

**At a Special Meeting of the Town Council of the Town of Middletown,
RI held at the Middletown Town Hall on Wednesday, May 29, 2013 at
6:00 P.M.**

Vice President Robert J. Sylvia, Presiding

Councillor Richard P. Adams

Councillor Bruce J. Long

Councillor Paul M. Rodrigues

Councillor M. Theresa Santos

Councillor Barbara A. VonVillas, Members Present

Council President Christopher T. Semonelli, Absent

POSTED – May 23, 2013

Wendy J.W. Marshall, Town Clerk

Town of Middletown

Town Hall – 350 East Main Road

Middletown, Rhode Island 02842

Dear Mrs. Marshall:

Pursuant to the provisions of Article II, Section 203 of the Town Charter and in accordance with Sections 42-46-2., 42-46-3, 42-46-4., 42-46-5 and 42-46-6., RIGL, I hereby call a Special Meeting of the Town Council to formally consider, discuss and vote upon the

following items of business:

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG

1. Public Hearing (Advertised)

(Public Hearing Remains Open)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (Second Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown General Fund, Parks and Recreation Fund, Sewer Fund and Refuse and Recycling Fund Appropriating revenues for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014, as amended”.

2. Resolution of the Council, re: Tax Levy Resolution.

3. At the request of Vice President Sylvia, re: Approval of Council Summer Schedule:

June 17th, July 15th and August 19th.

Said meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 29, 2013, at 6:00 P.M. at the Middletown Town Hall, 350 East Main Road, Middletown, Rhode Island 02842.

Christopher T. Semonelli, 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

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.

On motion of Vice President Sylvia, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to receive said communication.

1. Public Hearing (Advertised)

(Public Hearing Remains Open)

An Ordinance of the Town of Middletown (Second Reading)

An Ordinance in amendment to the ordinances of the Town of Middletown General Fund, Parks and Recreation Fund, Sewer Fund and Refuse and Recycling Fund Appropriating revenues for the Fiscal Year July 1, 2013 to June 30, 2014, as amended”.

Public Hearing remains open.

Theresa Spengler, 1111 Wapping Road, School Committee Chair, addressed the Council noting that the School Committee presented a budget to the Town Council, which was necessary to maintain education. Ms. Spengler expressed concern that the School Committee will need to reduce the School budget by \$450,000.

Councillor Long explained that the Council and Administration worked hard putting the budget together, noting revenues have decreased and the economy has not improved. Mr. Long requests the Administration to prepare a docket item requesting the School

Committee to revisit the School Facilities Plan.

Manuel Mello, 31 Beacon Terrace North, addressed the Council, noting the School Department has a good Fund Balance. Mr. Mello expressed concern that there was no hard copy detailed documentation for the budget.

Vice President Sylvia, responding to Mr. Mello, noted that Mr. Brown explained at the last meeting that hard copies of the proposed budget could be obtained from the Finance Office.

Councillor Santos noted that the Council was given four bound budget books and the taxpayers were given a few sheets of paper. Ms. Santos also noted that she had received many calls concerning the PAYT increase of six dollars, explaining that residents may choose another trash program. Councillor Santos inquired the status of Town negotiations with Waste Management.

Town Administrator Shawn Brown, responding the Councillor Santos, explained that Middletown has hired a consultant to work with the City of Newport to develop an RFP to go out to bid. The Town Administrator, DPW Director and Recycling Coordinator have met with Waste Management regarding the negotiations; it is a regional effort.

There being no person present desiring to be heard, public hearing was declared closed.

Vice President Sylvia noted that the budget is good for the taxpayers. Mr. Sylvia thanked the Town Councilors, Town Administration, School Committee and School Administration for efforts with the budget. Mr. Sylvia noted the budget is structurally sound.

On motion of Vice President Sylvia, duly seconded, to adopt said ordinance on its seconded reading, as amended

Councillor Rodrigues thanked the Town Councilors, Town Administration, School Committee and School Administration for efforts with the budget. Mr. Rodrigues explained that the budget is the most important decision to be made; however, respectfully disagrees on the proposed budget. Mr. Rodrigues noted in his opinion there is unnecessary spending in the General Fund, disagrees with the I & I charge increase, does not support the increase in the Refuse & Recycling user fee and disagrees with the DPW Manhole truck and Fire Department Expedition in the CIP.

A poll of the Council and vote was taken at this time for the above motion, entered here:

On motion of Vice President Sylvia, duly seconded, to Adopt said ordinance on its seconded reading, as amended, Councillor Long, Councillor Adams, Councillor VonVillas, voted YES; Councillor Santos and Councillor Rodrigues voted NO to said motion; Vice President Sylvia voted YES; MOTION PASSED.

2. Resolution of the Council, re: Tax Levy Resolution.

On motion of Councillor VonVillas, duly seconded, to pass said resolution, A poll of the Council and voted was taken; Councillor Long, Councillor Adams, Councillor VonVillas, voted YES; Councillor Santos and Councillor Rodrigues voted NO to said motion; Vice President Sylvia voted YES; MOTION PASSED.

3. At the request of Vice President Sylvia, re: Approval of Council Summer Schedule:

June 17th, July 15th and August 19th.

On motion of Councillor VonVillas, duly seconded, it was voted unanimously to approve said Council Summer Schedule.

On motion of Councillor VonVillas, duly seconded, it was voted

unanimously to adjourn said meeting at 6:30 pm.

Wendy J.W. Marshall, CMC

Council Clerk

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