

# MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL

## MEETING MINUTES

June 18, 2019

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

1. Matt Spidel of BFS reported that, the 10<sup>th</sup> Street repair is on hold due to weather conditions, but as soon as it clears, the contractor will come back and finish the work. He reported that in regard to the INDOT Community Crossings Grant 2019, the BFS engineers have reviewed the E & B Paving bid for street repairs in multiple locales and have recommended that the Board issue an award to E & B for the amount of \$257,672.15.
2. Dan Fountain moved to accept the bid from E & B Paving in the amount of \$257,672.15 and Gary Kendall seconded the motion. There being no further discussion the motion was passed unanimously.
3. Tim Mundell presented documents confirming the Council's previous approval for payment for the recent sewer maintenance work on Locust Street. \$240,821.94 will be paid to the contractor, Yarberry Landscaping from an OCRA grant. \$20,000.00 for Yarberry will come from local funds. The BFS engineering fees for the work, \$17,800, will be paid from OCRA grant monies.
4. The Council signed the previously approved Resolution 2019-05-21-01 to forgive fire hydrant fee debt, and the previously approved Middletown Ordinance No. 2019-04 establishing minimum requirements for wiring installations and electrical improvements.
5. Middletown Ordinance 2019-5 would prohibit parking in certain areas in the town of Middletown, Indiana. This Ordinance deals specifically with parking on 5<sup>th</sup> Street north of Locust Street. It prohibits parking on the west side of 5<sup>th</sup> within eighty feet (80') of the intersection with Locust Street. Donita Chambless moved to suspend the rules and pass the Ordinance on second reading of name and number only. Dan Fountain seconded the motion and there being no further discussion the Ordinance was passed. Donita Chambless then moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill on final reading by name and number only. Dan Fountain seconded the motion and there being no further discussion, the Ordinance was passed. The Ordinance was adopted unanimously.
6. Middletown Ordinance 2019-6 establishes stop signs at the intersection of Congress Street and South 14<sup>th</sup> Street in the Town of Middletown, Indiana. Dan Fountain moved to pass the Ordinance on second reading by name and number only. Donita Chambless seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously. Donita Chambless moved to pass the Ordinance on third and final reading by name and number only. The measure was adopted unanimously.
7. Steve Thompson, Fall Creek Township Trustee, expressed his appreciation for the public turn out at the June 17, 2019 meeting to discuss the proposed reorganization of the Town of Middletown and Fall Creek Township governments. The next meeting is scheduled for July 9, 2019 at 6.00 P.M. The Town Manger of Yorktown and the Deputy Mayor of Zionsville, both of whom have experienced like-mergers, will be in attendance. Steve is in the process of forming the Reorganization Committee which will then create sub-committees. Anticipated financial costs are estimated at: Financial Advisor (Bakertilly), \$25,000; Legal (Joel Harvey), \$10,000;

Bond issue, \$5,000. Steve would like to see the measure go to ballot within a year. Jake Smith spoke for the Town, stating that it is a good idea but comes at a bad time. The Town's discretionary funds are limited due to numerous infrastructure expenses. He asked that there be a stated "cap" on the amount the Town contributes, with an option to stop. There being no guarantee that the reorganization would pass in referendum and the prospect of that possible failure make it difficult to commit to unlimited expenditure of taxpayer money. Donita Chambless asked if preliminary funding could be split between the 2019 and 2020 budgets. Joel Harvey said that billing would be in monthly increments. He suggested an Interlocal agreement be drawn up reflecting that all expenses will be equally shared between the two entities. The Council asked him to compose that agreement. Dan Fountain moved to pass Resolution No. 2019-06-18-02, accepting the proposal of Fall Creek Township to participate in a proposed reorganization. Dick Schwalm seconded the motion and it was passed unanimously.

8. Councilman Dan Fountain inquired as to whether or not the Town has funding for the proposed cat spay/neuter program. The Clerk – Treasurer has found \$1500.00 funding for the remainder of 2019 and the Council can budget for additional funding for 2020. Dan will work with Joel Harvey to set up the program with a non-reverting fund. Mr. Fountain commented on the condition of the window shades in the Municipal Building Training Room. They've become ragged and unsightly due to the UV rays streaming in from the southern exposure. Having the windows tinted was discussed as a possibility. Officer Matt Thompson has experience in this area.

9. Ron Koons, who is serving on the Committee to initiate single hauler trash service for the Town, brought the Council up to date on progress. Joel Harvey, the Town's attorney, has drawn up a tentative contract and the Committee is nearing the bidding process. Dan Fountain moved to allow the Committee to begin the bidding process. Gary Kendall seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

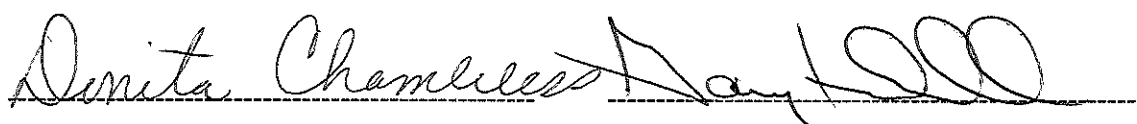
10. Police Chief Amanda Kirby asked the Council for funding for 6 bullet-proof vests for reserve officers. She demonstrated the differences between Level II and Level III vests, the latter being much more effective in protecting the officer. She has accumulated some of the \$5,331.48 cost through the Police Reserve and the Police Donation Funds in the amount of \$3,551.22. She requests that the balance of 1,788.26 be taken from the Cumulative Capital Improvement Fund to pay for the vests. Gary Kendall moved to approve the request and Dan Fountain seconded. The motion was passed unanimously.

11. Chief Kirby requested a raise in pay grade for Officer James Hunt from Grade 2 to Grade 4. Dick Schwalm moved to approve and Dan Fountain seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously.

12. Patty Schwalm reminded the assembly of the "Civic Day" at the Civic Center on Wednesday, July 17, 2019 at 9:00 A.M. A volunteer crew will be painting and improving the appearance of the facility.

13. The Councilors were reminded of a Public 2020 Budget Meeting on July 23, 2019 at 7:00 P.M. in the Public Meeting Room in the Municipal Building.

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

  
Donita Chambless

*John Smith*

*Richard Schwalb*

*[Signature]*

*Steve Holmes*

Clerk Treasurer