



## Talk with the Mayor

Tuesday September 10th  
10:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. City Hall  
Discussion: Grant applications -  
sidewalks, parks, community

### Mayor's salary set at \$40,000

During the August 21, 2013 budget hearing City Council received public comment regarding the Fiscal 2013-2014 budget, mayor duties and salary. The budget was set at \$6,925,293, which includes a salary for the Mayor at \$40,000.

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## Middleton selected as FINALIST for the Blue Cross of Idaho

# High Five!

### Community Grant

### What is the High Five Grant?

The High Five grant is sponsored by Blue Cross of Idaho and is designed to promote physical activity and healthy eating to improve community health. If awarded the grant, Middleton could receive between \$50,000 and \$300,000 over three years to upgrade parks, improve utility pathways, start a community garden or farmers market, build a skate park, or offer classes on healthy cooking at the library or local schools!

### We need the community to "vote" for Middleton!

Community support drives 25% of the total grant score - we need EVERYONE to go to:

<http://highfiveidaho.org/community-grant>

Watch our video and VOTE FOR MIDDLETON! Also, sign-up for the "Daily Do" and we score more points on the grant! Voting is open September 1st - 30th.



**CITY OF MIDDLETON**  
8 North Grove Avenue, Middleton, ID 83644  
208-885-2133, 208-885-9601 Fax  
WWW.MIDDLETONIDAHO.GOV

MEMO

**MEMO**

**DATE:** August 21, 2013

**TO:** Middleton City Council

**FROM:** Mayor Taylor

**SUBJECT:** Request Mayor salary to full-time in order to provide daily, consistent progress toward the goals of majority of Middleton residents

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**ACHIEVEMENTS**

**Administration**

- Implemented a new business model for City operations
  - (roster of specialized engineering firms, individuals answering phones, monthly newsletter)
- 3 day grace period to pay water bills
- Pay water bills using credit or debit cards
- Utility account set-up over phone instead of bringing dead to City Hall
- Refund property owner's utility deposits
- Utility bills to tenants with a copy to landlords
- Installed case at City Hall entrance to display meeting agendas / City-related business
- Monthly talk with the Mayor (daytime and evening opportunities)
- Monthly newsletters of City budget, expenses and business
- Add substantial City business information to City website
- Established Mayor's Youth Advisory Council
- Upgrade computer servers and systems
- Retain and store electronic data at City Hall
- Facilitated eight neighborhood meetings for "Middleton Connects" discussion and survey
- Mapped City's water, sewer and storm water systems using GPS for accuracy and completeness

**Water**

- Obtained clarification that City Well #8 is located on
- Upgraded 500 water meters to enable monthly readings year-round
- Painted fire hydrants
- Water rights inventory to ensure adequate potable water for the next 28 years
- Negotiating legal access to City water tank

**Streets**

- Raised speed limits west and south of town
- Striped collector streets



**CITY OF MIDDLETON**  
8 North Dewey Avenue, Middleton, ID 83647  
208-385-3133, 208-385-3601 Fax  
www.middleton.id.gov

MEMO

- Installed trash cans along N. Hawthorne
- Start monument sign "Welcome to Middleton" at northwest corner of Huff Ln. and Hwy 44
- Acquired a street sweeper
- Established a Pavement Management Plan (street condition and maintenance priorities)
- Installed sidewalks along N. Hawthorne
- Applying for six grants to install missing segments of sidewalks
- Paved Minot St.
- Paving E. 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets
- Paving Hawthorne north of Minot St.
- Complete 10% design of N. Middleton Rd. at Foothill Rd.

Sewer

- Cleaned obstructed sewer lines (root balls) in Canyon Villa Subdivision
- Cleaned obstructed sewer lines (root/root balls) in Middleton Place Subdivision
- Improved design of waste-water treatment project  
(stand-alone basin walls, backup power supply, basin cover, etc.)

**PHILOSOPHICAL DIFFERENCES**

Local Government and Finance

NOW

THEN

Not raise taxes and invest in City infrastructure	Raise taxes and save
Cleaned root balls from Canyon Villa sub	
Cleaned roots/root balls from Middleton Place sub	
Customer service with a smile	
3 day grace period to pay water bills	Shut water off 21 <sup>st</sup> of each month
Pay water bills using credit or debit cards	No plastic card payment
Deed to City Hall	No over-the-phone account set-up
Refund property-owner utility deposits	Owners, pay utility deposit
Pave dirt roads	Oil dirt roads
Stripe streets	No striping
Upgrade water meters	Not read water meters Nov. - Feb.
Paint fire hydrants	
Add dirt to baseball diamond at Middleton Place Park	No dirt for diamond
No impact fee, increase level of service, impact fee	Impact fee (high)

## Fiscal Year 2013-14 Revenue and Expense

	Revenue	Expense
General Fund	\$1,721,464.00	\$1,721,464.00
Streets	\$1,848,348.00	\$1,848,348.00
Garbage	\$ 500,481.00	\$ 500,481.00
Water	\$ 700,375.00	\$ 700,375.00
Sewer	\$2,154,625.00	\$2,154,625.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$6,925,293.00</b>	<b>\$6,925,293.00</b>

## Noteworthy Revenue Items

•General Fund	Cash Carry Over	\$299,929.00
	Library Grant	\$ 10,000.00
	IDI Parks & Rec. Grant	\$140,000.00
	Skate Park Donation	\$ 20,000.00
•Street Fund	Cash Carry Over	\$ 0.00
	Idaho Transp. Dept Sidewalk Grant	\$407,703.50
	SH-44 Highway IDI Parks & Rec.	\$140,000.00
	SH-44 Recreational Ramp	\$ 50,000.00
•Sewer Fund	Proceeds from financing	\$700,000.00

## Noteworthy Expense Items

### General Fund

East/West Monument Signs	\$ 13,790.00
Fireworks donation	\$ 3,000.00
Server Upgrade	\$ 4,830.00
XP System Upgrade	\$ 3,500.00
Smart Glov	\$ 9,505.00
Middleton Place Park baseball field improvements	\$ 2,500.00
Middleton Place Park bathcom upgrade w/c rinking fountain	\$ 60,000.00
Middleton Place Park Rail way 20% grant match	\$ 39,000.00
Skate Park	\$ 50,000.00
CCSO Law Enforcement	\$255,609.50
City Police - no expense to reserve	

## Noteworthy Expense Items

### Street Fund - focusing on maintenance and sidewalks

#### •Maintenance

Crack seal	\$50,000
Chip seal	\$110,000
Striping	\$17,250
Bridge Inspections	\$3,600
Oil dirt roads	\$3,000
iWorQs	\$1,000

#### •Sidewalks

Middleton HS (25% match)	\$ 28,420.50
Mill Creek Elem. (25% match)	\$ 10,387.50
Heights Cemetery North & South	\$62,356.00
SH44 Willow Cr. Bridge (20% match)	\$15,817.50
SH44 Wellstone (20% match)	\$18,923

## Mayor's Response to Editorial

(Originally submitted to Idaho Press Tribune on August 18, 2013)

This letter is in response to the Editorial Opinion and the Buzz about Town in the August 2013 Middleton Gazette. Please call me at 697-4254 if you have questions about City business, finances, or the Mayor's duties and requested \$52,000 annual salary (based on two mayoral salary comparisons).

Mayor salaries are difficult to compare because cities have different organizations and provide different services (some don't have water and sewer jurisdiction, some don't have jurisdiction over streets, and some don't have fire or police departments). The mayor performs the day-to-day functions in some cities (full-time and higher salary) and a city manager does in other cities (low mayor salary but higher city manager salary). In small cities, the City clerk, treasurer, public works director, or engineer run the city.

There have been three work stoppages and one City Council meeting to discuss the Fiscal Year 2013-2014 budget and Mayor's salary. The next and final City Council meeting is scheduled for August 21, 2013 at which the Council will make a final decision and adopt the budget for next year. Please plan to attend and share your thoughts.

A few individuals scoff and scorn, but I am united and will continue doing what's best for A MAJORITY of Middleton residents. In January 2012, I re-appointed and fired some previous City employees because they did not share my philosophy about local government and finance (they increased property taxes annually and put the money into City coffers ... I keep property-tax-dollars recast and low, and invest in City streets, parks, and water and sewer systems).

The Editorial Opinion and Buzz about Town demonstrate the conflict between philosophies.

The Editorial Opinion said I proposed to get paid \$75,000 per year. I proposed \$55,000, and Council tentatively approved \$52,000 per year.

They say I am trying to create a job for myself by doing some planning and public works duties. I say, I am the elected working mayor, not just a figurehead performing ceremonial matters, and am here every day anyway, so feel I should do all within my ability to give a full-day's work for a full-day's salary.

"Fed-up," the author of "Buzz About Town," said the only reason Middleton currently needs a full-time mayor is because he likes to micromanage, and departments can't do their jobs without my approval at every single item produced in city hall. It should be the mayor that interprets city codes and policies, approves expenses, reviews contracts, acts as the city's human resource director (state law), and approves content to be published in the monthly FrontPage newsletter (included in utility bills) and the Middleton Gazette.

"Fed-up" said money is "flying out the door on unnecessary expenses" because paving dirt roads, building sidewalks, and upgrading water meters was not necessary before and it is to now. All City expenses are accounted for and audited according to federal and state law, and spending resolutions passed by previous administrations. I have not changed those resolutions, but the City spends money differently now.

Holladay Engineering Co., the former City engineer, in 2012 notified the City that Holladay intended to sue the City for defamation and breach of contract. The City disputed the claims. Considering all facts and factors, the City decided to settle for \$360,000 rather than continue a lengthy/litigating the claims. It was financially best for a majority of residents (Canyon County's legal expenses in

the E Jack matter passed \$500,000, Meridian's legal expenses in the City Hall matter were over \$2 Million, and Emmet's legal expenses in its wastewater treatment plant matter exceeded \$100,000). Middleton's legal and expert witness expenses were under \$30,000.

"Fed-up" said she had never amended a budget, which is a routine financial step for responsible stewardship of all resident's City money. The City Council amended the budget this year to establish a pattern of budgeting money to design projects one year, and budgeting money to construct projects the following year. I prefer to recommend fiscal-year budget amendments each year to account for grants awarded after a budget is adopted, to minimize waste spending, and maximize improvements to streets, sidewalks, parks, and the water and sewer systems. Again, we differ on philosophy about finance.

"Fed-up" said the City has no on-staff building official. The truth is, the City has a Building Official (Clair W. Wilman 631-3286), who also reviews building plans and performs inspections during construction.

"Fed-up" said I hire an employee to do code enforcement and check my messages. The truth is, the individual temporarily hired for office support and to complete special projects (copying and digitizing original plans, >>>) has the ability to assign additional or other duties too ... since in February 2013 the City received notice the County code enforcement officer was too busy and would not be able to walk on City code enforcement too.

"Fed-up" said I have no understanding of day-to-day operations of the city, citing how the utility billing system truly runs. I understand the day-to-day operations and have been rapidly learning the utility billing system in order to bring cohesion to the billing process and eliminate or reduce errors.

Two former City employees quit their jobs at the City because they were fed-up with the way things are being done, which is different than they would do them.

"The few" residents say I fired the planner and public works superintendent so I could have their jobs. I reappointed the public works superintendent and fired the planner because we have different philosophies of local government and finance. I did those jobs to learn the work and work-flow, so new best how to budget and lead. The City does not need a full-time planner or public works superintendent.

I want to be mayor to reduce fees and spending, eliminate unnecessary rules and regulations, cooperate with Middleton School District (the City's largest employer), and provide friendly customer service. Meridian's elected mayor changed the City from being very difficult to work with and very expensive, to being friendly and fair. These goals are rapidly being achieved despite the unproductive and ardent voices of contractors.

I have not always been readily available to return phone calls or see visitors as I have gone through this learning experience to do the best job for this community. I am well aware that change is difficult and also, it is "human to err."

Through the years many people have worked to build a solid foundation for this community and we honor that, despite the fact that changes are inevitable.

People tell me that they are so burdened with national and international political bickering that they wish for peace and harmony in their home community. Despite philosophical and personal differences, it is to the benefit of all, to rise above these differences and provide a harmonious environment in our hometown of Middleton.

## Rob Kiser appointed to City Council

Rob Kiser was appointed by Mayor Taylor and confirmed by City Council to replace Lori Flary who moved out of City limits and vacated the position.

Rob was born and raised in Middleton, he graduated from Middleton High School in 1989 and returned to Middleton in 2000 as a teacher and a coach.

Rob has been married to Stelly for 18 years, they have three children (Hailee 16, Callee 13 and Jerry 11).

## Watering after irrigation is turned off may be expensive

The City has no control over the irrigation water which many residents use to water their lawns and gardens. Irrigation water is governed by many of the irrigation districts in Middleton. Once irrigation water is turned off, many residents use the City water system to keep their lawns green and gardens growing.

Traditional sprinkler heads are rated by gallons per minute, common heads can use four gallons per minute or more. Consider the additional charge on your water bill prior to using water from the City system.

## The Middleton Mayor's Youth Advisory Council &

# Republic Services

is excited to present

2013  
MIDDLETON

# COLOR RAMA

SPONSORED BY REPUBLIC SERVICES

## 5K run, walk or stroll

*It doesn't matter how you get there,  
just get to the finish line covered in color.*



*Sign up the family! It's a community event!*

**Date:** October 11, 2013  
**Start time:** 5:00 p.m. at Mill Creek Elementary  
**Finish:** Middleton High School

*At the High School the party continues! It will be a color explosion with music, dancing, vendor booths AND homecoming tailgate party. Enjoy the race - enjoy the game.*

**Just turn the page for the registration form.**

**IMPORTANT:** Completed forms with payment need to be returned to City Hall by 9-25-13 to get a t-shirt and sunglasses. Registration will be accepted until October 10, 2013 but no t-shirt or sunglasses will be provided.

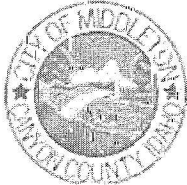
Just saying "Color Rama" is fun (you just said it, didn't you?) but trust us being a part of it is even better! This is not a race, it's a color 5K run, walk or stroll community event. The event was designed so that at any age and everyone can participate at their pace. Enter as a family, group or individual and you will have a great time. There is even a "home stretch" entry point at Cemetery and Willis for those who want to participate but a 5K is just too far!

Color Rama this year is coordinated with the High School homecoming game against Nampa, where participants are encouraged to tailgate and then enjoy the game!

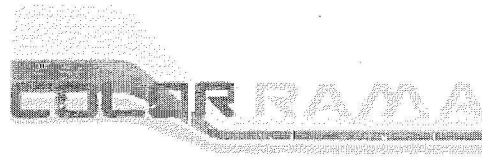
We would like to thank our AWESOME sponsors who have helped fund the race and keep the entrance fees low: Republic Services, Coleman Homes, College of Western Idaho, Spender's Music, Mills & Company Realty, Treasure Valley Hospice, Perfection Time, Grizzly Sports - more to come!

Proceeds go to the City Christmas light fund and the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council.

All registration and waiver forms can be found at [www.middleton.id.gov](http://www.middleton.id.gov) or picked up at City Hall. Registration, waiver and payment can be dropped off at City Hall, 6 North Dewey, or mailed to City Hall, ATTN: ColorRama P.O. Box 487 Middleton ID 83644 For questions, please call 208-585-3133



CITY OF MIDDLETON  
P.O. Box 487, 6 North Dewey,  
Middleton, ID 83644  
208-585-3133 Fax (208) 585-9801  
[www.middleton.id.gov](http://www.middleton.id.gov)



**Register for Color Rama!**

Signing up as an individual \$20 \_\_\_\_\_

Signing up as a student \$15 \_\_\_\_\_

Signing up as a family (of 4) \$50 \_\_\_\_\_

Additional t-shirts & sunglasses \_\_\_\_\_ x \$10= \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Children 6 and under do not need to be registered... WE LIVE AND THEY RUN FOR FREE. Just make sure to sign a waiver for them w/ Packet Pick-up.

Signing up for the Home Stretch \$19 \_\_\_\_\_

**IMPORTANT!** Completed forms with payment need to be returned to City Hall by 9-25-13 to get a t-shirt and sunglasses. Registration will be accepted until October 10, 2013 but no t-shirt or sunglasses will be provided.

**Participant Information**

First Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Last Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of birth: \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Shirt Size: XS, XM, YL AS AM AL AXL A2XL A3XL

**Please make checks out to the City of Middleton and bring form to City Hall before September 25<sup>th</sup> in order to get a t-shirt and sunglasses.**

Packet pick-up is October 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> at Trolley Station (right across from City Hall) from 6p.m. - 8p.m.



The race route is one way from Mill Creek Elementary to Middleton High School so please plan accordingly. There will be a shuttle available at the high school to take participants back to Mill Creek. Please car pool where possible.

