

Middlesex Governing Body Meeting Minutes
October 13, 2014

Mayor Lewis called the regularly scheduled meeting to order at 7:30 pm and gave the invocation. Members present were Commissioners Danny Alford, Cherry Davis, Ann Lewis, and J.W. McClenny. Commissioner Harold Meacombs was absent. Only four guests attended.

Commissioner McClenny moved to approve the September meeting minutes as presented by Clerk Lambert. Commissioner Lewis seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Lewis moved to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Alford and the vote was unanimous.

Clerk Lambert presented the September financial statements, which were unanimously approved after a motion by Commissioner McClenny and a second by Commissioner Davis. Commissioner Alford requested a report for the swimming pool revenues and expenditures since it was purchased. Lambert will present an updated spreadsheet at the November meeting. Lambert noted a new CD for \$30,000 was opened for the Sewer Debt Service payment due in fiscal year 2015-2016. She also advised Tammy Pittman is scheduled for two days training for the new Utilities Management Software at Logics Software in Raleigh on December 3 and 4. The town receives two days at no cost under the Premium Maintenance Agreement. Original plans were for at least five days training in Raleigh, but the cost for the three extra days would be \$3,975. Lambert reported that Tammy was progressing nicely with on the job training and we will wait and see if the two days is sufficient.

Police Chief Dennis Murray reported that the 2003 Crown Victoria recently purchased has been fully equipped including new striping and lettering. He has received several compliments on the new style of striping and lettering. Chief Murray also explained that the police officers were fitted for the bulletproof vests and the price has increased about \$15 each since quoted during budgeting last year, so the total cost will be \$2,825 versus \$2,760. Half of the cost will be reimbursed to the town through the grant.

James Liles, Public Works Supervisor, reported that grease in the E. Hanes and S. Elm Street lift station pumps continue to be a serious problem. He reported he removed seven large trash bags full of solidified grease. Mayor Lewis stated that the door-to-door flyers and the notes on the utility bills did not seem to help the problem. He suggested going door-to-door to talk to customers and Commissioner Ann Lewis recommended taking pictures and showing them to the residents. Lewis added that the town could install an agitator at the lift stations to prevent the grease from solidifying,

but that would only move the problem farther down the line and lead to higher sewer fees. A last resort would be a special assessment to customers in the problem areas.

Mayor Lewis expressed his thanks for the good turnout at the Bailey-Middlesex Park Grand Opening and Ribbon Cutting Ceremony. He noted the Interlocal Agreement was approved by the Nash County Board of Commissioners to maintain the park, and county personnel have already assisted with grounds keeping. He reiterated thanks to Vester Automotive Group for their generous donation of \$100,000, which will come in the form of \$10,000 a year for ten years.

As an FYI, Mayor Lewis reminded everyone of the ethics training webinar which will be hosted by the Town of Bailey at their town hall conference room on Thursday, October 16, 2014 between 9:00 and 11:00 am. Middlesex will pay half the cost, or \$62.50.

Cindy Ridgway, the Chairperson of "Christmas~N~Middlesex" has requested the event to become a town-sponsored event due to personal liability concerns. Cindy expressed interest in chairing and organizing the annual event. Liability insurance coverage for the town is \$10 a year, versus about \$300 to a private organization/individual. The town's insurance carrier highly recommends no candy be thrown from any floats/cars in the parade due to the obvious dangers presented. The only exception will be Santa Claus, the last float. All finances/money for parade and event registrations would come through the town. Cindy would close the bank account for the organization and the money would be turned over to the town. Mayor Lewis said the event has drawn a good crowd to Middlesex for the past four years. Commissioner Ann Lewis stated it has been a good event for the town and the organizers have done an excellent job in the past. The event, to be held the second Saturday in December, lasts from 11:00 to 4:00, with the parade beginning at 2:00 pm. Commissioner McClenny moved to put the Christmas~N~Middlesex event under the umbrella of the town and appoint Cindy Ridgway as Chairperson to organize the event. His motion was seconded by Commissioner Davis and passed unanimously.

Clerk Lambert presented the Audit Engagement Letter and the Contract to Audit Accounts from Anthony and Tabb, PA for the board's review and approval. They provide year-end CPA services and well as the audit, and Lambert noted the cost of \$10,250 has remained the same for the last several years. Commissioner Alford moved to approve the audit contract. Commissioner Lewis seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Davis moved to go into Closed Session to discuss a personnel matter as authorized by G.S.143-318.11(a)(6). Commissioner McClenny seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Back in Open Session, and with no further business, Commissioner McClenny moved to adjourn.


Jennifer Lambert, Clerk

Mayor Luther H. Lewis, Jr.
Commissioners
Danny Alford
Cherrye Davis
Ann Lewis
J.W. McClenny