MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 22, 2019

The Middletown Town Council met in the Public Meeting Room at 653 Locust Street, Middletown, Indiana at 7:00 P.M. Council Members Dan Fountain, Dick Schwalm, Jake Smith, Donita Chambless, and Gary Kendall were present. Clerk-Treasurer Drew Cooper was present. Town Attorney Joel Harvey was present.

1. The council discussed a letter that was received from Culy Construction, complaining that they had not been paid for an invoice for over $7000 from Chandlers Excavating, and they were seeking the town to pay it. Donita Chambless said she had talked with Chandlers Excavating and they were taking care of payment on the invoice.

2. The Utilities Superintendent recommended that the town hire William Sanders as an electrical lineman at the pay rate of $40 per hour. The Clerk-Treasurer presented a spreadsheet calculating an annual cost of over $125,000 per year. Discussion was tabled until a job description can be drawn up for this new position.

3. The Utilities Superintendent recommended that Ryan Pascal be contracted as the new Sewer Plant Operator. Discussion was tabled until a date can be established when the contract with Astbury is completed.

4. Town Marshal Guy Cobb submitted his resignation. Donita Chambless moved to accept the resignation while keeping Cobb on as a deputy. Dan Fountain seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

5. Donita Chambless moved to appoint Deputy Amanda Kirby as the new Town Marshal. Dick Schwalm seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

6. Dan Fountain moved to approve ORDINANCE 2019-1 WIND ENERGY CONVERSION SYSTEMS, an ordinance prohibiting construction of wind turbines within four miles of town limits on its second reading by name and number only. Dick Schwalm seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

7. The council tabled discussion until the next meeting on former Utilities Superintendent Tracy Harrison's claim for back pay based on certification she had for water treatment.

8. The Utilities Superintendent reported that Scott's Computers has turned in an invoice for partial payment on the project to install an automatic opener on the gate at the treatment plants. The Town Council President instructed the Clerk-Treasurer to send a letter to Scott's Computers explaining that the project must be completed before any payment and that if work is not completed soon the matter will be turned over to the town attorney.

9. The Utilities Superintendent reported that Chandlers Excavating has been contacted about their parking on the sidewalk in front of their business on 10th Street, but they have continued to do so. The Town Council President instructed the Town Attorney to send a letter to Chandlers Excavating stating that legal action may be taken against them if they continue to block the sidewalk.

10. The Utilities Superintendent reported that someone is driving a vehicle on the sidewalk in front of the library to plow the snow and this will damage the sidewalk. The Town Council President said he would talk to the librarian about the situation.

11. Dan Fountain moved to hire Heather Couch as a part-time Dispatcher Grade 1. Donita Chambless seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

12. The Dispatch Supervisor reported that the phone and Internet system were down during the recent winter storms. The Cable Liaison said he would give Comcast a call to investigate ways to insure a more dependable system.

13. The Dispatch Supervisor suggested that a room be built in the Municipal Building for the paid EMT's to stay in.

14. The Town Council President announced that Jim Hanson has resigned from the Redevelopment Commission. The Council President announced that he has appointed Dave Wagner to take his place.

15. Donita Chambless moved to authorize the Fire Chief to purchase new tires for truck 35 for approximately $4000, to be paid from the LIT Fire Public Safety Fund. Dan Fountain seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

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

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