Common Council
Meeting
City of Middletown
March 3, 2020

1. Pledge of Allegiance- Pres. Rodrigues asked all to rise for the pledge.


3. Approval of Minutes
   John Naumchik-Nothing this evening.

4. Correspondence
   Ags & Markets Municipal Shelter report-Received & Filed

5. For the Good of the City

   Mayor DeStefano asked the following to come up to the podium

   Orlando Mendoza, Alicia Moreno, Anthony Moreno, along with representatives of the Waalkill Fire Company

   In politics there are times that we have an opportunity to do something good. I mean real good. Tonight is one of those opportunities and partnership with the Waalkill Fire Co. and hopefully the greater Middletown community. This is about Sky Mendoza. Sky was born on June 8, 2004 to Orlando Mendoza and LaShanta Brown. At the early age of 2 yrs. old Sky was fortunate to have gained another mother named Jennifer Parisella. Sky and Jennifer bonded as a mother and daughter and also
became best friends along the way. As she grew up Sky became a great softball player and was active in chorus and other school activities.

On November 17, 2018, Sky went with her mom Jennifer to NYC to work on a farm stand. This was the last weekend Jen was to work as she was pregnant with Sky’s soon to be brother Noah. Sky had previously lost her brother Liam who was born prematurely on October 26th, 2017. Early that morning on their way down to the city they were in a car accident. Not just any car accident, it was an accident that forever changed many lives. Jennifer passed away at the scene of the accident, Sky’s younger brother Orlando broke his collar bone. Sadly Jennifer, baby Noah also passed away in Jen’s belly. Sky was in the backseat covered and unconscious for 22 minutes, her younger brother told paramedics his sister was still alive in the van. Once the paramedics found her they worked tirelessly to bring her back to life. Once at Lincoln Hospital in NYC the doctors came in and told the family about the severity of Sky’s condition. She would never walk again and if she woke up she would be brain dead. As the days went by Sky proved them wrong. She woke up blinking her eyes to commands and start to move her lips asking for her mom. At this point the only thing to do was to tell her the truth. As tears rolled down her face she continued to fight for her life. Even with a setback she remained positive. She was transferred to St. Margaret’s Rehab Center in Albany. Although St. Margaret’s is far away at least 2 hrs., not a night went by that Sky was left alone. Family members traveled to be with her throughout her healing process. Being away from her home and her own room is hard for Sky. Her only wish is to come back to Middletown, NY where all her family and friends are located. We have been fortunate to play a role as a City of Middletown in this opportunity and effort to bring Sky back to Middletown. After consultation with our Corp. Counsel and clearing us through our legal dept the City is in a position to do just that and assist the family in bringing Sky home.

We are asking the community and others to help us reach the goal that is set. The City of Middletown under myself and you as members of the Common Council, Pres. Rodrigues we have authorized tonight, we can authorize tonight the transfer of a vacant piece of property at 52 Broad St. to the Sky Mendoza Supplemental Needs Trust. The property is currently vacant land that a new house can be built upon. In order to move this project forward the Waalkill Engine Co. #6 of the Middletown Fire Dept. has raised $13,485 to move towards construction of this house. However, we still need help. In order to reach the goal of $130,000 for the construction cost you can help by donating funds to the Sky Mendoza Supplemental Needs Trust. A trust set up to build this new home for Sky with a pink room just for her. This home will be handicap accessible obviously. Sky’s needs are tremendous; but nothing will make here happier than bringing her back to the City. This is all been set up I know Orlando’s boss we have met with the family and Alicia who is on the screen there. The Supplemental Needs Trust has been established by Cohen, LaBarbera, and Landrigan LLP of Chester, NY a law firm. All funds will go towards this project are donated. We are here tonight to not only authorize the transfer of a property, it has passed the Board of Estimate last week. We are here also tonight to kick off the opportunity for our community to step forward and people in the greater Middletown
Community to step forward in help bring Sky back to Middletown. We would like to begin with a presentation of the check from the Waalkill Fire Co. to the Sky Mendoza Supplemental Needs Trust. On behalf of Sky to begin this project.

Nelson Reed- I would first like to thank Mayor DeStefano, Pres. Rodrigues, members of the Council for having us here tonight.

Each year we do a golf outing to help someone in the community. We have been here before a couple of times helping out the community for different reasons. Besides doing our golf outing this year we did a Tricky Tray. We had 2 teachers from the Middletown School District; one of them is here tonight. We put together a Tricky Tray we had at Tapped, went very well I should say. So between the golf outing and the Tricky Tray as the Mayor mentioned we raised $13,485. On behalf of the Waalkill Engine Company #6, I like to present this check to the family.

Mayor DeStefano-We would like to have Alicia who really was the one who spearheaded this whole campaign. As you see on the screen she is also one of the contact people where any of the information that is required or anything necessary. We want to assure people that this is not only a good thing for us to do, it is an important thing for us to do as a community to rise above, to do the right thing and bring this young lady back home. Alicia is the one who came and met with us and although we were excited about it from the beginning somewhat of a slow process because of legal issues. She didn’t let the lawyers rest at all.

Alicia- Good evening everyone. I just want to say thank you for all your time. Sky was supposed to be on FaceTime right now because she…she wanted to say thank you for this opportunity and for wanting to help to bring me home.

I just want everyone to be assured that it is our main priority, main purpose to try to get her to come back to Middletown where she grew up and was born. It is a goal and I believe it is going to happen. I want to thank you for your time and effort. Maria thank you so much. Thank you to the Fire Co. and the teacher who set up everything at Tapped.

Thank you again.

Sue Depuy representing Middletown Pride Committee

Thank you for your support in the past and I look forward to another year of support from everybody.

Since 2011 I have involved with the passion of trying to keep Middletown Clean. It has been a hard job but a rewarding job. I have had so many people who have joined the cause from the Council, Mayor, Maria and her group, members of the Middletown School District, many churches, all the High School teams have been involved. We call this the Middletown Pride Committee. The whole idea of pride is to bring back
what you would like to see what Middletown like. Middletown is booming, Middletown is a new city, Middletown is as the Mayor said on the move.

The ugly part that has not completely changed to me is just the disrespect that some people have when they open their window and drive by and throw out what should stay in their car until they come to their house and throw it away.

I would like to invite everybody to join as we celebrate the spring that will be coming soon on April 18th at Festival Square.

We hope we have the support of everyone in Middletown School District, family, friends, and civic groups. We look forward to a wonderful day and we thank all the people who have done it in the past.

We thank the Little League from moving their parade forward. Thank the Middletown School District and everyone who has participated. The Common Council has been so supportive.

Kudos to all.

6. Remarks of Dept. Heads

Police Chief Ewanciw-I have nothing this evening.

Fire Chief Luis- It has been a busy month since Jan. 26th. It was our first fire on Stanton that was a 2nd alarm. Then we had 264 East Main St. on the 8th that was a 4 alarm fire. A lot of mutual aid there. We had Smith St. on the 20th and that also went to a 4 alarm fire. No injuries at any of the calls, everyone involved citizens or fire wise there were no injuries that is always a good thing.

Over the last couple of months I have been asking for numerous things for the dept. and you have come through with everything. These are the tablets that we use in the cars, we do the reports that go right to the State. I just did a 2 hr. webinar along with the Chiefs just to get more familiar with this system. It is working great. It is a time saver for us do to on the scene. Thank you.

Maria Bruni/Economic Development-We had our CDA meeting tonight, our audit and approval to move forward on 2 more homes. We are looking forward to those projects getting underway.

Working with the Mendoza family, Alicia, let’s bring Sky home. Thank you Mayor and Council for making this happen. The Fire. Dept. for getting it started.

Chris Brinkerhoff/Superintendent of Parks & Rec. - I agree with Maria the Mendoza family has been a staple in this community for generations and it has been a pleasure working with parents, children.
Sue with the Middletown Pride we do have gloves, pickers, t-shirts ordered we are ready to rock n roll. John and I have been in communication, we will be ready for Sue’s meeting and always we have a huge turnout on April 18th. Little Leagues that day too, just so you have it on the calendar they are moving the parade back to noon that is going to be a hectic day in the city.

Lions Club, we had a Rec. Committee I want to thank the Lions Club. They are always giving us donations like a lot of other clubs in the City, they are going to be doing a project to enhance our parks. The Waalkills are here tonight, they have helped us in the past and it takes a village. The people in this town really step up and help all the time and that is what makes it a great place to live.

The new facility that the city closed on the guys are working very hard. We are working on the programming end of that. That is going to be an exciting place. Incredible facility. We are going to do more programming for young toddlers, right now we don’t have the facility for it. More programming for our seniors, our young seniors that want to play pickle ball, volleyball, basketball. While the kids are in school since the facility is so big and 2 separate buildings we can have pre-school in one spot and adults in another spot.

What the guys have done over there is incredible. If you get a chance to sneak in there when the guys are working. They are making a correctional facility into a recreational facility it is going to be great.

Spring registration is up, it is going to close out soon so make sure you jump on our programs. We have all our traditional programs running. We have added spring basketball because of demand. We have the kids cooking clinic. We had two coming up in the spring, one in the winter, art classes for 3 different age groups now. Starting double dutch, the teens will be using the Teen Center for double dutch but we have a big response of adults. The adults will be using the gym at the new facility.

Don Paris/Treasurer-I have nothing this evening. The first week in April the outside auditors start.

Jacob Tawil/DPW Commissioner-Part of our work in DPW is to make sure that our water distribution system is relatively old. It is in good shape and we are not losing too much water.

OC Water Authority have given us a grant to survey by a specialty firm half of our distribution system and the other half the city paid for it. That leak detection will be concluded tomorrow about mid-day. That is all done for our annual leak detection. It is a professional outfit that comes in with sophisticated equipment. They found very little leaks, we attended to them immediately. There is only one leak as a matter of fact and the second leak we are going to be attending tomorrow morning at the Psych. Center. They were able to find the leak before the water even came out of the ground which is how we usually find our leaks. It was a very successful operation.
Water Distribution System annual flushing will start March 16\textsuperscript{th}. Please visit our website we are going to start with the 3\textsuperscript{rd} Ward first, 2\textsuperscript{nd}, 1\textsuperscript{st} and 4\textsuperscript{th}. That is all weather permitting hopefully the weather will be cooperating with us and move fast. It freezing weather on the 16\textsuperscript{th} for whatever reason then it will be pushed back. Again visit our website and there is going to be an ad in the paper.

Yard waste pick up is going to start on April 6\textsuperscript{th}. I know the weather is nice, Council Pres. conveyed his wishes to start sooner. We still have to hire personnel, part timers who are going to be picking up the yard waste. So we are going to try our best, April 6\textsuperscript{th} is the official start for the yard waste. All the yard waste have to be inside containers or bags, you cannot just pile it on the streets. Please be aware.

We have several projects out for bid, this is for contractors who might be interested. We have the Green Infrastructure project which is the parking lots, throughout the downtown. The pre-bid meeting is going to be March 11\textsuperscript{th} and bid opening is going to be March 26\textsuperscript{th}. If you have any interest please pick up the plans from our office.

ADA sidewalk, the pre bid meeting has taken place. Last month on the 26\textsuperscript{th} bid opening is the same day, March 26\textsuperscript{th}. These are 2 big projects there most of them are grant funded. The first one is DRI funded, the Green Infrastructure, 2\textsuperscript{nd} one DOT grant. Total amount is about $8million. We have much more capital projects that is going to be implemented for water line improvement, for intersection improvement, going to be $10’s of million yet to be spent on capital projects.

Davidge Park Expansion the project has to be delayed a little bit because of a better way to presenting to bidders and that will be taken care of hopefully in a couple of weeks. Again we expect construction to start May/June and continue through March next year.

We have today in the paper an ad for job opening for Deputy Commissioner of Public Works. Chris Gross has been Deputy Commissioner for Water/Sewer for about 4 1/2 years working for us. He decided that it is time for him to move on to a place that is closer to his home. He doesn’t really live in the city all his life and his heart is in Westchester. Chris, he has a soft spot in my heart because he started working as a junior engineer when I was a principal at Clark Patterson so he did most of his training under me when I was with Clark Patterson. That was in the 2000’s. I stole him from Clark Patterson not too happy about it, now he goes somewhere else. It is really sad for me I knew him for many, many years and he was a very effective Deputy Commissioner and he is moving on to better things. I wish him best of luck.

Mike Moser he started under us here, I was very happy with him. He moved into better things for himself.

Brian Smith the same thing. Those are very valuable people that worked for us and they have a special place in my heart. All 3 of them really. I wish them the very best of luck.
The ad is in the paper, website, any engineers looking for position as Deputy Commissioner of Public Works, is very ambitious, active position and very rewarding professionally, hopefully as well as financially.

Ald. Kleiner-NYS Rising is that bridge Monhagen Ave. is that still in the works.

Commissioner Tawil-Yes the design is almost completed by MD-5 and the focus is going to be on Grant St. replacing that culvert very bad shape.

Mayor DeStefano-What bridge did he say?

Commissioner Tawil-No he was asking about NY Rising?


Mayor DeStefano-No. That is West Main St. You are talking about 2 different things. He said Monhagen Ave, we don’t have any grant for a bridge on Monhagen Ave.

Ald. Kleiner-I meant West Main.

Commissioner Tawil-West Main is still on. Grant St. is in very bad shape. That culvert in there will be part of the project. That is going to be the focus of NY Rising. West Main bridge, Monhagen brook crossing, Drabber Brook crossing where Grant St. is.

John Naumchik/Clerk of Common Council-Nothing this evening.

7. Public Hearings & Grievances
   John Naumchik-Nothing this evening.

8. Petitions & Complaints
   John Naumchik-Nothing this evening.

9. Remarks of the Mayor

   There are a couple of resolutions tonight, at least one regarding M&R Energy I need to address with you. I think John I had sent you an amended contract. M&R is our consultant hired to do our energy purchasing and hopefully we are renewing the contract. It is a 2 yr. and the 2 yr. savings is about $135,000 it is up to about $67,000 a year should be on the latest contract that was submitted. I sent you the amended contract late this afternoon.

   There’s a second part to the M&R. Apparently there is a, there will be a solar farm community solar out in South Centerville. Which M&R is recommending to us that we consider signing up for this community solar project? That will result in additional savings to the city of about $13,000 for year 1 and close to $10,000 for
years 2-5. We are looking to clear through City Counsel and NYS Office of General Procurement services on how to go about this. Alex has reviewed the contract preliminary and feels that it is something that we can do based on the information that has been submitted to us. By the next meeting we are probably going to make a request, basically all we do is sign up certain electrical accounts and we agree to buy power that does the providing through O&R on the grid. There is nothing that we have to do other than bookkeeping on our end. We will additional savings over and above the $67,000. By the next meeting we are hoping to have a resolution for you on that.

John Naumchik- I can put it in there with approval of Corp. Counsel to approve tonight?

Mayor DeStefano- No, that is the one thing that is the $67,000. The second part is the Community Solar project. He has already given a verbal on it we will wait for Alex to put it in writing we like to get things from our lawyers in writing. Right Alicia.

The second I am sure you have some feedback on it both on social media and probably the sanitation plan that I submitted. Posted on social media, I’ve had meetings with Chairman Mr. Jude Jean-Francois, Jacob. This is just my proposal. There is a lot that has to be vetted out, we are hoping that the chairman will call for a public hearing, informational public hearing. Not required but I think it is necessary, we agreed at the last meeting. I was hoping he would set an hour aside at your committee meeting and make sure it is well advertised so that we can get public input. Also encourage written comments. We’ve tried to address a lot of the issues on social media already. Some issues are some people think the smaller can should be 50 gallons rather 65 gallons. There was some misinformation about the scanning that we were going to check people’s garbage. No the scanning is of the cans to make sure that the cans are at the appropriate address. What would we do at holiday time? We would have additional pick up. What would we do for yard waste? We would continue to keep some of our old trucks the back end trucks. Because a: we could use them for our dumpsters and b: we would use them for yard waste. We could eventually get into a container if we want for yard waste; but I think at this time we are not willing to buy the additional truck and go that way. I think we will see how this thing goes. We talked about routes on one way streets. Some people have raised concerns. Not all trucks will be one man, one person. Narrow streets might require a 2nd person on board, some of the other questions were about layoffs. There will be no layoffs, this will be reduced through attrition. Some people objected to reducing “union jobs” but I haven’t had any negative feedback from the union even on this. I understand they can come to the public hearing but the feedback that I am getting from city employees is that they know this is back breaking work, especially in the winter time. That we can structure this, we are not inventing this is what we are pointing out to people. This is done in many communities, not just down south. It is done in the northeast, Salem, MA. and other communities where streets are more narrow than us do it. It might require some changing of routes but that will be up to Jacob and his people to implement. The idea is the plan is out there, total cost initial
The capital outlay is well over $2million. But through the attrition plan we will have an opportunity to recoup that money in the long term. Short term there won’t be a savings since we are going to have to assume the debt. But this is the time to do the project because we do need to invest in additional garbage trucks. So if we are going to invest in new trucks we might as well get what we want and move forward. Based on some community input.

There is a whole section on DMU some people mistook the timing of placement of garbage pails that applied strictly to the DMU. The existing times that are in the Code do not apply to the residential area but the idea of having time limitations downtown is if a business or a building owner is going to put their garbage out, you don’t want garbage cans sitting on the sidewalk all day in your downtown area.

The best thing I think people should do is start writing to you folks, the aldermen, me, e-mail and we will try to address your questions. We will then compose all those questions and answers into one document that will be submitted for the record and at the end of the game we can draft our own ordinance in accordance with feedback and what is overall the best interest of the city.

As I stated the gallons, the cans are 95 gallon cans. One for recycling and one for municipal solid waste. Homes like mine that would require more should pay more according to my plan that I submitted an additional $100 per year for the additional can because you are producing more garbage. There is no reason why a person a 2 person home should be paying more produce less than 1 can of garbage then what my family produces on a weekly basis.

That is the proposal. I hope people will participate in the feedback. I will try to address as many questions as I can on social media or whatever mechanism you choose to send. We are going to make changes. One person asked about privatization, why not privatization I told him that Mr. Masi did have a plan in privatization that will save well over a million dollars a year. That is required to be bargained for with the union and the union refused to bargain on that. So that plan was dead on arrival. We are moving into part 2 which is this. I don’t think there is a third option. I don’t think status quo is a good option for us. If you look at the injury reports they continue to be high percentage of injuries for the city comes from that department. A lot of times laid off. Time at work missed. I think both the union and employees and residents will be happier, have a cleaner city. Sue is going to come up here next year as Sue will say everything is beautiful. No more pizza boxes floating down the street. You see it yourself on a windy day, especially recycling day stuff is all over streets or animals rip open the bags. It is going to take a period of time to get acclimated to the new process but it is not rocket science and we will be able to do it, make extra exceptions at holiday time. When the community has a bigger load of garbage to get rid we will try to address everything in a plan may be we missed a few things. I appreciate your feedback.
Corona, which is absolutely a national issue but also a local preparedness issue. It is not going to be alarming to anyone but we are getting questions on that also. First of all we have been posting the links to different literature from both the Governor’s Office and some stuff that have been provided by the Police Dept. and I don’t know what the source of theirs is. It is from FEMA on how to prepare yourself for these types of potential pandemics. That preparedness is the key to learn different protocols of washing your hands, you heard it all a million times on television. We are going to be adding some signage to all municipal buildings, signage is going to be similar to what you seen when you go into a hospital. If you have the following symptoms please do not enter the building, there will be a contact number for the police dept., the police dept. can met them outside the building and see what their needs are and we will try to address their needs. If it is a matter of getting a birth certificate, something we can do similar to what they are doing in other parts of the world like in South Korea. They are actually doing screening in parking lots, so there is no reason why we can’t have somebody get the documentation and we bring it into City Hall and try to accommodate their needs if they have any of the symptoms. Most importantly though we also want to protect our employees. So we changed some City Hall protocols for example inspectors if there is a rental housing inspection that is going to be done and any sign of any type of illness we are going to postpone the inspection. There is no urgency that it be done today, it can be done 4 weeks from now. We are also looking at possibility if something does happen where schools are closed how we possibly flex some schedules for people who have child care issues. Basically we want to reassure the people that we have been meeting and discussing what we can do locally. Obviously we can’t ban travel from China or Italy or anywhere else in the world locally. What we did do is the Chief has spoken directly to Emergency Housing, Warming Center, Senior Center, library, school district and putting together any type of emergency plan for how their addressing their needs. As we know that some public establishments have higher frequency of people who don’t have a home for example. How are they addressing that within their confines of their responsibility of their building? What we wanted to do was to reassure the public of Middletown that we are looking at what we can do locally. We don’t have the expertise or access to make decisions nor would we, Health Dept. decisions. Friday there is a conference call for all municipal leaders throughout the County with the County Emergency Preparedness Dept., myself, Chief Luis, Chief Ewanciw and Jacob will be on that call also and I think we will be inviting some other members of City government to join us. We will prepare some questions if they are not answered in the presentation that is made by the County.

We are asking people to be patient if they need something urgently from City Hall and they do show symptoms please call the number on the signs, call my office and we will try to make arrangements. We are providing gear, hand sanitizers in all vehicles just little things that you normally don’t do on a regular basis. With this thing you never know where this is going to go so we want to be prepared and we didn’t want to wait until the last minute.
Ald. Masi-Mr. Mayor we have a local physician Dr. Raymond Basri who is a member of the Fire Dept. also he had a little video on Mid-Hudson and might not be a bad idea. Would you speak on that?

Mayor DeStefano-Yes MidHudsonnews.com Dr. Basri has posted about a 4 min. video a little tutorial on what to do. Basic common sense stuff and he added a little bit of his own flavor to it. I encourage you to watch it, I can’t swear to the validity of it but he is a doctor, he is a medical doctor and he can give you some advice. Also go to the links on our website. We want to make sure people have the appropriate information to make their decisions, what is the best interest of their families. We are trying not to have any gatherings like one thing we spoke with the Fire Chief about it, if there is any volunteer fire gatherings that is scheduled. Postpone them. I don’t believe there are any schedule. Then we will deal with things as they come in. At least we are prepared if something does happen we are prepared to react to it. A school in the Bronx was closed today, what would happen to if school was closed for a week, 2 weeks. What happen to your work force? How do you address those things? Chief Ewanciw had raised that issue.

We try to address everything. If you have questions of the Council and you like us to try to find out answers to or ask a question to the County Health Dept. on Friday please forward it to us.

Ald. Kleiner-Going back to the M&R energy you said you wanted to approve, it says the resolution to approve M&R Energy Resources Corp. to secure energy cost for 2020 and participate in the Community solar agreement upon Corp. Counsel approval. That is the way it is written.

Mayor DeStefano-Oh that is fine, Alex draft the resolution.

John Naumchik-I talked to Alex about it.

Mayor DeStefano-If Alex approved it with John then that is fine with me. If he hasn’t approved that I will veto that. I am sure as long as he’s approved it we can move ahead with it. That is fine with me. I am all for it. I don’t see any down side. All he did was give me a phone call and told me he was okay with it and I was hoping for something in writing. I will take John’s word at it that Alex did convey that to him and the resolution if fine with it.

10. Remarks of Aldermen

Ald. Masi-Waalkill Fire Co. again you guys to the forefront thank you very much. You out do yourself each year. Really appreciate what you have done this year and in the past. Very special this year. Lions Club thank you very much.
Ald. Tobin- I like to join the chorus of everybody reminding people take the Census coming out soon. It affects our school district, affects our government, and affects our representation. Please make sure you fill out your census.

I like to thank the Waalkills for their generous donation. Let’s bring Sky home.

If you are hungry this Saturday the Lions Club is doing a spaghetti dinner at the Hoffman Lodge.

Ald. Green- Mendoza family our hearts are with you. From the memorial on. We will bring Sky home. That is something I know this community will do and what we do best and come together for you. Bring Sky home.

Ald. Johnson- I just want to remind the group the Legislative Committee will meet as soon as administration is ready. The zombie home issue, double utility pole issue and the plumber’s issue. As soon as the Mayor and Council are ready I will schedule that.

Garbage truck issue we had discussed it for close to 2 yrs. I had a resident as recently as a few days ago that the top 6 reasons why it won’t work for her, her environment, lifestyle. I told nothing that she said to me had not been discussed. So we still have miles to go before we sleep because people outside this room will be hearing it for the first time they will raise questions about what we raised. About one way streets, snow and how many cans and all that. Hopefully we will move forward.

I know Ald. Kleiner will re-visit the deer conversation about 5 yrs. ago let him talk about that.

The firefighters thanks for all you do. Obviously this month things have been a little more challenging than others. Thank all the people that keep us safe on that score.

We had CDA we had our audit. I think the CDA has been a very good project in the last few years. A lot of good things into our community. I want to thank the Mayor and Maria and Don and the two Jean’s, Patty for keeping things going so well.

Corona virus I got a notice today from the American Veterinary Medical Assoc. that there is a dog in the world in Hong Kong that tested positive for the virus. We as veterinarians will be part of that conversation. Can a dog infected, can you give it to your dog, cat these are the things I get to think about in the next month or two.

As far as the Mendoza’s it is a bittersweet evening. I understand that. God Bless you all and what you do. Let’s hope for rapid success.

Ald. Ramkissoon- I think what the city is going to do tonight and begin to show you just what makes Middletown different from everyone else in the world that we take care of each other. This community will rise up and GoFundMe we take each other. Bring Sky back.
Ald. Kleiner-I also want to thank Maria and the Mayor and Don Paris and everyone, with the Community Development Agency. When you are in the audit committee and the words you hear are clean and transparent and everything balances I thank everyone for their hard work.

The Census as Ald. Tobin says I believe it starts March 12th. It is important for people to pay attention to that, we all need to get counted.

Thank you to the Lions Club. It will be fun to watch that project come along.

Waalkills, I’m sure Middletown will bring Sky home because that is the thing Middletown does.

I wish Chris Gross well in his next endeavors. I think you’ve done a good job for the City. Sorry to see him leave.

We have a 2nd Ward constituents meeting. Next Monday, March 9th at 7pm. Bring us your questions and ideas.

A week from tonight on March 10th also right here at 7pm will be having the DEC Wildlife Specialist in deer overpopulation. She will be coming here to give a presentation on the latest from the DEC. We had Kevin Clark he was our Region 111 Wildlife Biologist and that was 5 ½ yrs. ago. We will see if there is any new ideas and latest thinking is, should be interesting.

Ald. Jean-Francois- I would personally like to thank the Mayor and Commissioner DPW and Common Council Pres. We have been talking about this project for the longest. It is a good thing it is coming to fruition. The Mayor is being very aggressive on this project and moving forward and it is a good thing to see.

DPW Committee meeting take place March 17th at 7pm. We recommend everyone come to the meeting, just in case you cannot attend the meeting please visit our website and give us your feedback, comments or concerns.

As far as Sky I know the City of Middletown will step up, it is just a matter of when Sky is going to be home. She’ll get there.


Waalkills you guys are phenomenal. I am a volunteer, I’m a different company thank you for all you do.

Pres. Rodrigues-I also want to echo all the councilmen. The best company the Waalkills, they are all volunteers if anybody wants to join come out and reach out.
Sky was close to home my daughter and Sky are the same age, same school, know each other. Not only did it hit our community, it hit us. When the Mayor, Ald. Masi and myself absolutely. We are committed and we want to get behind and bring her home. We will work with builders, anybody.

11. Unfinished Business
   John Naumchik-Nothing this evening.

12. New Business

   48.20 Resolution to approve the New York State Legislature and the New York Senate to extend the authority of the City of Middletown to sell, or pledge as collateral for a loan, some or all of the delinquent tax liens held by the city until December 31, 2021.

   On motion of Ald. Masi seconded by Ald. Kleiner

Whereas, per previous agreement, Assemblywoman Gunther and Senator Metzger have introduced legislation in the New York State Legislature and the New York Senate that would extend the authority of the City of Middletown to sell, or pledge as collateral for a loan, some or all of the delinquent tax liens held by the city until December 31, 2021, and

Whereas, the Assembly bill is listed as bill number A.8229, and the Senate bill is listed as bill number S.6432.

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the Common Council of the City of Middletown that the Common Council supports the approval of A.8229 and S.6432 by the New York State Legislature and Senate and authorizes the appropriate City officials to sign, seal and transmit to the Assembly and the Senate the necessary home rule request forms regarding the proposed legislation.

COMMON COUNCIL
CITY OF MIDDLETOWN
CERTIFICATION OF RESOLUTION

I, John C. Naumchik, Common Council Clerk of the City of Middletown, hereby certify that I have compared the attached resolution with the original on file in my office and adopted by the Common Council on ______________ and that the same is a true copy thereof and the whole of such original resolution.

__________________________
John C. Naumchik
Clerk of the Common Council
City of Middletown, NY


03-03-2020CC
Resolution to authorize the closing of streets for the Middletown Little League Parade on Saturday, April 18, 2020 starting at 12 Noon.

On motion of Ald. Green seconded by Ald. Ramkissoon

RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown authorizes the closing of streets for the Middletown Little League Parade on Saturday, April 18, 2020 at 12 Noon, lining up at the Presidential Park Elementary School, walk up Sunset Street, make left onto Watkins and into Watts Park.


Resolution to allow the Middletown Police Department to acquire a forfeited vehicle from the FBI Safe Streets Task Force for use in our undercover narcotics operations.

On motion of Ald. Johnson seconded by Ald. Green

RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to allow the Middletown Police Department to acquire a forfeited vehicle from the FBI Safe Streets Task Force for use in our undercover narcotics operations with no cost to the City for this acquisition.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to approve any minor repairs and maintenance needed for the vehicle that would be funded from the repairs to equipment budget line of the police department 2020 budget.

51.20 Resolution to authorize the Treasurer to transfer $1,402.00 within the Police Department 2020 budget to cover the cost of new computer parts and printers to replace those in disrepair.

On motion of Ald. Ramkissoon seconded by Ald. Jean-Francois

RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to authorize the Treasurer to transfer $1,402.00 within the Police Department 2020 budget to cover the cost of new computer parts and printers to replace those in disrepair in the following manner:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>From</th>
<th>Amount</th>
<th>To</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A.3120.440</td>
<td>$1,402.00</td>
<td>A.3120.200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Repairs to Equipment</td>
<td></td>
<td>Equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


52.20 Resolution to prohibit food trucks in all zoning districts, except for ice cream trucks which will require a license from the City Clerk.

On motion of Ald. Kleiner seconded by Ald. Ramkissoon

WHEREAS, the Common Council wishes to prohibit food trucks in all zoning districts, except for ice cream trucks which will require a license from the City Clerk.

Resolved, and be it Ordained, by the Common Council of the City of Middletown, New York, as follows:

Section 1 - The Code of the City of Middletown, N.Y., Chapter 475, Zoning, be and is hereby amended by replacing Subsection A of Section 475.30, Temporary Business Movable Structures to read as follows:

No temporary, movable or portable structures used in connection with any gainful occupation or business, whether such structures are for sale, storage or display purposes, and including, but not necessarily limited to, temporary, movable or portable structures used by flower vendors and furniture vendors, shall be permitted in any zoning district except by special permission and at the discretion of the Planning Board and subject to such conditions, restrictions and safeguards as may be deemed necessary by said Planning Board. Any such approval shall be valid for not longer than a one-year period, which may be renewed by the Planning Board in its sole discretion upon proper application therefor and subject to such conditions, restrictions and safeguards as it may deem
necessary. In no event shall such temporary, movable or portable structures be used for the storage of hazardous or toxic materials or products.

Section 2 - The Code of the City of Middletown, N.Y., Chapter 353, Peddling and Soliciting, be and is hereby amended by adding a new Paragraph 4 of Subsection A of Section 353.2, License required; exceptions, to read as follows:

(4) Events or programs sponsored by the City of Middletown.

Section 3 - The Code of the City of Middletown, N.Y., Chapter 353, Peddling and Soliciting, be and is hereby amended by adding a new Subsection D of Section 353.2, License required; exceptions, to read as follows:

D. In no event shall any license be granted to any hawker, peddler or solicitor to sell foods or food products. This subsection shall not apply to ice cream vendors whose goods are limited to ice cream products.

Section 4 – The Code of the City of Middletown, N.Y., Chapter 353, Peddling and Soliciting, be and is hereby amended by repealing Paragraph 12 of Subsection A of Section 353.3, License application requirements.

Section 5 - The Code of the City of Middletown, N.Y., Chapter 353, Peddling and Soliciting, be and is hereby amended by repealing Section 353-12, Use of vehicle to vend food.

Section 5 - This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

Ald. Kleiner-I do want to reassure people that the Fire Dept. is an exemption for city sponsored events. They will still be able to sell from their truck.

53.20 Resolution to authorize the Mayor to sign an agreement from the County of Orange for the STOP-DWI Traffic Safety Program.

On motion of Ald. Jean-Francois seconded by Ald. Green

RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to authorize the Mayor to sign the attached agreement from the County of Orange for the STOP-DWI Traffic Safety Program enforcement period of March 13, 2020 through January 1, 2021 and add the $4,215.00 to the STOP DWI budget line of A.3141.103.


54.20 Resolution to approve the conveyance of 52 Broad Street and authorize the Mayor to sign all documents pertaining to this conveyance prepared by Corporation Counsel.

On motion of Ald. Burr seconded by Ald. Masi

WHEREAS, the City of Middletown (“Seller”) intends to convey a vacant parcel of property located at 52 Broad Street for the sum of $1.00 and other good and valuable consideration to Orlando Mendoza, Sr., as Trustee of The Sky Mendoza Supplemental Needs Trust (“Purchaser”), and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this conveyance is to allow the subject of the Trust, Sky Mendoza, a severely disabled minor, to reside in a house, as opposed to a facility.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Common Council of the City of Middletown that it hereby concurs with the Board of Estimate that the property located at 52 Broad Street may be sold to the afore-mentioned Trustee for the sum of $1.00 and in consideration of and subject to the following covenants and restrictions, which run with the land:

1. Purchaser agrees that a house shall be constructed on the premises suitable to allow Sky Mendoza to reside therein.

2. Purchaser shall utilize the premises solely for the residence of Sky Mendoza, and any qualified caregiver or immediate family member, for the rest of Ms. Mendoza’s natural life, unless there comes a point in time that Ms. Mendoza shall be medically unable to live on the premises for a period greater than 5 years. After the expiration of the 5-year period, the trustee may, in his discretion, use the premises for other purposes or sell it.
3. In the event that the above requirements are violated, then the ownership of the premises shall automatically revert to the Seller.

Ald. Kleiner-Since we talked about lawyers and wanting every i dotted I just want to point out that reading and discussion transfer for the fee of $1.00 but in the actual language it is written, in consideration of $10.00.

Mayor DeStefano-Change it to $1.00


55.20 Resolution to approve the JCO agreement for the WWTP through March 2021.

On motion of Ald. Masi seconded by Ald. Jean-Francois

RESOLVED: that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to approve an agreement and authorize the Mayor to sign the attached agreement with JCO to provide the management services and act as a chief operator of the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This includes providing full time licensed and qualified operators at the WWTP for one year ending on 3/7/21 for the amount of $21,000.00 per month.


56.20 Resolution to allow the City to lend the Middletown Community Development Agency up to $300,000 annually for the rehabilitation of properties sold by the CDA.

On motion of Ald. Green seconded by Ald. Tobin

WHEREAS; the CDA is requesting a resolution allowing the City to lend the Middletown Community Development Agency up to $300,000 annually for the rehabilitation of properties sold by the CDA. The CDA currently borrows money from Community Capital by way of mortgage advances secured by individual properties. The interest cost to the CDA is 6% annually, and

WHEREAS; the City’s liquid excess cash that is not acting as compensating balances accrues interest in a money market account at 1.5%. The CDA would pay the City monthly for outstanding balances at 1.5% keeping the City whole and reducing CDA’s interest expense by 4.5%. If the whole amount was borrowed for 12 months this would reduce the cost to the CDA by $13,500 annually. On average this should be less with 3 months to do the repairs and 4 months to sell the property.
SO LET IT BE RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to allow the City to lend the Middletown Community Development Agency up to $300,000 annually for the rehabilitation of properties sold by the CDA which will not be a hardship to the City in terms of cash flow and if a problem does develop the CDA will revert back to the bank as a source of cash so there is no operating risk to either party.


57.20 Resolution to authorize the Chief of Police to sign an agreement from 03/01/2020 through 12/31/2020 between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the City of Middletown regarding the reimbursement of expenses in joint operations.

On motion of Ald. Johnson seconded by Ald. Green

RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to authorize the Chief of Police to sign the attached agreement from 03/01/2020 through 12/31/2020 between the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the City of Middletown regarding the reimbursement of expenses in joint operations.


58.20 Resolution to approve an agreement with M&R Energy Resources Corporation to secure energy cost for 2020 and participate in a Community Solar agreement upon Corporation Counsel approval.

On motion of Ald. Ramkissoon seconded by Ald. Kleiner

RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to approve the attached agreement with M&R Energy Resources Corporation to secure energy cost for 2020 to use Engie for Electricity and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement with approval of Corporation Counsel.

LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED; that the Common Council of the City of Middletown concurs with the Board of Estimate and Apportionment to participate in a community Solar agreement to purchase a portion of its energy needs from a local solar farm. The projected savings is $51,870 over five years contingent upon Corporation Counsel approval with authorization for the Mayor to sign the agreement.

13. LOCAL LAWS
   John Naumchik-Nothing this evening.

14. AUDIT OF CLAIMS AND ACCOUNTS

   On motion of Ald. Masi seconded by Ald. Green

   I move that the accounts be audited the claims be adjusted and the Treasurer be authorized to
   issue warrants for their payment.

   Roll Call: Ayes: Ald. Ramkissoon, Tobin, Kleiner, Johnson, Jean-Francois, Burr, Green, Masi,
   Pres. Rodrigues-9

14. ADJOURNMENT

   There being no further business meeting adjourned at 9:05 PM

   Respectfully submitted,

   Karen Sisco