

May 25, 2005

The Middlesex Governing Body held a Public Hearing in the Conference Room of the Town Hall to review the proposed 2005-2006 Budget. Clerk Lambert opened the hearing at 7:30 p.m. Members present were Mayor Pro Tem Harold Meacombs, Commissioners Luke Robinson, Derek Bissette, and Basco Lewis, and Commissioner Fred Hough. There were no guests present.

Town Administrator Peggy Bissette stated that she reduced the original proposed budget presented at the April 25, 2005 meeting by \$9,000, with \$2,500 due to lower insurance rates than anticipated. Bissette also recommended to the Board to consider changing the minimum water and sewer bill back to a 3,000 gallon usage rather than the 2,000 gallon minimum implemented July 1, 2005, because of the decrease in revenue.

After some discussion about rates, Commissioner Bissette stated he thought in order to be fair, we should charge in home businesses one business sanitation fee only and discontinue charging the residential fee. He requested that this subject be placed on the agenda for our regular meeting June 13th, 2005.

Mayor Pro Tem Meacombs closed the Public Hearing at 7:45 p.m. and Board began reviewing the proposed personnel policy.

The Board reviewed the job descriptions and benefits and made a few minor changes. Administrator Bissette advised the Board that the Town Administrator and the Chief of Police would be the only exempt employees of the town, and all other employees would non exempt and earn comp time at time and a half.

The Board also discussed whether the Police Department would continue with 5 full time officers or to cut back to 4 full time officers and fill in with part time officers.

Commissioner Hough requested Administrator Bissette to ask Chief Ferrell to provide her with a work schedule for the Police Department to be presented to the Board at the June 13th meeting.

The Board discussed the best way to spend the balance of the \$240,000 Rural Center grant money, which must be used solely for sewer rehab. The Board was in agreement to use the money to get a plumber to fix the lateral lines (from the homes hookup to the town's line) at the worst areas indicated by the smoke testing, and to use some of the money for about 72 more manholes that need repair.

Being no further business, Mayor Pro Tem Meacombs moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert
Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Harold Meacombs
Commissioners
Fred Hough
Luke Robinson
Derek Bissette
Basco Lewis