

# ***BURGESS AND COMMISSIONERS OF MIDDLETOWN MARYLAND***

## **TOWN MEETING MINUTES**

### **REGULAR MEETING**

**May 12, 2014**

The first monthly meeting of the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown was called to order on May 12, 2014, by Burgess Miller at 7:00 p.m. in the Middletown Municipal Center, 31 W. Main Street, Middletown, Maryland. Present were: Commissioners Jennifer Falcinelli(late), Richard Dietrick, Tony Ventre and Christopher Goodman.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

Ordinance No. 14-05-01 – to repeal and re-enact, with amendments, Title 17, Chapter 17.48, Section 17.48.015 of the Middletown Municipal code pertaining to special exception requirements for active adult communities; to authorize the establishment of an active adult community as a residential cluster development on parcels of between thirty and one hundred acres; to establish special exception standards and requirements for active adult communities as a residential cluster development.

Cindy Unangst, Staff Planner went over the Ordinance and amendments.

Barbara Reeder, 4 Groff Court – stated that the driveways in the current Active Adult Community are not long enough for a car to park in without blocking the sidewalk. Mrs. Reeder also stated that she feels the streets should be wide enough for snow plows to be able to maintain the street properly.

Burgess Miller stated that we have learned from our previous actions with developments and agrees that vehicles parked in the driveway should be able to be parked in the driveway without blocking the sidewalk.

It was the consensus of the Board to have Cindy add language to the Ordinance that the house setback is 10 feet and that the driveway must be a minimum of 20 feet to allow for cars to be parked in driveway without blocking sidewalk. This revised language will be present to the Town Board at the June 23<sup>rd</sup> Town Meeting.

The Public Hearing adjourned at 7:32pm.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

*Town Minutes* – April 28, 2014 Town Meeting

Commissioner Goodman motioned to accept this consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Dietrick and passed unanimously.

### **PERSONAL REQUEST FOR AGENDA:**

#### **Unfinished Business:**

**New Truck Bids** – Burgess Miller stated that we had originally set aside \$75,000 in this year's budget to match the grant if we purchased the Memorial Hall, which we opted not to do. Therefore we have moved that \$75,000 to cover the purchase of a new small dump truck and the remaining will come out of the

general fund surplus! We received 3 bids from Keystone Ford \$82,818, Hagerstown Ford \$83,659 and Crouse Ford \$83,702.80.

Motion by Commissioner Goodman to approve the bid from Keystone Ford for \$82,818 to purchase the dump truck, seconded by Commissioner Ventre. Motion carried 4-0.

**Middletown Public Ethics Ordinance 14-05-02** – Burgess Miller stated that this is now required by State Law. Commissioner Ventre stated that the purpose of this is to provide transparency with the Elected Officials acting in the intent of the general public. Commissioner Ventre stated that Middletown has always been exempt from but due to the size of Middletown doubling over the last 18 years we are now required to have an Ethics Ordinance in place.

Motion by Commissioner Ventre to approve the Ethics Ordinance as presented, seconded by Commissioner Dietrick. Motion carried 4-0.

**Update on RER Solar Array** – Representatives from RER were present to go over where they are with the solar array. The investor is Empower. RER presented the Board with their proposed 4-5ac. Of land that they will put the solar arrays on that will power our water/sewer facilities. Burgess Miller stated that we decided to go with the water/sewer facilities since the water/sewer budget is always looking for money so if we can save money that is where we should try to save it at. It was stated that this would save approximately \$11,000 a year and would continue to increase over time. Burgess Miller stated that there is a contingency to get the 6.7 cent rate. RER stated that we needed the larger array which we have presented here and also get a contract with another municipality. RER stated that they are currently working with Myersville and Boonsboro. RER stated that they would like to be finished construction by September or October at the latest. There is a December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2014 deadline in order to get the 30% tax credit. RER will forward the PPA to Drew by weeks end. RER will forward to the Town the draft Power Purchase Agreements (PPA's) for the Town attorney to review and provide input back to the Town.

**Budget Workshop** – May 21<sup>st</sup> at 7pm.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES –**

**WATER & SEWER** – Commissioner Falcinelli reported:

*Water usage* - 328,000 gallons per day (hydrant flushing included)

*Spring Flow* – 132,000 gallons per day

**PUBLIC WORKS** – No report

**PLANNING COMMISSION** – Commissioner Goodman reported:

*Cross Stone Commons* – Improvement plans submitted waiting on SHA decision on ingress from Alt. 40.

**PARKS & RECREATION** – Commissioner Ventre reported:

POS applications submitted to Frederick Co. for the following projects 1)Walking trail & footbridge at Remsberg Park \$40,000; 2)Remsberg Park picnic tables \$3,000; and 3)Resurface of trail at Wiles Branch Park \$21,000.

Commissioner Ventre stated that he and the Parks Committee did a survey of all the parks and stated that the Natelli field has some drainage issues. RFP, Inc. looked at the field and to fix the drainage problem with this field it would cost around \$6,000. Commissioner Ventre stated that to date the Parks & Rec. has spent \$15,000 and we budgeted \$34,000, therefore there is money in our budget to fix this problem if we decide to do so.

**FINANCE** – no report

**PUBLIC INFORMATION** – Commissioner Falcinelli reported:

Currently updating the Community Directory, hope to have it finished & printed by Heritage Festival.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Discussion of Election Official Salaries** – Burgess Miller stated that included in the packets is a proposed salary enhancement for the Burgess & Commissioners. The last increase for the Burgess & Commissioners was in 1996. The proposed increase is as follows:

- Current Burgess Salary - \$500/month
- Proposed Burgess Salary - \$850/month
- Current Commissioner Salary - \$200/month
- Proposed Commissioner Salary - \$350/month

Ordinance would take effect following the April, 2016 election and would apply to only those officials facing election. Other elected officials would receive a salary increase following the April, 2018 election.

**PUBLIC COMMENT: None**

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business to come before the Board, the regular meeting adjourned at 8:35p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffin  
Office Manager