

# *BURGESS AND COMMISSIONERS OF MIDDLETOWN MARYLAND*

## TOWN MEETING MINUTES

### REGULAR MEETING

April 28, 2014

The second monthly meeting of the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown was called to order on March 24, 2014, by Burgess Miller at 7:00 p.m. in the Middletown Municipal Center, 31 W. Main Street, Middletown, Maryland. Present were: Commissioners Larry Bussard, Jennifer Falcinelli, Richard Dietrick, Tony Ventre and Christopher Goodman.

### CONSENT AGENDA

*Town Minutes* – April 14, 2014

Commissioner Bussard motioned to accept the consent agenda as presented, seconded by Commissioner Falcinelli and passed unanimously.

### PERSONAL REQUEST FOR AGENDA:

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**Budget Workshop – Schedule Public Hearing** – The Commissioners went over the operating budget, Commissioner Dietrick found a couple errors with the year to date figures and the proposed budget figures, Drew will have our Financial Planner Lacey Gordon review. Burgess Miller brought up the Community Events and the breakdown of what each committee requested. Burgess Miller stated that he does not see the rationality to funding a county committee. Burgess Miller stated that he was overruled last year with this. Burgess Miller stated that he does not have a problem with paying for the fireworks for this event. Burgess Miller suggested that the Town enter into the contract directly with the fireworks company and pay them directly. Pam Dietrick, Chair for the Middletown Rec. Council stated that they have already had to pay the deposit of \$4,500 to the fireworks company. Burgess Miller suggested that we reimburse the Middletown Rec. Council for the deposit and then pay the remaining money owed directly to the fireworks company, then from this point forward the Town will take care of paying for the fireworks and we will enter into the contract directly with them. Mrs. Dietrick didn't understand why the Town didn't want to give the donation directly to the Rec. Council. Commissioner Bussard stated that if the Town is paying for the fireworks we would like for it to be made known that the fireworks are presented by the Town of Middletown. Mrs. Dietrick stated that all of the sponsor money/donations that she receives goes toward the entire event, not one sponsor pays directly for the fireworks. This is where Burgess Miller has an issue with giving Middletown tax payer money to a county committee that not just the Middletown residents can enjoy.

After much discussion the Commissioners agreed to think about and will need to make a decision at the Public Hearing to be held on June 23, 2014 at 7pm.

**Water/Sewer budget** – The Commissioners went over the water & sewer operating budget. The budget shows a 3% increase in water & sewer rates. The Commissioners also discussed the water & sewer CIP budget. A couple of ideas were thrown out; Drew will look into and get the cost associated with and report back at the May meeting.

**Recommendations to Address Traffic Concerns on South Jefferson Street** – Commissioner Goodman stated that he has spoken to a lot of the residents on South Jefferson Street. Commissioner Goodman

recommended that the Town put up no thru traffic signs, radar enforced signs, paint the speed limit on the street, make no parking along the street from the top of the hill south and have our deputies enforce that area more heavily.

Bob Smart, 7525 Coblenz Road - asked if we could make it a no left turn from Main onto S. Jefferson Street since the majority of the traffic comes during rush hour with people trying to bypass the light. Drew stated that we would have to contact the State Highway to request this.

After some discussion, the Commissioners agreed to put up Local traffic only signs instead of no thru traffic as Commissioner Goodman suggested, paint the speed limit on the street, make no parking on both sides of the street from the top of the hill south and have the deputies enforce this area.

**Walking Trail Property Purchase – Contract of Sale** – Drew presented the Board with maps showing the outlots for sale. Drew also presented the Board with quotes of what the value of those outlots are. Drew stated that he is asking for the Boards consensus to enter initiate a contract of sale for these outlots. Drew stated that an appraisal will be done on the outlots prior to contract of sale being drafted. The Board agreed to have Drew proceed with this.

**Bid for Upstairs Security Door Installation** – Drew provided the Board with 2 quotes to have a door installed at the top of the stairs by the Burgess office. This door will prevent anyone from coming down the steps into the office areas. The bids received were from Fred W. Rudy Builders - \$11,260.00 and Broad Run Inc. - \$10,450.00.

Commissioner Goodman motioned to approve the bid from Broad Run, Inc. for \$10,450 to install the door at the top of the steps outside of the Burgess office, seconded by Commissioner Bussard. Motion carried 6-0.

**Introduction of Ethics Ordinance** – Burgess Miller stated that included in the packets is a draft copy of the proposed Ethics Ordinance. Commissioner Ventre stated that there is a few things that we need to address term limits and will we compensate the committee members? The Board agreed to make the term a 2 year term and pay the committee members \$50 per meeting. It was also noted that the Committee members must be someone who is not currently associated with the Town.

**Forest Conservation Plans Coblenz Property – Off Site Planting Plan** – Haiely Development the developers for the Coblenz Property along East Green Street would like to do some of their tree planting off site at the Remsberg Park. Drew showed a map of where the plantings would go, they would basically go around the new walking path in Remsberg Park.

Commissioner Ventre motioned to accept the off site planting plan as presented, seconded by Goodman. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **New Business:**

**Financial Advisory Engagement Letter – Davenport & Company** – Drew stated that he met last month with Davenport & Company to discuss the Town's financial options. Included in the packets is a scope of services by Davenport & Company. The Board felt this would be a good idea to enter into this agreement to see what options we have with the big ticket items we have in the upcoming years. Motion by Ventre to enter into the contract with Davenport & Company for \$14,000, seconded by Commissioner Bussard. Motion carried 6-0.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- *Rain Barrels Available for purchase*
- *Hazardous Household Drop Off – May 10, 2014 8am.-Noon*

- *Reminder to all residents that it is your responsibility to trim any tree limb that is protruding into the sidewalk area.*

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting adjourned at 9:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffin  
Office Manager