that the annual Boot Drive held by the Fire Department would be held on Friday, November 21, 2008 from 3:00 until 5:00 P.M. at the corner of 8th and Mill Street.
7. David Real, Utility Superintendent, reported that software for the water utility plant operations would cost \$2500. They would use the computer purchased by the utility employees so there would be no cost to the water utility. Scott Emswiller is assisting with the computer procurement. FEMA monies could be used to pay for the software. Dan Fountain made a motion to purchase the software. Jake Smith seconded. All voted YES. Motion carried. After more discussion, the council agreed to also pay the employees for the cost of the computer that will be used by the water department. David also announced that leaf pick-up would end on Wednesday before Thanksgiving Day.
8. Clerk-Treasurer, Jim Hanson, asked council when vacation checks for employees are to be paid. Consensus was to pay them the first payday in December. In another matter, Hanson advised council that the sewage rates were not adequate to cover bond payments and operating expenses and that something would have to be done soon to get this corrected. Council will consider the rationale of a rate increase. Jim also announced that both the water and electric utility bank have declared void, any checks written prior to December 31, 2007. These amounts have been receipted back into the respective account operating funds.
9. Jake Smith said he thought Ron Koons deserved an apology for remarks made at a prior meeting in reference to an announcement not making MLAC in a timely fashion. Also, Jake wants the rest of council to consider looking at the legal opinion concerning the park. Dan Fountain agrees.
10. John Hodge introduced himself as a reporter from "The Courier-Times."
11. There being nothing further to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.


James Hanson
Clerk-Treasurer

