

BURGESS AND COMMISSIONERS OF MIDDLETOWN MARYLAND

TOWN WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES

WORKSHOP MEETING

May 2, 2019

The workshop meeting of the Burgess and Commissioners of Middletown was called to order on May 2, 2019, by Burgess Pro Tem Falcinelli at 6:30 p.m. in the Middletown Municipal Center, 31 W. Main Street, Middletown, Maryland. Present were: Commissioners Larry Bussard, Christopher Goodman, Rick Dietrick and Tom Catania.

BUDGET WORKSHOP:

FY 2020 General Operating Fund (First reading) – Drew stated that overall the operating budget is in good shape. Drew went over some of the areas of the operating budget with the Board. The following changes to the budget were recommended by the Board:

- Show reimbursement revenue for County Recycling Facility
- Add \$5,000 to Highways & Streets – Sign line item for replacement of street sign poles in the Glenbrook subdivision
- Add into the budget the cost for a new employee for Street & Parks

These changes will be presented at the Town Meeting on May 13, 2019.

PERSONAL REQUESTS FOR AGENDA:

Broad Street Task Force Members – Review of Traffic Calming Measures and Results – Drew presented the Board with the finding from the speed camera before the crosswalk was installed and after the crosswalk was installed. Drew stated that the average speed before the crosswalk was 22 and the average speed after the crosswalk was installed was 18 clearly, the crosswalk has had an impact on slowing traffic down. Drew stated that there is not a speeding problem on this street with 85% of the traffic below the posted speed limit.

Ron Moss, 213 Broad Street – stated that the crosswalk has made an impact with slowing the speeders down. Mr. Moss also asked if we were going to put in a stop sign at the intersection of Locust Alley and Broad Street? Mr. Moss stated that if we move the crosswalk further down the street toward Franklin Street, he feels that there will need to be some type of deterrent on the other end.

Drew stated that if a crosswalk is included in the final design, we will need to take parking off both sides of the street for about 30' on each side of the crosswalk. Drew stated that at times there have been vehicles parked very close to the crosswalk and cars have had to go around the crosswalk sign in the center of the road into the opposing lane of traffic. Bruce Carbaugh stated that once the permanent crosswalk goes in, we will bump out the road on both sides, therefore we should need to take parking off the street.

Burgess Pro Tem Falcinelli stated that we need to develop some criteria/guidelines that we can use on all the streets throughout Town. Commissioner Catania states that the data is showing the speed is below the posted speed limit and that the temporary crosswalk installed has made an impact do we need to collect anymore data? Commissioner Catania stated that he feels we need definitely develop criteria to stay consistent across the Town. The Board agreed to send this to the Public Information Committee for their review and recommendation. The Board also wants to put the speed camera back up on Broad Street in both directions but, put the camera in stealth mode (doesn't show the speed) and collect that data to see if it changes any of the results already collected.

STAFF REPORTS:

Community Deputy Report – Dfc. McCarrick gave the report for April.
Staff Planner Report – report attached to agenda.
Engineer’s Report – Bruce gave his report.
Main Street Manager’s Report — Becky gave her report.
Zoning Administrator’s Report – Mark gave his report.

CONSENT AGENDA:

- *Budget Amendment 19-06*
- *Town Meeting Minutes – April 22, 2019*

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance 19-03-01 – Unsafe Properties - Vote-May 13, 2019
Appointment – Board of Appeals - Vote-May 13, 2019

NEW BUSINESS:

Petition Residents to Lower the Speed Limit within the Middletown Glen Subdivision – Drew stated that we received a petition from residents of the Middletown Glen Subdivision asking to lower the speed limit from 25mph to 15mph. Drew stated that this subdivision is not finished yet and the final paving has not been done. Drew stated that we have asked the Deputies to sit in this subdivision. Drew stated that we could put the speed camera up and collect data if the Board would like. Drew stated that there are probably 70 families living in that subdivision now and we have 13 signatures on the petition.

Sean Mahar, 203 Ingalls Drive – stated that ultimately the problem is from the width of the roads and the layout of the roads. People who live in the subdivision are the ones at fault they speed and do not stop at the stop signs in subdivision. Mr. Mahar stated that there are about 50 kids in the subdivision right now and they all like to run and play in the open space area and he is afraid that one of them is going to get hit. Mr. Mahar stated that the HOA directed them to the Town. The Board will put up the speed camera and collect some data as well as have additional presence of deputies in the subdivision.

Amendments to Banner Policy - Discussion – Drew stated that we have started to run into some problems already with the Banner Policy. We have some groups that have two 3’x30’ banners that they want to put up. The problem is we would not be able to put up another banner if we allow organizations to put up both banners. Drew stated another issue is the number of days for the application to be submitted prior to the banner being hung. Drew also would like clarification if the Town Banners are to go on the top or bottom?

After some discussion, the Board agreed to make the following changes to the policy: 1 banner per an organization at one time, change the 14 days to 60 days and all town sponsored event banners will be hung on the top. Staff will make these changes and bring back to the Board for their approval.

Amendments to Design Manual for Water Service Connections - Discussions – Drew states that the County is expanded the County Park and would like to install new bathrooms, a maintenance facility, a drinking fountain and a new multi-purpose field. Drew stated that the County will be extending the 12” waterline Drew stated that our policy is one property one meter but, because this property is so large, and it is a government entity Drew feels we should waive that. The Board referred this to the Water & Sewer Committee for their review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

- *Stone House Open – Middletown Historical Society, Sunday, May 5, 2019, 1pm.-5pm.*
- *Dinner & Auction – Middletown Historical Society, Wednesday, May 15, 2019, Auction at 5:30pm. followed by Dinner at 6:30pm.*

- *Walking Tour – Main Street Middletown, Saturday, May 18, 2019*
- *Memorial Day Social – Middletown Arts & Activities, Saturday, May 25, 2019*

Workshop adjourned at 8:45pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ann Griffin
Office Manager