

Power shifts to Republicans

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Middletown

Republicans swept back into power in Middletown, taking three supervisor seats to gain a 4-1 majority on the board, according to unofficial results.

One of the main differences between the Republican and Democratic supervisor candidates were their thoughts on the public safety director system in Middletown.

The Republicans favor a switch back to a police chief. They said the position keeps politics out of the police department.

The Democrats said it made sense to have all emergency services in the township, including police fire and rescue, under one administrative head. Also, they said a public safety director can get a better handle on things like controlling police overtime and the purchase of fire trucks and other firefighting equipment.

Mallon said the police department is understaffed and he wants to explore ways of increasing personnel without raising taxes, a Republican theme during the campaign.

"Power shifts to Republicans" Bucks County Courier Times 04 Nov 2009: B4