



## City Manager's Weekly Briefing January 23, 2012

Mayor Larry Mulligan  
Vice Mayor Dan Picard  
Council Member Anita Scott Jones  
Council Member Josh Laubach  
Council Member Ann Mort  
Council Member Joe Mulligan  
Council Member A.J. Smith  
Clerk of Council Betsy Parr  
Judge Mark Wall, Municipal Court  
Director of Court Steve Longworth

City Manager Judy Gilleland  
Community Revitalization Doug Adkins  
Fire Chief Steve Botts  
Finance Director Russ Carolus  
Public Works/Utilities Dave Duritsch  
Economic Development Denise Hamet  
Human Resources Steve Husemann  
Planning Director Marty Kohler  
Law Director Les Landen  
Health Commissioner Jackie Phillips  
Police Chief Dave VanArsdale

City of Middletown  
1 Donham Plaza  
Middletown, Ohio 45042

### **Please note:**

**This Weekly briefing is presented by Acting City Manager Les Landen**

### **Jail Food Service Inquiry**

Per Councilman Smith's request at the January 17th City Council meeting, both Montgomery County and Butler County were contacted to find out how they handle their jail food service. Both stated they bid for and contract with a vendor to provide the service for their facilities; stating cost, insurance, and liability issues are the major reasons for contracting out the service. Butler County used to provide their own service, but after extensive research, determined that it is more cost effective to contract the service to an outside vendor. Contractors are able to purchase the food at a much better cost than the City due to the sheer volume of food they purchase for their very large companies. Even if the City used trustees to prepare and serve the food, an employee would have to be dedicated to the food service needs of the jail for a minimum of 12 hours per day/7 days per week. A contract with a registered dietician or nutritionist would have to be established to help keep us in compliance with the state jail standards. These are just a few of the costs and issues of doing the service in-house. All these costs, plus the risk, would be more expensive in the long run, as verified by Butler County's extensive research on this subject.

### **New Airport Signage**

The airport manager has installed some new reflective signage at the airport to help our visitors find their way. The signs were made using the City's sign maker and even with personnel, equipment, and material costs of \$324.60, we saved \$471 over the cost of having the signs produced externally. With the airport bringing in thousands of outside people annually, this was a priority. We are working at putting up a new sign at the entrance that will replace a very old and outdated sign using money from business located at the airport to offset the new sign's cost. More on the new sign will be forthcoming.

### **Personnel Offers Supervisory Training**

EAP Systems will be conducting Supervisory Training for all employees in supervisory positions. The training will equip those with the knowledge to guide employees in the right direction when additional help is needed. This training is strongly encouraged by the Personnel Division to help create a better work environment for all employees. The training will be held in house early February.

## **The Middletown Division of Fire (MDF)**

The Butler County Emergency Agency (BCEMA) has updated the county hazard mitigation plan and soon will bring it to Middletown City Council requesting a resolution to adopt said plan.

The plan is being presented to the 25 jurisdiction within Butler County. It addresses natural disasters that could affect a local community and is an administrative document issued to establish activities that should reduce, or when possible, eliminate long-term risk to human-life and property. The plan identified hazards that Butler County is considered most susceptible to: severe storms, flooding, tornadoes, droughts and earthquakes.

As part of the Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000, communities that desire to remain eligible for Federal and State mitigation funds must have an approved mitigation plan in place.

Adoption of this plan by local jurisdictions makes them eligible for the following grant programs:

- Hazard Mitigation Grant Program
- Flood Mitigation Assistance
- Pre-Disaster Mitigation Grant
- Repetitive Flood Claims program
- Severe Repetitive Loss program

Middletown, as all 25 jurisdictions of Butler County, participated in this mitigation plan by either submitting questionnaires or attending planning meetings. Mitigation goals have been created to guide the potential mitigation projects throughout the county. These goals are consistent with what is appropriate for all Butler County's jurisdictions.

## **Brownfield Job Training Program Accepting Applicants**

Adults ages 18 or older who are interested in cleaning up the environment might want to consider the Brownfield Job Training Program at Butler Tech.

Funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, the free course meets 8 a.m. to 5p.m., weekdays, Feb. 21 through April 10 at the school's Public Health Complex, 5140 Princeton-Glendale Road in Liberty Township. To be eligible, adults must live in butler or Warren counties; hold a valid driver's license, pass a physical and drug test. Applicants must provide a background check, three references and a letter stating why you want to enter the program.

Applications are available at the Public Safety Building or the Adult Workforce office, 3603 Ohio Route 4, and must be turned in by February 1st. They are also available online at [www.butlertech.org](http://www.butlertech.org). Information: 513-645-8350.

See attached flyer for more information.



Butler Tech Flyer  
2012 (2).pdf

**Tornado Sirens**

Tornado season is approaching fast. Electronic Maintenance personnel have recently completed inspections on the 10 sirens in the City. There are several maintenance items recommended, including replacement of the backup batteries, and those will be completed soon.

**Reminder: Middletown Division of Police**

Middletown Division of Police Lt. Leann Hood will hold a free self defense class on Saturday, January 28, 2012. The class will be limited to the first 20 applicants. The 2 hour class will be held 10 am to noon in the Police Training Room on the Lower Level. Please contact Vanessa Grooms @ 425-7756 to make your reservations. Please note: Make your reservations now, as this class is open to the public and will be published in the Middletown Journal.

**Law Department**

Pilot Project: Engine-braking. The City will be implementing a pilot program to deal with the negative effects of engine-braking on truck routes near residential areas. The City will post signs prohibiting the practice, and enforce if trucks are observed by an officer engaging in the practice. Engine-braking is a method of slowing a tractor-trailer engine without using brakes. It produces a very loud noise. The City has had many complaints regarding the practice.

## Upcoming Events

- Jan 29 Middletown Health Center Opening 1036 S. Verity Pkwy 3:00-6:00 pm
- Feb 3 First Friday Downtown Middletown 5:00- 9:00 pm
- Feb 4 Second Look @ Pendleton - PAC Corner of Central and Broad 11:00 am – 2:00 pm
- Feb 6 Park Board meeting City Building Conference Room 2C 5:00 pm
- Feb 7 City Council meeting Council Chambers (LL) 5:30 pm
- Feb 8 Airport Commission meeting Airport – (2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) 5:00 pm
- Feb 8 Planning Commission meeting Council Chambers (LL) 6:30 pm
- Feb 9 Civil Service Commission meeting Conference Room 2B 8:00 am
- Feb 11 Council Retreat City Building Conference Room 4C(Middfest) 8:30 am – 3:30 pm
- Feb 14 Health Board City building Conference Room 2C 7:30 am
- Feb 15 Cemetery Board meeting City Bldg. Conference Room 2C 5:00 pm
- Feb 21 Public Hearing -Land Use 5:30 pm
- Feb 21 City Council meeting Council Chambers (LL) 5:30 pm

## Links for additional information

- City Web Site [www.cityofmiddletown.org](http://www.cityofmiddletown.org)
- City Manager's Weekly Briefing [www.cityofmiddletown.org](http://www.cityofmiddletown.org)
- Middletown Community Calendar <http://www.calendarwiz.com/middletowncalendar>  
(Copy and paste in your web browser)
- Pothole Patrol [www.cityofmiddletown.org](http://www.cityofmiddletown.org) or call 727-3691 (Option 2)
- Requests for Service regarding Snow and Ice Removal 425-1897
- Requests for recycling toters (free) or the brown waste toters (monthly fee)  
[www.cityofmiddletown.org/features/toters.html](http://www.cityofmiddletown.org/features/toters.html) or call 513.425.7870