

May 10, 1999

The members of the Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on Monday Night, May 10, 1999 in the Conference Room of the Town Hall at 7:30 p.m.. Members present were Mayor Bobby R. Bisette, Commissioners Harold Meacombs, Fred Hough, Naomi Powell, Isaac Lewis and Bascoe Lewis. Mayor Bisette called the meeting to order and the invocation was given by Commissioner Powell.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved in a motion by Commissioner Hough, seconded by Commissioner Powell and carried unanimously.

The clerk presented the Financial Statements for the previous month and they were accepted as correct in a motion made by Commissioner Powell, seconded by Commissioner Isaac Lewis and carried unanimously.

Mayor Bisette welcomed guests Pauline Hinnant, Doris Hicks and Edna Mount. Mrs. Hinnant complained of the overgrown lots that are at the entrance to Cope Avenue and requested that the town keep that lot cleaned. Mayor Bisette stated that something would be done about the conditions of the lot in the near future.

Chief Brock gave a report on the activities of the police department for the previous month. He presented a letter outlining the salaries of himself, utility supervisor and town clerk. Brock was concerned about the fact that the clerks salary was set at a higher level than his this year and wanted to know how the salaries were arrived at and why they were done this way. He also stated that Officer Price questioned why his salary was no more than \$500.00 above a man with only one year of experience when he had over ten years of law enforcement experience.

Chief Brock asked the board to consider raising his salary by an additional \$200.00 to match the clerk's and he in turn would delegate the \$200.00 raise back to Officer Price and that Officer Ridgway had offered to delegate \$200.00 of his pay raise to Price in order to get the salaries more in line and to keep Price happy.

Mayor Bissette stated that raises were determined by polling each commissioner for a figure for each employee, then those five figures were divided by five and that was the average applied to each position. Commissioner Powell stated that Brock's was done exactly like everyone else's and would remain that way.

Mayor Bissette then stated that Richard Bucklin had requested that his salary be looked at again and increased.

Commissioner Isaac Lewis stated that this board had made the decisions and that the salaries would stand as is.

Commissioner Powell said that some citizens had contacted her about the fact that Middlesex did not have a summer youth program for the children to play T-Ball. Mayor Bissette explained that there was not a lighted facility for use in the Middlesex area.

Mayor Bissette stated that the two park shelters were in bad need of repair. Josh Biggs who used to do roofing, and now an employee of the town, stated that he had inspected the shelters and that the entire tops needed to be taken off and replaced.

There was a discussion on the ventilation of the crawl space underneath the office building, treating for termite, powder post beetles and fungi. The board decided to ventilate the building and tabled the treatment for a later meeting.

Commissioner Hough moved to replace all the windows broken by an unknown subject on May 9, 1999, he said the estimated cost would be \$1363.00, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Bascoe Lewis and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs gave the board a final revised price on the proposed generator project of \$57,295.00. Commissioner Bascoe Lewis moved to purchase the generator and materials needed to do the quick connections to all the lift stations and well, including installation for the \$57,295.00, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Mayor Bissette informed the board that the bid requirements for a 1999 backhoe had been sent to four companies and due back into the office May 20th with an opening date of May 24th at 2:00p.m..

Commissioner Bascoe Lewis presented a quote form Asphalt Paving Company in the amount of \$1650.00 to do five (5) patches and an overlay of a sunken place on North Walnut Street. Commissioner Isaac Lewis said that he thought the price was too high and the clerk was instructed to get an estimate form the NC Department of Transportation.

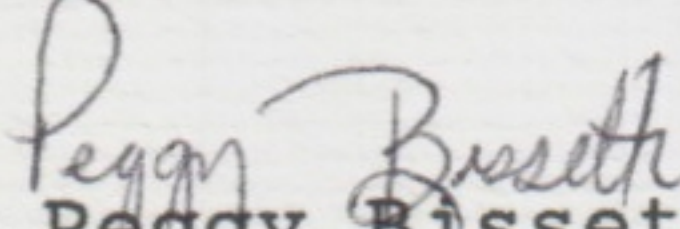
Mayor Bissette stated that he had met with Brian Smith of Granville Farms and that he had agreed to clean the lagoons for an approximate cost of \$6000.00 stating that he had dropped the cost from 4 1/2 cent per gallon to 3 cents per gallon.

Commissioner Isaac Lewis moved to allow Granville Farms to clean the lagoons with the cost not to exceed a 10% overrun of the total quote of \$6000.00, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Isaac Lewis moved to allow Granville Farms to take over the town's sludge application permit if the state approved, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Bascoe Lewis and carried unanimously.

The board reviewed a letter from John Anthony, CPA with a quote of \$7125.00 for the 1998-1999 audit. Commissioner Isaac Lewis moved to pay the fee and retain Anthony, Moore and Tabb as the town auditors for the this fiscal year, Lewis's motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously. The increased cost is due to the single audits having to be performed on the grants and loans that the town has received this year.

Being no further business, Commissioner Powell moved to adjourn.


Peggy Bissette,
Town Clerk

Mayor Bobby R. Bissette
Commissioners
Harold Meacombs
Fred Hough
Naomi Powell
Isaac Lewis
Bascoe Lewis