

May 13,2002

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on May 13, 2002 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, Larry Daniel and Bascoe Lewis. Mayor Bissette called the meeting to order and the invocation was given by Commissioner Daniel. Guests were Denise Ridgway, Dana Phillips, Vennie Brock, Edna Mount, Amanda Brown from Southern Nash Junior High, Mike Murray representing Nash County ABC Board and Mike Acquesta of Peirson & Whitman Engineering.

Mayor Bissette opened the floor for a Public Hearing on the proposed budget, and asked the Budget Officer to review the budget for the board and guest. Mayor Bissette then asked if anyone had any comment on the budget, and being no comments, he declared the hearing closed at 7:45p.m..

The board then went into regular business and Commissioner Robinson moved to approve the Minutes of the previous meeting, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to accept the presented Financial Statement for the month of April as correct, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and carried unanimously.

Sgt. Gant was present to give the report for the Police Department for the previous month, stating that Charles Ferrell was present to be interviewed as a police applicant.

Utility Director, Waddell was present and stated that Braswell Construction Company had repaired the problem with the gravity sewer line on NC231, done previously by a sub-contractor for Braswell.

Mayor Bissette stated that he had contacted Mr. Len Ward with The Department of Transportation and they had resolved the problem at South Elm Street by raising the street.

Mike Acquesta presented the board with cost estimates of the proposed Sewer Rehab Program at \$1,050,000.00. He stated that the town would get \$350,000.00 from the Rural Center and \$472,000.00 grant, \$228,000.00 in loans from the US DA Rural Center. The loan would be paid back over a twenty year period. He said that this work would replace approximately 7000 LF of sewer line and rehab over 40 manholes.

Acquesta presented contracts for the board to sign to authorize Peirson & Whitman as the Engineering Firm on the project.

Michael Murray from the Nash County ABC Board was present to discuss the Resolution Supporting the keeping of ABC sales in State hands and not to make the sales privatization.

Mayor Bissette expressed his dissatisfaction with the way the Nash County ABC Board closed the store in Middlesex and now wanted Middlesex to support them by this resolution.

Commissioner Daniel moved to adopt the following resolution,

WHEREAS, the people of Nash County, North Carolina voted to permit the sale of Spirituous liquor throughout the establishment of Nash County ABC Board, which is a part of the State's control for the sale of spirituous liquors; and

WHEREAS, the Nash ABC Board makes a spirituous liquor available to consumers through local ABC stores while curtailing the intemperate use of alcohol through control over the distribution, sale and advertisement of spirits; and

WHEREAS, the Nash County ABC Board generates substantial revenue for Nash County, North Carolina and contributed in the year July 2001, \$191125.97 to its general fund, \$19889.09 for alcohol education and rehabilitation, and \$54,683.94 for alcohol law enforcement.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED THAT:

Middlesex, North Carolina supports the present control system for the sale and distribution of spirituous liquor and desires to retain the Nash County ABC Board.

By:_____

Attest _____
Town Clerk

Date _____

Daniel's motion to adopt the foregoing resolution was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

After reviewing the revenues and expenses for the Community Building, Commissioner Daniel moved to increase the rent from \$30.00 to \$45.00 for in-town citizens and from \$50.00 to \$65.00 for those users out of town, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

The board reviewed a letter from Zebulon in reference to the increase of the sewer rates by an

additional seven cents per thousand gallons. The board opted not to pass the increase along to the customer at this time but to wait and review the budget after the first month of the new rates.

The board reviewed a letter from Upper Coastal Plain COG in reference to removing Freda Bailey from the Title V Position due to her being in the program for a period of two years. Her position has been added to the town budget as a part-time town employee.

Commissioner Daniel moved to apply for the Title V Slot again this year, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hough moved to adopt the following resolution to protect Municipal Revenues from being withheld by State Government.

RESOLUTION PROTECTING MUNICIPAL REVENUES

WHEREAS, the Town of Middlesex is required by North Carolina to operate and maintain a balanced budget and comply with the provisions of the Local Government Budget and Fiscal Control Act; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Middlesex is required to maintain a sufficient fund balance to operate in a fiscally sound manner and to have adequate reserves in case of emergencies; and

WHEREAS, the municipal officials of the Town of Middlesex have a responsibility to provide for the health, safety and well being of the citizens of this community by providing necessary services; and

WHEREAS, the ability of municipal governments to borrow for capital infrastructure needs is dependant on reliable revenue sources for repayment; and

WHEREAS, adequate municipal revenue sources are required to carry out the above mentioned responsibilities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT the Town of Middlesex respectfully requests that the General Assembly enact legislation that will secure the municipal revenue sources and ensure that these revenues are distributed to local governments on a timely basis as set forth by the state's General Statutes.

918c

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, THAT Commissioner

_____ moved to adopt the foregoing resolution, and his motion was second by Commissioner _____.

Mayor

Date

Town Clerk

The clerk explained to the board that the Town of Middlesex would be required to obligate funds to the Down East Home Consortium if they choose to participate, but would receive more in funding than the yearly contribution, however after discussion, Commissioner Robinson moved to withdraw from the Consortium prior to July 1, 2002, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

The clerk presented proposals for software for Inventory & Assets and Privilege License, and for record keeping for the Utility Supervisor, after comparison and discussion, Commissioner Lewis moved to allow Derek Hederick to write the programs for the town, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hough moved to adjust the sewer charge on Sadie Meacombs bill from \$124.00 to \$62.50 due to a water leak, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Robinson moved to accept and enter into a contract with Peirson and Whitman Engineering Services for the Sewer Rehabilitation Program, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

918d

Commissioner Meacombs moved to accept the Site Plan of Creekridge Apartments and to issue a Special Use Permit to Southland Partners LLC to begin construction, with the Permit containing the following conditions:

1. Allow Multi-Family Dwellings in a RH Zone for Senior Citizens with financial assisted living.
2. Provide 38- 40 parking spaces per variance by Board of Adjustment.
3. The front, side, and rear set back will be granted a variance by this permit from 50' to 25' due to the nature of the surrounding lands, and compatibility of the adjoining properties (being the Town of Middlesex, Nash Board of Education on the west side of the property and Cattail Branch on the east of the property.
4. Connect to the town's water and sewer lines with all cost involved being borne by the developers.

Meacombs motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to go into closed session to discuss letter from Attorney Liz Fairman and to interview Charles Ferrell as police applicant.

Once in closed session, Ferrell was interviewed and discussions on the letter from Attorney Fairman were discussed without any actions, Commissioner Meacombs moved to go back into open session.

Back in open session, Commissioner Meacombs moved to hire Charles Ferrell as a police officer at a salary of \$25000.00 per year on a six months probation period, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Commissioner Meacombs moved to adjourn.

Peggy Bisette,
Town Clerk

Mayor Bobby R. Bisette
Commissioners
Harold Meacombs
Fred Hough
Luke Robinson
Larry Daniel
Bascoe Lewis