

**Town of Middletown**

653 Locust Street

Middletown, IN 47356

office: (765) 354 2268

fax: (765) 354 3068

**MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
MARCH 15, 2016**

The Middletown Town Council met for its regularly scheduled meeting on March 15, 2016 in the Public Meeting Room at 653 Locust Street, Middletown, Indiana at 7:00 P.M. The meeting was opened by Town Council President Jake Smith leading those present in the pledge to the flag. Clerk-Treasurer Drew Cooper noted that Council Members Jake Smith, Donita Chambliss, Dave Wagner, Gary Kendall, and Betty Riley were present. Town Attorney Joel Harvey was present.

1. Dave Wagner moved to authorize the Dispatch Supervisor to submit a request for contract with the Henry County Humane Society to pick up stray dogs in Middletown for \$150 per dog. Donita Chambliss seconded. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Shane Maple, representing the EMS, reported that he had met with Scott Emswiller, of Scott's Computers, on the subject of keyless door locks on the Municipal Building. Maple recommended that the town spend approximately \$1000 to purchase 100 new key fobs and a lap top computer to administer the keyless entry system. The Town Council President directed Emswiller to come back to the next meeting with more specific cost figures.
3. Dave Wagner moved to authorize the Park Superintendent to apply for a Food & Beverage Grant with the county in order to purchase new playground equipment for Dietrich Park, at a cost of \$80,000 to \$100,000. Betty Riley seconded.
4. The Town Council President appointed Mark Ballenger to replace Stephanie Fischer on the Park Board and re-appointed Tabatha Oliver to the Park Board.
5. The Park Superintendent reported that the Township Trustee had re-appointed John Rhodes to the Park Board.
6. The Utilities Superintendent reported that dumping on the property at the north end of 14<sup>th</sup> Street near the old railroad tracks has gotten out of hand. The Town Council President directed the Town Attorney to send a letter to the property owner warning them that if the property is not cleaned up, the town will do it and charge the property owner.
7. The Utilities Superintendent reported that approximately 300 of the 500 radio-read water meters purchased last year have been installed and the remaining 200 should be installed by June. She said that approximately 350 more radio-read meters would need to be purchased to completely convert the water system to radio-read.
8. Dave Wagner moved to approve the hiring of Travis Rider as a Utility Worker Grade 6. Betty Riley seconded. Donita Chambliss voted no. All other Council Members voted yes. The motion passed.
9. Matt Spidel, of Butler-Fairman-Seufert, reported that construction has begun on the new Water Treatment Plant.
10. Spidel also reported that surveying for the 8<sup>th</sup> Street Stormsewer Project has been completed and design work is proceeding.
11. Joey and Carrie Cooper, of 8749 West State Road 236, submitted a petition to have their property annexed into the town, in compliance with Ordinance 5-8-96-1, which specifies that no property owner shall be hooked onto the town's sewers without first petitioning the town to be annexed. Dave Wagner moved to approve the annexation petition and direct the Town Attorney and Clerk-Treasurer to proceed with the next steps in the voluntary annexation process. Donita Chambliss seconded. The motion passed unanimously. The public hearing on the annexation is scheduled for the April 5 Town Council meeting.



**Town of Middletown**

653 Locust Street

Middletown, IN 47356

office: (765) 354 2268

fax: (765) 354 3068

12. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that the town's rate ordinance for stormsewers does not specify a tap fee for residents or businesses that wish to connect drains onto the stormsewer system. Matt Spidel, of Butler-Fairman-Seufert said he would put together a recommendation for the Town Council on a proper tap fee and other requirements for connecting to the stormsewer system.
13. The Town Attorney reported that mediation on the final payment to 3D Company, the contractor on the 5<sup>th</sup> Street Stormsewer Project, is scheduled for May 16. He said the mediation can be considered an executive session, so all town council members may attend.
14. Dustin Bennett, the town's Water Plant Operator, reported that recent reports of discolored water in town may be the result of several water main breaks and fire hydrant uses. He said the utility department will send a worker out to collect a sample when any residents call in with a complaint of discolored water and the sample will be tested. He also said fire hydrant use will be monitored and he will work with the fire department to minimize the effect of non-emergency fire hydrant use.

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

-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
-----  
Clerk-Treasurer