

Middlesex Governing Body Meeting Minutes  
November 13, 2017

Mayor Lewis called the meeting to order at 7:30pm and gave the invocation. Members present were Commissioners J.W. McClenny, Cherrye Davis, Danny Alford, Ann Lewis, and Harold Meacombs. New Police Chief Mike Collins was present Public and Works Supervisor James Liles was also present. Joe Burnette with the **Spring Hope Enterprise** was present. There were approximately 16 other guests.

The October meeting minutes were unanimously approved as presented in motion by Commissioner McClenny and seconded by Commissioner Lewis.

The meeting agenda was approved by Commissioner Meacombs and seconded by Commissioner Davis.

John Anthony CPA from Anthony & Tabb, PA was present to give our annual audit report for our fiscal year 2016 thru 2017. As of the close of the current fiscal year, the Town of Middlesex's governmental funds reported combined ending balance of \$786,033 with a net change of \$193,970 in fund balance. The town's total debt decreased by \$109,923 as a result of making the required payments on its two items of debt. He stated that it will be reviewed by The States Treasurer's Office and that we will receive a letter about this regarding its status. We had done a good job monitoring the budget and making admendments to it when needed. We had taken in more money that we had paid out which is good. The total in all accounts is \$1,138,000 which exceeded the previous year of \$900,000. Unrestricted cash increased by \$237,000. John Anthony stated that the increase in cash flow and the town's low level of debt is a very good combination. The town had made a profit and that the town had very small amount of debt for a town of this size. John stated that we had done a good job monitoring the budget and making budget amendments to it when needed. He added that the Town Of Middlesex had a very good year financially.

Gloria Vinson, Town Clerk, reviewed the October financials, which were unanimously approved as presented in a motion by Commissioner McClenny and seconded by Commissioner Alford.

Police Chief Mike Collins reported that we are working on the police cars at this time trying to get them up to speed and also busy working on the USDA Grant so that we can get some money for some vehicles. He stated that he had seen some speeders going thru town and that had been an on going thing here. The police department would be working on that issue and make people aware of our speed limit in town.

Mayor Lewis reported he had written about 50 permits for houses. Spoke about 10 lots being available.

Mark Cone from Gold Valley Webworks was present and gave a presentation of the updated website for the town. He cleaned up the site. He added several features at the top of the page. The Town's Meeting Minutes can be viewed at several sites on the website. The clerk's will also be able to add and update the site and he will give some written instructions for the clerk's to use. Mayor Lewis stated that it looks good and that it will function really well. Mark Cone advised that we would probably need a security plan for the site which would cost an additional \$500. Commissioner Lewis made a motion to approve the additional funding of \$500 to secure the site. Commissioner McClenny seconded.

Mayor Lewis spoke about upcoming Christmas Parade in Middlesex to be held December 9, 2017 at 2:00pm on the streets in town. Anyone interested in being in the parade should contact Julie Daniels or come by town hall to fill out an application to participate with entering floats, cars, etc. Shirts are being sold with the logo Christmas In Middlesex printed on them for purchase. Food vendors will also be set up which will be located behind town hall.

Garrett Strickland's resignation was accepted and Commissioner Meacombs made the motion. Commissioner McClenny seconded.

Veterans Waste Solutions was also discussed. Veterans Waste is a business based on hiring veterans and now has contracts with Spring Hope and Bailey. This proposal is about the trash collection for the town and every other week handling the recycling. Mayor Lewis recommended this for a six month trial because our trash truck is in the need for repairs and a new trash truck would cost about \$140,000. By using VWS, would give our employees with the town time to do other repairs & work on other areas of the town that are needed. Mayor Lewis also stated that this would save money on our workers compensation bill that we pay each year. Commissioner Alford made a motion to go ahead with a 6 month trial period and Commissioner McClenny seconded.

The Board approved Jennifer Lambert to be paid as a consultant with a \$25 hourly fee.

The purchase of a grapple from Massey Ferguson Tractor was also discussed. This piece of equipment will cost \$2562 and it's for the town's tractor to assist with picking yard debris such as large tree limbs and other large items of debris. Commissioner Meacombs made a motion to approve the purchase of the grapple. Commissioner McClenny seconded.

Commissioner Alford & Commissioner Lewis also approved IWC Sealcoating Inc. to repaint the parking places & cross walks in town just in time for the Christmas in Middlesex parade at a quote of \$709.

Mayor Lewis opened the floor for public comment. We had 2 persons speak at the public comment session

Commissioner Lewis moved to go into Closed Session as allowed by G.S.143-318.11(a)(6) to discuss a personnel matter. Commissioner Davis seconded.

Back in open session Commissioner Meacombs made a motion to hire four part time police officers at a rate of 12.75 an hour. Commissioner Lewis seconded.

In open session with no further business, Commissioner Lewis moved to adjourn. Commissioner Davis seconded and the vote was unanimous.

Gloria Vinson, Town Clerk/Finance Officer

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