



Town of Middletown
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

December 1, 2009

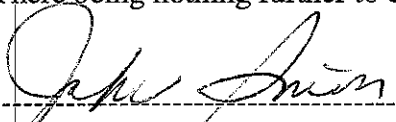
The Middletown Town Council met at its regular meeting on December 1, 2009 at 7:00 P.M. in the council meeting room. President Jake Smith called the meeting to order. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson noted that council members Tim Mundell, Dan Fountain, Jim Mundell and Lisa Hicks-Smith were also present. After the pledge to the flag, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved.

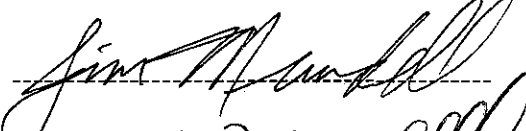
1. Council president Jake Smith opened the meeting by reminding everyone that the Middletown Christmas Parade would be on December 12, 2009 at 4:00 P.M.
2. Tracy Harrison announced that the next water board meeting would be at 12:15 P.M. on December 2, 2009 in the council meeting room at the town hall
3. Rick Hines, an employee of the utility department, addressed the council concerning the need for an additional employee at the sewage plant. He stated that since he is spending a good portion of his workday working with the electric department some of the day to day operations at the sewage plant are being neglected. He recommended that another full time employee be hired for the utility department. After discussion, the clerk was instructed to prepare a cost analysis of hiring another employee at the sewage department. The wage to be used for the analysis was set at \$9.50 per hour.
4. Police chief, Randy Wray introduced Greg Paton who represented Scott Emswiller who made a presentation and gave cost estimates for installing a new computer system for the town. The cost was estimated to be \$47,400 with a monthly maintenance fee of about \$400 per month. Scott will update the estimate for the next meeting to include work stations at the utility plants. In another matter, Randy has about \$18,000 left in his operating budget for the year and requested permission to use it to purchase a used police car from Sulphur Springs which would cost \$12,000. Lisa made a motion to allow Wray to purchase the police car. Dan seconded. Discussion followed. Smith, Fountain and Hicks-Smith voted yea. Mundell and Mundell voted no. Motion carried. Finally, Wray discussed the issue of life insurance for the drug dog. The insurance costs \$950 per year. The policy has been in force for seven years and does not cover what was thought to have been covered. Dave Copenhaver, town attorney, will prepare an ordinance which will authorize setting aside money to purchase another dog in lieu of life insurance. The current policy is to remain in force until the ordinance is passed.
5. David Real, utility superintendent, stated that the old line truck could now be disposed of. Randy also has a police car to dispose of. Dan made a motion to allow the disposal of the vehicles as prescribed by law. Lisa seconded. All voted in favor. David also asked permission to purchase heavier cleated tires for the new line truck as the tires that came with it do not have deep enough cleats to drive off road. The cost will be about \$1500. Jim Mundell made a motion to allow the purchase of the tires. Dan Fountain seconded. All voted in favor. Motion carried. A big Thank You was given the utility employees for getting the Christmas lights up and burning.
6. Ron Koons, cable liaison, reported that Comcast had made changes in the cost line up of their operations. He is trying to get further information on the changes.
7. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson presented a resolution permitting the transfer of funds, for a prescribed period, from the Sewage fund to the Park Department. The loan will be paid back as soon as the park receives its next draw from the county. Dan moved. Tim seconded. All five council members voted in favor. In another matter, Hanson advised council of a rate decrease for the electric utility for next year. Jim Mundell made a motion to approve the president to sign the resolution. Lisa seconded. All voted in favor.
8. Hanson presented Ordinance No. 12-01-2009-1 to authorize IMPA to apply and to enter into contracts for and to accept grants-in-aid from the federal government to maintain and operate any project or facility or to perform any function which the town or the Agency may be authorized by general or local law to provide or perform. This is to allow a grant application for monies to retrofit our street lights to more energy efficient bulbs. Jim Mundell made a motion to accept the ordinance. Lisa Hicks-Smith seconded. All voted in favor. Dan Fountain made a motion to suspend the rules and pass the ordinance by name and number only on the second and third reading. Tim Mundell seconded. All voted yea. Motion carried. Jim Mundell made a motion to accept Ordinance 12-01-2009-1 on second reading by name and number only. Lisa seconded. All voted in favor. Jim made a motion to pass 12-01-2009-1 on third reading by name and number only. Dan seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.

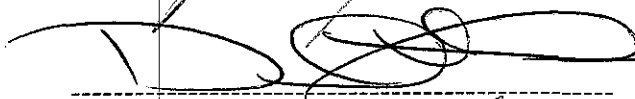


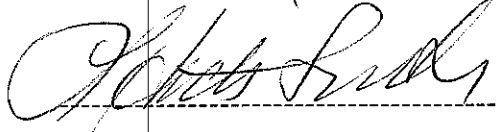
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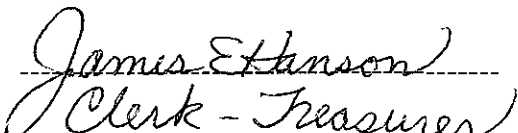
9. In one final matter, Hanson asked the council to approve the existing salary ordinance for the 2010 calendar year. This will authorize payment of wages and benefits until a new ordinance is adopted. Jim Mundell made a motion to approve. Dan seconded. All voted aye. Motion carried.
10. Council member, Tim Mundell brought the time-clock issue back to the table. Jim Mundell made a motion to install a time-clock in the city building for all the hourly employees working there. Tim seconded. Three votes nay. Two votes yea. Motion died. Jake instructed the department heads to come back with a recommendation to the council.
11. Lisa Hicks-Smith is updating the employee handbook and would like some assistance on the project. Jake volunteered to assist.
12. Dan Fountain made a motion to pass Ordinance 12-01-2009-2 an ordinance amending Section 35.60 of the Middletown Town Code establishing rules for certain purchases and contracts on its first reading. This ordinance had been presented by Lisa a few weeks ago to be reviewed by council. Lisa seconded the ordinance. Jake, Dan and Lisa voted yea. Tim and Jim voted nay. Ordinance passed on its first reading.
13. Jake read a letter of resignation from Paula Ramsey from the Redevelopment Commission. He said that Dan Justice had volunteered to fill the position. Tim Mundell made a motion to advertise and let the community know that a position was available. Jim seconded the motion. 2 ayes. 1 nay. 2 abstentions. A motion was made for the clerk-treasurer is to advertise with January 31, 2010 as the deadline for applications. 2 ayes. 2 nays. 1 abstention. The clerk-treasurer cast the tie breaking vote in favor. Motion carried.
14. There being nothing further to come before council, the meeting was adjourned.











Clerk - Treasurer