

MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING OF THE COMMISSIONERS
OF THE CITY OF MIDDLETOWN

The Mayor and Commissioners of the City of Middletown held a special meeting on Thursday, December 10, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. via ZOOM.

Present on the call were:

Mayor J. Byron Chapman
Commissioner Ron Wolf
Commissioner Mark Stigers
Commissioner Paul Zimmerman - absent
Commissioner Amy Oliver
City Attorney John Singler
City Clerk Deborah Columbia
Director of Operations, Marty Stansbury
MPD Chief Rob Herman
Treasurer Tracy Dohn

Call to Order

Mayor Chapman called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and asked everyone to stand for the pledge of allegiance.

Silent reading of minutes from Regular Meeting of 11/12/20 and Special Meetings: 11/30/20 & 12/3/20

Commissioner Stigers made a motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of 11/12/20 and Commissioner Wolf seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of 11/30/20 and Commissioner Oliver seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to approve the minutes of the special meeting of 12/3/20 and Commissioner Wolf seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Silent reading of Treasurer's report for November 2020

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to approve the treasurer's report for November and Commissioner Stigers seconded the motion. Motion carries.

We have submitted a new application for the CARES Act in the amount of \$177,311.00.

Middletown Cemetery 4A

Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve the November financial report for the cemetery. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Oliver and unanimously approved.

Middletown Cemetery 4B

Mr. Wetherby advised there is a sunken gravestone at the cemetery. Marty will check into this.

Announcements

Mayor Chapman recognized Commissioner Paul Zimmerman for his ten years of service as a Middletown Commissioner. Paul also served on the Board of Directors of the Middletown Inn Historic Preservation Corporation and the Board of Trustees of Historic Middletown Inc. His love of the Middletown Community is apparent, and we thank him for his service.

Museum Moment

They are currently closed and are looking for a cleaning company.

Comments to the City Commission

Cathie Tucker advised there is a portion of the roadway that has been damaged at St. Clair & Nassau because of construction at one of the residences. Marty will investigate.

Middletown Chamber of Commerce

Chamber President, Warren Lessor was on the Zoom call. He gave a brief financial update. The chamber currently has 450 members and has just added three. Many members are reaching out to help other members.

Middletown Police Update, Chief Herman

Chief Herman provided an update on the events in November. The EHS investigation is ongoing. The county attorney has decided not to prosecute anyone.

The planned caravan at Southeast Church was diverted to another location. People have been visiting and showing their appreciation to MPD.

We continue to have thefts from autos and auto thefts.

Municipal Order 12-10-20-A Appointments to Code Enforcement Board: Tom Abbott, Alternate and Robert Friel, Regular Member

Attorney Singler read the municipal order and advised that these are appointments to the Code Enforcement Board, and it is ready for action.

Commissioner Wolf made a motion to approve Municipal Order 12-10-20-A and Commissioner Stigers seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Municipal Order 12-10-20-B Declaring Three Police Cars as Surplus

John recapped the municipal order and stated the chief asked the cars be declared surplus. Chief Herman said he has offered these vehicles to a smaller agency - Graymoor Devondale.

Commissioner Stigers made a motion to approve Municipal Order 12-10-20-B and Commissioner Oliver seconded the motion. Motion carries.

Attorneys Report

None.

Project Updates

No Updates

Commissioners Oath of Office

Mayor Chapman advised that Paul Hayden came by earlier today and took the oath.

Attorney Singler administered the oaths to the commissioners. All said, "I do".

Adjournment:

Commissioner Oliver made a motion to adjourn the meeting, motion seconded by Commissioner Wolf and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 6:30 p.m.


Deborah Columbia, City Clerk


J. Byron Chapman, Mayor



**Middletown Chamber of Commerce
Year in Review, 2020**

\$92,914.05 in Bank

7/1/2020 – 1/7/2021 –

- Total Revenue - \$58,137.72
- Total Expenses - \$28,735.86
- Total Profit - \$29,401.86

We added 71 new members in 2020.

We currently have a total of 435 members.

We lost 50 members in 2020. Below is the breakdown

- 13 members did not renew membership
- 13 businesses closed their doors permanently
- 24 did not renew due to COVID and expenses
- **24 of those 24 that did not renew have asked us to contact them mid-2021 about re-joining**

We have personally called over 200 current members – calls range in “feel good” calls to see how their business is going, what can we do to help, answer questions, etc.

Before Covid - we hosted three in person lunch meetings; 4 in-person Senior Synergy luncheons, 3 in-person board meetings, 4 ribbon cuttings, 1 lunch and learn, 1 Leads at Lightning Speed Networking event, 1 Be our Guest at Breakfast networking event, 1 Happy Hour networking event.

After Covid – we hosted 9 board meeting Zoom calls, 5 Zoom monthly Chamber calls, 8 Zoom Senior Synergy calls, 5 Housing and Hospitality Affinity Group calls, 6 E-Commerce and Social Media Affinity Group calls, 5 Non-Profit Affinity Group Calls and 4 Banking, Finance, and Insurance Affinity Group calls

For 2021, we have added a Retail Affinity Group which will be meeting, via Zoom, monthly.

For 2021, we hope to resume (depending on COVID guidelines):

- Golf Scramble at Lake Forest Country Club
- Spring Fling/Craft Festival
- The annual Pumpkin Patch Pancake Breakfast and Trick or Treat event.
- The Middletown 5K as a part of the Middletown Festival.
- Sponsorship of Christmas display lights in Wetherby Park for 2021 Light Up Middletown
- Host the annual Trolley Hop during the Street Rod’s convention held at the fairgrounds in August including a craft fair and car show at the VFW in Middletown.
- Hold our annual awards luncheon and recognize outgoing board members and swear in new board members.
- Resume in-person monthly Chamber luncheons with guest speakers, before, during, and after-hours networking events, Lunch and Learn Workshops, Leads at Lightning Speed, Affinity Group calls, ribbon cuttings, and in-person visits to prospective new members and current members.

MIDDLETOWN POLICE UPDATE FOR DECEMBER 2020, CHIEF ROB HERMAN

In the month of December, the Middletown Police Department continued its 24hour/7days a week police patrol. Officers coordinated police activity with the LMPD 8th Division to cover shortages.

Middletown Police Officers wrote 15 tickets, 20 warnings, 10 parking tickets, patrolled 17 house watches, made 4 arrests, served 0 warrants, attempted to serve 1 warrant, made 503 calls for service, took 59 reports, and worked 38 collisions. See the attached map for locations.

As we are experiencing an unusual Holiday Season this year, we are also preparing for possible administration of a COVID 19 vaccine soon. I have submitted our numbers to the county health department, in those numbers I have included the entire city staff as we work closely together. My hopes are we can all get the vaccine and start to return to some type of normal business activity. I have participated in several states and federal conference calls and the responsibility of the COVID 19 vaccination program is given to each state health department. This will produce several different procedures being rolled out across the United States as each state may do things a little differently depending on how they feel vaccinations are needed. I have not heard back from the local health department on a schedule for their plan.

A complete review of our policies has been conducted and some areas that needed to be updated have been corrected. One area that we were deficient was in foreign languages services, so we partnered with the language translation service called Voiance. This company has a long history with agencies in Louisville Metro and provided us the same price structure for LMPD. With this service our officers and city staff can now have access to foreign language translation, to include American Sign Language, by telephone, online or an application on the officer's phone. Now we, as a police department and city government, can provide services to all our citizens if they are limited English speaking or deaf.

We have begun researching the possibly of expanding our body cameras system to include installing in-car cameras in all our patrol officers' vehicles. This system would provide forward facing and rear passenger compartment video and audio. This would be most helpful in documenting an officer driving while responding to emergencies, conducting traffic stops such as DUI field sobriety tests, and transporting prisoners to corrections. The top two civil liabilities brought against police departments is use of force and driving accidents. This system enhancement would help to document such events. Research has also been started on developing a traffic officer position within our department. The bulk of our citizen complaints are still traffic related. By dedicating an officer to work those complaints, hopefully we can improve those quality-of-life issues and reduce our traffic accidents in the City of Middletown. This new position will also provide us the ability to fill in vacant spots when officers are at training, vacation or off sick.

All MPD officers have now completed the required Ti Firearms simulator training that is provided by the KY League of Cities for 2021. In the upcoming months, our officers will return to the 40 hours of in-service training required by the state by attending mostly locally provided courses. All MPD will also complete the required HB298 (Jill's Law) driving requirements in 2021. We are planning to provide additional drivers training to exceed what is required.

It is with a heavy heart I report that Sgt. Bill Shingleton's mother passed away from cancer on December 23, 2020. Services will be private due to COVID restrictions. Please keep Bill in your thoughts and prayers. Officer Chad Ledington will be having surgery on his shoulder due to an on-the-job injury; we will not know how long he will be off work until the procedure is complete which will determine the amount of damage. Please keep Chad in your thoughts and prayers as well.

Our detective unit is staffed with Sgt. Detective Pat Bass and Detective Scott Beck, they too have been busy. I have submitted their report on a separate sheet as before. You can tell from their activity, that things can get hopping in the city at times.

I would like to thank the Mayor and each of the City Commissioners for your support of our Police Department. We are still growing and with your support we are planning on expanding more services to our community and businesses.