

Middleton City Update

Local Government Leadership

February 2012

The City of Middleton is made up of many different governing districts. It is important to understand that different districts have different leadership, rules, regulations and taxing abilities. This information should help give you direction on who to contact when you have questions. Each of these districts has open meetings that can be attended to understand issues and provide input.

City of Middleton

Council City Meetings: 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at 6:30 pm, City Hall
Owns and manages the city water and sewer systems, streets and drains, and the following parks; Tank Park, Davis Park, Centennial Park, Middleton Place Park

- Mayor Darin Taylor 585-3133
- Bldg. Permits/Inspection Daunt Whitman 631-3296
- Utility Questions Brandy Bonilla 585-3133
- Public Works Jay Gibbons 585-3133
- City Library Elaine Methiasen 585-3931

Cemetery District

Cemetery Board Meeting: 2nd Monday at 7:00 pm at Cemetery District Office
Owns and manages the Middleton cemetery

- Chairman Jack Hicks
- Commissioner John Sandborgh
- Commissioner Phillip Know
- Secretary Kim Albright 585-9394

Middleton School District

School Board Meeting: 2nd Monday at the School District Office 6:15 pm
Owns and manages all schools in the Middleton area

- Superintendent Rich Bauscher 585-3027
- Chairman Zone 2 Steve Cluff
- Vice Chairman Zone 4 Piet Laan
- Trustee Zone 1 Brian Foote
- Trustee Zone 5 Tammy Gabica
- Trustee Zone 3 John Orrison

Fire District

Fire Board Meeting: Meets monthly at the fire station (see website www.middletonfire.org for meeting dates and times)

- Owns and manages Middleton Rule Fire District
- Fire Chief Brad Trosky
 - Commissioner Liz Boltz
 - Commissioner Mike Ingram
 - Commissioner Jackie Potter
 - Secretary Vicki Thurber 585-6650

Greater Middleton Parks & Recreation District

Parks and Rec. Board Meeting: 1st Thursday at 310 N. Hawthorne
Owns and manages Hawthorne Park, Foote Park, Ed Payne Park

- President Elizabeth Weaver
- Commissioner Vicki Thurber
- Commissioner Mike Dittenber
- Secretary Lori Sprattley 585-3461
- Director Tim O'Meara

Urban Renewal District

Urban Renewal Meeting: 4th Tuesday at 310 N. Hawthorne
Implements the Urban Renewal Plan

- Chairman Jared Waltman
- Vice Chairman Don Sprattley 585-3088
- Attorney Ryan Armbruster
- Board Member Vicki Thurber
- Board Member Victor Islas

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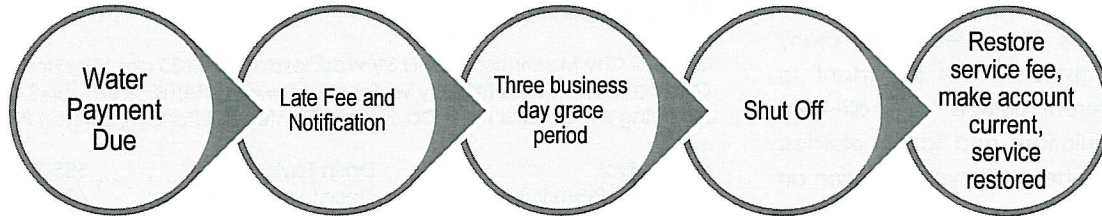
Upcoming

Public Works Projects:

- *South Highland Street Reconstruction*
- *Willis Road water main line installation*
- *Willis Road reconstruction (after water main construction)*
- *Park Place lift station refurbish*

Proposed Utility Billing Change

Each month the city turns off between 50-100 water meters due to lack of timely payment. Mayor Taylor is proposing a change to the City's utility billing procedure. This change will allow for a three business-day grace period before water is turned off. The new proposed procedure will **be discussed during the February 15, 2012 city council meeting at City hall**. All members of the community are encouraged to give input.



New Leadership

On January 4, 2012, Mayor Taylor appointed a transition team to assist in implementing a new vision for the City of Middleton. This team will serve up to and including June 30, 2012. During the transition period, each position will be evaluated, if a replacement is needed the position will be advertised and filled accordingly; if no change is needed, then contracts will remain in place.

Middleton City Code allows the Mayor to appoint five city positions; these positions can be appointed or un-appointed at any time. The Mayor un-appointed three of the appointed officers: City Engineer, City Clerk and Public Works Superintendent. These positions were filled by appointment as follows:

- City Engineer – Civil Dynamics
- Public Works Superintendent – Jay Gibbons
- City Clerk – Elena Gomez

The previous City Attorney resigned and the Mayor appointed Yorgason Law Offices. The Treasurer position was unchanged. In addition to the five appointed positions, the City of Middleton has 10 employee positions. These positions include, utility billing, planning, building official, public works positions and librarians. Mayor Taylor is in the process of completing an organization chart which will show the employee structure at the City of Middleton. The chart it will be posted on the website at www.middleton.id.us.

Waste Water Treatment Construction Project Suspended for 60 Days

The facility as being constructed does not meet federal phosphorous and temperature discharge limits in the cities next permit requirements. On January 18, 2012, City Council voted to suspend construction on the upgrades to the waste water treatment facility for 60 days to obtain an independent engineering review of the facility and design plans. Findings of the review will be reported to City Council at a special meeting on March 20, 2012. Project construction is scheduled to continue on March 21, 2012 unless modified by the City Council. The City's intent is to ensure that the 7 million dollar project, once constructed, complies with the forthcoming National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit.

Purchasing Alliance - Cost Savings

The City joined the U.S. Communities Government Purchasing Alliance. This alliance allows the City to purchase at a reduced cost goods needed to operate the city. In most cases the discount will be between 30% and 45% because the city can leverage its buying power with that of larger government entities thereby allowing the city to take advantage of high volume discounts.

Now Forming – Mayor's Advisory Committees

Many in the Middleton community (not just within city limits) have knowledge, skill, and experiences that can be shared to improve the community of Middleton. City leaders are committed to gathering as much input as possible to ensure that City Council is well informed before it makes important decisions affecting each of us. Each committee will meet as needed to accomplish its two or three purposes, and will end in April 2012 with a written summary of information and make recommendations to the Mayor. The Mayor's Senior and Youth committees will be standing committees that continue to meet monthly. Many hands make light work, and many minds make well-reasoned decisions, so anyone interested in volunteering should contact Becky Crofts at 585-3133 or e-mail bcrofts@middletonidaho.us. **The Mayor's Senior 55+ Advisory Committee is open to anyone in the community – we welcome all seniors, please join Mayor Taylor at city Hall on February 28 at 10:00 a.m.**

Committees:

- Mayor's Senior 55+
- Mayor's Youth
- Area of City Impact
- Population
- Waste-water
- Potable Water
- Transportation
- Economic Development
- Schools
- Parks/Recreation/Greenbelt
- Natural Resources/Hazardous Areas
- Land Use / Flood Hazard Areas
- Community Design

EPA Permit: Storm Water

All of us can make small changes that keep pollution out of storm water. The EPA is also requiring Middleton to educate the community about ways to reduce pollutants in storm water runoff.

A few easy changes to start with are:

- Sweep your driveway to keep debris out of storm drains
- During the winter months, do not shovel your snow into storm drains
- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Pick up after your pet
- Don't over fertilize the lawn
- Report spills to the Middleton Public Works department
- Check your car for leaks and recycle your motor oil.

New Directions Now

- City Council Meetings
 - 6:30 pm 1st and 3rd Wednesdays of each month
 - Comment is invited on each business item on the agenda
 - Council packets available for anyone to view

The format of City Council meetings has changed. Everyone in the community is encouraged to bring their ideas and suggestions to council meetings. There is a specific public comment time on the agenda, and anyone is welcome to comment during the meeting on the topic being discussed. Items being discussed will be shared on the projector for everyone to view. Minutes and agendas can be viewed on the website; agendas can be viewed prior to the meetings. Minutes need to be approved by the city council prior to posting on the City's website so there will be time between council meetings and when minutes are posted.

- City employees try to answer the phone by the second ring, if not the call will go to the voice menu system
- The camera monitoring the lobby is used as needed, and generally remains off to avoid unnecessary intrusion
- City automobiles are now all marked with city logos
- City public works employees will be wearing shirts with city logo for identification

New Directions Coming Soon

- Look for new proposed speed limits on Highway 44 & Middleton road at River and Highway 44
- Implement a "Local Multiplier" for Improvement and Building Permit fees
Currently building permit fees are based on International Bldg. Table A. A local multiplier will more accurately reflect building permit costs based on the local housing/building climate. This will result in lower building fees.
- Change Middleton City Code making Building Official and Planning appointed positions

From the Mayor

We have received many positive comments about the new leadership and direction the city is taking. We always welcome and look forward to community input.

Our goals are to provide each of you with excellent customer service, keep you aware of important issues and continue to build our strong community. The website will continue to be a source for council minutes, agendas, contact information and more.

In 2012 we expect a lot of things to stay the same, but invite and look forward to some new changes as well. We have been in contact with the Middleton Village Partners who own the complex where the old Ridley's is located. They are moving forward with a re-design and anticipate adding new businesses.

If you have any questions, please feel free to stop by city hall and visit with me personally or join us at city council meetings on the first and third Wednesdays of each month.

Upcoming Events

MHS Hosts Girls 3A State Tournament Feb 16-18

Planning and Zoning Meeting* Feb 27
7:00 pm City Hall

Mayors Senior Committee Feb 28
10:00 am City Hall

Town Hall Feb 28
City Update
6:30 pm City Hall

Helping Hands Chili Cook-Off Mar 10

Town Hall Mar 13
Utility Billing Discussion
6:30 pm City Hall

*Design review for the Middleton Village Complex (old Ridley's).

City of Middleton
6 North Dewey Avenue
Middleton, ID 83644

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