



Town of Middletown
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

August 17, 2010

The Middletown Town Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting on August 17, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the training room in the municipal building at 653 Locust Street, Middletown, Indiana. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson recorded that Council President Jake Smith and Council members Lisa Hicks, Jim Mundell and Tim Mundell were all present. Dan Fountain was absent due to a scheduling conflict. Dave Copenhaver was present as legal counsel for the town. After the pledge to the flag, the minutes of the previous meeting were approved. Jake then asked for good news announcements.

1. Citizen Betty Riley stated that the car show held last weekend was wonderful. Jake added thanks to those town employees, businesses and citizens who made the show such a success.

2. Mark Hardegen and Su Brown were present to discuss a letter they had received from Council President Jake Smith in reference to a 911 call they had made a few weeks ago. Su challenged the statement that said: "they (the dispatcher and the officer,) were not aware that this incident involved anything more than a dog and cat. It was not until the second call that they (the dispatcher and the officer,) were advised that the dog had been captured." Su stated that she had told the dispatcher probably 15 or 20 times during her initial call that her husband was holding the dog down as she spoke and that he needed assistance. She stated no help was received when they needed it. Chief Wray said that all officers have now been directed to respond to all animal control calls even though we do not have a contract with the county to handle the animals. Jake apologized for the misunderstanding and again extended sympathy to the couple for the loss of their cat and stated that an incident like this will not happen again.

3. Acting Utility Superintendent Rick Hines informed council that the plaque honoring Rick Westrater had been corrected and reinstalled in the planter at the Civic Center. In another matter Rick presented to council two recommendations from the many applications he had received for the positions advertised for the utility department. His recommendations were Treva Pugsley and Sam Hershberger. It was noted that Treva had her CDL license as well as qualifications to operate much of the utility equipment. Sam brought with him an impressive job performance history. Jake recommended hiring Treva at a rate higher than the starting rate because of her qualifications. Tim Mundell made a motion to hire Treva as a full time employee at a starting rate of \$10.03 per hour. Jim Mundell seconded the motion. Jim and Tim voted aye. Lisa voted nay. Jake abstained because he is a distant relative of Treva. The abstention counted as a nay vote creating a tie vote. The clerk-treasurer voted yea to cast the tie breaking vote. The motion carried. Jim Mundell then made a motion to hire Sam on a part-time basis at the starting rate on the salary scale (\$9.19). Tim seconded the motion. All four members voted yea. Motion carried. Rick then requested a pay increase for Tim Whitten because Tim has obtained all of the necessary licenses to be a certified utility operator. He is now receiving pay rate 4. Jake tabled the request until later.

4. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson announced that the Democrat Party was holding a Town Convention at 6:00 P.M. on August 18, 2010 in the Municipal Building Training Room. Hanson polled the council to see who was attending the IACT Conference in Ft. Wayne October 3-6. Attendees will be Jake Smith, Jim Mundell and Lisa Hicks. In another matter Hanson informed council that we would need an additional appropriation of \$4935.25 from the LR&S Fund to pay the balance of the Crack-Seal contract. The process will begin and should be completed by first week in October. Also, he reported that Comcast had notified his office of an overcharge on the cable



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bill at the water plant and that a refund of \$1200 or more would be forthcoming in the next few weeks. In a final note Hanson said that the auditor from SBOA was still working on our audit.

5. Jake Smith took the opportunity to welcome Greg Goff and his Greg's RBI restaurant to Middletown. We wish them much success.

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

Jake Smith
[Signature]
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James E. Hanson
Clerk-Treasurer