

May 15, 2023

The Town Council of the Town of Middlebury met in regular session at the Town Hall, Middlebury, IN at 6:00 pm, May 15, 2023. The meeting was called to order by Council President, Miranda Cripe. Everyone in attendance took part in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Upon the roll call, the following members of the Council were present:

Karl Miller, Miranda Cripe, Dan Shoup and Chuck Teall - Scott Miller was absent

Also present were Jackson Beck, Attorney, Mary Cripe, Town Manager and Peggy Hutchison, Clerk/Treasurer.

MINUTES:

Dan Shoup moved to approve the minutes from the May 1, 2023 meeting. Chuck Teall seconded, and the motion passed with a voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

David Wiegner – 108 State St – lives across the street from the playground and would like to have the speed reduced along State Street. He also asked the Council to revisit allowing chickens in the Town limits.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE VOUCHERS:

The following Accounts Payable Vouchers were reviewed and approved on a motion by Dan Shoup and seconded by Karl Miller. Before the vote, Chuck Teall inquired about the payment to Abonmarche for \$11,000.00. This was for the new trail and paid out of the grant the Park Department received. The motion then passed with a voice vote.

Accounts Payable Vouchers payroll – 5/04/2023	\$137,104.97
Accounts Payable Vouchers – May 15, 2023	\$187,594.39

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Miranda Cripe opened the bids for Solid Waste removal for 2024 through 2026. Chuck Teall motioned to take the bids under advisement and Dan Shoup seconded. This passed with a voice vote. The bids are attached.

Bids were also opened for the concrete pavement patching in Dawn Estates and Deer Run Subdivisions. Chuck Teall motioned to take the bids under advisement and Dan Shoup seconded. This passed with a voice vote. The bids are attached.

Jackson Beck presented proposed Ordinance No. 686 – “An Ordinance Establishing Penalties for Failure to Connect to Town Sewage Works”. The Council would like more time to consider the penalty and tabled the Ordinance until the next meeting.

Jackson Beck then presented proposed Ordinance No. 687 – “An Ordinance annexing Certain Real Estate and Declaring the Same to be a Part of the Town of Middlebury, Indiana”. This is for Malaki and Danielle Stewart property located at 11990 County Road 16/601 E. Warren. A public hearing was held for the annexation. Upon hearing no comments, Chuck Teall motioned to close the public hearing and

Dan Shoup seconded. This passed with a voice vote. This is the first reading of the annexation ordinance.

Jackson Beck then presented proposed Ordinance No. 688 – “An Ordinance annexing Certain Real Estate and Declaring the Same to be a Part of the Town of Middlebury, Indiana”. This is for Marty and Haley Yoder property located at 57048 County Road 35. A public hearing was held for the annexation. Upon hearing no comments, Dan Shoup motioned to close the public hearing and Chuck Teall seconded. This passed with a voice vote. This was also the first reading of the annexation ordinance.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion was held regarding the ornamental street lights along Greenfield Dr. and The Pointe. The cost to replace the current lights with NIPSCO streetlights is \$8,000 - \$10,000. Several residents spoke out about replacing the current lights with NIPSCO lights. They don't want the large poles in their yards. Greg Walz – 202 Greenfield Dr. and David Ramundo – 310 Normandy Way both stated they are willing to take over the maintenance and expense of the lights in their yards. Robert Miller stated several of the lights do not have an access panel to allow for repairs. Chuck Teall thinks the simple solution is to “give” the lights to the homeowners and let them repair them and pay for the electricity. This matter was tabled until the next meeting.

Mary Cripe is requesting the Council to approve ChaLi' Kuiper to attend the Annual SBOA School June 26 – 29. Dan Shoup motioned to approve ChaLi' to attend the conference and Karl Miller seconded. This passed with a voice vote.

The Middlebury Summer Festival Committee is requesting the closure of downtown streets and the use of the parks for the Summer Festival from June 21 – 24. Also, they are wanting to hold a Festival run on Saturday, June 24th. Chuck Teall motioned to approve the street closures and use of the parks and Dan Shoup seconded. This passed with a voice vote.

Discussion was held regarding Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations. MACOG has contacted the Town and the library regarding spaces and funding. MACOG would receive approximately \$50,000 in a grant for four (4) stations. MACOG would donate another \$3,000 for the project, leaving approximately \$7,000 to be paid by the Town and library. The Council was in agreement that the Town was not interested in participating in this project.

Mary Cripe is asking the Council to accept an Easement for the Hardwoods Lift Station from Beacon Health. She is also requesting the Council approve payments to Beacon Health in the amount of \$4,550.00 for the land and \$2,075.00 to Right-of-Way Jones. Chuck Teall motioned to accept the easement and to approve paying Beacon Health and Right-of-Way Jones. Dan Shoup seconded the motion and it passed with a voice vote. The funding will come from the Elroy Dr. TIF.

Department Reports:

Water Department – Nothing to add to the report.

Public Works Department – Nothing to add to the report as Robert was called away due to a water break.

Wastewater Department – They have purchased and hooked up a new polymer tote and it looks good so far.

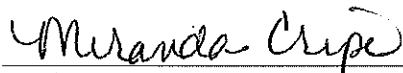
Park Department – Tom thanked the Water Department and Tim Spradlin for the extra help.

Police Department – Nothing to add to the report.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Elk. Co. Bd. of Zoning Hearing Officer – Wed., May 17, 2023 – 8:30 am - Elk. Cty. Administration Bldg
Park Board meeting on Wed., May 17, 2023 – 3:00 pm – Town Hall
Elk Co. Bd. Of Zoning Appeals Mtg. – Thurs., May 18, 2023 – 8:30 am - Elk. Cty. Administration Bldg
Middlebury Garage Sales on Friday and Saturday – May 19 – 20, 2023
Redevelopment Commission meeting – Thursday, May 25, 2023 at 7:45 am – Town Hall
Memorial Day Dusk – Dawn Vigil – Grace Lawn Cemetery – Sunday, May 28, 2023
Memorial Day Parade – Monday, May 29, 2023
Town offices closed and no trash pickup on Monday, May 29, 2023 – Observance of Memorial Day
Elk. County Redev. Comm. Meeting – June 1, 2023 – 2 pm – Elk. Cty. Administration Bldg.
Tree Board Meeting – Thurs., June 1, 2023 at 7 pm – Town Hall
Next Council meeting - Monday, June 5, 2023 at 6 pm -Town Hall

The meeting was adjourned.



Miranda Cripe
Miranda Cripe, Town Council President

ATTEST:


Peggy A. Hutchison
Peggy A. Hutchison, Clerk-Treasurer