



## Town of Middlefield Board of Selectmen

P.O. Box 238, Middlefield, MA 01243

Tel: 413-623-2079

Fax: 413-623-6108

[selectboard@middlefieldma.net](mailto:selectboard@middlefieldma.net)

### SELECTBOARD MEETING MINUTES

October 19, 2023

The Meeting was opened at 6:30 PM by Ann Marie Visconti, Chairperson and Curt Robie, Member and Tamarin Laurel-Paine, Member.

Once the meeting was opened, the Selectboard went into Executive session following a roll call vote of the selectboard members, which was unanimous. The Selectboard then resumed the open session of the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Town members present for the open session were: Suzanne Lemieux, Doreen Black, and Adair Laurel-Cafarella. One non-town resident was also present: Mary Ann Pease of Chester. and Sean Curran T.A. (Mud 11/15)

Mary Ann Pease, President of the Hilltown Ambulance Association reported the Hilltown Ambulance would be interested in being used by the Town of Middlefield for emergency needs.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:** Anne Gobi, Director of Rural Affairs will be in Middlefield on November 17, 2023 to meet with the Selectboard and to take a tour of town buildings that are seen as capital projects. Senator Paul Mark would like to come to the Town, date to be determined, for a town hall meeting with towns people and will invite area towns as well. The Park Grant looks like it might be approved, but nothing definitive has been announced. The One Stop Grant did not come thru, however, the Town is certified to apply for grants thru MVP. Could also apply thru the MVP/HMP for grants to improve the Town Hall to be an Evacuation Center. Two grants are going to be pursued; one for \$10,000.00 for tasers for the police department, and \$27,000.00 for a cyber security grant. Huntley Associates gave a bid of \$25,000.00 for a plan to reconfigure the Transfer Station. Requests for proposals from other civil engineers will be solicited. It was reported that John Les is working on securing a new webhost thru the MIIA grant. He continues to work on this, as Dreamhost, our current website, is susceptible to hacking and doesn't require 2 step authorization. The new website is: middlefield-ma.com.

**IP PHONES:** It is recommended to update the telephone system in the Town Hall. In order to switch to a Comcast System, additional/new wiring will need to be run.

**TOWN APOINTMENTS:** Appointments finalized, and letters to those individuals will be mailed out.

**HISTORICAL MUSEUM ISSUES:** Concerns were raised about individuals being unattended in the Museum, and that there are questions of items missing. In talking with Doreen Black, it was agreed that the Historical Committee would meet with the Selectboard at 10 AM on November 3, 2023. On a sidenote, Curt Robie stated that a couple, during Middlefield Days, wanted to see the Museum. The wife of the couple couldn't access the Museum due to a disability, but the husband was able. This might become an issue as time goes on.

**MIDDELFIELD DAYS:** Reported that Middlefield Days went well, however, not a huge turnout. Weather was not the most favorable that day, which could be a contributing factor.

**TOWN CENTER PARK UPDATE:** The fence is up, grass seed has been spread, the rest of the mulch is to be spread, and bushes will be planted in the spring. It was also reported that the Textile Bin will be green with the Town Logo on it. Unknown when it will be delivered to the Town.

**SKYLINE TRAIL DUMP CAPPING:** It was reported that Daniel P. Myers, deceased, is still on the title to the land, and that there is an outstanding mortgage on the property. Town Counsel will work with Attorneys in Florida where Daniel resided.

**CAPITAL/MASTER PLAN:** Eric Weiss from PVPC is willing to offer his assistance in formulating a capital plan for the Town. Angela Panaccione has already visited the Town on October 19, 2023.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The reimbursement of \$5000.00 has not been received from the Dirt Road Grant. Don Humason is the Tri-town chair, however, due to health issues has not finished the required items. The Town is awaiting further news from FRTA in regards to if Huntington and Hilltown CDC will accept Middlefield into their consortiums.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Curt Robie has contacted 4 plumbing firms with 2 not interested, and one possible lead to call on October 20, 2023. Curt also reported that CTC was in for town hall building heat issues. A technician will come out, suspect it is a control panel issue. COVID vaccines will be available on November 1, 2023 at 11 AM to 12 PM at the Senior Center. The Highway Department will be resuming five day a week coverage once daylight savings ends. Suzanne Lemieux is requesting a new lock to the hallway going into the dining room at the Senior Center, and a new knob on the office door.

Respectfully Submitted,

  
Mark W. Doane,  
Administrative Assistant

Ann Marie Visconti, Chair: 

Curt Robie, Member: 

Tamarin Laurel-Paine: 