

# MINUTES OF THE MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL

December 3, 2019

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

1. Council President, Jake Smith, asked if there were any issues to be brought before the Council before proceeding with the agenda. **There was an inquiry regarding how electricity rates are figured.** An explanation of what components were used to determine billing costs as presented by Tim Mundell of the Utility Department.
2. The **Eastern Indiana Regional Planning Commission** has asked that Middletown appoint a Council Member to serve on their Board of Directors. Jake Smith will follow up on the matter.
3. Dan Fountain broached the subject of an **Ordinance Establishing a User Fee for Collection of Refuse.** Donita Chambless moved to accept a bid from Big B Waste Service subject to the passing of the ordinance to pay for the service. Gary Kendall seconded and the motion passed unanimously. A gentleman asked if there was any way to opt out of the plan. He recycles 80% of his refuse. Jake Smith responded that "If you are a utility customer you will be charged for trash pick-up." The only exception will be for commercial customers. The residential Utility Bill will have an additional charge of \$13.84 beginning with the January bill. Actual trash pick-up will take place after the 1<sup>st</sup> of February on each Tuesday. If the regular pick-up day falls on a holiday, trash will be picked up on the previous Saturday. In the event of bad weather, trash will be picked up on the following Saturday. Every residence will be issued two 96 gallon trash totes. Additional totes may be obtained from Big B at the cost of \$3.00 per month, payable to Big B annually (\$36). Customers with large pick-ups like furniture will need to arrange that pick-up with Big B for a \$15.60 charge. Any large item with cloth must be wrapped in plastic. Twice a year there will be dumpsters delivered to the Town for large item disposal. The resident is responsible for reasonable care of the totes. If a wheel falls off, Big B will repair the tote at no cost. If the tote is destroyed, the resident is responsible for paying for it.
4. The Clerk-Treasurer read into the record **Middletown Ordinance 2019-12-3, establishing a User Fee for Collection of Refuse.** Donita Chambless moved to pass Ordinance 2019-12-3 on its first reading. Dick Schwalm seconded. Roll call vote as follows: Dan Fountain, yes; Donita Chambless, yes; Gary Kendall, yes; Jake Smith, yes and Dick Schwalm yes. Motion carried.
5. The Clerk-Treasurer read into the record **Middletown Ordinance 2019-12-4, Establishing Regulations for Collection and Disposal of Refuse.** Donita Chambless moved to approve Middletown Ordinance 2019-1204 on its first reading with the addition of metal to the list of materials for construction of dumpster screens. Gary Kendall seconded. Roll call vote as follows: Dan Fountain, yes; Donita Chambless, yes; Jake Smith, yes; Gary Kendall, yes; Dick Schwalm, no. Motion carried.
6. **Keystone charges \$900.00 to add the Refuse Fee to the Utility Bill software.** Donita Chambless moved to approve the expenditure. Dan Fountain seconded and the motion passed unanimously.
7. Donita Chambless suggested that the minutes reflect that the Town postpones until September 2020 any action concerning the dumpster behind the Middletown Public Library.
8. Steve Thompson asked about the interlocal agreement between the Township and the Town. Issue will be taken up at the December 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 meeting.
9. Steve Thompson reminded everyone of the Reorganization Committee Meeting on December 10, 2019 at 6:00 P.M.

10. Steve Holmes reported that Scott Emswiler is still negotiating; trying to get us the best deal possible for the upgrade to Windows 10 at the end of the year.
11. Amanda Kirby, Town Marshall, presented an estimate from Versatile Metal Works for the installation of a single seat prisoner transport enclosure to be installed in one of the Police Department trucks. The cost will be \$1,600.00. Dan Fountain moved to approve the expenditure and Gary Kendall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
12. She also is purchasing radio equipment for a vehicle with funds from a grant from Henry County Community Foundation.
13. Brian Rednour reported that the Fire Department raised \$1,440.00 with the "Boot Drive" for kid's Christmas.
14. Brian Paschal presented a bill from Nara Manor for Waste Water Lab training for the Utility Crew. The amount of the bill is \$1,812.50. Dan Fountain moved to approve the expenditure and Gary Kendall seconded. The motion carried unanimously.
15. Carl announced that the Christmas lights are being put up. The leaves should be finished in 2 more weeks. The dump truck is working. 10 utility poles have been replaced. Working toward getting the new air compressor for airparks installed. The lift station on 236 needs to be replaced. Parts are hard to find for the old pump. The roof over the Training Room is leaking. It's an old rubber roof. He's going to have a roof man look at it. He's working on matching tiles for the hallway floors in the Municipal Building. Allen New is going to replace a ceiling heater at the Utility plant.
16. Patty Schwalm is waiting for the sump pump to be installed in the elevator pit. She also would like a current elevator permit for the elevator.
17. Jake would like to re-nominate the Redevelopment Commission at the next meeting.
18. Jim Hanson has decided to resign as IMPA Commissioner. We will need to appoint someone.
19. Tim Mundell reminded the Council the there will be a new round of INDOT grants coming up in January.
20. Dick Schwalm itemized several issues of maintenance for the Municipal Building.

Divita Chameless      John Amick

DJ      Richard Schwalm

Dan Fountain

Clerk-Treasurer