

**Town of Middlesex
Regular Meeting
February 10, 2022**

Present: David Adam, Supervisor
Leon Button, Councilman
Austin Liddiard, Councilman
Paul Mitchell, Councilman

Also Present: Todd Conaway, Highway Superintendent
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer
Patrick Grimaldi, Assessor
Dan Robeson, Historian/Heritage Group
Alan Williams, Water Superintendent

Recording Secretary: Lynnette Miller, Clerk

Call to Order & Pledge

Supervisor Adam called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Town Hall, 1216 State Route 245, Middlesex. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Comments

Supervisor Adam opened the floor to comments from the public. There were none. Supervisor Adam announced that public comments would now be closed, with an additional opportunity for comments later in the meeting.

Approval of Minutes

Supervisor Adam asked the Board for comments or corrections to the minutes from the January 13, 2022 regular meeting. There were none. On a motion by Councilman Liddiard, seconded by Councilman Mitchell, the minutes were approved.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Assessor – Pat Grimaldi

Supervisor Adam asked Pat to outline the duties of his job as assessor for the Town. Pat explained that he looks at new houses and the real estate market to give a fair value on property. The State evaluates the Town by looking at a segment of property to set the equalization rates. Tax exemptions such as low income, agriculture and veterans, come through the assessor's office.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds – Todd Conaway

Superintendent Conaway had no specific item to bring before the Board. A discussion ensued about several topics including; a sander needing repair, Woodstone Construction in Palmyra repairing the loader, road salt ordered.

Code Enforcement Office – Dawn Kane

- There are 7 new applications between the Planning Board and ZBA this month.
- Laura Ann Chamberlain, clerk to the Planning Board and ZBA, has been a great help.
- There are 8 new builds planned or under construction on South Lake Rd.

Planning Board –

In the absence of Planning Board Chairman Marty DeVinney, Code Officer Kane reported that Case Smeek will be holding the position of Interim Co-chair of the Planning Board. All members were contacted and all were in agreement. Due to his schedule, Mr. Smeek will miss the next two Planning Board meetings. Dawn will keep him informed and give him guidance, along with the Planning Board attorney. A resolution to appoint Case Smeek will be completed later in tonight's meeting.

ZBA –

Code Officer Kane reported that the ZBA is busy also. She informed the Board that all ZBA members are being updated on their continuing education requirements.

Water District – Alan Williams

Water District Superintendent Alan Williams spoke to the Board about the history of the water district. Some highlighted dates - In 1963, the original supply of water was drawn from Emerson Lake. In 1976 a line was installed along Route 245 connecting Middlesex to the water supply from the Village of Rushville. The new water tank on State Route 364 was completed in 2016. Superintendent Williams gave a detailed presentation with photographs of breaks, corrosion, and deterioration of the water lines at various locations.

Historian/Heritage Group – Dan Robeson

- The program for Citizens Appreciation Day will honor resident Leigh Williams on August 7, 2022.
- Small plaques have been placed on each of the school photos in the Town Hall providing details such as dates and location.
- Volunteers are always welcome to join the Heritage Group at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Town Hall.

Legislator's Report – Doug Paddock

- The Covid-19 vaccination clinics formerly held in Penn Yan at the Gordmans Building (Pebbles) has moved to the Yates County Auditorium. The clinic is held on Thursdays from 3-5 p.m. Appointments are preferred, yet walk-ins are welcome. Check the County website for further information.
- NYS is also sponsoring vaccination clinics in Rushville and Dundee for initial vaccinations as well as boosters.
- The Yates County Bicentennial Committee is planning activities for 2023.
- The County is working on a project to improve public safety communication for all emergency personnel. New towers will be built and equipment replaced.
- Every ten years the County forms an ad hoc committee to evaluate the Legislative representation by district. According to the latest census, the Towns of Benton and Torrey gained population. Many details are involved in moving district lines to reflect this change. The Town of Middlesex is in District #1, along with the Towns of Jerusalem & Italy. The committee has recommended a weighted voting system for the Legislature, which would keep the current

districts unchanged. Legislator Paddock informed the Board that he sent an email out to all the Towns outlining this recommendation and looking for feedback.

Town Clerk – Lynnette Miller

- Clerk Miller referred to the monthly report given to Board members at regular meetings and gave an explanation of items. She also explained the process of tax collection.
- Second notices for 2022 Town/County tax bills will be mailed at the end of February.
- Money due to the Town from tax collection, as specified in the warrant dated 12/31/21, has been paid to the Town Supervisor. A check for \$400,000 has been sent to the Yates County Treasurer with more to be paid as taxes are collected up to April 1, 2022.
- Taxes received during the month of February are charged an additional 1% unless the USPS postmark shows the envelope has been mailed in January.

Supervisor's Report – David Adam

- Special Projects - Supervisor Adam spoke with Project Manager Bruce St. Lawrence. Lu Engineers is working on drainage specs for Phase II of the South Lake Road project. Supervisor Adam and Bruce discussed the possibility of looking at the entire scope of work needed on South Lake Road, if there is a likely chance of funding through NYS Senator Tom O'Mara's office. Supervisor Adam will email Senator O'Mara's office to check into this.
- Robeson Vine Valley Store Floor – An issue with the floor heaving was discussed at the January regular meeting. The Town's insurance company has denied the claim saying that the Town has been neglectful to the building. National Fire Adjustment has stepped in to dispute the insurance company finding. No issue was seen when the water was drained in November. Superintendent Conaway was there 10-14 days later and no issue was seen. Lu Engineers have recommended a dehumidifier be placed in the crawl space at the store, which the Town will do.
- Audit – There is no news at this time regarding a Town audit.
- MRB Water Project – Supervisor Adam spoke with Scott Pryer at MRB regarding the study of the Town waterlines that run along State Route 245 from Rushville to the Middlesex hamlet. The law has changed regarding the need for an income survey. Census figures will be used to help get funds to replace leaks in the water line.
- NYSEG & Town Hall Lights – Supervisor Adam initiated a brief discussion about converting lights at the Town Hall to LED through a NYSEG program. It was determined that this will be discussed further at a later date.

Public Comments

Supervisor Adam stated that at this time public comments would be taken.

- Legislator & Resident Ed Bronson announced that Yates County Public Health will be passing out free Covid-19 test kits and masks on Saturday, February 12th from 10-11:00 a.m. They are asking residents to drive from Williams St. to Water St. All test kits and masks not taken will be left at the Town Hall.

There were no further comments. The time for public comments was closed.

Resolutions

Resolution #9-22

NFA Agreement

On a motion by Councilman Liddiard, seconded by Councilman Button, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
 Nays 0

RESOLVED to allow Supervisor Adam to sign and enter into an agreement with National Fire Adjustment Co. to represent the Town of Middlesex on an insurance claim with the Vine Valley Store.

Resolution #10-22

Audit of Claims

On a motion by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Liddiard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
 Nays 0

RESOLVED that the bills contained in the February 2022 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts.

General Fund	Vouchers # 1-25	\$ 18,574.80
Highway Fund	Vouchers # 1-18	\$ 95,050.80
Water District	Vouchers # 1-4	\$ 1,198.81
Library Fund	Vouchers # 1-2	\$ 210.72

Executive Session

At 8:14 p.m. Supervisor Adam asked for a motion to enter into executive session to discuss the employment history of a particular employee. A motion was made by Councilman Liddiard, seconded by Councilman Mitchell.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Regular Meeting Resumed at 9:30 p.m.

Resolution # 11-22

Part-Time Per Diem Heavy Equipment Operator

On a motion by Councilman Mitchell, seconded by Councilman Liddiard, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
 Nays 0

RESOLVED to approved the creation of a part-time, per diem heavy equipment operator for the Town.

Resolution # 12-22

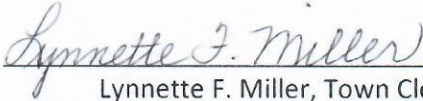
Appoint Case Smeek as Planning Board Interim Co-Chair

On a motion by Councilman Liddiard, seconded by Councilman Mitchell, the following resolution was

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
 Nays 0

RESOLVED to appoint Case Smeek as interim co-chair of the Planning Board.

With no further business, on a motion by Councilman Button, seconded by Councilman Mitchell, the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Middlesex was adjourned at 9:35 p.m.



Lynnette F. Miller, Town Clerk