

August 9, 2004

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on August 9, 2004, in the Conference Room of the Town Hall. Members present were Mayor Pro Tem Larry Daniel, Commissioners Basco Lewis, Luke Robinson, and Fred Hough. Commissioner Harold Meacombs was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Daniel called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m., gave the invocation, and welcomed guests Michael Rouse, Cherrye Davis, Helen Manning, Pam Lamm and Carl Herndon.

Commissioner Hough moved to accept the minutes of the July 12th, 2004 regular meeting as correct. Commissioner Lewis seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Citizens Alvin Brantley and David Jordan were not present to address the Board regarding the water and sewer rate increases effective July 1, 2004.

Commissioner Robinson stated that Richard Harris called and advised him that he would not be present to request renting the building next to the town hall and that he was no longer interested. After some discussion, the Board advised the Clerk to contact the town attorney and the Clerk of Court's office to find out when we could regain possession of the building and the process for filing a claim in small claims court against Mr. Jernigan, who defaulted on his 12-month lease agreement.

Commissioner Basco Lewis moved to accept the July Financial Statements as correct. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Utility Director Jeff Waddell reported that smoke testing revealed 18 sewer clean-out plugs were bad and will be replaced when the parts are received. Also, one hole in a sewer line behind Father & Son Restaurant was detected and Braswell and Sons has already repaired it. Point repairs have also been completed on 231 South where couplings were leaking. He stated that he is reading the Zebulon flow meter daily as close to the same time as possible and also recording rainfall.

Approximately 14 or 15 leaks in old water lines occurred this month, and as the leaks occur, they are being replaced with PVC.

Waddell also reported that Bill Majet tested the cycle stop value on well #4 by closing off the water tower. There were no pressure problems reported. He is waiting to hear from Utility Services to schedule the painting of the inside of the water tower.

Jerry O'Neal will be on call while Jeff is taking some vacation in September.

Chief Ferrell reported that painting continues at the Police Department using community service workers as they become available. Also, problems with lettering on one of the police cars will be covered under warranty by Artistic Touch.

Cherrye Davis advised the Board that the window air conditioner unit at the Library did cool, but it was still leaking rusty water outside the front door. It is operated by a wall switch, so it runs all the time. She requested that the Board look into a new unit that would run more efficiently. Also the wood frame around the air conditioner is rotten.. Commissioner Hough stated that the unit needs a drain line installed to divert the water. Commissioner Lewis will contact Baker's Heat & Air to check on the BTU's needed, the price, and also check on replacing the wood frame.

Commissioner Robinson moved to adjust the following sewer adjustments and his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and it carried unanimously:

- (1) Wayne Wilson from \$107.25 to \$57.75
- (2) Mary Wiggins from \$708.00 to \$36.00
- (3) Herman Perry from \$72.00 to \$48.00

The Clerk presented a request from Joe Whittington for a water adjustment from \$168.00 to \$49.00. His request was denied as the Board agreed to adhere to the town's policy of not allowing any water adjustments, only sewer adjustments. Mr. Whittington is not connected to the town sewer.

Commissioner Lewis moved to go into Closed Session to interview Michael Rouse for a part time police officer position. Commissioner Robinson seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hough moved to return to Open Session and Commissioner Robinson seconded and the motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Hough moved to hire Michael Rouse as a part time police officer based on the conditions that there are no guaranteed hours, will be called in on an as-needed basis, and that he pass all drug tests and a psychological evaluation. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and it carried unanimously.

Being no further business, Commissioner Hough moved to adjourn.

Jennifer Lambert  
Clerk

Mayor Pro Tem Larry Daniel  
Commissioners  
Fred Hough  
Luke Robinson  
Basco Lewis