

May 8,2000

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on May 8,2000 at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the Town Hall, members present were Mayor Bobby R. Bissette, Commissioners Harold Meacombs, Fred Hough, Luke Robinson, and Bascoe Lewis.

Mayor Bissette recognized Police Officer Richard Price who gave Mayor Bissette a copy of his resignation from the Middlesex Police Department to be effective May 23, 2000.

Vennie Brock was present and stated that he felt the Police Department should enforce the noise ordinance in reference to loud radios, and also wanted to know why the board promised to investigate anyone being placed in the position of chief of police, and then turned around and hired Ridgway, who had not even applied. He said that Ridgway could not stand up under an investigation, that he (Ridgway) had tried to commit suicide, and tried to get a fellow officer (Price) to commit a felony by insurance fraud, and had been in several bar room brawls.

Mayor Bissette responded to Brock, well you are the one who recommended hiring him and then you made him first sergeant, so didn't you do your job? Brock's reply was that all of these things had come to light recently.

The Minutes of the previous meeting were approved in a motion by Commissioner Bascoe Lewis, seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

The clerk gave the Financial Statements for the previous meeting and they were accepted as correct in a motion by Commissioner Hough, seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Chief Ridgway gave a report on the activities of the Police Department, stating that he had applied for a grant to the Governor's Highway Safety Program in the amount of \$12,000.00 for two radar units and two camera's for the patrol cars, if funded the grant will be a 75% state and 25% local match. He further stated that H & S in Spring Hope had donated 2 bullet proof vests for the new officers.

Utility Supervisor, Richard Bucklin gave a report on the activities in his department for the previous month, stating that he had a resident to threaten to kill him over a water disconnection.

The board reviewed a letter from Rural Center stating that the town had not been funded for a grant to develop and update its Land Use Plan and Zoning Ordinance.

The board reviewed a letter from the Rural Center confirming the grant for the Water Capacity Project in the amount of \$20,000, the town will have to match that amount. The funds will be used to do camera inspection of sewer lines in order to try to locate the infiltration to the lines.

The clerk (tax collector) asked for receipt #130, personal property in the value of \$17,249. with a levy of \$94.87 to Connie Brown be removed from the 1999 tax scroll, as it is a mobile home, and is out of town. Commissioner Bascoe Lewis moved to remove the \$94.87 from the 1999 tax scroll, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson, and carried unanimously.

The board reviewed a contract with Textilease for uniforms for the maintenance department that would allow the town to pay forty four cents per week in order to keep from having to pay for torn, damaged or uniforms not turned in when an employee leaves, however after discussion, Commissioner Hough moved not to enter into the contract with Textilease, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjust the following water bills:

- a) Joyce Howard from \$105.25 to \$86.45
- b) Guilford Chapel Church from \$556.45 to \$302.65

Meacombs motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

The board reviewed parts of the Water Capacity Management Plan being done by Pierson and Whitman Engineering, and Commissioner Meacombs moved to approve the changes, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously. A public hearing will be held prior to the adoption of the plan.

J.W. McClenny was present and asked that two water connections be reconnected after being unconnected by the town several years ago, he stated that Sandy Wilson had contacted him and wanted to know if he wanted to keep the meters connected, and he had told him yes, but Wilson elected not to connect them. He wants to use one of the meters for watering his lawn.

Commissioner Bascoe Lewis moved to accept Price's resignation from the Police Force, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to enter into closed session to discuss the job performance of Joshua Biggs, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously. The Minutes of the closed session will be sealed and inserted into the Minute Book as Insert # 882. After discussion, Commissioner Meacombs moved to enter back into open session, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Commissioner Bascoe Lewis moved to adjourn.

Peggy Bissette,  
Town Clerk

Mayor Bobby R. Bissette  
Commissioners  
Harold Meacombs  
Fred Hough  
Luke Robinson  
Bascoe Lewis

