

December 11, 2000

The Middlesex Governing Body met in regular session on December 11, 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, Larry Daniel and Bascoe Lewis. Mayor Bissette called the meeting to order and the invocation was given by Commissioner Daniel.

Commissioner Hough moved to accept the Minutes of the previous meeting as being correctly recorded, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Meacombs and carried unanimously.

The clerk presented the Financial Statements for the month of December and Commissioner Robinson moved to accept them as correct, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and carried unanimously.

Vincent Brock was present and asked if the parking ordinance was being properly enforced, stating that he had observed Commissioner Robinson parked over the lines and Commissioner Daniel run two stop signs. He further stated that he had been contacted by the Nash County District Attorney's Office in reference to a blue light he kept in his car and that he had removed the light but felt that he was being harassed and that the Mayor was trying to get him arrested.

Mayor Bissette told Brock that in the future if he wanted to discuss anything pertaining to the enforcement of any town laws, he should go directly to the police department and that this kind of issue was out of line at a town meeting. Bissette stated that a citizen had complained to him about the blue light being in a civilian's car.

Officer Christopher Traud offered his resignation from the Middlesex Police Department to be effective January 17, 2000. He stated that he had really enjoyed serving Middlesex but was leaving to pursue a military career.

Commissioner Hough moved to accept the resignation of Traud, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously. The entire board expressed regret that Traud was leaving the department.

Chief Ridgway gave a report on the activities of the police department for the previous month and presented two applicants for interview as a replacement for Traud.

The clerk presented a bill from Donnie Liles in the amount of \$1825.00 for work that was performed in 1997 and 1998, when he did surveying on Popular Street, Jones Street and Pine Street.

Commissioner Hough moved to pay the bill from the Powell Bill Fund, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lewis moved to adjust the water bill of Middlesex Market from \$244.60 to \$169.56, as per written request, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Hough and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to appoint Ann D. Lewis to the Middlesex Library Board, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and carried unanimously.

Mayor Bissette recognized Charles Brown who was present to represent Mount Pleasant Rescue Squad. Brown expressed appreciation on behalf the Squad for the recent contribution to the building fund.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to go into closed session to interview two applicants for police work.

The board interviewed Jarrett Umstead and James Webb as candidates for police applicants.

After the interview was conducted, Commissioner Luke Robinson moved to go back into open session to finish the business on the agenda, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and carried unanimously.

Chief Ridgway asked the board to consider allowing him to promote Officer Gant to First Sargent with a pay increase to \$25,200.00.

Commissioner Lewis moved to promote Gant to First Sargent with a pay increase to \$25,200.00 to become effective on January 4, 2001, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to hire James Webb as a police officer on a six months probationary period, at a salary of \$23,000.00 per year, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Robinson and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to hire Jarrett Umstead as an auxiliary officer, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Lewis and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Lewis made a motion to place all employees receiving a promotion be placed on a three months probationary period from the time of the promotion, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and carried unanimously.

Commissioner Meacombs moved to pay Traud for three holidays accrued plus one week of vacation pay, his motion was seconded by Commissioner Daniel and carried unanimously.

The board discussed and agreed that the clerk should place an advertisement for the an assistant.

Being no further business, Commissioner Hough moved to adjourn.

Peggy Bissette,  
Town Clerk

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