

May 18, 2011 - Special Town Council Meeting

At a Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Middletown, RI held at the Middletown Town Hall on Wednesday, May 18, 2011 at 6:00 P.M.

Council President Arthur S. Weber, Jr., Presiding

Vice President Bruce J. Long

Councillor Richard Cambra, arrives at 6:20 p.m.

Councillor Edward J. Silveira, Jr., arrives at 6:05 p.m.

Councillor Christopher T. Semonelli

Councillor Antone C. Viveiros

Councillor Barbara A. VonVillas, Members Present

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenues of the General Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

2. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenues of the Parks and Recreation Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

3. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenues of the Sewer Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

4. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenue of the Refuse and Recycling Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

Said meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 18, 2011, at 6:00 P.M. at the Middletown High School Cafeteria, 130 Valley Road, Middletown,

Rhode Island 02842.

Arthur S. Weber, Jr., President

Middletown Town Council

cc:

Town Council

School Department

Town Administrator

Senior Center

Town Solicitor

Police Dept.

Finance Director

Fire Dept.

Public Library

Public Works

Tax Assessor

Building Inspector

Town Planner

IT Director

Parks/Recreation

Town Engineer

Human Resource Director

School Department

Recycling Coordinator

Substance Abuse Coordinator

This meeting location is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requiring interpreter services for the hearing-impaired should notify

the Town Clerk's Office at 847-0009 not less than 48 hours before the meeting.

Also present were Town Administrator Shawn Brown, Town Solicitor Michael W. Miller, Finance Director Lynne Dible, Deputy Finance Director Marc Tanguay and Accounting Manager Deborah Barrett.

Present, representing the School Department, were Superintendent Rosemarie Kraeger, Assistant Superintendent Linda Savastano, Business Manager Raquel Pellerin, Director of Facilities Edward Collins, School Committee Chair Michael Crowley, Vice Chair Theresa Spengler, members Kellie DiPalma, Liana Ferreira Fenton and William R. O'Connell (arrives at 6:10 pm).

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenues of the General Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

Council President Weber welcomed all who attended the meeting.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown introduced Town Council, School Committee and Town Department Officials. Mr. Brown reviewed the budget process explaining the principles followed to guide the budget process, including the strategic plan metrics and proposed budget highlights entered here:

School Committee Chair Michael Crowley noted a new Basic Education Plan has been implemented for the Schools to follow. School districts are required to follow the Uniform chart of Accounts for reporting all finances.

School Superintendent Rosemarie Kraeger explained the success of the Middletown School system including achievements of students, staff and schools.

Public Hearing was declared open.

Paul Mankofsky, 20 Pequot Lane, addressed the Council noting his concern with the proposed increased tax rate and requests the Council to have Town and School administration reconsider their budget proposals. Mr. Mankosfsky questioned vehicles, infrastructure and retirements.

Carmela Geer, 10 Wood Road, representing the Music Boosters, addressed the Council requesting them to support the budget as presented. Mrs. Geer explained that the Music Boosters have fundraisers, which fill in budgetary gaps.

Chuck Paiva, 164 Meadow Lane, representing the Middletown High School Athletic Boosters, requested the Council to support the proposed budget. Mr. Paiva noted all the fundraising activities sponsored by the Athletic Boosters, which helps to support the Gaudet Middle School and High School Athletic programs.

Manuel Mello, 3 Beacon Terrace North, noted concern that the Forest Avenue School parking lot needs to be addressed, explaining that it is a traffic hazard.

Superintendent Rosemarie Kraeger and Director of Facilities Ed Collins, responding to Mr. Mello, explained that a study of school parking lots was completed ranking the Aquidneck School number one, the High School Number two and Forest Avenue parking lot as number three.

There being no other persons present desiring to be heard, public hearing remains open.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said FY11 General Fund budget ordinance, as amended, on its first reading.

2. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenues of the Parks and Recreation Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

Public Hearing was declared open.

Paul Mankofsky, 20 Pequot Lane, addressed the Council requesting

the number of employees at the beach, including management and salaries. Mr. Mankofsky expressed concern with how the facility is managed.

Finance Director Lynne Dible, responding to Mr. Mankosfsky, noted that there are between five and one hundred seasonal full time and part time employees at the beach.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown noted that there have been great strides made in managing the beach, including more adult supervision, explaining employees work various shifts at the beach.

There being no other persons present desiring to be heard, public hearing remains open.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said FY11 Parks and Recreation Fund budget ordinance, as amended, on its first reading.

3. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenues of the Sewer Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown reviewed the following:

Public Hearing was declared open.

There being no person present desiring to be heard, public hearing remains open.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said FY11 Sewer Fund budget ordinance, as amended, on its first reading.

4. Public Hearing (Advertised)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (First Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown entitled “Appropriating Revenue of the Refuse and Recycling Fund for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012, as amended”.

Public Hearing was declared open.

There being no other person present desiring to be heard, public

hearing remains open.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said FY11 Refuse and Recycling Fund budget ordinance, as amended, on its first reading.

On motion of Vice President Long, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to adjourn this meeting at 7:23 P.M.

Wendy J.W. Marshall, CMC

Council Clerk

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