

TOWN OF MIDDLEFIELD  
PO BOX 238, MIDDLEFIELD, MA 01243  
SELECT BOARD MEETING MINUTES: September 21, 2022

**PRESENT:** Ann Marie Visconti, Chair, Tonya Santaniello, Member, Curt Robie, Member, Skip Savery, Highway Superintendent, Doreen Black, Joe Kearns, Finance Chair.

**CALL TO ORDER:** 6:32 P.M.

**REVIEW AND SIGN WARRANTS:** All board members reviewed and signed Warrants

**REVIEW AND APPROVE MEETING MINUTES FOR 7/13/22, 7/19/22, AND 9/7/22:** Curt made motion to approve minutes 7/13/2022 minutes, Ann Marie seconds. All agree. Vote 2-0. Ann Marie made motion to approve 7/19/2022 minutes with corrections, Curt seconds. All agree. Vote 2-0. Ann Marie made motion to approve 9/7/2022 minutes, Curt seconds. All agree. Vote 2-0.

**REVIEW MAIL:** Discussed Invoice from Eversource for the Emergency Siren that does not work. Ron Radwich recommends shutting the power off, Curt will contact Eversource. Tonya made motion to disconnect electrical service, Ann Marie seconds. All Agree. Vote 3-0. Discussed possibility of replacing the siren and also purchasing a bigger generator for the Fire Station. Ron to follow up with Select Board on estimates for a both. Discussed status of Fire Dept. Roof and Highway Dept. replacement of screws. Ann Marie discussed email received from the Treasurer, Kirsten Henshaw requesting to speak to the board regarding a few items. Board will put her on the agenda for the next meeting.

**HIGHWAY DEPT.:** Skip discussed staying with Morton's and ordering salt now. Ann Marie asked if it was harmful to the environment, Skip said no. Discussed the new speed sign has been installed on Chester Road near the bridge at the Middlefield/Chester town line. Discussed progress on repairing signs in the center at intersection of Town Hill Road.

**DISCUSS NEXT STEPS FOR TA POSITION AND EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT POSITION:** Discussed possibility of having the assistant there 4-5 days per week. Ann Marie discussed using Middlefield's benefits since they are better. Discussed evaluations, need for an outline, and memorandum of understanding. Discussed applicants for the Assistant position should fill out an application and submit it along with a cover letter, resume, and references.

**FLAGPOLE UPDATE-CENTER OF TOWN:** Curt stated that the new flagpole has been ordered from Carrot-Top Industries along with new pulley, flag, and light. Veterans Agent did not have anything to provide to Middlefield.

**CULTURAL COUNCIL HISTORICAL COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS:** Ann Marie made motion to appoint Susan Schneller to the Cultural Council and Doreen Black to the Historical Commission. Curt seconds, All Agree. Vote 3-0.

**UPDATE ON GRANTS:** Curt discussed 2 bids for the MVP grant, one from Commonwealth Municipal Consulting for \$25,900, and one from GZA Engineers for \$27,000. Both companies are certified. Curt recommends going with lower bid. Curt made motion to go with GZA Engineers, Tonya seconds, All Agree. Vote 3-0. Curt said the new Town Administrator in Chester would get in touch with him about the grant in Chester. Discussed locating ADA Plan.

**DISCUSS NEXT STEPS FOR DUMP CLOSURE AND PURCHASE OF LAND:** Curt discussed speaking with Tom Speight, representative from DEP who said Middlefield can move forward with purchasing land from Anita Myers which requires paperwork to be filed. Tom stated that the land would need to be monitored for several years and recommended a line item be added for the FY24 Annual Town Meeting in the amount of \$10,000 to cover expenses. Ann Marie discussed possibly getting estimate for other 2 dump sites in town. Curt will follow up with Anita and K.P. Law.

**DISCUSS FUTURE CAPITAL PROJECTS AND SENIOR CENTER:** Curt said there were no bids on the Senior Center project the second time. Discussed speaking with Susan Goldfischer from MA Division of Capital Asset Management and

Maintenance who said the Town can submit an emergency waiver instead of a formal bid again. Curt will reach out to the one contractor that was going to bid. Discussed options for Senior Center if nobody bids again.

**STATUS OF PERSONNEL COMMITTEE:** Ann Marie discussed speaking with Gita regarding the Personnel Policy. Ann Marie would like all information by next Wednesday. Gita will go over with Skip and Tonya and schedule meeting.

**BUILDING INSPECTOR FOLLOW-UP OF LAND INSPECTIONS:** Bill was not in attendance for the meeting but stated he would be at the October 5<sup>th</sup> meeting. Bill emailed update on land inspections and said nothing has happened except for a few owners.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Dorren discussed an issue with the GIS map for Open Space. People wanted to just put a line on the map which is not in the correct location. Doreen said she was not in favor of a line on the map. Discussed using the one we have or put exception on the map. Discussed meeting every 3 weeks instead of 2. Discussed goals will be discussed and set at next meeting. Discussed Dark Skies initiative. Doreen discussed email received to approve the initiative which will be discussed by the Planning Board and an update will be given to the Select Board. Doreen said there will be a committee formed. Discussion on new regulations that only 1 bin can be at the Transfer Station for clothing which the Town already has. Joe Kearns discussed preliminary visit from Inspector Linda Cernik for an initial visit on 9/29/22. Curt discussed speaking to the House Architect, Brett who recommended developing shelf projects. Curt will review.

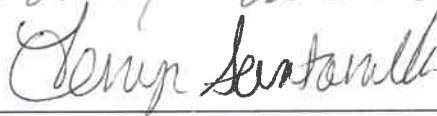
**NEW BUSINESS:** Ann Marie and Curt reviewed and approved Section 20 exemption for Tonya. Discussed email from Health and Human Services regarding distribution of Covid-19 at home test kits. Ann Marie will call MEMA. Discussed emails regarding opioid crisis money. Discussed phone call on 9/20/22 with MIIA regarding Accident coverage.

**ADJOURNED:** Ann Marie made motion to adjourn, Tonya seconds, All Agree. Meeting adjourned 8:45 PM.

Ann Marie Visconti, Chair



Tonya Santaniello, Member



Curt Robie, Member

