

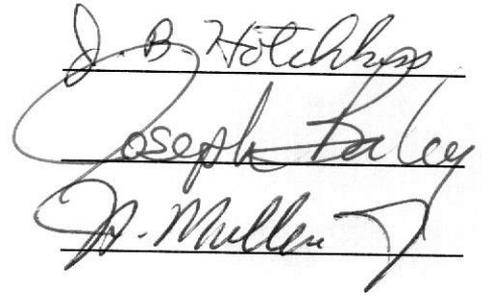
Town of Middleton
Board of Selectmen Meeting
May 14, 2018

Approve by
Board of Selectmen

Called to order at 6:30 P.M

BOS Members Present: J. Bailey, J. Hotchkiss, J. Mullen

Pledge Recited



Signature Action:

- *J. Bailey motions to accept the minutes from the BOS meeting 04/07/2018 as written. J. Hotchkiss seconds, J. Mullen abstains.*
- *Tax Warrant- Gwen English provides the tax warrant to the board in the amount of \$2,239,820. J. Mullen moves to accept as read, J. Bailey seconds, all in favor.*
- *Veterans tax credits presented to the board from the assessor clerk. In order to receive a veteran tax credit the applicant would have to have been an active member of the war during a particular time period. One was approved for 141 Drew Drive, three denied, one from 338 New Durham Road, another from 292 Silver Street, and the third was from 308 Pinkham Road. The town Assessor (Avitar) is the one who determines who qualifies based on the state statues. Board signed the applications.*
- *Current use application- application submitted from Jack Savage. When property is put in current use, there is a tax break for the property owner. Later if the property is to be sold or developed, there then would be 10% penalty of the current assessed value.*
- *Abatements- Assessor clerk provided the following abatements: Getaway Properties (\$115.00) refund, Joseph Brannan (\$11.00) refund. Abatement for Fairpoint was denied, it will be revisited after the court decision is made from the ongoing case regarding the utility poles.*
- *Timber yield tax in the amount of \$117.37 for Charles Therriault. Another timber yield Joanna Mockler in the amount of \$1,453.60. J. Hotchkiss talks regarding when a piece of town property is sold to an abutter sometimes the requirement is for them to be merged. Who is responsible to handle the paperwork for the merger? The planning board is the responsible party to handle all the merger paperwork.*
- *Profile Bank paperwork submitted to the board for signatures to remove John Caliri and add John Mullen as an official signer. All paperwork completed for the completion of the signature change.*

Old Business

- *Kings Highway variance- J. Bailey provided an update on the outcome of the meeting with New Durham regarding the town variance on the Kings Highway pit. Variance was because giving the abutter the 12 feet will make the frontage less non-conforming. New Durham board approved the variance.*
- *Proposal from Jim Knapp electric. There were two other proposals recently received that were not accepted. This proposal was presented on an hourly rate instead of a flat project fee. The hourly rate is \$50.00 per hour. J. Bailey motions to accept the proposal from Jim Knapp for the hourly rate of \$50.00. J. Mullen seconds, all in favor. J. Mammone asked if there is a not to exceed amount. J. Bailey suggested a not to exceed in the amount of \$7,000. J. Mullen is not sure if there will be wiring that will need to be completed. What if the work exceeds the amount, then what will happen? Motion to leave as is a not to have an exceed amount. All in favor. J. Hotchkiss speaks about the demolition. Demolition of the walls needs to be done with finesse*

due to what could be behind the wall. The ceiling has already been completed. Floor will be done at another time and not by volunteers due to safety concerns.

- J. Hotchkiss mentions the public hearing that was held during the last meeting. The second meeting will be held on May 21st at 5:30.

New Business

- Department Heads:
 - School- T. Bailey speaks about how they have received a bid to finish the shed. Bids are being received for the fence around the retention pond. J. Bailey speaks about lights that may be needed in the pathway between the Municipal Building and the School Park. Confirmation that from the stone post on the edge of the Municipal parking lot through the woods is all school property. J. Mullen thinks that installing lights may not help unless some trees are removed. J. Bailey mentioned that the school is asking the town if Eversource would change the position of the lights that are on the road. R. Washburn states there are no lights on the road. J. Mullen states that is a school issue not a town concern. Discussion needs to be had with Eversource, the poles are there but there are no lights on them. J. Bailey suggested contacting Eversource to see what options there are. J. Bailey mentions that years ago there was a grant for the current park, the Superintendent is looking into if there can even be a parking lot located there. It may be a conflict with the restrictions of the grant. The school is still looking at a \$500,000 return of funds at the end of this school year.
 - Town Clerk:
 - Fire Department- 36 fire calls, 39 med calls. Two new members looking to join. B., Lawrence passed EMR and just needs to submit paperwork. He has the three bids for the new ambulance. He would like to go with the one from Osage Industries; price would be \$207,465. Trade in would be \$3,000. He is looking for approval for the purchase tonight. Included with the price of the ambulance is a flight to Missouri for him to go and check it out. The ambulance would be a Ford, gasoline instead of diesel. He believes there is a lifetime warranty on the box. There is \$150,000 in the CRF, the rest would come from the revolving fund and the \$50,000 approved at this year's town meeting. This would not be completed for about 5-6 months. J. Mullen motions to approve the purchase of the new ambulance not to exceed \$207,465 of which the funds will come from the CRF, revolving fund and the 2018 appropriated amount. This ambulance will be a self-loader. Bailey seconds, all in favor.
 - Police/ACO- 175 calls for service, 7 arrests, 204 car stops, 19 summonses, 4 MVA's. Still awaiting the arrival of the new car. Talk about the detail rate and the cancelation time. He would like to change the cancelation time to 4 hours, and the rate of pay per hour from \$45.00 to \$50.00 for the officer. J. Mullen asked if the Police made any truck stops for overweight trucks on the posted roads. Chief Blodgett stated there were trucks stopped for traveling on the posted roads. J. Bailey voices concerns that he has seen will cars passing school buses. J. Bailey would like to see more patrol around for school bus violations. J. Mullen suggested getting the word out to the residents and makes them aware of the rules; and come down hard on any violators so the word gets out that it's not acceptable. J. Hotchkiss suggests waiting a month before making a decision on the detail rate of pay to research other towns. Chief Blodgett will contact other towns to get their rates of pay. Some towns do not use police as flaggers due to the risk for the officer. Rate of pay is tabled till the next department head meeting. Chief Blodgett speaks about a new hire for the Police Department, Devon Pageau is now an officer and would like to join Middleton as a part time officer. Board approves the hire. J. Mullen would like to see the background information. Chief Blodgett is looking for approval to increase Wade Bartlett's pay from \$18.00 to \$20.00 per hour. Currently there is 7 part-

- time employees and 4 full time employees. Board approves the increase to \$20.00 for Officer Bartlett.
- Highway: R. Washburn will have the flags out before the holiday. Work is going well in the Ridge Road pit for the site preparations. Butch Barron will complete the work at the Kings Highway pit. Issues with the 2006 Ford 250 patrol truck. Just to change the spark plugs could cost up to \$800. It currently will not pass inspection. There is money for a new vehicle in the money received from the State last year and the CRF. State bid are for Ford and Dodge. Fords are running \$32,000 to \$38,000. R. Washburn is looking for a rack body if possible and a plow. Diprizios has a 2011 with 22,000 miles with no rebate or deals because it's used. A new vehicle a 2017 GMC 2500 would cost about \$43,000 or less through Diprizios. Lighting costs would come out of the block grant; radio would be transferred from the old truck. The town would get more for the older truck by putting it out to bid. R. Washburn is trying to get them to include new snow tires and rims. GMC is not going to be building anymore 2500 trucks till 2020. J. Bailey thinks the town should approve the purchase. J. Bailey motions to allow R. Washburn to proceed with the purchase of a new highway pick-up not to exceed \$53,130. J. Mullen seconds, all in favor. R. Washburn talks about the road damage on Kings Highway and New Durham Road between Buttermilk and Drew Drive. R. Washburn talks about chip sealing the roads. He is looking to get figures on the cost to seal the roads that have been damaged. Total collected for weight limit permits were approximately \$220.00. Chief Blodgett does not feel the police have the time to sit around and watch for trucks passing on the posted roads. Chief Blodgett states this is the only town he has worked in where he is expected to patrol for weight limit violations and school bus violations. Question on how he can enforce weight limit restrictions when the truck cannot be weighed. R. Washburn mentions the letter from the state stating how the fines are on the gross registered weight because small town cannot afford to purchase scales. J. Bailey asked if trucks are being stopped and if any tickets were issued. There have not been any tickets written for overweight trucks. J. Mullen is disappointed that the State Police will not help little towns, but that is not new. He suggests maybe making it easier with paperwork to give out violations. R. Washburn suggested having two officers on during the mud season to keep up with the patrolling. Chief Blodgett feels he is doing more damage to the roads if he pulls over large trucks to the edge of the road where there could be more damage. Less damage would be if they continued to pass down the travel portion of the road. J. Mullen feels that if there are ordinances and laws they need to be enforced otherwise why have them. He understands lack of resources, but also understands road repairs cost. J. Hotchkiss wonders if other towns have the same issues enforcing ordinances and maybe there is another town that has a form we can look at for ideas.
 - Health Officer- J. Mammone has an all-day training regarding ticks and pool safety.
 - Code Enforcement- J. Mammone speaks about the issues with the failing system on New Durham Road. Problem with timber cut on Kings Highway that was working without the correct permits. Road Agent and Code Enforcement handled the issue. J. Bailey speaks about having a fine in place for those that do not get the correct permits. J. Mullen asked if there is a checklist that is given out for those to know what the requirements are. J. Mullen will work on creating a list of permit requirements. People have been calling regarding town owned properties. There have been a lot of new homes being built in Middleton.
 - Welfare- one applicant for the last month.
 - Planning Board- Nothing to report
 - Zoning Board- nothing to report.
 - Treasury- Reports provided from Bookkeeper and Treasurer for the board to review.
 - Assessing- No report provided

Public Participation

J. Bailey motions to adjourn at 9:05 PM. J. Mullen seconds, all in favor.

Respectfully submitted by:

Laura Parker, BOS Secretary