



**CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
COMMON COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
MAY 8, 2024**

Pledge of Allegiance

Roll Call

Present: Higbie, Gipson, Galdamez

Absent: Williams, Strenfel, DeJesus, Gill

Correspondence

Superintendent summarized the correspondence letters from Garden Lovers' Club and MHS Diversity Club Advisor.

Letters from:

Garden Lovers' Club

MHS Diversity Club Advisor

Approval of Minutes

Accept the Minutes of the April 10th, 2024 meeting.

Audit

The April 2024 Audit was not presented at the meeting. The Superintendent reported an update would be sent once the accounts are reconciled. This is the first month of using the new registration website, and we are getting confirmation from the credit card company about the money we received via Forte, the credit card company.

April 2024 Audit TBA at meeting

Superintendent's Report

- Personnel
 1. We are still waiting to hire 1 full-timer. 4 seasonal workers working with our Parks Department.
- Recreation Activities
 1. FREE – Teen & Youth Open Gym, Teen Boxing, Storytime Come Alive, Youth Fitness and Toddler Music Class.
 2. PAID – Young Warriors Boxing Program, Little RECers Toddler, Adult Pickle Ball Clinics, Adult Pickle Ball Open Gym, Youth Martial Arts, Youth Volleyball Clinics, Adult Volleyball Open Play, Youth Basketball Clinics, Cheerleading Clinics, Crochet Clinics, Baby & Me Fitness, Baby ASL Class, Youth Art Classes, Stroller Fitness and Soccer Clinics.
 3. PROGRAM REGISTRATION – Tennis Clinics, Little People Playtime and Sports Camp.
 4. SPECIAL EVENTS – Preparing for the June 8th Fishing Derby and July Skateboard contest.
- Maintenance
 1. Little League fields daily field maintenance.
 2. Reservoir trails daily maintenance.
 3. Picking parks daily.

Remarks from the Recreation and Parks Committee Members

Alderman Kleiner thanked Dan Higbie for his help with the Hillside Cemetery tour. He reported how excellent it was.

Alderman Witt gave an update about the summer camps that the school district is running this summer. He also reported about the Middletown school district's budget presentation at the Common Counsel meeting the previous night. Alderman Witt mentioned the May 15th *Meet the Candidate* for the school board candidates being held at the MHS media center, and it can also be viewed via Middle TV.

Old Business

The superintendent also discussed nominations for the 2 awards given out annually at the Recreation Commission dinner.

Distinguished Service Award:

1. Art Schouten - Art has been working for us at the dog park. He has been an invaluable asset to our department. He works a few hours every day at the dog park. He assists with daily dog park maintenance and cleaning around the facility. We used to get daily complaints about the dog park, and he has helped solve the many issues there.
2. Sharon Delillo - Sharon has worked for the Recreation Department for 30+ years. She has done it all for us; cleaner, park patrol, recreation leader, recreation specialist, cashier, camp leader and office sub. Currently, she oversees the Lil RECers, Storytime and assists with the Toddler Music Program. She is one of the backbones of the Department, and we would be lost without her.

Community Partner Award:

1. Lion's Club - This year they co-sponsored the Winter Festival with us. They also run the annual Fishing Derby. Every year they make a donation to support the fishing and give a few camp scholarships.
2. Garden Lovers' Club - They have been coming in monthly for 2 years to our Little RECers program and assisting with a project related to gardening. They also maintain the garden beds in Thrall Park. This year they will be donating 2 park benches.
3. Minisink Rotary - Last year they built a Free Little Library for the dog park. This year they collected donations to construct 4 elements at the Dog Park.

We will vote next meeting.

Sports Camp

We are once again looking for a camp nurse and awaiting final approval of our school dude summer camp application. Alderman Kleiner mentioned if it needed board approval the next meeting is May 22nd to get it on the agenda.

Jaycee programming idea

We will be implementing programming in neighborhoods this summer. It was recommended we distribute QR codes for the registration site, do a school mailing, use the messaging system to get info out and set a registration table at school events to boost enrollment on our registration site.

Kevin social, emotioanl support staff idea

Alderman Witt spoke with the schools HR about the summer position. He received a reccomendation of title, salary and employee for this position. It will be further looked into.

New Business

NY Swims grant opportunity

The superintendent reported she will apply for the upcoming NY Swims grant to help assist with the costs of the Maple Hill splash pad project.

Mountain Bike Trails

The Superintendent discussed an upcoming project that would be submitted to the Common Council for approval. Under the leadership of John Bianchi and community member Ryan Yesika, we will construct trails designated for just mountain biking at the Reservoir.

2025 Budget

The Superintendent reported that the 2025 budget is due in June of this year. She will be looking to adding the following thus far; New Full-time Recreation Employee, Spraying for bees, Turf Tank rental and gym floor re-surfacing.

Announcements

The Recreation Commission Dinner is Wednesday, July 10, 2024.

Adjournment

8:40pm