

November 3, 1997

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on November 03, 1997 at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. Members present were Mayor Bobby R. Bisette, Commissioners Fred Hough, Naomi Powell, Isaac Lewis and Bascoe Lewis. Mayor Bisette called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m..

Mayor Bisette opened the floor for a Public Hearing on Mike Hollands request to amend the Zoning Ordinance to allow amusement centers located in a C-1 or C-2 Zone to extend the operating hours from 10:00 p.m to 12:00 Midnight.

Mr. Holland was present and stated that the amount of money he is losing by closing at 10:00 p.m. outweighs the amount of money he makes and said that he felt like he should be given a fair chance to make a living.

Commissioner Powell stated that some citizens had contacted her about the loudness that the patrons were creating when leaving the place at 10:00p.m., and that the library officials had complained that there was no where for library patrons to park, due to the fact that all the parking spaces were being occupied for hours at a time by the patrons of the Arcade Room.

There were no other citizens present to speak out on the issue of the operating hours. Mayor Bisette informed Mr. Holland that this issue would be sent to the Planning Board for a recommendation and would be acted upon after review of the Planning Board.

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

The clerk presented the Financial Statements for the month of October and they were accepted as correct in a motion by Commissioner Bascoe Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

Mayor Bisette recognized Alvin Brantley who stated that he was representing people interested in the annexation that had been discussed at earlier meetings and felt that those people did not need additional tax burdens, and also questioned why IKEX was not annexed.

Mayor Bissette stated that no actions had been taken on the issue and that plans would be made available to the public when they were presented, and hearings would be held.

The clerk presented the bill from Middlesex Motor Company for \$2477.33 to repair the police Mustang that was damaged in an accident; and an additional \$500.00 for painting.

Commissioner Hough asked if the \$500.00 had been approved prior to being done. Chief Brock stated that he authorized the painting, planning to pay it out of the drug fund. Hough then asked if the drug money could be used for that kind of expense. He also questioned if any employee had the authorization to spend that much money without board approval. After a discussion on the issue, Mayor Bissette stated that he would check into the matter and would make the issue a priority in getting a policy established.

Commissioner Isaac Lewis moved to excuse Bascoe Lewis from voting on the payment of the bill, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Isaac Lewis moved to pay the \$2477.33 from the town general fund and the \$500.00 from the drug fund, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried with Lewis, Hough and Powell voting for the motion. Commissioner Bascoe Lewis was excused from voting because of conflict of interest.

Chief Brock gave a report on the activities of the police department for the previous month. He said that he hoped to have an applicant to present at the next meeting to fill the slot for the fifth officer.

Sanford Wilson, Utility Director, presented a brochure showing a RamEx Tap Machine in the amount of \$1929.00 asking the board for permission to purchase it. Commissioner Powell moved to purchase the machine for a price of \$1929.00 from the water and sewer fund, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Bascoe Lewis and carried with Lewis, Lewis and Powell voting for the motion and Hough voting against the motion. The motion was carried by a 3 to 1 vote.

Wilson then presented an estimate from Robert Harrison to brick the back of the shop building behind the police department, for \$462.00. Commissioner Hough moved to have Harrison do the work, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Isaac Lewis and carried unanimously.

Mr. & Mrs. Brooks, owners of the Middlesex Video Store was present to request to rent the building vacated by Rhonda's Auction.

Commissioner Powell moved to work with the Brooks in renting the store on a yearly lease, her motion was seconded by Commissioner Isaac Lewis, at this point, Commissioner Hough moved to amend Powell's motion by placing a rental fee of \$225.00 per month on the building, his ~~motion~~ ^{amendment} was seconded by Commissioner Isaac Lewis, and carried unanimously.

Motion as amended,

The clerk presented two bids to supply the bar screen at the lift station at the sewer plant: (1) E.C. Pace in the amount of \$165,000.00 and (2) T.A. Loving in the amount of \$138,500.00. Commissioner Isaac Lewis moved to accept the bid of T.A. Loving in the amount of \$138,500.00, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

The board reviewed estimates of \$260,000 unspent grant funds in the Zebulon Sewer Line Project and Commissioner Powell moved to approve the following as additions to the project:

- (a) rehab the imhoff tank for storage space in case of overflow.
- (b) extend sewer line on Rock Side Road South of US264A to the city limit sign.
- (c) extend sewer line on West Hanes Avenue from Cope Avenue to city limit sign.
- (d) rehab sewer line on North Chestnut Street.
- (e) rehab sewer line on East and West Stewart Street.
- (f) clean and fill lagoon at sewer plant.
- (g) engineering fees associated with above.
- (h) paving associated with above.

Powell' motion was seconded by Commissioner Isaac Lewis and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Bascoe Lewis moved to adopt an amended Mutual Aid Agreement supplied by the League of Municipalities, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously. A copy of the agreement is attached as a part of these minutes.

At the October meeting the matter of relieving Derek Bissette from accumulated unpaid sanitation fees was tabled and Bissette was told he would be provided an answer at the November meeting. Commissioner Hough moved that the fees were to be considered due and payable and not to excuse any unpaid fees, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Powell and carried unanimously. The clerk was instructed to write

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Bissette a letter and to send the names of the others who refused to pay to the town attorney for legal process to collect.

Mayor Bissette stated that the grounds at the Powell Memorial Clinic needed some attention, that the land needs to be smoothed and top soil added in order to get the grounds so grass could be planted and mowed. He stated that trees were gotten up and the holes never filled. He asked Wilson, to attend to the matter.

Mayor Bissette informed the board that the well site on the Verma Edwards property needed to be cleared of barrels and drums, and that they needed to be thinking of someone to clear it.

Being no further business, Commissioner Powell moved to adjourn.

Peggy Bissette
Peggy Bissette,
Town Clerk

Mayor Bobby R. Bissette *BAB*
Commissioners
Fred Hough *FH*
Naomi Powell *NP*
Isaac Lewis *IL*
Bascoe Lewis *WBL*