

The regular meeting of Mayor and Council was held on the above date with Council members Reynolds, Faulkner, McGhee, Pierce, Burgess and Dixon present with Mayor Branner presiding. Town Manager Morris Deputy and Town Solicitor Scott Chambers were also in attendance.

1. Minutes Approval: Moved by Mr. Pierce and seconded by Ms. Burgess to approve the minutes as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously.

2. Treasurer's Report: Moved by Mr. Pierce and seconded by Mr. Reynolds to approve the Treasurer's Report as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously.

3. Bills Payable: Moved by Mr. Reynolds and seconded by Ms. Burgess to approve the Bills Payable as presented and pay as funds become available.

4. Police Report: Chief Hank Tobin and Pat Mullin

The MPD responded to 1,074 calls for service for the month of September.

- 279 calls were documented through an incident or accident report.
- 64 incidents required arrest action; 150 total arrests were made.
- Calls for service: Zone 1 – 275; Zone 2 – 392; Zone 3 – 173; Zone 4 – 151
- 40 Accidents: 28 property damage; 7 hit and run; 5 personal injury
- 71 Alarms at 63 different locations; 33 were non-registered
- Peak Days: Wednesdays averaged 165 calls; Saturdays averaged 158 calls.
- Top calls for the month: 319 radar and requests for traffic enforcement; 75 public relations; 71 alarms; 56 property checks and 28 domestics
- Office of Highway Safety has provided funds for a juvenile drinking offenders program, underage drinking program, seatbelt and motorcycle safety and DUI enforcement.
- Chief Tobin reported that patrols have been increased at Greenlawn apartments and the townhouse area due to high drug traffic activity. Fencing the area is being considered to help eliminate some of the foot traffic.

Moved by Ms. Burgess and seconded by Mr. Pierce to accept the Police Report as presented. Motion Carried Unanimously.

5. Grants

A. Trinity House, Inc., \$5,000 – Mr. Vitola said Trinity Place has requested \$5,000 to renovate a building to serve residents with anti-social behaviors. The opening date is not set; Trinity House is the only sponsor at this time. It's not known what specifically the grant is for or who it would benefit. The group is also asking for start up costs, which the Committee does not recommend. Trinity Place is run by the church – there isn't a clear distinction between Trinity Place and the church. Based on those reasons, the Committee recommends Mayor and Council not approve the grant.

Moved by Mr. Pierce and seconded by Ms. Burgess to deny the grant request from Trinity House, Inc. in the amount of \$5,000 as recommended by the Grant Committee. Motion Carried Unanimously.

Bond Rating

Mayor Branner reported that he, Lou Vitola, Morris Deputy and the Bond Counsel made a presentation to Standard and Poor's and Moody's to obtain a bond rating.

Lou Vitola said the Town received an "Aa-" rating from Standard and Poor's and an "AA-3" from Moody's – both are high investment grade ratings. The rating is a testament to how well Mayor and Council has managed Middletown's growth – it doesn't go unnoticed by those who look at the Town's financial statement and history.

6. Public Hearings:

6-A. Introduce an amendment to Chapter 45 in the Town of Middletown Code of Ordinances regarding business licenses, fines and fees

Morris Deputy said the amendment adds a fine of \$100 to the Ordinance for those businesses operating in Town and have not obtained a business license.

6-B. 209 E. Lake Street – Conditional Use Permit CU-07-10 request for Blue Hen Concessions and Vending, Inc., to set up a mobile concession food trailer periodically at Rehoboth Church of God. Tax parcel 23.006.00-057

Ron Spriggs requested permission to set up his mobile concession food trailer at 209 E. Lake Street. Mr. Spriggs said he has sold food at that location off and on for the past 15 years, but hasn't been there for the last couple of years.

Mayor Branner said Planning and Zoning recommended approval for the Conditional Use; Mr. Spriggs has a letter of approval from the church; grease will be removed from the site, and the area will be cleaned up when he leaves.

Moved by Mr. Faulkner and seconded by Mr. Pierce to grant approval for Conditional Use Permit No. CU-07-10 to allow Ronald Spriggs to operate a mobile concession food trailer to sell food at 209 E. Lake Street. Motion Carried Unanimously.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Mayor Branner said at last month's meeting a resident asked when Council would have information on Christiana Care. He reported that he and several members from Christiana Care testified before the Delaware Health Resources Board and Christiana Care received their "Certificate of Necessity". An architect and engineer have been selected and will begin work on the conceptual plan. Phase I will include a free standing emergency department with radiology, lab, pharmacy, respiratory therapy and support services. It will operate 24/7 with 18 treatment bays for emergency care. Their plan also includes the construction of an emergency medical station within the complex which will provide housing for the New Castle County paramedics. The ambulance will be housed in its own free-standing building. The planning process will start this week with a late fall 2012 opening.

8. NEW BUSINESS: None

Moved by Mr. Reynolds and seconded by Mr. Pierce to go into Executive Session to discuss legal and personnel matters. Motion Carried Unanimously.