



Town of Middletown
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MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JULY 18, 2017

The Middletown Town Council met on July 18, 2017 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 was present. Council Members Jake Smith, Dave Wagner and Gary Kendall were present. Donita Chambless was absent. Betty Riley resigned at the July 11 meeting and has not yet been replaced. Town Attorney Joel Harvey was present.

1. The Town Marshal recommended that Joseph Puig be approved as a new Police Reserve Deputy. Dave Wagner moved to approve the appointment. Gary Kendall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

2. The Town Attorney reported on his research into purchasing an ambulance in joint with the EMS foundation. He said that the town council would need to follow the state law on purchasing when procuring an ambulance jointly with the EMS Foundation. This would mean advertising for bids, opening the bids in a public meeting, and awarding the purchase to the low bidder. He said the EMS Chief is working on a new plan where the EMS Foundation will purchase an ambulance solely on their own and then rent the ambulance to the Town of Middletown for an amount equal to half the annual Public Safety LOIT money deposited in the Fire Public Safety LOIT Fund.

3. Dave Wagner moved to instruct the Town Attorney to draw up a rental agreement between the town and the EMS Foundation as per the plan put forward by the EMS Chief. Gary Kendall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

4. The Town Attorney reported on his research into the New Castle-Henry County Animal Shelter's legal responsibilities in regards to loose dogs in Middletown and the county. He said the Animal Shelter is a private organization and has no legal obligation to collect loose dogs, but does this work on a contract basis with public entities, such as the county, New Castle, and other municipalities, including Middletown.

5. Dave Wagner moved to authorize the Town Council President to sign the 2018 contract with the New Castle-Henry County Animal Shelter, maintaining the current rate of \$150 per call responded to by an Animal Control Officer. Gary Kendall seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. The Clerk-Treasurer reported that he received a letter from Jill Johnson, the owner of the dilapidated house at 907 Locust Street. The letter stated Johnson is applying for Social Security disability benefits and she requested the town give her 4-6 months before she could hire someone to repair the house. The Town Council President instructed the Town Attorney to send a letter of response to Johnson stating she can have the 6 months, provided she secures the property within 30 days.

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

Clerk-Treasurer