



Town of Middletown ♦ 7735 Main Street ♦ Middletown, VA ♦ (540) 869-2226 ♦ Volume 10, Issue 1 ♦ January 15, 2018

From the Mayor

Charles H. Harbaugh, IV

Happy New Year Middletown! I hope all of you enjoyed your holiday. This year's Christmas parade was our largest one to date. Our parade director Tina Clem & the parade committee never cease to amaze us here in Middletown. Just when you think it could not get any better they pull off another outstanding parade. With that said I would like to thank all those that volunteered, participated and supported the event. I cannot say it enough; the success of our events would not be possible without the help of those that so graciously volunteer their time and the amazing organizations like City National Bank who sponsored this year's Christmas parade.

Our next annual event will be Shenandoah Valley Runners Heart and Soles 5K on February 10, 2018 at 9:30 a.m., weather permitting. Please be alert and watch for runners the day of the event. If you are interested in participating please go to Shenandoah Valley Runners website at www.svrunners.org for further details.

From the Zoning Administrator

Fred Wharton

Permits must be secured through the Town office prior to the following: All renovations to buildings need a zoning permit. All accessory buildings such as sheds and/or outside storage containers also need a zoning permit. When in doubt please call the office and speak with me. 540-869-2226 ext. 4

Town Code section 3-8 Littering

No person shall allow feces deposited by his/her animal to remain on any public highway, street, sidewalk, part of other public property, or on private property without written consent of the owner thereof or his agent.

Penalty – Any person who knowingly violates this Ordinance shall be guilty of a littering infraction and shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$25.00 per occurrence.

Town Code section 14-4 Removal of snow from sidewalks

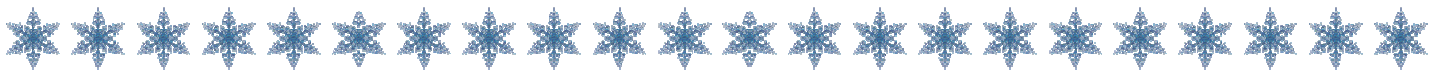
It shall be unlawful for the occupants of any building and where there is no occupant, for the owner of such vacant building or any unimproved lot or land lying on any street, alley or public place within the town where there is a brick or cement sidewalk, or any other walk so named by the Mayor or Town Council, to permit snow to remain on such a sidewalk longer than 6 hours after the snow has ceased to fall; except, that if the snow shall cease to fall in the night time, it shall be cleaned away by noon the following day. If the occupant or owner of the premises, as the case may be, fails or refuses to clear off the snow after being duly notified, it shall be the duty of the Town Sergeant to cause such pavement or sidewalk to be cleaned at the cost plus 10% to such occupant or owner of the premises. All bills for cleaning ice or snow from pavements are due payable when presented, which shall be in addition to any fine imposed. (10-3-55, ch.17, S 55.)

Penalty – Any persons violating the provisions of this section shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and subject to arrest, and upon conviction thereof, shall be punished by a fine of not less than \$25.00 nor more than \$100.00 or the discretion of the court trying the case.

From the Police Chief

Gary Benedict Jr.

As a reminder if you have a non life threatening matter which requires an officer please contact Frederick County non emergency dispatch at 540-662-6162. If you have an emergency please call 911. Never leave a voice message at the Middletown Police Department. All calls must first go through Frederick County dispatch. Frederick County dispatch will then contact a Middletown officer who will then contact you or report to the location of the call. This saves time and ensures all calls are handled promptly and in an efficient manner.



From the Treasurer/Town Manager

Rebecca Layman

If you have not paid your personal property taxes please stop by the Town office before heading to DMV and pay your delinquent balance so we can remove the DMV stop. There is an additional fee of \$40 once a stop has been placed. The stop will not be removed until the entire balance is paid in full.

Real Estate liens will take place soon. If your account is delinquent please stop by the office and pay any and all outstanding balances to avoid additional fees. Please feel free to call the Town office with any questions.

From the Clerk

Christina Smith

If you have not already: please update your records to reflect the Town's correct mailing address. This will ensure that we receive your payments on time. We still have residents mailing payments to the old address which delays the payment from reaching us and in some cases penalties have been applied to accounts.

We still have numerous folks calling the day of water cut offs to arrange a payment plan on their outstanding balance. You must contact the office before the cut off day to make arrangements. We only offer a ONE-TIME deferment on a case by case basis in the event of unexpected circumstances/emergency. Once you have used the ONE-TIME deferment your account is marked and there can be no further payment extension on your account.

All utility payments are due by the due date indicated and, if late, penalties will be applied. If the bill is not paid in full by the cut-off date, service will be disconnected for non-payment and there will be a \$100.00 cut-off/on fee added to your balance. The water service will not be restored until the total balance is paid in full. If you have any question regarding this policy please contact the Town Clerk 540-869-2226 ext. 1

Please update your contact information with the Town office. Telephone numbers are very important to the Town staff in case we need to contact you in the event of an emergency.

From the Maintenance Department

Donald Welsh

Reminder to please make sure the water meter on your property is free and clear at all times. **This is the property owner/tenant's responsibility.** The meter must be visible at all times. Please remove any and all over growth including but not limited to; grass, weeds, bushes, etc. The meter needs to be clear of snow, ice and never blocked by vehicles, boats, trailers, etc. This can cause a serious problem in the event of an emergency if we are unable to find and/or access the meter. Please take the time to make sure the water meter in your yard is accessible at all times and never blocked or covered. If you have questions please feel free to contact the office.

If you notice a street light out please contact the Public Works Department at 540-869-7731. Please provide the following information. Your name, your phone number, the street light address and the pole number if possible. We will then contact Rappahannock Electric regarding the outage and they will repair the street light.

Middletown Veterans Memorial

Raymond Steele

Bricks are available for purchase at our beautiful Middletown Veterans Memorial. 4x8 bricks are \$75 and our 8x8 is a minimum donation of \$500, this includes engraving and installation. And not to mention a memory that will last forever to honor your loved one. We will do another install once the weather warms up. If you are interested order forms can be picked up at the Town office or the Town's website www.middletownva.gov If you have any questions please call the Town office and speak with the clerk Christina Smith 540-869-2226.



Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company

ADOPT-A-HYDRANT

We need your help. The snow is here and fire hydrants may need to be cleared in your neighborhood after a snowfall. The snow accumulations combined with the after-effects of plowing roads may result in many fire hydrants partially or completely buried in snow. By keeping fire hydrants clear of snow, you can help our firefighters easily locate hydrants and access water quickly, preserving valuable time to potentially save lives and structures while the snow is still on the ground. Take note of hydrant locations in your neighborhood and help keep them clear! ADOPT-A-HYDRANT! Co. 12 Thanks you.

When Seconds Count...



After a snowfall, remember to clear a three-foot radius around fire hydrants near your home.

We Need Volunteers Like YOU!

We are looking for Middletown residents to join the Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue Company.

There are many opportunities for you to volunteer: Fire/EMS, grant writing, buildings and grounds, equipment maintenance, fundraising and much more!

Requirements:

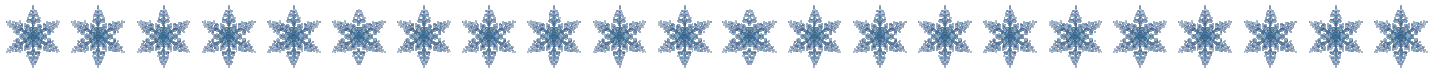
- at least 16 years of age
- Fingerprinted and able to pass a criminal background check
- Firefighter and/or EMS training and equipment is provided, if desired
- No previous experience is needed



Please visit www.middletownfire.com for more information.

Bingo

Is every Tuesday evening at 7:00 p.m. held in the Fire Department Social Hall. Doors open at 5:00 p.m. Concession is sold by the Company Auxiliary. Smoke free facilities.



Calendar of Events

January

- January 15 – Martin Luther King Jr. Day – Town office closed
- January 16 – Public Hearing with Town Council Meeting to follow 7:00 pm
- January 29 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 pm

February

- February 5 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- February 12 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- February 19 – President's Day – Town office closed
- February 26 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

March

- March 5 – Work Session Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- March 12 – Town Council Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- March 26 – Planning Commission Meeting 7:00 p.m.

*Reminder – all Town meetings are now held in the Council Chambers at the Church Street office. Please enter through the rear entrance of the building.