



Town of Middletown
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

November 2, 2010

The Middletown Town Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting on November 2, 2010 at 7:00 P.M. in the council meeting 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, Tim Mundell and Dan Fountain were all present. Dave Copenhaver was present as legal counsel for the town. After the pledge to the flag, the minutes from the previous meeting were approved as presented.

1. Dick Schwalm reminded everyone present that the Utility Advisory Board would be meeting again for its regularly scheduled meeting at 12:15 P.M. on November 3, 2010 in the meeting room at the municipal building. All interested persons are invited to attend and to participate.

2. Next, the President opened the Public Hearing for the proposed additional appropriation of \$9000 for Local Road & Street Fund to cover the cost of additional crack & seal treatment for designated streets in the town. Citizen Bart Hudson asked why the amount was \$9000 instead of \$8000 as discussed in the prior meeting. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson explained that the offer from Pavement Solutions was to have the town pay for the materials that were available and the company would provide the labor. They were not sure about the exact amount of material available until it was applied. The town netted \$28,350 worth of product and labor for \$9000. There being no further questions, President Jake Smith closed the Public Hearing. Jim Mundell made a motion to approve the request. Dan Fountain seconded the motion. All members voted in favor.

3. Lee Schluge from Arbor education and training was present to inform council about the IMPACT program. This program places clients into unpaid job positions. The participant gains work experience and employment skills. The employer gains the services of the person and has the opportunity to hire the person as a permanent trained employee if they desire. The program requires a twelve week commitment by the employer. Interested persons may obtain more information from the clerk-treasurer's office.

4. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson read proposed Ordinance 11-02-2010, an ordinance establishing a fire protection surcharge for the use of services rendered by the waterworks system of the Town of Middletown, Indiana for its first reading. It was noted that persons connected to the water utility, but living outside the town limits would be subjected to the surcharge. The effective date of the charge would be after the first of 2011. Council member Dan Fountain made a motion to approve Ordinance 11-02-2010 on its first reading. Council member Lisa Hicks seconded. Dan, Jake and Lisa voted yea. Tim and Jim voted nay. The motion carried and the ordinance passed on its first reading. A public hearing for this ordinance will be held during the next regular meeting on November 16, 2010.

5. Utility Superintendent Rick Hines reported the town crew was picking up leaves. He also informed that the water meters that were discussed at the last meeting had all been sold. The new salt spreader should be delivered next week.

6. Ron Koons advised that there had been a change in the upper management of Comcast. He is currently getting acquainted with the new managers.

7. Clerk-Treasurer Hanson asked council for clarification of the starting wage of new utility employees. According to the salary ordinance, the starting rate is less than minimum wage. The starting rate should be amended to be \$7.25 to agree with



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the minimum wage law. Dan made a motion to amend the salary ordinance to read \$7.25 starting wage for part time employees. Lisa seconded. All voted in favor.

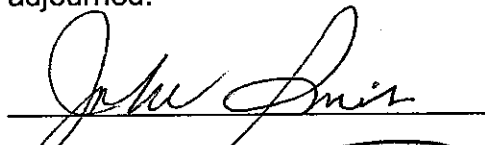


8. Council Member Dan Fountain stated that the current day dispatcher was being paid less than the former dispatcher who had held the position. He made a motion to raise the hourly rate of the current day dispatcher to equal the rate paid to the former day dispatcher. Jake Smith seconded the motion. Jake and Dan voted yea. Lisa, Jim and Tim voted nay. The motion failed.

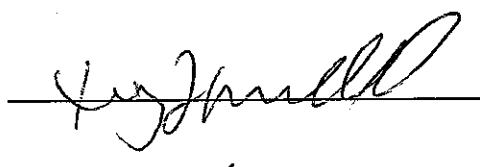
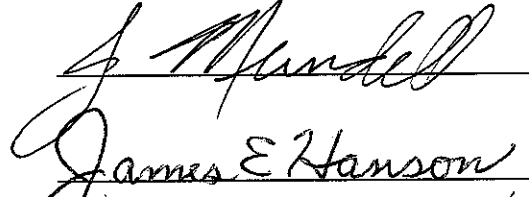
9. Council President Jake Smith discussed with council the merits of the current utility superintendent. He stated that the current superintendent is knowledgeable of the position and also is licensed and certified to perform the tasks associated with the position. Also, the town is not providing housing and utilities as they have for some former superintendents. Based on these criteria, Jake made a motion to raise the current superintendent's salary to equal that of the police chief effective January 1, 2011. Lisa seconded the motion. Jake, Dan and Lisa voted yea. Jim and Tim voted nay. The motion carried.

10. On another matter, Smith reminded everyone that Wayne Goodman, director of the Eastern Regional office of Historic Landmarks will conduct a special meeting on Thursday, November 4, 2010 at the Civic Center to introduce the program to property owners within the historic district. Building owners within the district, and the general public are invited to attend.

11. Council Member Tim Mundell brought to the table the issue of animal control in the town. He had spoken with Mike Vaccaro who had spoken to some members from the board of directors of the animal control. The thought was that if the town offered some compensation for calls where the animal is not caught then the animal control would be willing to come for \$150 if the animal is caught and at least enough paid to cover the cost of the trip here if the animal is not caught. Mike will talk to them and report back to Tim.

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



James E. Hanson
Clerk-Treasurer