



Town of Middletown
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

January 18, 2011

The Middletown Town Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting on January 18, 2011 at 7:00 P.M. in the meeting room in the municipal building at 653 Locust Street, Middletown, Indiana. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson noted that Council president Tim Mundell, Council members Betty Riley, Lisa Hicks, Bill Harrison and Jim Mundell were all present. Joel Harvey was introduced to those present as legal counsel for the town. After the pledge to the flag, the minutes from the previous meeting were approved.

1. Council president Tim Mundell presented information concerning the costs for maintenance of fire hydrants. His estimates indicated that the annual cost of maintaining each hydrant averages about \$250 per year. Based on these numbers Tim made a motion to pass Ordinance 01-18-2011-1, an ordinance establishing a fire hydrant rental fee at an amount of \$250 per hydrant per year to be paid from the General Fund, not as a user fee on the water utility bill. Betty seconded the motion. Betty, Jim, Tim and Bill voted yea. Lisa voted nay. Motion carried. Tim then presented a proposal for Ordinance 01-18-2011-2, an ordinance creating a fire hydrant maintenance fund where any hydrant rental fees paid by the Town of Middletown be deposited into this fund. Any monies deposited in this fund shall be restricted to the following uses: 1. Cost of maintenance, repair or replacement of a fire hydrant. 2. Cost of maintenance, repair or replacement of any piping or valves between a fire hydrant and the water main. He then made a motion to approve Ordinance 01-18-2011-2. Jim seconded. The vote was four yea and one nay. Motion carried.

2. Officer Justin Michael read a letter of resignation to the council denoting his resignation from the Middletown Police Department effective January 7, 2011.

3. The council president read a letter to former Officer Steve Thompson who had been placed on indefinite layoff earlier informing him that due to the resignation of Officer Michael there was now an opening. Officer Thompson did not respond by the designated time so he was presumed to have resigned. Chief Robbins informed that a fourth officer was needed in order to have coverage on a day to day basis without overtime. Jim made a motion to allow Robbins to advertise for applications until February 15, 2011. Betty, Bill, Jim and Tim voted yea. Lisa abstained. Motion carried.

4. The issue concerning time clocks was brought to the table again. Tim presented information on three different models for consideration. The issue was tabled without action.

5. Jim Humpheries, from a local surveillance firm suggested that the town should consider servicing the cameras and recording devices we already have. Previously the town had had a proposal to replace the system. Also, Hancock General will be at the next regular meeting to discuss a monitoring service available from them for a monthly fee. Council unanimously agreed to table this until all proposals had been considered.

6. A letter was read from Henry County Voter Registration concerning the 2011 election informing that if the town was going to conduct its own election as it has in the past it must adopt a resolution providing that the Town will establish a Town Election Board to administer the municipal election. This resolution must be adopted before August 8, 2011 and filed no later than noon, August 22, 2011 with the voter registration office in the Henry County Justice Center. A proposed resolution,



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Resolution No. 01-18-2011-1 a resolution creating a town election board was read by the president.

Bill Harrison moved that council approve Resolution No. 01-18-2011-1. Betty Riley seconded. All council members voted yea. Motion carried.

7. Police Chief Robert Robbins presented council a preliminary inventory of the items in his department. Also, he submitted a list of five current reserve officers and three additional potential officer candidates for council consideration. As per statute, council must approve any selections for reserve officers. Bill made a motion to allow Robbins to retain existing five reserve officers. Jim seconded. All voted in favor of the motion. Council will consider the new applicants at the next meeting.

8. Fire Chief Brian Rednour gave council copies of the Fire Department run list from last year and copies of the current list for this year.

9. Dispatcher Department Head Lavonna Robbins reported that her department had completed its inventory. Also she stated that she had been recently re-certified as an APCO instructor.

10. Utility Superintendent Tracy Harrison reported on upcoming training sessions for her department. Also, she reported on the leaking hydrant on East Locust Street. She is preparing the needed parts and equipment etc. to make the repair. An outside vendor may need to be used for this project. She will report back with costs and down time estimates. Shawn Frye from Johnson County Utility Department has offered more electric meters at \$25 each if we purchase more than 150 meters. He will reserve the number we need if we commit to a given number. We can then purchase them on an as needed basis. Tim moved that the town agree to purchase not more than 200 meters at a cost of \$25 each. Bill seconded. All five voted aye. In another matter, Tracy informed that the three electric trucks were due for mandatory inspection. The cost of the inspections was quoted at \$2406.52. Tim moved to approve the inspections. Jim seconded. The vote was 5:0 to approve.

11. Cable liaison Ron Koons announced that DVR was now available thru Comcast if customer called and requests it.

12. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson brought back to table the contract for services from HJ Umbaugh, the accounting firm the town has used for many years. Copies were distributed to council for their consideration. Fees are billed only if services are rendered. Bill moved to approve the contract. Tim seconded. All voted yea. Contract accepted. Next, Hanson presented copies of the bonds for the Clerk-Treasurer, the Police Chief and the Clerk Deputies for signatures of the council. This is a new requirement before the documents may be filed with the County Auditor. Finally, Hanson reported that Betty Riley had filed a standardized Conflict of Interest form as required by SBOA. The conflict is due to her son doing mechanical work on town vehicles.

13. Lisa Hicks made a motion to suspend Dispatcher Brenda Real for 30 days without pay effective immediately. Tim seconded. All voted in favor of the suspension.

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

William G. Harrison _____ *Betty Riley* _____
J. Mendell _____ _____
L. Hicks _____ _____