

**Town of Middlesex
Regular Meeting
December 14, 2023**

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

Absent: Stephanie Betts, Council Member
Patrick Grimaldi, Assessor

Also Present: Josh Burnett, Highway Superintendent
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer
Dan Robeson, Historian/Heritage Group
Bruce St. Lawrence, Special Project Manager

Recording Secretary: Lynnette Miller, Clerk

Pledge/Call to Order

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

Public Comments - Supervisor Adam opened the floor to public comments, requesting that speakers keep their comments to three minutes. There were no comments.

Approval of Minutes

Supervisor Adam requested a motion to accept the minutes of the November 9, 2023, regular meeting. A motion was made by Council Member Liddiard, seconded by Council Member Mitchell.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Assessments – no report

Highway/Buildings/Grounds – Josh Burnett

- Snow fence has been installed. More to do once crops are harvested.
- Ditching being done on Elwell Rd.
- Stone has been hauled for stockpile.
- Flags and banners were taken down.
- Patching has been done on South Hill, Spike and Upper Hill Roads.
- The mild weather has allowed additional roadside mowing. The Town has borrowed NYS Highway's 4-wheel drive boom mower in exchange for them using our equipment.
- Regarding the roller repairs that have been discussed at the last few meetings, Superintendent Burnett is hoping a decision can be made tonight. Estimates were given and discussed last month. There was a discussion about a new engine vs. a rebuild. Council Member Button commented that these seem like high estimates for a re-build. Superintendent Burnett added

that he is in favor of having the warranty. There is a 40-day lead time to get the work done. Three quotes were received. Council Member Button recommended calling Zimmerman. Carroll Road Repair is another contact that was mentioned. Council Member Button agreed to make calls to check on a re-build. Superintendent Burnett commented that the sooner we can get moving on this, the sooner the repair can get scheduled.

- Supervisor Adam attended a Canandaigua Lake Watershed meeting where it was reported that the Town of Gorham has been using new-style blades on their trucks for snowplowing. He asked Superintendent Burnett if he had used them. Josh explained how the blades work, adding that the Town of Gorham received a grant. He spoke about the meter used for salt/sand application. There are pros and cons. Council Member Mitchell asked about replacement blades. Tim's truck was just re-fit. Josh commented that the blades are replaced every couple winters depending on use. This will be discussed further as needed.

Code Enforcement

- The Planning Board reviewed three applications this month.
- ZBA – no report
- Building, especially on South Lake Road is still robust.
- Vine Valley Beach – the dock is in.

Town Clerk – Lynnette Miller

- The Board received a copy of the town clerk's monthly report.
- Community Bank will provide Clerk Miller with a desktop scanner to assist with check deposits during tax collection. With the closing of Community Bank in Rushville this past spring, deposits will be made in Canandaigua or Penn Yan – a 25–30-mile round trip depending on the branch visited. With the scanner, trips to the bank will only be necessary for cash deposits.
- Attorney Jeff Graff has notified Clerk Miller that Local Law #2 for 2023, "To Override the Tax Levy Limit for 2024," has been filed with the Secretary of State. Local Law #3 for 2023, "Establishing a Moratorium on Solar Collection Systems and Solar Farms," and Local Law #4, "Increasing the Income Limits of the Tax Exemption for Persons 65 Years of Age and Over," have been submitted for filing.

Water Superintendent – no report

Historian/Heritage Group – Dan Robeson

- The Heritage Group continues with their current activities, making note of current events and recording obituaries.
- In honor of National Wreaths Across America Day, a ceremony will take place on December 16th at Overackers Cemetery. Wreaths will be placed on the graves of local veterans.
- Supervisor Adam reported that Dan has submitted his letter of resignation as Town historian. Dan has agreed to stay on until someone agrees to take over the position.

Legislator's Report – Patrick Killen

- Legislator Tim Cutler, who represented District #1 that includes the Towns of Italy, Middlesex and Jerusalem, announced his resignation from the Legislature for health reasons. An appointment will be made to fill the position until the next election. We wish Tim all the best.
- Yates County recognizes December 20, 2023 as US Space Force Anniversary.

- Yates County recognized December as National Drunk and Impaired Driving month.
- The Legislature formalized their agreement and approved funds for the Yates Community Center field house. There are some free programs planned for the public.
- County approved the local law to increase the income limits of the tax exemption for persons 65 years of age or over.
- The farmland protection plan has been accepted.
- The Penn Yan airport is asking for a stipend from the County.
- The Shared Services contract with YC Towns has been approved.
- The Communications project is running well.

Supervisor's Report – David Adam

- Special Projects - Bruce St. Lawrence reported that Ramsey Constructors have finished the drainage portion of the South Lake Road project. The second invoice has arrived. Bruce plans to negotiate some of the items billed. There will be a third invoice in January. Lu Engineers have put together a bid package for paving that will be ready for review near the end of January. Bruce will walk with the Lu inspector tomorrow. Bids will be ready for February with work to be done end of April or early May. The Board will need to review the bids. Supervisor Adam commented that the Board would like someone from Lu Engineers to come speak to the Board in January or February to review the scope of South Lake Road. He added that this Board came into the process after it had started and it would be good to have a meeting. Bruce is able to attend in January.
- Health Insurance – Supervisor Adam stated that according to the handbook, the Town must make a decision regarding what health insurance is offered to employees. He commented that it would be best to have input from employees before making a decision. Current insurance offered is top of the line. Supervisor Adam reported on a meeting with Anthony from Benecare. All the plans were outlined during a Zoom meeting that included Supervisor Adam and Council Member Mitchell. There was a discussion. Council Member Button recommends looking at this in the spring.
- Water Project – Supervisor Adam spoke with Scott Mattison and Laurie Fox of MRB. Supervisor Adam attended a webinar regarding grant opportunities through NYS. Supervisor Adam is making a request for Scott to speak to the Board at a work session that will include Water Superintendent Alan Williams to discuss a USDA grant being investigated. A tentative date of January 9, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. was discussed. The meeting will also include Council Members Mitchell and Button. Supervisor Adam will confirm and get back to those involved.
- The Town has been notified by NYS that there needs to be a review of the justice records. Council Member Mitchell and Council Member Liddiard will review.
- Supervisor Adam explained the Yates County Shared Services handout. There are two projects being proposed, Records Management and Grant Writer services. Voting will take place on December 19, 2023. Legislator Killen gave further explanation.

Public Comments – Bruce St. Lawrence asked for details about the scope of the meeting to be scheduled with Lu Engineers. Bruce expects that the meeting will involve Scott Prior and Jason Messenger, project manager. He will ask them to attend the Board meeting on January 11th.

Resolutions

Resolution #73-23

Approve Agreement with Middlesex Valley Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc.

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

ADOPTED	Ayes	3	Adam, Liddiard, Mitchell
	Nays	1	Button
	Absent	1	Betts

RESOLVED to approve the 2024 Agreement with the Middlesex Valley Volunteer Ambulance Service, Inc. and authorize Supervisor Adam to sign.

Resolution #74-23

Approve 2024 Inter-Municipal Animal Control Agreement with Yates County

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

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Betts

RESOLVED to approve the 2024 Inter-Municipal Animal Control Agreement with Yates County.

Resolution #75-23

Approve Lease Agreement with Vine Valley Store LLC to Operate the Vine Valley Store

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

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Betts

RESOLVED to approve the Lease Agreement with Vine Valley Store LLC effective January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2025, to operate the Vine Valley Store.

Resolution #76-23

Authorize Appointment of Lynnette Miller to the Registrar of Vital Statistics

On a motion by Council Member Button, seconded by Council Member Mitchell, the following resolution was

ADOPTED	Ayes	4	Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
	Nays	0	
	Absent	1	Betts

RESOLVED to authorized Supervisor Adam to sign the Notification of Appointment of Lynnette Miller as Registrar of Vital Statistics.

Resolution #77-23

Audit of Claims

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

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

Absent 1 Betts

RESOLVED that the invoices contained in the December 2023 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts.

General Fund	Vouchers No. 271-297	\$ 54,262.43
Highway Fund	Vouchers No. 198-216	\$189,408.66
Water District	Vouchers No. 36-39	\$ 1,501.15
Library Fund	Vouchers No. 23	\$ 2,268.43
Trust & Agency	Vouchers No. 17	\$ 7,024.08

Resolution #78-23

Line-Item Transfers

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

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
Nays 0
Absent 1 Betts

RESOLVED to accept the Line-Item Transfers as reported for December 2023.

Resolution #79-23

Authorize Shared Services with Yates County for Records Management and Grant Writer

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

ADOPTED Ayes 4 Adam, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell
Nays 0
Absent 1 Betts

RESOLVED to authorize Supervisor Adam to participate in the Shared Services Panel with voting privilege.

Executive Session

The Board entered executive session at 8:24 p.m. for the purpose of discussing an employment matter. A motion was made by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Button.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Meeting Reconvened

On a motion by Council Member Liddiard, seconded by Council Member Mitchell, the regular meeting of the Middlesex Town Board was reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Liddiard, seconded by Council Member Button to accept a letter from Council Member Paul Mitchell to join the Middlesex Volunteer Ambulance Board of Directors.

*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Council Member Button, seconded by Council Member Mitchell to authorize Supervisor Adam to discuss with the Library Board the services provided to them from the Town of Middlesex.


*All in favor; none opposed. Motion carried.

Middlesex Town Board
Regular Meeting
2023-12-14

Adjourn

With no further business, a motion was made by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Button to adjourn the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Middlesex at 8:49 p.m.

*All in favor; none opposed.



Lynnette F. Miller, Town Clerk