

Town of Middletown

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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

FEBRUARY 17, 2009

The Middletown Town Council met in the council meeting room on February 17, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. for its regularly scheduled meeting. Council president, Jake Smith, opened the meeting by leading those present in the pledge to the flag. Clerk-Treasurer, Jim Hanson, took roll. Members present were Dan Fountain, Lisa Hicks-Smith, Jim Mundell and Tim Mundell. The minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

- 1. Dick Schwalm complimented the street department on their prompt salting and plowing of the streets during the last few weeks of inclement weather. Jake concurred with this.
- Mark Mousty, from Benefits Corporation, was present to give an overview of healthcare benefits and their respective costs to the town and to the town's employees. Tim Mundell made a motion to accept the plan designated as option 3 in the presentation. Dan seconded the motion. All members voted to accept the motion.
- 3. Dave Lahey, from Butler, Fairman and Seufert, Inc, informed council that it would cost about \$10,000 for the town to proceed to the next phase of the grant application on the proposed sewage plant expansion. There is no further obligation on the part of the town if they decide not to go further after investing this amount of money. After much discussion, the council voted unanimously to go ahead and complete this next stage of the application.
- 4. Citizen Marion Kirk was present about problems with her sewer. She reported that there was sewage backing into her home that was caused by her neighbor's lateral being connected to her sewer line. David Real will have dye put into the lines to determine where the problem is.
- 5. Tracy Harrison announced that representatives from Ball State University will be at the March 3, 2009 to discuss programs available to municipalities and to municipal utilities at the university. Also, she reminded those present that there would be a seminar at Kennard on March 19, 2009 at 6:30 P.M. for the persons on the Water Board.
- 6. Dave Real, Utility Superintendent, presented a list of electrical equipment that would need to be available for the apprentice to use in their training. Many of the items were items that the electric department should have had already. Dave highlighted the items on the list that must be purchased. The total cost of these items was about \$5000. Dan made a motion to purchase the highlighted tools up to an amount not to exceed \$5000. Lisa seconded. The vote was 5:0. Motion carried. In further business, Dave informed council that the bucket truck needs to be certified as per OSHA requirements. Lisa moved that David have it certified. Dan seconded. Motion carried.
- 7. Council member, Jim Mundell, informed that the sidewalk on North 10th Street had some spots that were rising up at the joints due to the weather. David Real will have the street department repair these as soon as the weather breaks.
- 8. Joel Harvey of Hayes, Copenhaver and Crider presented the contract from his firm for the next year. The terms are the same as last year with no price increase. Dan made a motion to accept the contract. Jake seconded. Dan, Jake & Lisa voted YES. Tim voted NO. Jim abstained. Motion carried.
- 9. Council member, Tim Mundell, presented council with operating reports for the utility departments for 2008. Based on these reports Tim recommended that the water rates be increased by 15%, the sewage rates by 10% and that the electric rates remain unchanged. Consensus was for the clerk-treasurer to prepare the necessary documents for the next meeting.
- 10. Mike & Lisa Anderson, owners of Metal Art, were present to discuss their power needs at their business on SR 236. David has contacted Burns Construction for estimates for this project. Jim Mundell will get an opinion from R.E.M.C. or Duke Energy. As soon as the information is gathered, the council will meet to formulate a plan.

11. There being nothing further to come before the council, the meeting was adjourned.

James E Hanson - Clerk / Theaver in 1

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