

MIDDLETOWN TOWN COUNCIL MEETING

APRIL 15, 2008

The Middletown Town Council met on Tuesday, April 15, 2008. President Jim Mundell, council members Dan Fountain, Lisa Hicks-Smith, Tim Mundell and Jake Smith were all in attendance. Dave Copenhaver was present as council for the town. Clerk-Treasurer Jim Hanson passed around the sign in sheet for the audience to sign. Following the pledge to the flag, the meeting proceeded.

1. The first order of business was Lisa Hicks-Smith made a motion to pass Ordinance 03-18-2008, to increase water utility rates, Ordinance 03-18-2008-1, to increase sewage rates and Ordinance 03-18-2008-2, to increase electric rates charged to customers in Middletown, In. by reading name and number only. This was the third reading for the ordinances. Tim Mundell seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of passing the ordinances, which are to become effective immediately.
2. Next, Kevin Lockhart was present to request permission to keep a mobile home on his property on N. 5th Street. His plan is to build additional square-footage around it and make a traditional residence out of it. After a very lengthy discussion by council and audience members, council president Jim Mundell made a motion the council should recommend the Henry County Planning Commission to deny the request. Tim Mundell seconded the motion. Dan, Jake, Jim and Tim voted in favor of the motion. Lisa voted against it. The motion carried.
3. Julian Hudson, 359 N 10th Street, was present to discuss the service or lack thereof in reference to his Comcast service and the local liaison's handling of his calls. No action was made on this issue.
4. Nancy Frazee, a resident of Crestwood Park, was present to complain about the high prices charged residents of the park for their water utility. It was explained to her that the park owner buys the utility from the town and then resells it to his clients. The town has no control over the price the owner charges.
5. Jim and Tim Mundell gave a brief report on a utility seminar they had attended that was presented by IACT. They presented some new trends in billing for town services that council may consider at a later time.
6. Angie Kendall from Ameriana Bank thanked Chief Wray for his training sessions that he presented to the employees. The sessions dealt with response to alarm system incidents.
7. Utility Superintendent David Real asked board approval to advertise for bid and the sell excess equipment from his department. The items to be sold are a bucket truck, a chipper truck and a bush hog mower. Dan Fountain made a motion to allow David to advertise and sell. Lisa Hicks-Smith seconded. All approved.
8. Ron Koons informed council that April bills from Comcast should reflect the new rate increases. New channel line ups are coming around May 1, 2008. The digital and expanded line ups will change drastically. He reported that there are still contact issues with Comcast.
9. Kyle Metcalf appreciates the support citizens are giving him in relation to the town clean up ordinances. He also reported that final draft of the citation document has been sent to the court for approval and they should be ready by the end of the week. Dave Copenhaver stated that other towns have used this document with success. The judge is supportive of it. Dave will have a fine schedule ready for presentation at the next council meeting. Jake Smith commended Kyle for his accomplishments over the last year.
10. President Mundell asked about the sale of the lot on Columbia Ave. The town purchased it at the sheriff's sale. There were no other bidders.

- 11. Jake Smith announced that there will be a breakfast at the Masonic Lodge on April 19, a breakfast at the Lion's Club on April 26 and a baked potato luncheon at the Historical Society on May 3.
- 12. Lisa Hicks-Smith presented some ideas about spring clean up in Middletown. Among the ideas approved was one to waive the \$3 permit fee for rummage sales for the week of April 25 through May 4, 2008. Council unanimously approved this recommendation.
- 13. Jim Mundell again asked whether or not council wanted to waive the town fee for the application for a gun permit for town employees and volunteers. Dave Copenhaver advised the town to look into the state regulations concerning these fees before making a decision. The question was withdrawn.
- 14. There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned.

<u>Jim Mundell</u>	<u>James E. Hanson / C.J.</u>
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>[Signature]</u>
<u>[Signature]</u>	<u>James Mandell</u>