



Middletown Quarterly Update

July 2020

Message from the Burgess

It is nice to say that the long-awaited completion of our Main Street Streetscape project is VERY close to being finished. It seems that some paving and stamped crosswalks are all that remains to be done. We will most likely have a “punch list” of items for SHA to correct and/or complete. Fingers crossed for the end of June! A celebration will be in order when this is all completed!

I wanted to update you on a few of the ways that we are making our processes here at the Town more transparent and open. We have had Zoom meetings during the pandemic, and we are planning on live streaming our meetings once we get back to normal. I was hoping our participation at Town meetings via Zoom would be greater than it has been so far. We held our first resident Conversation on the Comprehensive Plan this March and it was well-received. Then COVID-19 and our second conversation was cancelled. We are still discussing the plan at our regular Town and Planning Commission meetings—currently via Zoom. We also publish our agendas for workshops and meetings a week in advance so residents can review and choose to participate. We also had a residential advisory committee of Broad Street residents formed to help us design Broad Street. It was a great success and we thank those residents for being involved and engaged. We will be taking a similar approach when we begin to upgrade Washington Street and Linden Boulevard. Always more to do to better serve you!

Thank you for another term as your Burgess! I really do love this job. It is very satisfying to help guide our Town and to serve our residents. I hope to see you out and about!

Town News and Information

2020 Comprehensive Plan

Beginning with a Community Conversation in March of this year, the Town Board and Planning Commission have embarked on the update to the Town’s 2010 Comprehensive Plan. The purpose of the Plan is to properly prepare for growth and related issues like infrastructure and housing impacts through the year 2040. The Middletown Comprehensive Plan will provide guidance and policy standards for future development as well as identifying needs and opportunities which currently exist within the community. If you are interested in this process or bringing ideas to the respective boards, please plan to attend the workshops throughout the year, and into 2021.

All Residents Now Paying the Capital Improvement Fee

Beginning July 1, 2020 residents who had been paying the quarterly Debt Service Fee (\$50.00) as part of their water sewer bill are now paying the Capital Improvement Fee (\$50.00) and no longer paying the Debt Service Fee. This change will be reflected in the October 2020 water sewer bill.

Middletown Memorial Bench Program

Honor someone special by purchasing a memorial bench and have it placed along one of the Town’s walking trails (Your choice, if possible.). Each bench will be personalized with a plaque with the name of the person being honored. The cost is \$720.00. Please see the town website for more information and the application.

Middletown Memorial Tree Program

Honor a special person or event with a native tree to be planted in Middletown. Trees can be planted for the birth of a child, a wedding or anniversary, a recent graduation, and so much more! Your memorial gift will benefit the community for generations to come! Please see the town website for more information and the application.

Yard Waste Reminder

Please **do not** set your yard waste bags out at the curb until the night before pick-up (Monday night). This is an effort to keep our Town beautiful!

Wiles Branch Dog Park

Rates for accessing the dog park have been reduced for FY 2021. It is now \$10 a year for both residents and non-residents. Dogs rabies vaccinations must be current AND dogs must be licensed with either Frederick or Washington Counties.

REMINDER - Dogs should be on a leash at all times (when not in the dog park) and **PLEASE REMEMBER TO PICK-UP YOUR DOG WASTE!** It’s not the law, it is a courtesy to others!

Citizen Connect!

Stay connected to what is happening within our town. Visit www.middletown.md.us, click on the Citizen Connect tab, and sign up for:

- * Middletown email updates
- * ALERT Frederick County
- * Follow us on Twitter
- * Follow us on Facebook



Monthly Public Town Meetings

Seasonal Updates

Town Workshop
First Thursday, 7:00 PM

Town Meetings
Second Monday, 7:00 PM
Fourth Monday, 7:00 PM

Planning Commission
Third Monday, 7:00 PM

Town Board & Planning Commission
Quarterly

Grass Watering
Ordinance # 06-04-01 prohibits the watering of lawns or grassy areas of any property between the hours of 9:00am.—6:00pm. Violators will receive one (1) written warning and each subsequent offense will constitute a municipal infraction punishable by a fine of \$100.00 and disconnection of water service.

Elected Officials

Grass and Weeds
Ordinance # 8-12-010 prohibits a generalized overgrowth of weeds and grass exceeding a height of eight (8) inches. "Weeds and grass" means all bushes, hedges, shrubs, trees, grasses, poison oak, poison ivy or any other non-cultivated vegetation which attains a noxious or dangerous condition upon overgrowth or accumulation so as to constitute a condition detrimental to public health or safety. Not included within this definition are flowers, garden vegetables, compost piles or any plant necessary for soil stabilization purposes.

Burgess
John Miller

Commissioners
Larry Bussard
Rick Dietrick
Jennifer Falcinelli
Christopher Goodman
Jean LaPadula

Overgrown Trees
Just a reminder to all residents to keep your tree limbs and shrubs cut back so that they do not extend over any sidewalk. Per Ordinance 12.08.040 it is unlawful to have trees extend over any sidewalk of the Town at a height less than ten (10) feet from the ground or over any street or alley at a height of less than fifteen (15) feet.

This is a friendly reminder that biodegradable brown paper bags are available for town residents, free of charge, at the Municipal Center, between 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. Monday through Friday. There is a 5 pack limit each time you come in to pick them up.

Trash Pick Up

Important dates and information....

Tuesday:
Yard Waste (April-Dec.)

Wednesday:
Trash pick-up (weekly)
Recycling (bi-weekly)

COVID-19 and Town Events - With the COVID-19 crisis and imposed states of emergency in effect, the Town will determine whether or not events will be held as each date draws closer. Please continue to check the town website for the most up to date information on each town event.

Middletown Municipal Center

Family Movie Nights Friday, July 31st, *Movie as yet to be determined—Location as yet to be determined.* Much depends upon the state of emergency status at the time of the event. The Middletown Arts & Activities Council (MAAC) is trying to coordinate the details for this event. If it does occur the event starts at 7:00pm with movie starting at dark. Please check the town website and the MAAC’s Facebook page for the most current information.

31 W. Main Street
301.371.6171
Fax: 301-371-6464

Middletown Heritage Day Festival, Saturday, September 26th. Learn about historic Middletown Maryland and it’s heritage. We celebrate our community and its past, present and future with a fun-filled day, which starts with a parade at 10am. After the parade, there will be vendors and many exhibits, reenactments, crafts & great entertainment. Come enjoy a day filled with music, fun and food. The festival will be held rain or shine.

Town Administrator
Andrew J. Bowen
office@ci.middletown.md.us

Thirteenth Annual “Scarecrow Contest”.....start thinking about your ideas. The Middletown Arts & Activities Council will once again provide you with the scarecrow kits. Stop by the Middletown Municipal Center to pick up your kit on or after September 28th. There are a limited number of kits and they go fast! There are 2 categories for entries: family/individual and business/organization. Get creative and enjoy an event that is a local favorite!

Emergency
301-293-3818

