

BURGESS AND COMMISSIONERS OF MIDDLETOWN MARYLAND

TOWN MEETING MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

October 14, 2013

The first monthly meeting of the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown was called to order on October 14, 2013, by Burgess Miller at 7:00 p.m. in the Middletown Municipal Center, 31 W. Main Street, Middletown, Maryland. Present were: Commissioners Jennifer Falcinelli, Larry Bussard, Richard Dietrick, Tony Ventre and Christopher Goodman.

CONSENT AGENDA

Financial Statements

Town Minutes – September 23, 2013 Town meeting

Commissioner Bussard motioned to accept this consent agenda, seconded by Commissioner Ventre and passed unanimously.

PERSONAL REQUEST FOR AGENDA:

Delegate Kathy Afzali – Delegate Afzali was present tonight, wanting to see if there was anything Middletown needed from her.

Unfinished Business:

RER Solar – Revised Proposal Scenario(s) – RER Solar presented several different scenarios for the Board to review. Burgess Miller asked that the Commissioner review all the scenarios presented tonight and the Board will make a decision if they wish to pursue Solar energy or not at next months meeting.

Discussion of Memorial Hall – Review of Required Easements – Burgess Miller stated that we received the letter from the MD Dept of Planning MD Historical Trust on receiving the MHAA grant to purchase the Memorial Hall. Included in the letter were stipulations the Historical Trust wants as part of the grant they include: conveyance of a perpetual preservation easement on the interior and exterior of the building and archeology on the property. Burgess Miller contacted Mr. Hall, AICP Secretary in regards to the letter and basically said that the interior easement was the deal killer. Burgess Miller stated that the Historical Trust will be here on October 21st at 2pm. to tour the building. Burgess Miller is hoping that once they visit the site there will be some movement on the easements, but until then this remains in limbo until after their visit.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES –

WATER & SEWER – Commissioner Falcinelli reported:

Water usage - 310,000 gallons per day

Spring Flow – 69,000 gallons....although the springs dropped to 34,000 gallons per day as of last week.

Reservoir – leaking 27,000 a day, we will be repairing the leak sometime in late October no date has been set in stone to date; it will be off line during the repair. Notices will be sent to all residents to conserve water.

Hydrant Flushing – is occurring this week.

Water & Sewer meeting – The commission approved the monthly billing policy which will come before the Board at the Oct. 28th meeting. The goal is to start monthly billing for the Glenbrook Community January 1, 2014.

PUBLIC WORKS – Commissioner Bussard reported:

Town Staff have been working on repairing curbs, worked Heritage Festival set up and cleaned up, and working on getting the snow plow equipment ready for the winter.

Walnut Street Bridge – project is complete – Oct. 26 at 11am. is the ribbon cutting for this project.

Bulk Trash Date – October 19th.

Hazardous Household Drop Off – Oct. 26 from 8am.-12pm. at the Reichs Ford Road facility.

PLANNING COMMISSION – Commissioner Goodman reported:

The Planning Commission met on site at that Miller Property (former Ingall's property), Ms. Miller wants to put in a restaurant and other shops which is all in the concept plan stage.

Middletown Park Annexiation – was approved.

At the Joint Meeting the Zion Lutheran Church presented their master plan all was very receptive of the plan.

PARKS & RECREATION – Commissioner Ventre reported:

Remsberg Park Trail and Wiles Branch Basketball Court – will be done by RFP once they are finished with the War Memorial project, both projects should be done by the end of the year.

Schuyler Call, Eagle Scout project – met with Bruce Carbaugh last week, he would like to put benches along the Remsberg Park trail.

FINANCE – Commissioner Dietrick reported:

Commissioner Dietrick reported that he went over our electric bills – the General Fund spends \$162,000 a year - \$150,000 is on Streets Lights; the Water/Sewer fund spends \$97,000 – 33% of that is water distribution and the other 67% is the sewer plants and collection.

PUBLIC INFORMATION – no report

New Business:

Request from Town of Myersville for return of pledged POS funds for skatespot – Burgess Miller stated that we received a letter from Myersville stating that since the skatespot project has not moved forward and is not currently on the County's 5 year plan, they would like their money (\$6,000) returned to them as they have another project they would like to use it on.

Commissioner Dietrick stated that the Middletown Rec. Council is continuing their fundraising efforts for this project. Commissioner Dietrick stated that they have contracted with Pillar Designs to design the skatespot.

Motion by Commissioner Falcinelli to return the \$6,000 to Myersville per their request, seconded by Commissioner Bussard. Motion carried.

Discussion of purchase of Multifunctional Wide Format Printer – Drew stated that included in the packets this week is the copy of a multifunctional wide format printer....this printer will allow us to make copies of the larger size drawings as well as scan them. Drew stated this is not something that is necessary and can wait for the next budget discussion if that is what the Board wants to do. It was agreed by the Board to put this in the FY15 budget for discussion.

Discussion of purchase of I-pads for Planning Commission – Burgess Miller stated that the Mark Carney, Planning Commission Chairman submitted a letter to the Board asking for the Board to purchase I-pads along with the appropriate software for the Planning Commission members. The approximate price of the I-pads and software is \$2,773.92. Burgess Miller stated that he met with Cindy in regards to how much review fees were being generated at this time if there were enough to offset the cost of the purchase of the I-pads. Cindy advised the Burgess that right now we are only generating \$500-600 on review fees which is not enough to offset the cost. Burgess Miller also stated that Cindy contacted MML to see if any

other Municipalities have a digital filing fee? No other Municipality in the State of MD has a digital filing fee, we would be the first.

Commissioner Dietrick stated that he would like to include this as a budget item as well, doesn't feel it is a necessity right now. Commissioner Bussard questioned how the Planning Commission was going to review the large plans on the Ipad as he struggles with reading the budget on the Ipad.

Dave Dunn was present and advised the Board before making this purchase or the printer purchase there may be a piggy back option with the County that could save the Town money.

Commissioner Goodman made a motion to purchase the Ipad with a purchase price up to \$2,773, seconded by Ventre. Motion denied (2-4).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Burgess Miller had a meeting with George Brigham with the Central MD Heritage League(CMHL). CMHL wants to sell the lot that we currently lease. Mr. Brigham stated that someone told him that lot was worth anywhere between \$75-125K. Burgess Miller stated that we know that is not true do to the easements on that property. CMHL would like to get between \$10-25K for this lot and since we currently lease this lot they wanted to approach us first. The Board has no desire at this time to purchase the lot, they would like to continue to maintain their lease.

Burgess Miller stated that Farhad Memarsadeghi contacted him wanted to meet with him in regards to the text amendment he needs for the property outside town limits off of Coblantz Road. Burgess Miller will be meeting with Mr. Memarsadeghi on Wednesday, October 16 at 3pm. Burgess Miller wanted the Boards input on exactly how many active adult units we want to see on this property. The Board stated that we agreed no more than 137 units.

Burgess Miller also received a call from a representative with Planet Aide wanting to know what they can do to be able to have their Planet Aide boxes in town. The Board stated that because of the bad previous experiences they do not want the Planet Aide boxes in town.

Burgess Miller thanked the Heritage Festival Committee for a wonderful job on the Heritage Festival that was held on September 28, 2013.

Halloween Parade – Thursday, October 24, 2013 – meet the band wagon at 5:45pm. at the Elementary School along Green Street.

ADJOURNMENT

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

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffin
Office Manager