



# Middlestown Quarterly Update

October 2019

## Message from the Burgess

I hope that your summer was enjoyable and fun-filled! This summer saw many events that helped enhance our already great quality of life in our small town. Events from MAAC, our arts and activities council, included well attended movie nights in the park and a Memorial Day celebration. The fireworks put on by the Middlestown Rec. Council of which the Town of Middlestown is a sponsor, were spectacular as always. I know you can appreciate the time that goes into planning all these events so please continue to support them. Thank you, organizers and volunteers of these events! Events like these do so much to continue to build a sense of community and belonging here. Soon it will be scarecrow time and our Halloween Parade. Check out our newsletter or website for more info.

Main Street remains under construction and is scheduled to be completed in June of 2020. We are all anxiously awaiting this date!!

Hopefully you have noticed our new streetlights in the Elm Street parking lot. This will enhance the safety and aesthetic appeal of our downtown. This is part of a re-constructed downtown mega-block I have long wanted to see happen. This block includes Green Street, some alleys have been repaved (Garage Alley will get streetlights) and we are beginning a 2-year project to upgrade Washington Street with a new road surface, sidewalk and streetlights. All of this to facilitate and encourage pedestrian traffic in our downtown! Come down and see what's new.

New businesses continue to find a home in Middlestown. I am sure you are enjoying staying here to do business or eat out and not have to travel over the mountain. There are several reasons why this is happening. We have a supportive and caring community; a growing community and we are fortunate to have a prosperous community - we have the highest median income in Frederick County. Please continue to support any and all businesses that you can! They depend on you.

I look forward to a spectacular fall in Middlestown. I hope to see you out and about!

Stay in touch and keep in touch!

## Town News and Information

### Water & Sewer Rates Increase

On July 8, 2019 the Burgess and Commissioners amended Section 13.12.060 of the Municipal Code to increase the water/sewer rates 2%. The new rates are as follows and will be reflected on the October 2019 bill:

#### RESIDENTIAL RATES:

0-3,000 gal.	\$73.78
3,001-25,000 gal.	\$10.46 per 1,000
25,001-30,000 gal.	\$15.66 per 1,000
30,001-35,000 gal.	\$20.92 per 1,000
35,001-40,000 gal.	\$31.34 per 1,000
40,001-45,000 gal.	\$36.54 per 1,000
45,001-50,000 gal.	\$41.80 per 1,000
50,001-55,000 gal.	\$62.68 per 1,000
55,001-60,000 gal.	\$78.38 per 1,000
60,001-65,000 gal.	\$94.04 per 1,000
65,001-70,000 gal.	\$109.68 per 1,000
70,001-75,000 gal.	\$125.38 per 1,000
75,001 gal. & above	\$141.04 per 1,000

#### NON-RESIDENTIAL RATES:

3/4"	3,000 gal.	\$73.78
1"	4,200 gal.	\$103.22
1.5"	5,400 gal.	\$132.74
2"	8,700 gal.	\$213.86
3"	33,000 gal.	\$811.28
4"	42,000 gal.	\$1,032.52
6"	63,000 gal.	\$1,548.80
8"	87,000 gal.	\$2,138.78

For each 1,000 gallon over the base will be \$10.46 per 1,000 gallon.

### Capital Improvement Fee Increase

The Burgess and Commissioners also approved a \$2.75 increase on the Capital Improvement Fee. The fee per quarter is now **\$50.00** for those of you who do not pay the Debt Service Fee.

### Water / Sewer Bill \$0.36 Credit

Due to a software accounting error, every resident and business in town will receive a \$0.36 credit towards their October 2019 bill. The software was adding a half-cent when the rate was an odd number causing some accounts to be over-charged 1 - 3 cents. Statute of limitations is 3 years, so: 3 (cents) x 4 (quarters/year) x 3 (years) => \$0.36 credit.

### East Wastewater Treatment Plant Tour

How does Middlestown manage our water? Join Town Administrator, Drew Bowen, on a tour of the Town's East Wastewater Treatment Plant to learn how the town manages its wastewater and drinking water. The tour will begin at 11:00am on Saturday, October 26<sup>th</sup> at the treatment plant off Holter Road. Look for more information on the town's website at [www.middlestown.md.us](http://www.middlestown.md.us).

### Hydrant Flushing

Town fire hydrants will be flushed October 14-18, 2019. Flushing will occur between the hours of 9am-2pm. You may experience fluctuations in pressure and sediment in the water. Please plan ahead and limit water usage during this time. If you have not signed up for ALERT Frederick County please do so on the homepage of our website. This will notify you of when things like hydrant flushing or water line breaks occur.

### Bulk Trash Pick-Up

October 12, 2019 will be the next bulk trash pick-up. You may place 2 items out at the curb for pick-up. For a complete list, please visit our website at [www.middlestown.md.us](http://www.middlestown.md.us). In the drop down under Town Government, click on Trash News and then Bulk Trash.



### Monthly Public Town Meetings

**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

### Elected Officials

**Burgess**  
John Miller

**Commissioners**  
Larry Bussard  
Tom Catania  
Rick Dietrick  
Jennifer Falcinelli  
Christopher Goodman

### Trash Pick Up

**Tuesday:**  
Yard Waste (April-Dec.)

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

### Middletown Municipal Center

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

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

**Emergency**  
301-293-3818

## 2020 Middletown Election

The 2020 election is just around the corner on **April 6, 2020**. This year we have the Burgess and two (2) commissioner seats up for election. If you are interested in running for a seat, the Nominating Convention will be held on Tuesday, February 25, 2020 at 7:00pm. at the Municipal Center. Anyone wishing to run must be at least 21 years of age, reside within the corporate limits for at least one year immediately preceding their election, and be a qualified voter of Middletown.

### Election Judges Needed

We are looking for Election Judges for the upcoming Election on Monday, April 6, 2020. If you are interested in serving as an Election judge please contact Ann Griffin at 301.371.6171, or email agriffin@ci.middletown.md.us.

### Voter Registration

If you wish to vote in the 2020 Municipal Election you must be registered by Friday, March 13, 2020. If you are already registered to vote in the General Election you do not need to register unless you just recently moved to Middletown. If you moved from another city/town in Maryland you must inform the Frederick County Election Board of your new address. You can reach the Frederick County Election Board at 301.600.8683.

## Important dates and information....

**Twelfth Annual "Scarecrow Contest"** - Beginning September 30, 2019, the Middletown Arts & Activities Council will once again have scarecrow kits available during regular business hours (8am.-4pm.) at the Municipal Center. Kits are available first come, first served. Completed scarecrows are due back at the Municipal Center by October 18, 2019 and **will be on display along the entrance into the Middletown Community Park from Coblenz Road** from October 19th - November 2nd, 2019.



**"March of Scarecrows"** - Come in and vote for your favorite scarecrow on October 19, 2019 from 2-5pm, **at the Middletown Community Park! (Please use the entrance off Coblenz Road.)** Snacks and beverages will be available.

**Halloween Parade** - Dress in costume and march down Green Street in Middletown's annual Halloween Parade on Saturday, October 26th at 5:00 PM. Costume judging will be held at the School complex promptly at 4:15 PM before the parade. Candy and light refreshments will be handed out after the parade behind the municipal center. Come enjoy the fun!

**Christmas in the Valley** - We invite you to join us in celebrating the holiday season at Middletown's annual Christmas in the Valley on Saturday, December 7, 2019 at 6:00 PM. Festivities include caroling, the lighting of the Town Christmas tree, a visit from Santa Claus with treats for the kids and then Christmas music at Zion Lutheran Church. After the show join us for punch and Christmas cookies in the church social hall. Volunteers are needed! For information please call 301.371.6171.



**13th Series Collector's Ornament** - In honor of Middletown's veterans, this ornament depicts Middletown's War Memorial. The original Memorial was erected in 1947 to honor those that served in WWII. In 2013, additional memorials were added to honor our veterans of all wars and conflicts in the post WWII era. Veterans who were killed in action have been identified for their ultimate sacrifice. Ornaments are available for purchase at the Town Hall. The cost is \$30. Ornaments are boxed and include a stand. All proceeds fund the Christmas in the Valley event.