

Town of Middlesex

Regular Meeting

July 11, 2024

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

Also Present: Amberle Kelly, Historian
Dawn Kane, Code Enforcement Officer
Josh Burnett, Highway Superintendent

Recoding: Stephanie Betts

Call to Order/Pledge

Supervisor Adam called the meeting to order at 7:01 PM at the Town Hall, 1216 State Route 245, Middlesex NY. He led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Supervisor acknowledged the passing of the former Historian Dan Robeson, Supervisor Adam mentioned that all his life Dan was referred to as Uncle Dan. Even though he was not. Dan was a fixture on Wednesday for the Heritage meetings and a presence at Town Board meetings. Supervisor asked for a moment of silence to honor Dan Robeson.

Amberle Kelly made mention of his smile when the Heritage group told him he had been selected to be honored at the upcoming Citizen Appreciation day.

Public Comment- None Closed at 7:04 PM

Approval of Minutes: June 13, 2024: Dispense with the approval of minutes

Tax Assessor: Pat not present, Supervisor Adam commented that the state is putting pressure on re-assessing to ensure equitable property values. We are currently 74% of where the state feels we need to be. Cost of homes along the lake is the biggest factor going over the asking price.

Highway/Buildings/Grounds- Josh Burnett

Busy- Hauled in all 1a's for 1st week of Aug. 2 driveway pipes. Grader paved S Vine Valley Rd. Hadsell Rd is next, Installed dust oil on dirt roads. Villager came processed millings for South lake Rd. total milled 1,624 tons. These will be used for shoulder repairs through-out the town.

Water main break 1 month ago, fixed it and then 5ft down it was leaking again. Needed to repair the whole section. Took entire day. Rented mini excavator from D&L.

New ton truck is registered and on the road. The roller is not working again. Had 24 hrs. on it and it broke. It is at Carroll rd. Repair to diagnose it. Motor is out on the pallet waiting to go to Texas. Should be covered by warranty. Meanwhile we rented a roller for \$4,059 per month.

David clarified if it was a new block.

Clean Up Days scheduled for 8/10- all dumpsters are reserved. 4 names of individuals to work on that day will be approved later by board.

Future work: Nova Chipping S. Vine Valley Rd. Shoulders, Stone and Oil.

Paul Mitchell asked about electronics at cleanup days. YES, we will accept batteries, refrigerators, Air Conditioners: NO FREON. Need certification of proof showing it has been removed. People are asking about that.

DA- Any questions?

Leon wanted to know how long Josh thinks he might need the roller- 2 months at most. Try to rent for one month, borrow one for the second month.

Water Department: New computer for Alan- SCT is going through a transition. Nate (#1 guy) has left and went to work elsewhere. Jared the second employee has been out on family leave, DA has been leaving messages and emailing. Both messages and requests have been moved forward (water computer and server). On docket for early August to install.

Historian/Heritage Group: Amberle Kelly

Same items we chatted about last month. Cemetery clean up days 7/20 start at Pine Corners. 8/17 Middlesex. Both start at 2:00. NEED more bodies to help Hoping to get a good start on it this summer and continue into next year

8/4-2:00-4:00 Citizens Appreciation Day: David wanted to clarify that Dan Robeson will not be honored in August. Pauline Lafler, Duane Shay, Leon Button, Rodney Dorman.

Seneca Heritage Day 8/31 Well in the mix of that Win Harper has been essential in helping. Amberle is now the chair of that committee. Amberle stated she has large shoes to fill with the loss of Dan Robeson

Still need volunteer for the “wall that heals” in Penn Yan

Lincoln Hill Farms – Whitman to Whitman- Extensive collection of Marcus Whitman materials from Debbie Bronson will be on display. July 27th

Code Office/Planning/ZBA: Dawn Kane

New signs that indicate a property is under review are being used

Planning Board is super busy

2 new homes. Reestablishing Watkins property project on SLR

Thomas Columbo- Engineer for the planning board is retiring. This will have a tremendous impact; He will be retiring in September.

Request to talk to Scott Prior from Lu Engineering about someone to cover that position.

Beach: Short-Staffed for lifeguards, The beach has been very quiet, Yates County is not able to provide swimming lessons this year.

New lifeguard application to approve tonight. David commented person was approved last month.

Code Office- very steady, people are building,

ZBA- two cases this month. Special meeting held on July 4th. May need to reschedule ZBA.

Water test for across the street. Going to test it and send it back next week. Report from Alan that Tyler’s sample may not be usable. Alan has a good filter sample.

No questions for Dawn

Yates County: Sarah Purdy

County is routine lately, only a couple of things to report. Last legislature meeting. 3 different resolutions for veterans In Yates County the following dates have been declared.

8/4 is declared US Coast Guard Day

8/7 National Purple Heart Day

8/10 Agent Orange Awareness Day

Still looking for volunteers for the wall that heals. Expecting 10,000 visitors.

Davi clarified - all hours of night to safeguard. Need anyone’s help at this point.

County Historian – 8/14/24 2:00 last bicentennial event honoring 6 US airmen that were killed in a B-25 bomber crash in WWII in the town of Italy. Off from Dunn Rd. Carpooling is encouraged. Parking is limited. David also made additional comments about the last bicentennial event for 8/14/24 on Dunn Rd, Dan Paddock has been instrumental in this day

Amberle Kelly stated that Duane Shay was at heritage group meeting and witnessed this crash as a young boy.

The County Fair is going on right now. 4-H has a lot of activities as usual

County Clerk- Effective 7/19/24 New Judicial Security Act= Judges or Local Town Justices can put in a request to have all records protected for themselves, family, extended family members. Names Addressed, Contact info redacted

Still need corrections and road patrol deputies

Still no date for joint Schuyler/Yates hazardous waste disposal dates day.

Tax delinquent property auction is delayed until summer of 2025. Due to Federal Court litigation.

Yates County sales tax is down 8%.

Supervisor Report

Lynnette resigned shortly after the last board meeting. Provided updates on what has been done during the last 3 weeks. Spoke to numerous people at Yates County trying to get some guidance. Looking to see if any current clerks could help in the interim. Darby Perrotte came to help Denise Adam. I met with someone over the weekend about TC position and they changed their mind.

Rebecca Moore emailed and has expressed interest in the TC position Monday, Supervisor Adam met and spent time speaking with her, wanting to clearly articulate the duties of the position. Marsha Devine shared a 28-slide presentation on the duties of a Town Clerk with him and he shared it with Rebecca. She is still interested in the position and is attending the board meeting tonight. The Board will meet with her later this evening

Last month the County Legislature Rep mentioned AED's, Paul shared we were given 2 AEDs that were surpluses from Yates County Sheriff's Department. Need new batteries and pads. Batteries can be purchased over the counter. Pads at \$75 apiece. \$70 for batteries for each. Thought is to have one at the town building and provide lifeguards with one. Not sure that it is necessary to purchase the boxes to store them in. Paul asked if he should proceed with ordering the batteries and organizing training.

Local Middlesex Ambulance provide training possibly? Paul has spoken with them.

Supervisor Adam- spoke about changes in the town office for the justice office and assessor office. Patrick was going to move to the Justice office. That is now changed to move the Justice office and Code Office. David reviewed the logistics of changing the office spaces and updating plans during the move and renovations. Trying to determine the best night to start work as it could interfere with ADA court night. Work needs to be done for a grant. Adam Fitzgerald from Naples is the contractor that is going to be completing the work. Only 1 of the 5 contractors contacted followed through on estimates and quotes. Only adding the paint to the office.

Amberle has a question ensuring that the bordering wall will not be disturbed.

Austin Liddiard asked if that was ever approved at a board meeting. Supervisor Adam responded yes in early spring

Paul Mitchell has been regularly meeting with the Ambulance Group

Gorham shorted ambulance by \$50,000

Ambulance submitted a budget and the contract was signed and they are \$50,000 short. We have not heard back from Gorham. In the meantime, it has been announced that Gorham is going to be audited for having excess reserve funds. They have the money; they are not cooperating. Ambulance has done due diligence in explaining why the budget is what it is. Towns need to put pressure on Gorham to fulfill their contract financial obligation as it is putting a burden on Middlesex town and Potter town.

24/7 services right now

Animosity with the county. Doesn't affect us as much with dispatching yates county ambulance. Almost all ambulances go to Thompson. Still friction with the county. Two ALS techs coming on.

Middlesex ambulance does not reimburse the Town for Medicaid billing expenses.

Sarah Purdy asked if there is anything she can relay back to county

Josh and Supervisor Adam went to look at Wickham Rd, as the two neighbors wanted the town to give them the property or the right of way.

Paul wanted to know if they were going to make any improvements there to address the water/drainage issue. They have biggest concerns with people parking and using right of way, questions are is it the town's to give away?

Supervisor Adam stated we will most likely have to spend money to make a determination and is it worth anything to us. They sent paperwork about the amount of time and lack of maintenance it should be abandoned. Wayne Dutton was in attendance and asked if he recalled anything. He did not.

DA would like to turn it over to Jeff Graff and ask him to do some research. Supervisor Adam was reserved on spending the money of the town on this; however, homeowners have done over a

years' worth of research on this and are persisting that this has been abandoned. Need to determine how it has been abandoned (qualified etc.)

Question of is it not abandoned if the town highway is still using it as a turnaround.

Dave asked permission to send to Jeff.

Budget Scheduling should begin. Budget workshop needs to be scheduled.

Do we want to look at the last week in August? The next board meeting is September 12th?

August 29th is a Thursday, last year we did one around 6:00 p.m. Need to publicize this. DA will have something prepared to give board members by the August board meeting.

Been a good year, should be an easy meeting

Open for public comments at 8:11- NONE Closed Public Comment period

Motion to Surplus Equipment: On a motion by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Liddiard the following motion was adopted:

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

To surplus the following equipment: Samsung printer, Computer Model 3051, Second Computer and monitor.

RESOLUTIONS:

Resolution # 58-24

Authorize purchase of pads and batteries for AED:

On a resolution by Council Member Betts, seconded by Council Member Button the following motion was adopted:

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to purchase pads and batteries for AEDs that were given to the town from Yates County. Price to be approximate \$500.00

Resolution # -24

Authorized Town Justice Margaret Randolph. to sign banking paperwork for town Justice only checking account with Community Bank.

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

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolve to Authorized Town Justice Margaret Randolph. to sign banking paperwork for town Justice only checking account with Community Bank.

Resolution # -24

To enter into intermunicipal agreement relative to ownership, operation and maintenance of JD 85 G Compact Excavator with Yates County Highway.

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

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to enter into intermunicipal agreement relative to ownership, operation and maintenance of JD 85 G Compact Excavator with Yates County Highway.

Resolution # -24

Appoint Temporary Cleanup Day Workers.

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

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to appoint: Bob Quayle, Paul Lee, John Ennis, Lana Burnett for Town Clean-up day, August 10, 2024 at a rate of \$30/hr.

Resolution # -24

Accept Resignation of Town Clerk

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

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to accept the resignation of Lynnette Miller as Middlesex Town Clerk and Tax Collector effective July 1.

Resolution # 59-24

Appoint part-time permanent Heavy Equipment Operator

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

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to hire Art Rilands as part-time permanent Heavy Equipment Operator. For purposes of water main work at the rate of \$35/hr. For purposes of Substitute Heavy Equipment Operator at the base pay rate of the last employee hired.

Resolution # 60-24

Pay Audit of claims

On a resolution by Council Member Betts, seconded by Council Member Mitchell, the following resolution was adopted:

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved that the invoices contained in the July 11,2024 Abstract have been reviewed by the Town Board and are authorized for payment in the following amounts:

General Fund: Vouchers No: \$ 10,116.67

Highway Fund: Vouchers No: \$ 188,922.89

Water District: Vouchers No: \$ 24,653.49

Executive Session

At 8:26 pm. Supervisor Adam requested the Board enter an executive session for the purpose of discussing personnel matters. A motion was made by Council Member Mitchell, seconded by Council Member Betts.

* All in favor. none opposed motion carried

Meeting Reconvened

The Meeting Reconvened at 9:35 PM

Resolution # 61 -24

Appoint new Town Clerk

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

ADOPTED: Ayes 5 Adam, Betts, Button, Liddiard, Mitchell

Nays 0

Resolved to appoint Rebecca Moore as Town Clerk effective August 6th, 2024 until December 31st, 2024 at pro-rated town clerk salary.

Adjourn

With no further business to discuss, a motion was made by Council Member Button, seconded by Council Member Mithcell to adjourn the regular meeting of the Town Board of the Town of Middlesex at 9:38 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Supervisor David Adam