



MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, September 25, 2025



PENDING APPROVAL

PRESENT: Mayor Trowbridge M. Littleton
Vice Mayor Chris W. Bernard
Councilmember Pamela Curran
Councilmember J. Kevin Daly
Councilmember Morris E. “Bud” Jacobs
Councilmember Peter A. Leonard-Morgan
Councilmember Cindy C. Pearson

STAFF: Danny Davis, Town Manager
Martin Crim, Town Attorney
Rhonda S. North, MMC, Town Clerk
Will Moore, Deputy Town Manager
Shaun Jones, Chief of Police
Angela Fletcher, Town Treasurer/Finance Director
Ali MacIntyre, Business Development & Community Partnerships Director

ABSENT: Councilmember C. Darlene Kirk

The Town Council of the Town of Middleburg, Virginia held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, September 25, 2025 in the Town Hall Council Chambers, located at 10 West Marshall Street. Mayor Littleton led Council and those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The roll was called at 6:00 p.m.

Public Comment

Earlene Coleman, 205 Windy Hill Road, expressed disappointment that *Country Zest Magazine* did not include some pictures of the Juneteenth celebration that she felt should have been included. She further expressed disappointment that the Town’s July newsletter did not make any mention of the event. Ms. Coleman reminded Council that Juneteenth was the African American version of the Fourth of July and advised that it was a fantastic day. She reiterated her disappointment that it was not mentioned in the newsletter.

Public Presentations

Presentation of Safety Patrol Officer Certificates – Middleburg Charter School

Mayor Littleton noted that he wanted to take the opportunity to speak to the parents of the Middleburg Charter School. He advised them that on Tuesday, September 30th, the Loudoun County School Board was planning to vote on a change to the school’s priorities with regard their Capital Improvement Program (CIP). Mr. Littleton explained that if approved, they would no longer provide for the capital needs of the charter schools, which were for things such as roofs, HVAC systems, and other large-scale building maintenance items. He noted the age of the Middleburg Charter School. Mr. Littleton opined that the proposed changes targeted the two charter schools in Loudoun County, as the School Board was not saying it would not do CIP projects for the other schools. He advised that the Council would later vote on sending a letter to the School Board. Mr. Littleton suggested that given that the decision had been made to have charter schools, all schools should be treated the same. He advised that the Council’s concern was that if money was not spent to maintain the schools, the lack of maintenance would create health and safety issues for these older buildings. Mr. Littleton noted that the School Board’s budget was approximately \$1.6 billion; however, they only spent \$1 million on the Middleburg Charter School over the last

five years. He advised that the Middleburg Charter School was not what was driving the overspending and opined that what was being proposed was political. Mr. Littleton noted that this was his and his fellow Councilmembers' views. He suggested that if they shared this concern, the parents needed to reach out to the members of the School Board before their meeting or attend the public hearing on September 30th. Mr. Littleton noted that the more elected officials heard from the public, the more they listened and had an open mind.

Chief Jones noted that the Middleburg Charter School was broken up into different color houses – red, yellow, blue, and green – and reported that each officer was now a member of a house. He advised that the safety patrol program between the Charter School and the Police Department was an important one. Chief Jones further advised that he wanted to make sure the students had someone who could focus their attention on them. He announced that this year, Officer First Class McCord was the Safety Patrol Coordinator. Chief Jones reminded the safety patrol officers that they were a positive role model for the other children in the Charter School and expressed his appreciation for their hard work in keeping their fellow students safe and in making sure they got to where they needed to be. He and Officer McCord presented certificates to each safety patrol officer.

Officer McCord advised the safety patrol officers that he enjoyed spending time with them as they were organizing. He noted that starting next month, he would be at the school more. Officer McCord congratulated the safety patrol officers.

Annual Report – Middleburg Sustainability Committee

Lynne Kaye, Chair of the Middleburg Sustainability Committee, noted that the Council received a copy of their committee assessment form, as well as an addendum to it, and noted that she planned to focus on the assessment form. She reminded Council that when they presented their annual report last year, the Committee expressed an interest in being more strategic. Ms. Kaye advised that they have focused on that over the past year, and noted that their assessment form was the result of their work. She reported that the Committee was requesting a change to the ordinance that established it to make it their responsibility to manage, preserve and restore the local natural environment on which the town's future depended. Ms. Kaye advised that as to their goals, the Committee's proposed overarching goal was to create a safe microclimate for the town. She noted that the town depended on a number of environmental services and suggested that managing those would help ensure the town had good weather. Ms. Kaye opined that through microclimate, the town could impact its local weather. She reiterated that their goal was to work with the Council to create a microclimate. Ms. Kaye explained that based on this overarching goal, they were suggesting both short- and long-term goals. She opined that the short-term goals were ones the Council, staff, and Committee had control over, such as expanding the Clean-Up Day and helping residents reduce the number of items in their homes so there was less pressure on the size of houses. Ms. Kaye advised that they also wanted to increase the community's understanding of the importance of ecosystem services by sharing information and activities during Wellness Day. She reported that the Committee would also like to work with the staff to identify areas where trees and foliage could be increased on Town owned properties, which was an important way to capture rainwater and change runoff. Ms. Kaye noted that they would also like to work with the organizers of Arbor Day to demonstrate tree planting and tree protection from deer. She suggested that Clean-Up Day and Arbor Day occur in the same place to increase participation. Ms. Kaye advised that the Committee would like to create an art exhibition to commemorate the area around Middleburg in 1776, with a focus on increasing awareness of what the ecosystem used to look like. She reported that from a long-term perspective, the Committee would like to team up with other organizations to have an impact beyond the Town of Middleburg. Ms. Kaye reviewed some of the items the Committee would like to focus on in the long-term, such as capturing water, composting commercial food waste, reducing the pressure on house sizes by managing what people had in their homes, improving soil health and increasing community knowledge and engagement in projects and activities. She reported that the Committee was seeking \$5,000 to support its short-term goals and noted that they needed to do additional research on the cost of their long-term ones.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan, the Council representative for the Middleburg Sustainability Committee, thanked the Committee for their presentation. He noted that the Town was fortunate to have a lot of expertise that was freely given by the members. Mr. Leonard-Morgan advised that the Committee was looking to do big things; although, he acknowledged that even small things contributed to an overall healthier environment. He noted that the Committee had tried to encourage composting; however, it was not successful.

Ms. Kaye advised that composting made a difference, as did recycling. She opined that much of what was put into recycling bins was not actually recycled; although, she acknowledged that it did not end up in the landfill. Ms. Kaye advised that the Committee members were passionate about trees and were focusing on water conservation.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan advised that the Sustainability Committee was trying to focus on things it could do and develop programs that were achievable to educate Middleburg residents and make it better. He noted that some of their goals were very lofty and opined that they needed to do what they could.

Councilmember Jacobs thanked the Committee members for their work and contributions to the Town. He noted the reference in their addendum to lawn cover in Middleburg. Mr. Jacobs advised that jurisdictions in the west were rewilding.

Ms. Kaye advised that for big properties, property owners rewilded. She further advised that in regard to lawns, they generally xeriscape by planting native plants that use less water. In response to an inquiry from the Council, Ms. Kaye agreed that planting native plants and replacing lawns with something else was a good thing.

Councilmember Jacobs noted that the Council was grappling with a serious water issue and opined that limiting lawn use would save water.

Ms. Kaye advised that when lawns were replaced with plants, they usually had more leaf area, which trapped more water. She noted that trees and foliage captured water and allowed it to gradually drip to the ground, as opposed to running off.

Councilmember Curran questioned whether the Committee had ever done any education/information sessions for the residents so they could learn about some of the things the Committee had raised.

Ms. Kaye confirmed they had done a few during the Wellness Day events. She further confirmed that they could do more if the Council felt they would be worthwhile. Ms. Kaye opined that their biggest challenge was the loss of the Middleburg Eccentric and advised that they were struggling to find ways to communicate with people. She suggested they would be happy to do an Environmental Day or Environmental Hour.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan advised that the Committee did discuss holding a roundtable discussion with members of the community at the Middleburg Community Center.

Ms. Kaye advised that community outreach was their last long-term goal; however, their question was how to do it effectively so they would have good participation. She introduced the members of the Committee who were in the audience, including Alfred Pollard, Cristina Tonda, and Megan Tuttle.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan noted that the Committee also used interns from the Foxcroft School.

Councilmember Pearson reminded the Committee of the Town's social media accounts and encouraged them to use them. She suggested they also develop videos that could be posted on the Town's website. Ms. Pearson noted that there were times she debated whether to use water to wash out a peanut butter jar.

Ms. Kaye suggested she just put those in the garbage, as only 6-10% of plastics were successfully recycled into a new item. She opined that almost no plastic was actually recycled.

Mayor Littleton thanked the Committee members for their hard work. He opined that the Council had no concerns about supporting their request for \$5,000. Mr. Littleton noted that this was only one part of the request. He suggested the Committee identify two or three things it would like to accomplish this year and noted the need to clearly define what would be considered to be a success. Mr. Littleton advised that "success" needed to be measurable. He opined that as to the suggestion to hold a roundtable at the Community Center, that would be dull. Mr. Littleton suggested the Committee find a way to make learning fun in order to get more engagement from the community. He reiterated his suggestion that the Committee identify two or three things that could be achievable this year, develop a definition of success for each of them and find ways to make the outreach fun.

Vice Mayor Bernard suggested the Committee do different things and mix it up. He further suggested they videotape the events, which could then be shared on social media or sent to people. Mr. Bernard noted that at some point, the Committee would have a library of videos that would be a resource.

Mayor Littleton questioned whether the Council had any concerns about giving the Committee \$5,000.

Town Manager Davis noted that he heard a general consensus from the Council with regard to the revised goals. He suggested he and Deputy Town Manager Moore work with the Committee to draft amendments to the ordinance. Mr. Davis noted the need to ensure the Committee was not stepping into areas that were the responsibility of other Town committees.

Staff Reports

August Utilities Report/Drought Update

Vince Gugliotta, of Inboden Environmental Services, reported that the average daily discharge for the wastewater treatment plant was 83,000 gallons, for a total monthly discharge of 2.56 million gallons. He noted that the wastewater discharge flows were fairly low compared to the past couple of months and opined that this was due to the dry weather. Mr. Gugliotta advised that the Town was not seeing a lot of I&I (inflow and infiltration). He reported that the water system had an average daily production rate of 123,000 gallons, with a monthly volume of 3.8 million gallons. Mr. Gugliotta advised that in August, he started utilizing a dewatering system for the digesters at the wastewater treatment plant, which would allow for reduced pump and haul costs for the sludge. He reported that work was underway to source and schedule a few critical equipment component upgrades and replacements, including the return activated sludge flow meter and a variable frequency drive for the nitrate recycle pump. Mr. Gugliotta advised that the Loudoun County Fire Marshall inspected the treatment facilities and identified a few minor items which were being addressed. He reported that the Well 4 generator automatic transfer switch malfunctioned and advised that the controller for the unit was replaced.

Mr. Gugliotta reported that the DEQ Drought Watch webpage showed Northern Virginia was in the Watch category, with groundwater being in the Emergency category. In response to an inquiry from the Council, he confirmed the water levels in the wells were getting lower. He reported that while Well 4 was still operating adequately, he was paying close attention to it. Mr. Gugliotta reported that he was working with Valley Drilling to determine the options and see if they could help identify what could possibly be occurring to cause the reduction in the well levels.

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that the transducer for Well 4 originally sat at 295 feet; however, it was recently dropped by another 200 feet. He advised that the staff was working with Valley Automation to get a transducer that could be dropped to the pump level so the Town would have real data on how low the water was dropping when it was pumped. Mr. Davis reported that Mr. Gugliotta was providing weekly updates on the pumping and opined that it may not be dropping as far as it did during the last part of August. He advised that the Town was trying to refine its data as much as possible.

Mr. Gugliotta advised that during the month of August, Well P was continuing to see a gain and was very healthy at the moment; however, Well L was continuing to demonstrate a decline. He advised that he was keeping a close eye on it.

Town Manager Davis reported that despite the recent precipitation, the Town staff was not recommending the Council change the water conservation status for the Town at this time. He advised that Well 4 continued to produce appropriately and adequately. Mr. Davis advised that water from Well 3 was being introduced into the system from time-to-time to top off the tanks as needed. He reiterated his recommendation that the Town stay in voluntary water conservation. Mr. Davis advised that the staff would be reviewing this on a regular basis and would bring a recommendation to the Council during each Council meeting.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Mr. Gugliotta explained that because the Stonewall Water Treatment Plant went on and off frequently, the graph looked like a straight line because it was compressed on the paper. He reported that the transducer recorded at 4.5-minute intervals, which was why the changes were difficult to see.

Councilmember Jacobs questioned whether other jurisdictions who were drawing water from the Marshall aquifer formation were seeing the same issues that Middleburg was seeing. He further questioned whether it would be useful to start discussions with them about the water, the aquifer, and the broader impact within Loudoun County, which would affect the jurisdictions. Mr. Jacobs opined that there had been no coordinated discussions.

Mayor Littleton noted that Leesburg and Loudoun Water got their water from the river and the six towns were all on wells. He opined that Leesburg and Loudoun Water did not matter to the aquifer question. Mr. Littleton agreed with the need to reach out to the six towns. He noted that there were some homeowner's associations that also used well water; however, he opined that they did not monitor it like Middleburg did. Mr. Littleton noted that the other towns may not monitor it as well as Middleburg did either. He advised that he would raise this during the next Coalition of Loudoun Towns meeting.

Town Manager Davis noted that the Northern Virginia Regional Commission was undergoing its regional water resource planning update that was required for localities and advised that Middleburg was a partner with them. He noted that the majority of Northern Virginia obtained their water from rivers. Mr. Davis advised that the Regional Commission incorporated the concerns about wells and growth in their study.

Mayor Littleton opined that if the trends continued, the environmental, public health and public safety issues would become political questions. He suggested that the more voices that were added to the discussion, the better.

Special Projects Report

Town Manager Davis reported that the Town submitted its South Madison Street Improvements Project funding request to Loudoun County. He noted that Dominion Power replaced the streetlights, which would really help at night, particularly at the intersection of Madison and Federal Streets. Mr. Davis reported that the Town staff had a discussion with a property owner, and briefly with EDAC, on a long-term project and advised that a lot remained to be determined. He advised that the Town was waiting for a response from the County and expressed hope that this year's grant application would be more effective than last year's. Mr. Davis advised that if the Town was not successful, the staff would return with some ideas for a long-term interim solution.

Town Manager Davis reported that Town Clerk North continued to put a lot of effort into the Asbury Church Project and noted that she provided the Council with regular reports.

Town Manager Davis reported that the sewer line inspections reports were sent to a construction contractor so they could analyze the type of work needed. He noted that their work was more of a trenchless type and was less invasive. Mr. Davis reported that he was working to identify contractors that could bid on the more extensive work, which would require the digging up and replacement of pipes. He noted that the inspections identified three or four locations where water was being held in the pipe and at least one breakage on top of a pipe.

Town Manager Davis reported that the maintenance building was in a holding pattern for now.

Consent Agenda

- A. Council Approval – September 11, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- B. Council Approval – Resolution of Appreciation – Jim Herbert

Vice Mayor Bernard moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council approve the consent agenda as proposed.

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Bernard, Curran, Daly, Jacobs, Leonard-Morgan, and Pearson
No – N/A
Abstain: N/A
Absent: Councilmember Kirk
(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie.)

Action Items

Council Approval – Request for Special Event Grant – Rallye Middleburg

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre reported that the Middleburg Arts & Community Events Committee recommended the applicant be awarded a \$2,500 grant for the Rallye Middleburg event. She noted that their application was for a \$5,000 grant. Ms. MacIntyre opined that the reason for the grant was that the event organizers would be allotting the money given to them from the Town directly to Seven Loaves. She explained that the staff's recommendation to the Committee was based on the projected number of attendees, which was three hundred. Ms. MacIntyre reported that the organizers were working with a communications vendor to send out a press release and opined that they would get additional foot traffic. She advised that the Committee was not opposed to increasing the grant amount and wanted the Council to understand that the allotted funds would most likely go directly to Seven Loaves.

Ryan Danger, an organizer of Rallye Middleburg, advised Council that the grant money would go to Seven Loaves. He thanked the Council and opined that they had answered all of the Town's questions. Mr. Danger announced that Marcus Ericsson, an Indy 500 winner, would be their honorary driver. He advised that they were going to try to raise as much money as possible. In response to an inquiry from the Council about the concerns about possible conflicts with the Middleburg Film Festival, Mr. Danger advised that the organizer of the festival was receptive to Rallye Middleburg being held on the same date. He reported that they moved the location from South Madison Street to Federal Street. Mr. Danger advised that they arranged for some of the local restaurants and wineries to be involved. He reported that they would hold a small vintage car festival in one of the parking lots. Mr. Danger expressed hope of moving onto bigger and better things next year. In response to an inquiry from the Council, he opined that they had twenty-five cars signed up to participate in the event.

Mayor Littleton noted that it sounded like Mr. Danger was saying they would give the Town's \$2,500 grant money to Seven Loaves. He questioned why the Town wouldn't just give Seven Loaves the money directly. Mr. Littleton noted the need for the Council to understand how much money it was giving, who it was giving it to and how it would work.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre advised that Mr. Danger did not attend the Middleburg Arts & Community Events Committee meeting when the grant request was discussed and noted that his partners represented the application. She advised that the grant would be used to fund the event, with the cost of the event being \$10,000. Ms. MacIntyre reiterated that they requested \$5,000 from the Town. She reminded Council that the event would be held in two different locations, with part of it being held in Summit Point.

Mayor Littleton opined that only if there was a surplus would the surplus be given to Seven Loaves. He further opined that if there was not a surplus, Seven Loaves would receive nothing, which Ms. MacIntyre confirmed was correct.

Town Manager Davis opined that Messrs. Paterni and Danger were fronting the majority of the \$10,000 to run the event. He further opined that the grant would be used to offset their costs. He confirmed that any excess revenues would be donated to Seven Loaves.

In response to inquiries from the Council, Mr. Danger confirmed they had three event sponsors and that the entrants would pay a fee to put their car in the event. He advised that it was not their intent to repay themselves if the event cleared over \$10,000. Mr. Danger advised that no one was getting paid to run the event.

Councilmember Pearson encouraged Mr. Danger to make sure they used the \$2,500 grant for the event and not as a donation to Seven Loaves. She advised him that the Town did not give non-profits money to give to non-profit organizations that it already supported.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Mr. Danger advised that he did not know how much the registration fee was to participate in the event. He advised that the revenues would go toward the cost of the track rental, with the remainder being donated to Seven Loaves.

Town Manager Davis advised that the budget contained in the application stated that the registration fee was \$595 per car.

The Council held some discussion on the request.

Councilmember Daly advised that he planned to abstain from voting as he was a member of Seven Loaves' Board of Directors.

Councilmember Curran moved, seconded by Councilmember Pearson, that Council approve a special event grant in the amount of \$2,500 in support of Rallye Middleburg vintage automobile and festival to benefit the Middleburg community and draw in visitors.

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Bernard, Curran, Jacobs, Leonard-Morgan, and Pearson

No – N/A

Abstain: Councilmember Daly

Absent: Councilmember Kirk

(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie.)(by roll call vote)

Mr. Danger thanked the Council for their support. In response to an inquiry, he advised that the registration would be open until they registered thirty cars. He noted that they were trying to limit the entrants to cars that were from the 1980s and older.

Council Approval – Ordinance to Amend Town Code Chapter 91 – Sidewalk Sign Penalties

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that during their last couple of meetings, they discussed sandwich board signs that were being placed in the public rights-of-way and noted that they supported the idea of developing additional or enhanced penalties for violations of the ordinance. He reported that following discussions with the Town Attorney, the staff was proposing revisions to the ordinance. Mr. Davis noted that the first would address Councilmember Kirk's concern about ensuring the violator was provided with at least a written notice and warning for the first violation, after which, the fine would be \$100 per day of the offense up to the conviction for a first offense and \$250 per day for any subsequent offense. He reminded Council of the questions related to confiscation of the signs and advised that under the proposed amendments, the sign would be stored for up to seven days after communication with the owner, and if not retrieved, would be disposed of by the Town. Mr. Davis advised that for repeat violations, the Town would have the right to remove and dispose of the sign with no notice, as it represented a safety hazard to the public. He reported that the amendments were ready for adoption.

In response to inquiries related to a "repeat offender," Deputy Town Manager Moore advised that returning the signs to the violator only to have him repeat the offense represented an ongoing issue for the personnel who had to take care of this. He advised that as to the term "repeat offender," if it was out a second time, that was a repeat offender. Mr. Moore confirmed that if the Town took the sign, it would return it with an admonishment that this would be the only time it would be returned. He suggested that if the Council wanted the staff to wait a third time before disposing of it, he would do so; however, he opined that the proposed ordinance did not need to be amended, as he would just establish that as a policy.

Councilmember Daly moved, seconded by Councilmember Leonard-Morgan, that Council ADOPT AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND SECTIONS 91-6.1 AND 91-12 OF THE MIDDLEBURG TOWN CODE PERTAINING TO SIDEWALK SIGNS AND VIOLATIONS & PENALTIES.

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Bernard, Curran, Daly, Jacobs, Leonard-Morgan, and Pearson

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: Councilmember Kirk

(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie.)(by roll call vote)

Mayor Littleton thanked the Town staff for picking up the sandwich board signs and for being proactive with the Town's wayfinding signage to ensure public safety.

Vice Mayor Bernard noted the work that was needed to make sure everyone knew what they could do.

Town Manager Davis advised Council that the staff would provide a draft design for the Town's signage in the next couple of weeks.

Discussion Items

Adoption of Virginia Property Maintenance Code

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that the Town had a mechanism in place for dealing with buildings that were deemed to be unsafe or a dangerous structure; however, it did not have one for dealing with the recent complaints about the lack of maintenance of the exterior of a building. He advised that when such complaints were received, it was the staff's goal to help bring compliance about by the property owner. Mr. Davis noted that like the last agenda item, the staff needed tools to help them address these complaints. He advised that the hope was that they would not have to be used; however, the staff needed ways to bring properties into compliance with general standards and expectations. Mr. Davis recommended the Council give the staff direction to pursue the adoption of portions of the Virginia Property Maintenance Code, which would be enforced by a certified building official. He advised that this would allow the staff to work with Loudoun County to develop an agreement under which the County would enforce the Town's adopted property maintenance code in accordance with their application of their property maintenance code. Mr. Davis summarized that the Town's code would mirror the County's, and the Town would designate them to do the enforcement by entering into a memorandum of understanding (MOU). He advised that Loudoun has done this for the Town of Leesburg for eleven years and expressed support for doing the same thing for the Town of Middleburg. Mr. Davis noted that the County had only adopted portions of the property maintenance code; however, they were looking to adopt the remainder, which would be effective January 1, 2027. He advised that his intent was to bring the portions the County had already adopted to the Council and once their new adoption took effect, to bring those forward at that time. Mr. Davis noted that no action was needed at this time and explained that he was only looking for consensus from the Council to proceed down this path. In response to inquiries from the Council, he confirmed he had already had some early conversations with the County and advised that they were supportive of working together on an MOU. Mr. Davis advised that, if approved, the property maintenance code would apply to all properties in the town. He explained that the Town did not have the capability to enforce the ordinance itself, as this required a certified building official. Mr. Davis further explained that the Town would have to cede enforcement authority over to the County for the Uniform Statewide Building Code. He noted that they already handled the designation of whether a structure was habitable for occupancy or deemed unsafe or unoccupiable due to a structural defect for the Town and advised that this would just add the additional focus on property maintenance.

Mayor Littleton noted that the County handled items on a complaint basis. He advised that if the Town adopted the property maintenance code, the inspector would review the building using a checklist and would issue a violation notice for any violations. Mr. Littleton noted that the Town currently only handled hazardous structures and advised that this would address those buildings that did not rise to that level.

The Council agreed the staff should move forward with the development of an MOU with the County and the presentation of the property maintenance code for their consideration for adoption.

Discussion of Letter to Loudoun County School Board Regarding CIP Funding for Charter Schools

Mayor Littleton questioned whether the Council had any concerns with him signing a letter to the School Board regarding CIP funding for charter schools. He noted that he received some proposed edits to the letter from Jeff Morris, the former Chair of the Loudoun County Public School Board, and a current member of the Charter School Board. Mr. Littleton advised that most of the edits were basic; however, one highlighted the fact that the school was 100% oversubscribed. In response to a comment and inquiries from the Council, he confirmed the number on the waiting list was exactly the same as the actual enrollment number, according to the Middleburg Charter School's Principal. Mr. Littleton confirmed that he had spoken with Supervisor TeKrony, and that she was reaching out to the School Board. He advised that he also spoke with Middleburg's School Board representative, who stated that she did not support the proposal to not provide CIP funding for charter schools. Mr. Littleton stressed that it was incumbent upon the Town and community to try to influence the other school board members and advised that four were in favor and four were opposed to the proposal. He noted that he planned to speak with Supervisor TeKrony again and wanted to express that despite the question of whether Loudoun should have charter schools, they needed to be maintained while they existed. Mr. Littleton advised that the School Board should not jeopardize the safety of students. He noted that he did not want to make this a fight about whether Loudoun County should have charter schools and advised that it was about whether all schools should be supported equally. Mr. Littleton advised that if people wanted to get rid of charter schools, there was a public process for doing so, which included public engagement. He opined that someone was trying to do indirectly what they could not do directly and reminded Council of the proposal four years ago to surplus the school property. Mr. Littleton advised Council that he would get the letter out tomorrow.

Information Items

Oktoberfest 2025

Mayor Littleton thanked everyone for another successful Oktoberfest. He noted the need to make some changes to next year's event to address long lines; however, he opined that the attendees were very happy. Mr. Littleton noted that he spoke with some of the artists who were very happy with their sales and who said they would return again next year.

Councilmember Curran thanked Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre for organizing an amazing event.

Closed Session

Vice Mayor Bernard moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council go into closed session as authorized under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual litigation involving Cooper Building Services, LLC vs. the Town of Middleburg, as allowed under Subsection (A)(7). Vice Mayor Bernard further moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Bernard, Curran, Daly, Jacobs, Leonard-Morgan, and Pearson

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: Councilmember Kirk

(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie.)

Mayor Littleton asked that Council certify that, in the closed session just concluded, to the best of each member's knowledge nothing was discussed except the matter or matters (1) specifically identified in the motion to convene in closed session and (2) lawfully permitted to be discussed in a closed session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act as cited in the motion, which each member so did. He reminded those present for the closed session that any discussion that occurred within it should be treated as confidential.

There being no further business, Mayor Littleton declared the meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Trowbridge M. Littleton, MAYOR

Rhonda S. North, MMC, Town Clerk

September 25, 2025 Middleburg Town Council Meeting

(Note: This is a transcript prepared by a Town contractor based on the video of the meeting. It may not be entirely accurate. For greater accuracy, we encourage you to review the video of the meeting that is on the Town's website – www.middleburgva.gov)

Bridge Littleton: And will pass out candy to everybody. So first item here, we'll call the meeting to order. First item is the Pledge of Allegiance.

All: I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America. And to the republic for which it stands. One nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Chris Bernard: We should play that audio every time we do that.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Next item is roll call.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Peter Leonard-Morgan.

Bud Jacobs: Bud Jacobs.

Bridge Littleton: Bridge Littleton.

Chris Bernard: Chris Bernard.

Cindy Pearson: Cindy Pearson.

J. Kevin Daly: John Kevin Daly.

Pam Curran: Pam Curran.

Rhonda North: Rhonda North, Town Clerk.

Danny Davis: Danny Davis, Town Manager.

Martin Crim: Martin Crim, Town Attorney.

Bridge Littleton: All right. The next item is public comment. If anybody would like to address the Town Council on any item, they may do so they will have three minutes. I believe we have one person signed up.

Rhonda North: We do.

Bridge Littleton: And hold on and then we'll open it up to anybody else for public comment. So who was signed up first?

Rhonda North: Earlene Coleman, I think she's out in the hallway.

Bridge Littleton: There she is.

Earlene Coleman: [off mic] going to [off mic] something with the children.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, no. They want to hear from you.

Earlene Coleman: Oh. Well, let's hope so. Good evening. Good evening. I'll make this as quickly as I can. Pull this over to me. Alright. Good evening once again. Earlene Coleman, I live at 205 Windy Hill Road here in Middleburg, and I will make this as quick as possible. This is concerning our Juneteenth Celebration that we had here in Middleburg earlier this year in June. And I just want to make a couple quick comments. First of all I saw the article that came out in the Zest pictures that was there from the Zest. And I have to admit that I was a little disappointed, but I know the Town of Middleburg has no control over that. It is a private entity. There were some pictures that I kind of expected to be there. Mr. Jimmy Smith him making history here in Middleburg with the sit in back in 1961. Miss Alease Cook, our 104 year old resident who was the mayor was a town person of choice for this year honoree and our African American youth that performed their hearts out in ministry and song that day. And I thought some of those pictures would be there, so I was a little disappointed. However, I have to admit that once I received my July water bill and the article that came out in that paper, I was actually very disappointed. I will take just a minute to just. Well, actually, I probably won't read it. Just excuse me because I get really emotional about this. There was I had a one on one with Mr. Mayor, and it said it was an awesome, fabulous day of community that we had here that day. And in that article, there was not one word mentioned about Juneteenth. And it really saddened me and disappointed me greatly. Really just really saddened me. It made me really, really sad. And then the article it says on the back here, Middleburg once again outdid itself with two amazing events. The Middleburg Day and the 4th of July. Not one word mentioned about Juneteenth. Our African American 4th of July. And it was a fantastic day. It was crowded at the community center. We had a wonderful time. But I was really disappointed that not one word that whomever wrote this, whoever approved it, thought more about pictures of fireworks than mentioning one thing about our Juneteenth Celebration here in Middleburg, and that's my comments. I just wanted the town to know that it would just sadden me, you know. And I would really like, would have hoped that we would have had a little more respect shown a little more love, a little more kindness than just some fireworks on a page. And I appreciate your time, and it's just really tough. And I'm going to say this and maybe I'll apologize for the children, but it's really sad that we as Black Americans is having a tough time still in America. And sometimes I still feel we have a little tough time here in Middleburg. And I've been here over 60 plus years, and I thank you for your time. Thank you for your time.

Bridge Littleton: Thank you.

Earlene Coleman: And I have to excuse myself. My husband has to go to a Bible study meeting, and he's actually teaching on no more excuses. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Would anybody else like to address Town Council? Okay. We will move on to the next item, which is we have no public hearing information. Public presentation. Shaun, before you get started, I'm going to take this opportunity to speak to all the parents of the charter school. I'm going to be as quick and brief as possible. Not sure if everybody here who is who has who has a child at the charter school is aware on this coming Tuesday, Loudoun County School Board is planning to vote on a change to the school's priorities when it comes to the CIP, which is the Capital Improvement Program, and their changes to no longer provide for any needs of the charter schools in their CIP planning. So CIP is usually a 5 or 6 year program, and it's for things like roof, HVAC, you know, the general large scale, heavy duty maintenance of the building. And as everybody here knows, it's a wonderful school, but it's got a couple of years on it. Do not know where this is coming from. It came I don't want to say out of the blue, but, you know, in the last month or so, it just sort of showed up. And they're only targeting the two charter schools. They're not saying they won't do CIP for all the other new schools. So it certainly feels like the charter schools are getting singled out. Later tonight, we're going to be voting on a letter that we're going to send to the whole board. Me personally, you know, there is always room for public conversation about the best way to have education. But when you have made a decision on having charter schools, every school should be treated the same. And where my biggest concern on this is, I think the Council's biggest concern is if they don't spend the money to maintain the school that is going to create health and safety issues you're talking about. I mean, these are old buildings that need maintenance. And look, the school board's budget is about \$1.6 billion. And I think over the last five years, they've spent \$1 million on Middleburg Charter School. We're not the ones driving the overall spending in the budget. So this absolutely feels political, not, you know, financial. So that is my view. I think it's the view of my fellow Council Members. If you so feel inclined, I would absolutely recommend, if this is a concern you share, reach out to the board the School Board. They are having their meeting on Tuesday where they will discuss and vote on this item. If you'd like to show up for the public hearing, show up for the public hearing. The Little River District School Board Member, her name is Dr. Sumera Rashid. You can reach out to her if you live in a different district and your

school board member is somebody else, reach out to them. The Chair of the board is Mansfield. You can contact him on the LCPS website. They have a way to contact them, but the more I think we would all agree as elected officials, the more we hear from the public, the more we listen, the more we have an open mind. So I would strongly encourage you to reach out before Tuesday. Try to do it tomorrow so it can sink in over the weekend. With that, we'll now actually go on to something positive. Shaun over to you.

Shaun Jones: How's everyone doing tonight? [multiple speakers]. How are you guys doing? [multiple speakers] Good.

Shaun Jones: All right. So this is to show our commitment to you guys this year, one of the things that we switched up for the whole entire school is. I know you guys got the red house, yellow house, blue house, and green house. So each of our officers, they are now members of a house at the Middleburg Charter School. So I'm going to keep it real. If we got any blue house kids in here, raise your hand. Blue house. Okay. We got red house. Yellow house. Alright. Green house. Alright. It's your green house representative, so you will be seeing a lot of a lot of our officers. First of all, parents, grandparents teachers, even our bus driver. Mr. Charles, thank you for coming out and supporting our kids. So let's give, kids let's give our adults a round of applause. [applause] This is a very big important program with Middleburg Police Department is a partnership between the Town of Middleburg, the Middleburg Police Department and the Middleburg Charter School. So this year, one of the things I want to do is make sure that you guys have someone that can focus a lot of attention on you and doesn't have to go to a lot of different places like I have to do from time to time. So this year Officer First Class Melvin McCord is now your new, as you know, your new representative and liaison for the state patrol. He is your Safety Patrol Coordinator for the Middleburg Police Department. Let's give him a round of applause. [applause] We want to thank you guys for all your hard work. Because you guys are the big kids on campus. You guys are the ones that look out for the little kids.

Shaun Jones: And you guys and ladies are the ones that are the positive role models for the kids at the school, at Middleburg Charter School. So appreciate all your hard work by keeping kids safe, making sure they're not running, making sure they get to where they need to get to when they need to get there, and being a big role model for the little kids in school. So thank you. At this time, we're going to present our certificates of support please come up. When I call your name please step forward and get your certificates. And if you guys want to do a group picture, we can do one outside immediately following everyone getting their certificates. Okay. First person we have is Gianna Antioni. [applause] [off mic] Aguilar. [applause] [inaudible] I'm going to give it to Mr. Robinson, so I know he gets. [inaudible] Ellen Wood. [applause] Grant Lee. [applause] Addison Lucas. [off mic]. [applause] Don't beat me up. [inaudible]. Murray [off mic]. Vivian [off mic]. Okay. [applause] Okay. [inaudible].

Melvin McCord: It's been nice to meet you guys. I enjoyed the time spent with you last month when we were getting all of this together. You guys beat me every morning. It's been very good. Very nice to see them taking steps to be bigger and bigger system [off mic] good job. Next month I'll be at the school a little bit more. My schedule goes back and forth from day work to night work. This month I'm on night work. So in October comes the day work, so I'll be at the school [off mic]. Congratulations, everyone. [applause]

Shaun Jones: All right. Thank you guys for coming out. Thank you parents, thank you grandparents, students, teachers and [off mic]. Thank you guys. Yay! [multiple speakers]

Bridge Littleton: Picture time. Picture time. [multiple speakers]

Unknown Speaker: This meeting was great. Thank you guys so much for your time.

Bridge Littleton: Okay, what we got here. Next item is annual report from the Middleburg Sustainability Committee.

Lynne Kaye: Hi. Well, that's a tough act to follow. I mean, lots of cute charter school kids. Hi, I'm Lynne Kaye. I'm the chairperson for the Middleburg Sustainability Committee. And hopefully you guys received both our town committee assessment form and an addendum which was a PDF of a PowerPoint presentation. We know we have 15 minutes, and we didn't think we could get all of it in, so we sent an addendum. Last year when we came, we talked about the fact that we were interested in being more strategic. And so that's what we did for the last year. And our assessment form is the result

of and the along with the addendum is the result of the thoughts that we've been having and what we'd like to propose. So the first one is a suggested change to the ordinance that establishes the committee. The other one is a little bit outdated. And so the form suggests the change, which is to say that it shall be the responsibility of the Town of Middleburg Sustainability Committee to advise the Town Council on managing, preserving and restoring the local natural environment on which the town's future depends. And we're not suggesting any changes to the number of committee members. We also do not have bylaws. So that's our first proposal. When it comes to goals. If there had been an overarching goal on the form, which there wasn't, we would have said that our overarching goal is to create a safe microclimate for the town. And we say that because the town really depends on a number of environmental services and ensuring those or at least helping to ensure those things like water, safe healthy soil as well as how we manage and store waste are all important to the town having good weather that allows people to travel here because through a microclimate you actually can impact your local weather. We can't change the big overarching changes, obviously, but through experience we know that a microclimate can actually make a big difference. If you've ever been to like Shenandoah National Park, for example, you know that it's quite different than here. And so our goal is to or our proposal, our proposed overarching goal is to work with you guys and others to create that microclimate. Then, based on that big goal, we have a number of suggested short term and long term goals. The short term ones are really around what you guys and we and the staff has control over. So things like expanding clean-up day to include activities that help residents get stored in unused items out of their houses so that the items life can continue and so that there's less pressure on the size of houses, because I know you guys have already dealt with that, and it's likely an ongoing issue since we all have an awful lot of stuff that we have to deal with. Secondly, it's to increase the understanding of the importance of ecosystem services by sharing materials and activities that link human health and environmental health on Wellness Day. Since Wellness Day is something that we're involved with, so something that we can easily beef up and provide more information on his outreach. Then also to work with you all and the staff to identify areas where trees and foliage can be increased on town property, because that seems like a very important way to capture rainwater and also to change things like runoff without going crazy on things that we can't control. Then also to work with the Arbor Day team to demonstrate tree planting and tree protection from deer and other creatures so that the Arbor Day is fabulous. I don't know how many of those little seedlings actually make it into the ground. So part of our objective is to help make sure that the seedlings make it into the ground. And by finding a way, if we can actually have Clean Up Day and Arbor Day in the same place, then hopefully we'll have more people attend Arbor Day, which will also hopefully impact how many trees we can get planted and how many trees live. Then last but not least, to create an art project and exhibit to commemorate the area in and around Middleburg in 1776, with a focus on nature to increase the awareness of what our ecosystem used to look like. So you probably know it's the 250th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence, and there's a big nationwide celebration around that. So we thought we would try to link into the same to that bigger celebration. Then our long term suggested goals involve you, and then ultimately to have a big enough impact in the greater Middleburg area. We would also want to team up with some of the other organizations through you or with you, or however it works out. So that we can make an impact beyond just the Town of Middleburg. And that includes things like foliage and tree cover, designing a program to increase those create more shade. Because one of the big things, if you sign the addendum we found an insurance company that had rated risks for communities in Middleburg was one of them, and heat was the number one risk that they identified so clearly. Right. Downtown we know we've got a lot of trees in some of the neighborhoods we do, but hopefully there are opportunities to even increase that beyond that. And I want to thank Peter because he's our liaison from the Town Council, and he's been fabulous at helping us think through all of the different ideas and to help us understand what your priorities are. Rainwater capture foliage and tree cover is important for rainwater capture. Then, in addition to that, we would like to see if we can't increase the capture and reduce the demand on, Well Water. We don't know what that looks like exactly right now, but if you looked at the data that's actually in the addendum we don't really have a water problem. We have a water capture problem. We have we receive in an average year rainwater that's equal to one and three quarters tons, the amount of water that the town uses on an annual basis. But virtually none of that gets captured. So exactly how we might do that. We don't 100% know right now, but something to look into. And our long term proposed goal is to see if we can't do something to capture some of that water. So it's not just run off and it's actually used. Storage and waste cycling is another key thing, which is to research and identify a viable solution for turning Middleburg's commercial food waste into compost that can then be used to improve soil health. Again, if you saw some of the data in the addendum about 30% of a hotel's waste is usually food, and buffet is even higher than that it's as much as 50% of the buffet food goes to waste. We as a committee attempted to do something residential with food waste. And what we learned is that based on the characteristics of the town, that didn't work so well. But we suspect that considering how many eating establishments there are and how many events there are around, there's probably an awful lot of food

waste that's going to landfill that could be used to help us, as opposed to just going to waste. Second thing is to reduce pressure on housing size, green space and waste disposal by managing the stuff that all of us have in our houses and we're wondering what on earth we do with. Next item is soil health. And that's partly related to the food waste, because if it becomes compost, then that's a great thing to use both for gardening and also to improve soil health. But there's also another issue around soil health that was also in the addendum. So a typical construction project is take the topsoil comes off, the construction goes on basically creating compacted clay in our area. And compacted clay, just water runs off it. It doesn't absorb it. Compacted clay doesn't typically have a whole lot of life in it either as far as creatures that decompose plant matter, it doesn't have a lot of roots in it many times. So a basic lawn is four inches of topsoil on top of compacted clay, and that doesn't produce healthy soil. So the idea is to find ways to create greater soil health. And then last but not least, we propose to have outreach to increase community knowledge of and engagement in the various projects and activities. Then when it comes to our request for budget because we have long term goals that we need to do research on, we're not sure what a longer term request might look like, but for the moment, we're asking for \$5,000 in support of our short term goals. And the funds would be used for sort of the normal course of business things. Things like paying vendors to assist in unused item recycling or cycling, to cover the cost of materials for tree planting and any other cleanup and wellness day promotion and materials costs, as well as the art project. And the resource needs include your review, adoption and support for our ideas. Staff support to identify areas where trees and foliage can be increased, and how to actually go about increasing them. Staff support for expanded cleanup day to the extent that we need it. Marketing support for the art project exhibit and the expanded cleanup day. And last but not least your and staff's involvement as we create programs and activities to support our long term goals.

Bridge Littleton: Well done. [inaudible]

Lynne Kaye: I know we gave you a lot to think about.

Bridge Littleton: So since Peter is the Council Member Rep, did you have anything you wanted to say at the outset before I.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: I do thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: First of all, I would like to say thank you for that wonderful presentation. I would also like to say that on the sustainability Committee, we are so fortunate to have a lot of expertise that's freely given to the committee by its members, who have great experience in all sorts of areas. And clearly we are looking to do big things, and we realize that there are small things that we can do and even the smallest things can contribute to an overall healthier environment. Some of these goals are really grand, and we know that. And if we can make it a difference, that's important. You mentioned composting. We tried so hard with that. We really tried to push it. And I learned a lot. I became a composter, composter, imposter. And you know, learn.

Bridge Littleton: You mean a composer? [laughter]

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Indeed, indeed.

Lynne Kaye: And, you know, composting. Composting is something that really does make a difference. Recycling. I've learned that it is so hard to recycle. You know, we I didn't realize that so much of what we diligently put in the recycling boxes doesn't probably get recycled. We know about glass. And we've got the you know, we helped here on Council to push to get the purple cans at Mickie Gordon Park. And it doesn't really recycle, but at least it doesn't go in the landfill. At least it does something better than just ending up in landfill, you know, can create road bases, etc.. I think the trees, I mean, I know we've got Alfred here who's passionate about trees. I think we're all passionate about trees and what trees can do. Tree cover is really, really important. And we're focusing right now on water conservation. And the other day, I emptied out the dehumidifier in the basement and used it to water some plants. And someone said, you shouldn't really do that because it's got no minerals in it. I didn't know that. So I'm unaware, you know, I'm trying to do the right thing.

Lynne Kaye: That's okay.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: So I think what we're trying to do here on sustainability and this group is amazing, is to focus on the things that we can do and try and develop programs that are achievable, right to help Middleburg and educate Middleburg and make it better. And I think some of these are very lofty goals and I'm really proud of them. And we just need to do what we can do and all contribute together. So sorry, long winded, but I appreciate your time.

Bridge Littleton: Thanks. Any feedback or thoughts for anybody? Bud oh no, here it comes.

Bud Jacobs: No, I love this and your presentation is wonderful. And I want to thank each and all of you for the work and the contribution that you make to our town. One of the statements in your addendum really leapt out at me, and that is a brief reference you make to lawns, and we have a fair amount of lawn cover in Middleburg. I know in much drier jurisdictions out west, for example, there's a movement. I think it's called rewilding, if I'm not mistaken.

Lynne Kaye: There's rewilding, there's xeriscaping, there's a couple different things. So usually lawns, if it's a big property, it's rewilding. It might be rewilding even on a smaller one, planting natives. But usually out west with lawns it's xeriscaping, which is using things like cacti and other more native plants that require less water in a dry climate.

Bud Jacobs: Does it make sense to you guys? And perhaps you consider this weather that some version of that might be an initiative that would be worthwhile to undertake?

Lynne Kaye: I certainly think planting natives, which would be part of what we're talking about is relevant whenever we can get rid of lawn and replace it with something else, that's almost always a good thing, because lawn is a monocrop. We don't usually think of it that way, but the way it's managed, that's usually what it is. And there's a lot of it. And it takes mowing, fertilizing, you know et cetera. Et cetera. Which often has less than fabulous.

Bud Jacobs: Well, I'm sure you know that the Council right now is grappling with very serious water issues that we may face down the road and not too far down the road, actually. And it seems to me that there is an intersection between limiting lawn use and perhaps saving a bit of water.

Lynne Kaye: Yes. Well, and the other thing is that usually the plants that you replace the lawn with, hopefully they're, you know, not tiny, but rather larger than that, they've got a lot more leaf area. And so they often trap significantly more water. I mean, the great thing about trees and other foliage is that they do capture the water and then it gradually drips to the ground, whereas on lawn, as you well know, it usually hits. And then it might stay a little while, but it usually runs off pretty fast.

Bud Jacobs: Great. Thank you very much.

Lynne Kaye: Sure.

Bridge Littleton: Pam?

Pam Curran: Yep. I was so impressed with the expertise that I had heard that about the committee. And the question I had is, have we ever done any education or information sessions for the residents where they could learn more about some of the things that you lifted up and participate?

Lynne Kaye: I mean, we certainly could. Also, I didn't know if you guys wanted to learn any more. We're happy to do it. We you know, we were sort of told you have 15 minutes. So we went, okay, we're going to do our best in 15 minutes. So

Bridge Littleton: No, I think what Pam was saying is information sessions for the public at large to educate the 700 people that live in town.

Lynne Kaye: We've done a few with the Wellness Committee. [off mic] We did. You could say that. Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: We need to speak in the microphone. Yeah. So it captures it?

Lynne Kaye: Yeah. We've done some with the Wellness Committee. We can do more of that. We could do separate sessions if you guys think that that's something that would be worthwhile. Our biggest challenge, candidly, is that we used to do a lot of stuff on a written basis as far as outreach, when there was the Middleburg newspaper. Now that there isn't we're still really struggling to find a good way to communicate with people. And, you know, if having environmental day or whatever we want to call it or environmental hour would be useful, we're more than happy to do it. So we'd love ideas from you guys if you have thoughts on how outreach would work or we're all ears.

Bridge Littleton: Hang on one second. Was that what you're.

Pam Curran: That's exactly what I was thinking of, to have more for the residents of the community.

Bridge Littleton: Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: One of the meetings we did have a conversation about maybe at the community center or somewhere like that, having round tables and, you know, sort of getting community members in there and talking to them about various things and getting feedback of what they could do, would want to do. And I think that's sort of along those lines as well. But great idea.

Lynne Kaye: Yeah. And outreach is our last long term goal. So we definitely want to do it. Our question is really how can we do it most effectively so that if we do put on an event we have good participation. Because otherwise, you know, we haven't really accomplished a whole lot. And I would also, if I can, for one second introduce the rest of the committee that's here. So sitting in the front row is Alfred Pollard. Cristina Tonda is who just spoke, and Megan Tuttle is also here. And that does it.

Bridge Littleton: And Peter.

Lynne Kaye: Oh, and of course Peter. Peter already spoke, though. Peter's very important. So is everybody else.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: And I would like to add that we have also had interns from Foxcroft, which has been wonderful because that's I think sometimes they're teaching us more than we're teaching them. It's fabulous.

Lynne Kaye: Yes, so Megan is to thank for that. She organized it.

Bridge Littleton: Cindy.

Cindy Pearson: Also, don't forget we have the social media that you can join in on, and some of the little quick videos would be really great to put on the town's website, such as I struggle at certain times when I'm looking at a peanut butter jar going am I going to wash this out to recycle it because it takes that much water and we're in a water situation right now.

Lynne Kaye: So, so the answer actually is don't wash it out.

Cindy Pearson: Right.

Lynne Kaye: Sadly put it in the garbage. The reason is and we almost did part of the addendum on this and then we didn't only 6 to 10%, probably closer to six of all plastics that have ever been made have successfully been recycled into a new item. So yeah, the problem is that almost no plastic actually recycles.

Cindy Pearson: That would be a great little short video to have someone just speaking that and Ali doesn't mind doing that. [laughter]

Ali MacIntyre: I think the interns would like to do that. Yes. Yeah. Well.

Bridge Littleton: So, Alfred, are you going to say something you have to come up to the mic? Oh, okay. So. Well, a couple of thoughts real quickly. Number one, again is Peter, and everybody said, thank you guys for all the hard work you do. Of all the committees we have, yours is probably the most engaged and energetic, which is great. I have absolutely no qualms. I don't think the Council does either you know, about supporting your request for \$5,000 to do stuff? I think it's great.

Lynne Kaye: Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: No, I mean, I mean, I know that was one of the parts of the request. Right. So two things I was going to throw out here. You have a lot of stuff here.

Lynne Kaye: Probably too much but.

Bridge Littleton: It's, it is having done organizational things a long time. If you boil the ocean you'll boil nothing. Pick the 2 to 3 things that you really want to accomplish this year. And you need to have an absolutely clear definition of success. Success is not we've educated more people that's not success. Success is measurable. We've held three events that had at least 250 participants who showed up, or that's what we define as success. And now you know how to build towards it. The other thing I would say, and I have learned this in the last year, and I'm going to tell you right now, this is a suggestion and I am not the person who knows how to do it. And I looked at Peter and his suggestion and this, you know, because I love Peter so much, I get to pick on him. You know, I don't think the way and again, this is something I've learned it of informing the public is to get the community center, have three roundtables and blah, blah, blah. It's boring. It's dull, you know, that I'm taking the lesson from what Old Ox used to do. So Old Ox used to hold these monthly things called Science on Tap, and they would have somebody come in to the brewery, you know, there's beer and wine and food, and it would be a person giving an hour long lecture or, you know, fun presentation at the brewery and it was 25% off. For them it them it was great for business, but it educated people. It was fun. It made learning fun. It was a way in which you could take education and make it an experience. Right? So that is something, you know, if you guys came to us and said we would love to partner and I'm just going to pick one, I'm not saying it's the right answer. We want to do a, you know, and have a clever title and, you know, environmentalism, you know, whatever. At Lost Barrel 25% off, 5:30 to 6:30 on a Thursday night, you know, and we're going to talk about, you know, the crummy world of composting, you know, or something like that, right? [laughter] Make it fun. Make it different, make it laugh. You know, people laugh. People enjoy it. But they do walk away with these nuggets that are really kind of cool and fun. I think that's the way you get people to show, oh, it's kid friendly, and we're going to have little kid baskets and things like that, right? Not lecture. I mean, you know, we live in a world now where you hear the word lecture and nobody wants to go. When John Dom used to do the history what were those things called? I can't remember what we called it. So John Dom would do all these art history hour long presentations at Old Ox in Town. He would have a projector would project up on the outside wall, and he called it something. And it was an hour and literally it was French Renaissance painting. If somebody said, there's going to be a lecture on French Renaissance painting, you're guaranteed, obviously. But they made it about food and have a beer and it was packed. It was absolutely packed. So things like that to make it fun, you know, have a focus on entertaining as well as educating. I think you get, you know, a lot more engagement from the community. And again, like I said, these are ideas these people showed did I don't know how to do it. She does, you know, things like that. But there's a lot of different ways to get people engaged. So that would be my two recommendations. Take 2 or 3 things that are definable achievable this year definition of success, and find ways to make the outreach fun. And that people want to come because it's actually an interesting evening or whatever. So hang on real quick. Last thing. And anytime you inject alcohol, it's always more fun.

Chris Bernard: And I would say to piggyback on that, when you guys have, whether it's a lecture or an event, and I'd say mix it up, do different things. Video it because then you can put it on social media, you can send links to people and it becomes evergreen content that is, eventually you'll have a library and people can go and use it as a resource.

Bridge Littleton: And help you get the word out for more people to come next time. So two thoughts. But again, anybody have any concern with the \$5,000?

Chris Bernard: Absolutely not. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: Okay.

Lynne Kaye: Is there anything else you need from?

Bridge Littleton: I don't think we need anything from you guys. Anything any member of Council need? Danny.

Danny Davis: I think what we might do if it's okay with Council. I'm hearing general consensus with the revised goals. We will work with Sustainability Committee on getting that into a new ordinance. I think it'd be good for Mr. Moore and me to work with Miss Kaye and Mr. Leonard-Morgan on that, just to ensure there's not any stepping on any other areas of other committees or other activities of the town. But I think most everything we can work with them on and then bring that back to you for formal adoption, and we're happy to do that.

Lynne Kaye: Thank you very much.

Bridge Littleton: Awesome. Thank you guys very much. Thank you. Appreciate it. I know, Alfred what happened?

Alfred Pollard: [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: No such thing. Alright. Next item is staff report. Vince. Speaking of water.

Vince Gugliotta: Yeah. Good evening. There you go.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. Lynne you guys, you can move on if you like or you can stay for the rest of the three hours. [off mic]

Vince Gugliotta: Sure. Nice. Let's switch over to. Thanks, Danny. I'd like to begin tonight with the system volumes for the month. The average daily discharge for the wastewater treatment plant was about 83,000 gallons per day. And the plant had a total monthly discharge of 2.56 million gallons. If you look down at the graph, you'll notice our wastewater discharge flows fairly low compared to the past couple of months. Probably due to dry weather, you know, drought. We're not seeing any I&I in other words our water system had an average daily production rate of 123,000 gallons per day, with a total production volume of a little over 3.8 million gallons. The highlights I'd like to bring to your attention for the wastewater system are, in August, we started utilizing a dewatering system for the digesters at the wastewater treatment plant. This is a process that we use to help, thicken this wasted sludge at the wastewater plant, and this should result in a greatly reduced pump and haul cost for the reduced cost for the sludge pump and haul. Yeah. A few critical equipment components, upgrades and replacements were authorized. We began trying to source and set up dates to have that equipment installed. A couple of these equipment and components include the return activated sludge flow meter. A variable frequency drive for the nitrate nitrite recycle pump. And also a new pump to replace the nitrate nitrite recycle pump. On the 26th the Loudoun County Fire Marshal's came by, did a safety inspection of all of our facilities. There's numerous issues noted at the wastewater plant. Most of them are fairly minor, like signage, a couple dead batteries on exit signs. Some issues with the gasoline storage tank. And we've been working diligently, trying to correct those and get that back in working order. Most of which are complete at this time. Oops. Highlights for the water system, I'd like to mention. Earlier in the month, on the 12th, the Well 4 generator automatic transfer switch had a major malfunction or failure, kind of just something out of the blue 20 year old equipment, I guess. We arranged to have a repair service done later in the month, which you'll see a note there on the 27th Schneider Electric came out and replaced the controller for that unit. At that time, it was in good working order when he left. Also the 26th, again, the fire marshal's inspections most of the water plants same thing. Just a couple minor signage infractions labeling, which has since been resolved. Let's move over to the well, levels and drought update. Thanks. Currently the DEQ drought watch webpage they have are Northern Virginia

sector listed in the watch category, and groundwater is actually in the emergency category. One thing we should definitely discuss here is actually I think you guys mentioned it at the previous Town Council.

Bridge Littleton: Vince hold on a second. I just want to make sure I'm reading this right. As I'm reading this graph, the water is getting lower. It's getting down towards the pump.

Vince Gugliotta: Correct. [multiple speakers]

Bridge Littleton: I mean, I know this is the way you guys normally look at it, but it's kind of inverted for the normal sense of mind, right?

Vince Gugliotta: Sure.

Bridge Littleton: You think the higher the number, the higher the feet, the better. But it's not. It's the higher the feet, the worse. Right. Okay. Yeah. Yeah, [inaudible]. Because zero is ground. Yeah.

Vince Gugliotta: It, the you'll see there at the graph at Well 4 or the graph for Well 4 we kind of had a, some alarming data kind of showed up on us later in the month. We're still operating adequately there at, Well 4. But it is something we're paying very close attention to. Like I said, the acid treatment earlier in the month looked awesome. You can see the beginning of the graph, a change towards the end about the 21st. It started going in the wrong direction. So working with our Valley Drilling, we did the work there to see what our options are, what possibly might be going on.

Danny Davis: Mr. Mayor, if I can just jump in real quick, one of the challenges as noted on this map and or graph, and I think we discussed it last meeting, is that the transducer sits at 295ft and we drop the well another 200ft lower than that. So we're working with Valley Automation, who's already enhancing the components there to try to get an additional transducer that will be all the way to the pump level. So we actually can then have the real data about how low the water is dropping while we pump it. So over the last few days, Vince has been giving us kind of weekly updates on the pumping there. It's not perhaps dropping quite as far as maybe it had been in the last part of August, but we really don't know where it's going to date. So we're going to continue to try to refine our data there as much as we can.

Vince Gugliotta: Sure. Just real quick with the Wells L & P throughout the month of August, we were still continuing to see a gain in Well P that, well, is looking very healthy at the moment. Now, Well L is still demonstrating a decline. And since August, we're still continuing to decline which we're also keeping a close eye on.

Danny Davis: Mr. Mayor looking at our, well levels at the precipitation, even though it's been slight precipitation, it's a little bit, but at this time, we don't recommend changing the water conservation status for the town. Well 4 continues to produce appropriately and adequately. And we can introduce Well 3 into the system to top off our tanks from time to time as needed. So for the time being our recommendation would be we stay in our voluntary water conservation. But we will be reviewing that on a very regular basis and bringing that to you at each meeting just to review whether that needs to be enhanced to mandatory conservation. But we're happy to discuss with Council if you have questions.

Cindy Pearson: And aren't we it's forecasted to get some rain from some hurricanes that are coming, so maybe that'll help.

Bridge Littleton: Hopefully.

J. Kevin Daly: Well, that's not guaranteed. No.

Bridge Littleton: Peter? Yeah.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Vince, forgive me for being ignorant. So, Well P it just looked like a straight line, so it doesn't look, I can't see a decline. Can you just help me out with that?

Vince Gugliotta: Sure.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Thank you.

Vince Gugliotta: Let me put my eyes on it real quick. The graph is a little hard to read. Just keep in mind the way that water plant operates at Stonewall. It comes on and off fairly frequently. So you can think, you know, a line graph doing that. Compressed here on a little piece of paper. It's all kind of mushed down that's kind of why you don't necessarily notice a change right off the bat. But yeah, if we could blow that up a little bit, maybe in the future, I think that'd be easier to notice. Our transducers record, I think it's every 4.5 minutes. It takes a reading. It's very frequent. And it's not much of an incline. It's very slight. It's part of the reason why it's hard to notice, but I'm not sure.

Bridge Littleton: Any other questions for Vince?

Bud Jacobs: I have a question for you, Mr. Mayor, and Danny, and my colleagues on Council. I know we track water use very seriously, and have done for as long as I've been on Council anyway, and I'm glad we're doing it. I don't have any idea what other jurisdictions who also draw from the Marshal Formation, the aquifer. I don't know whether they are similarly tracking some of this stuff. If they're seeing the same kinds of issues that we're seeing and whether it might be useful for the longer term to start some discussions with them about water and the aquifer and the broader impact within Loudoun County that certainly is going to affect us. And our efforts are really worthy, but they're just our efforts. There's no, as far as I know, no coordinated discussion going on about any of this. And I'm thinking of COLT perhaps, maybe a way to do that. Anyway, just a thought.

Bridge Littleton: Danny, correct me if I'm wrong, generally so there's seven towns. Leesburg gets their water from the river, and Loudoun Water basically gets it from the river. I mean, they have some wells here and there, but they're whatever. You have HOA's in Western Loudoun, which are basically wells. And then you have the six towns which are all on Wells. So Bud to your point, I think the, you know, for Loudoun water and for Leesburg, it's Potomac River. So, you know, it's they don't matter. They don't matter, but it's not matter. It doesn't matter to the aquifer question. So I think your point about the other all six towns that don't use the river, we could absolutely have that conversation reaching out to other HOA's. I'm going to bet they don't spend the money like we do for the monitoring. I think the other towns do generally may not be as good as we have it, but I know they do because, you know, what is it Purcellville went to conservation two years ago. Round Hill went to conservation last year. So I will absolutely bring it up in the next meeting. Thank you. Yep.

Danny Davis: And, Mr. Mayor, just the Northern Virginia Regional Commission is also undergoing a it's a every 5 or 10 year water resource planning effort that's a requirement if you want to qualify for certain grants and other projects related to water. It's not sustainability, but something of that nature. So we're a partner in that project as well for a region wide look at water resources. Now, again, the majority of Northern Virginia takes it from the river. But it incorporates the concerns about wells with the growth going on around us also.

Bridge Littleton: Well, I'm obviously leading to a later, maybe more uncomfortable discussion, but if these trends continue, our environmental and public health and safety issues are going to become political questions. And the more we have, voices and additional voices in that discussion, I think the better it will be for us.

Bridge Littleton: No, I totally agree. Anybody else? Vince, thanks.

Vince Gugliotta: All right. You're welcome.

Bud Jacobs: Very good.

Bridge Littleton: Thanks. Okay. Now on. Yeah. Now on to the Special Reports report.

Danny Davis: I saw that, thank you. Too much typing too quickly. It's all good. Thank you, Mr. Mayor.

Bridge Littleton: No, I think it was a lack of review by the Town Clerk. To catch the error before she published the agenda.

Danny Davis: I am not going to give, I give nothing but kudos to our Town Clerk for the great information she provides.

Bridge Littleton: You value your safety. [laughter]

Danny Davis: So just as an update, Mr. Mayor on South Madison Street, as noted in the memo. We did submit our CIP funding request to the Council. Supported if you have been down South Madison, now that the time or the days are getting shorter, you'll see that there are new streetlights placed by Dominion Power. I think they will really help, especially at the intersection of Federal Street. We have had some discussions with at least one property owner and briefly with EDAC on the long term project. A lot remains to be engineered into the future. So it's not anything written in stone at this point, but some good conversations about various aspects of what the project could look like. Right now we're really just in a holding pattern again for the county. I'm hopeful that we were more effective in our request this year. If we don't get funding, then we'll come back to you with an idea of what we do as a kind of long term interim solution. Miss North will give you updates on Asbury Church. She continues to put a lot of effort into that. And it's a great work on Asbury Church. Again, on the sewer line inspections. We did we sent that report off to a construction contractor to have them analyze the type of work that they can do that's less invasive. It's more trenchless type work. And we're waiting to hear back with some ideas there. We're also going to work on identifying some contractors that we could bid out for the more extensive work, where we actually need to dig up pipes and set new pipes due to either breakages or sags in those pipes. And we found probably 3 or 4 locations where the water was holding in the pipe. So there are definite sags and at least one location where you can see the breakage in the top of the pipe, where the roadbed is kind of caving in to a degree on top of it. And then we're still a bit in a holding pattern on the maintenance building for now. So those are our major projects for this time.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Danny? All right. Next up is the consent agenda. Anybody like anything removed? Is there a motion on the consent agenda?

Chris Bernard: I move that we adopt the consent agenda as proposed.

J. Kevin Daly: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye.

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed? Abstentions? Okay. Next up is Council approval of request for special event grant for Rallye Middleburg. See ya Vince. Ali. Ryan, have a seat.

Ali MacIntyre: Sorry.

J. Kevin Daly: Stay calm.

Bridge Littleton: If we need you. If we need you, we'll let you know.

Ali MacIntyre: All right. Thank you. So you have the report, but I just wanted to make a quick note. Last Wednesday, the Middleburg Arts and Community Events Committee looking at Rhonda for confirmation. But, okay, that's what it was. Recommended that the request for the special events grant application be awarded \$2,500 to Rallye Middleburg. The reason for this is their application did request \$5,000. The reason for this was that the event seemed to be funded, and the money that we would be allotting would be given directly to a local nonprofit, Seven Loaves Services. The staff recommendation was based on the amount of projected attendees, which at the time was 300. They're expecting that many for the event. But they're now working or they're working with vendor communications to just send out a press release on the event, and they may be expecting additional foot traffic. Ultimately, the committee wasn't opposed to them increasing

the grant donation to the requested amount of 5,000, but wanted to make sure that Council understood that the allotted funds would most likely go directly to Seven Loaves.

Bridge Littleton: Awesome. And Kevin, you have a question?

J. Kevin Daly: No.

Bridge Littleton: Well, your microphones on. Pam, as you were in the committee with the discussion, any input?

Pam Curran: I actually had Covid. I was not there.

Bridge Littleton: What I can't hear.

Pam Curran: I'm sorry, I had COVID. I wasn't there.

Bridge Littleton: Blaming Covid. I thought those days were over. Anybody have any thoughts or comments or questions? Ryan is here if there's any questions for him.

Ryan Danger: I got lots.

Bridge Littleton: No, no.

Ryan Danger: [off mic].

Bridge Littleton: Anybody? What? No. No. I mean, you guys presented already. We know what you're doing.

Ryan Danger: I have a lot to tell you. There was a lot of.

Bridge Littleton: Okay, you get two minutes. Rhonda, put him on the clock.

Rhonda North: Two minutes?

Bridge Littleton: Two minutes.

Ryan Danger: Okay. All right. Listen. All right. Hi, everybody. I'm back.

J. Kevin Daly: [off mic] Anything bad?

Ryan Danger: No, no, not at all. A long time ago, I won a motorcycle build off, and all of my winnings went to the person that finished in, like, fourth place below me. She had breast cancer, and she could not we didn't know what was going to happen, so I gave her all my winnings. She went to Italy. She met everybody, all the MotoGP guys. That meant the most to me. That was my pay it forward. Right. Tonight the grant money goes to Seven Loaves. We won. Right? We're going to pay it forward. Okay. That's amazing. Thank you all so much. If you all voted on me yet, I have no idea. All I'm saying is, we have. We thank you all. We have hopefully answered a lot of questions. I know Bud had a few questions a long time ago. I know a lot of y'all did. We've come a long way. Danny's helped us out with everything so has Ali everybody else here. On Friday the 17th, I go and pick up Formula One Driver Marcus Ericsson, Indy 500 Winner. He's going to be our honorary driver. He's going to run a 1969 Ferrari 365 GT in the rally. He's coming in. I have him staying at Lansdowne Resort because everything was a little tied up here in Middleburg. I'm really excited about that. I'm also very nervous because, you know, he's just, you know, he's coming to our town. Okay, so he's representing Andretti Racing, and we're going to have a great time. And we're going to try to raise as much money as we can. And make the event the biggest thing we can do since the Mille left. There's more, but go ahead.

Bridge Littleton: Peter?

Peter Leonard-Morgan: I remember when we talked about it, there was a concern because of another big event, the film festival, I think. I just wondered whether that was broached and discussed. And.

Ryan Danger: Yeah. We talked to Girardi, and she was very receptive to the whole thing, even on South Madison Street. But we moved everything to Federal Street. So we are now in the back street. We're doing a little small, little shindig back there. We have Oyster Bar involved. We have Lost Barrel. We have Boxwood. We have some vendors coming in from the town. People are coming to help out, and we're just going to throw a little vintage car festival in the parking lot. It's small right now, but we're going to make it work. And then next year we're going to move to bigger, better things, right with Middleburg. Yeah. Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: Ryan, how many cars do you have signed up so far?

Ryan Danger: I don't have the exact answer. I know Jason does. Jason came here for the grant. I missed that meeting. I don't know where he was at that point I think we're somewhere around 25 cars.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Quick question. And I'm going to here's my question. You're I want to make sure I understand what you're saying exactly, because what it sounds like you're saying is the \$2,500 we're going to give you, you're just going to give it straight to Seven Loaves.

Ryan Danger: I believe that's how it's supposed to go.

Bridge Littleton: So why would we just give it straight Seven Loaves.

Ryan Danger: Yeah I think that's what it was supposed to do, right?

Bridge Littleton: No, this is the. You guys are requesting a grant for us to give you \$2,500 to spend on the event.

Ryan Danger: Full transparency. I was not there for that meeting. I'm here to represent us and to say thank you. Whatever you give is going to Seven Loaves, right.

Bridge Littleton: We got to make sure we know how much we're giving, who we're giving it to, how it's working. Yeah.

Ali MacIntyre: So unfortunately, Ryan wasn't able to attend the meeting, but Jason and Oh, my gosh, Jane Covington they were there to present. They went through the financials. They went through the whole event to present to the Middleburg Arts and Community Events Committee. And this request is being made for the special events, the grant donation to fund the event. I did want to mention that if it's okay, the so this portion of the event, the festival came out to about \$10,000. So the festival itself in town is about \$10,000. So that's why they were requesting the \$5,000 from the town for the special events donation to help fund that particular portion of the event. There's also a separate portion from 9 to 3, I believe 9 to 2, because you have to come back from Summit Point. So that event is at Summit Point, and that's completely separate. But bringing it to the Town of Middleburg was for the Town of Middleburg residents and visitors to benefit in lieu of the Mille Miglia not being here this year. So that's what the grant donation was for.

Bridge Littleton: So if I understand it correctly, what you're saying then is if and only if there is a surplus, the surplus would go to Seven Loaves. Yes, but if there's no surplus, there's nothing that goes to Seven Loaves.

Ali MacIntyre: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Okay.

Danny Davis: And Mr. Paterniti, my understanding is currently fronting the majority of the \$10,000 to run the event and Mr. Danger in town.

Ali MacIntyre: Yes.

Danny Davis: So the request is to offset costs that we're going to be essentially paid for by those two individuals helping organize the event. To answer your question, though, and affirm that yes, any excess was going to be donated to seven loaves. So it's a.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Yeah. This is actually getting a lot more complex. So. Okay. So sponsors or. Yes, sponsors. Right.

Ryan Danger: We have a couple of sponsors. We have three sponsors.

Bridge Littleton: Got it. And do the entrance do the people bringing a car have to pay a fee?

Ryan Danger: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. So that'll be cash. But then you and Jason are putting in your own money to support it.

Ryan Danger: That's correct.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. If you clear over the \$10,000, do you intend to pay yourselves back?

Ryan Danger: I don't think we can.

Bridge Littleton: Why not? It's a private event. You can do whatever you want.

Ryan Danger: Well, no, but I don't.

Ali MacIntyre: That was not the intent based on.

Bridge Littleton: Okay.

Ryan Danger: We're pretty much running this. We're nobody's getting paid at all.

Bridge Littleton: No, no, that's not what I mean. That's not what I mean. Like. So if an event's \$10,000 and I put in \$10,000 to cover it, and then through all the fees and sponsorships, we make 12 grand. Did I take ten of the 12 and pay myself back because I loaned it to the event? And then there's only, you know, there's \$2,000 on top of that.

Ryan Danger: We're not getting reimbursed.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. All right. That's the question.

Ryan Danger: Yes, sir. Yeah.

Cindy Pearson: I'm going to try to make this easier. What I would say is with your \$2,500, make sure you use it for the event. Don't use the language you're going to give that to Seven Loaves. We don't give events money to give to another nonprofit organization that in ways we already support. So is that clear? Is that making sense to you?

Ryan Danger: Yes.

Cindy Pearson: Take the \$2,500 use it for the expenses that you applied for the grant for. If you have money left over that you want to give to Seven Loaves, good for you. Don't say it's from this.

Ryan Danger: Okay.

Cindy Pearson: Good.

Ryan Danger: Copy that.

Bridge Littleton: Bud.

Bud Jacobs: Have you set the registration fee for the automobiles that will be taking part?

Ryan Danger: Yes, there's a registration fee. So the fee, some of that goes to the track rental, and then the rest of it goes to seven loaves when it's all done.

Bud Jacobs: May I ask what the fee is?

Ryan Danger: I don't have it.

Danny Davis: On the budget it says it's \$595.

Bud Jacobs: Five nine per car.

Ryan Danger: Per car? I don't have it on me. Yeah, yeah. Just to give you guys a heads up, I have my art up for sale too, as well. We have two versions of the poster art that we did for the Mille last year. All right. And we're looking to raise money through that to go to Seven Loaves as well. I'm trying to, I think I need that guy right here to represent me for. Hey, Ryan.

Bridge Littleton: I'm going to recommend don't say anything else.

Ryan Danger: Okay. I'm out. I'm done. [laughter] Look.

Bridge Littleton: It's getting it more confusing, so.

Ryan Danger: That's fine. Okay.

Bridge Littleton: Okay.

Ryan Danger: We're just enthused.

Bridge Littleton: What?

Ryan Danger: We're enthused.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, that's not the problem.

Ryan Danger: Yeah, yeah.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah.

Chris Bernard: Chris, obviously, just to clear this up, they're looking for \$2,500 bucks. The committee has approved it. The money is going to go to fund this event. When there's not excess money at the end, it's not going to go to Seven Loaves.

Bridge Littleton: And if there is, if there is an overage, they'll give it Seven Loaves.

Chris Bernard: Great.

Ryan Danger: We were the initial request from what I was told from Jason was \$5,000.

Bridge Littleton: Yes, but the committee recommended \$2,500.

Ryan Danger: Yep.

Bridge Littleton: So everyone comfortable with \$2,500? Yes. Kevin if you want to.

J. Kevin Daly: No. I'm not going to be the recommender. I'm going to have to recuse myself. I'm a member of the Board of Directors for Seven Loaves and.

Bridge Littleton: Okay, Pam. Hold on you had a question? Oh. Anybody had any other feedback? Bud did you have anything?

Bud Jacobs: No, sir.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Pam.

Pam Curran: Okay. I move the Town Council, approve a special events grant in the amount of \$2,500, in support of Rallye Middleburg Vintage Automobile and Festival to benefit the Middleburg community and draw in visitors.

Cindy Pearson: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Any discussion? All those. Oh, Rhonda, you do your job.

Rhonda North: Vice Mayor Bernard.

Chris Bernard: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Curran.

Pam Curran: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Daly. [off mic]

Rhonda North: Council Member Jacobs.

Bud Jacobs: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Leonard-Morgan.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Pearson.

Cindy Pearson: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Hey, Rhonda. Does Kevin actually have to abstain instead of, say, pass?

Rhonda North: I mean, it would be up to the Town Attorney, but I don't believe so because he's not going to benefit financially.

Bridge Littleton: Well, no, I mean, but if he feels he's.

Rhonda North: But.

Bridge Littleton: Is that the correct way to say I feel I shouldn't vote?

Rhonda North: Oh. Abstained.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah.

J. Kevin Daly: Abstained.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Point. Yeah. Yeah. Technicality. Robert. Robert and his rules. Okay. Thank you. Ryan, thanks.

Ryan Danger: Thank you all.

Bridge Littleton: We'll see you next month. What's the date?

Ryan Danger: October 18th.

Bridge Littleton: October 18th.

Ryan Danger: Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: So I'll be there with bells on.

Ryan Danger: Thank you all. We're going to.

Bud Jacobs: [off mic] What's the deadline for registration?

Ryan Danger: It's. We're in until we hit 30 cars.

Bridge Littleton: Bud's got a new fancy car.

Ryan Danger: We are trying to stop it. We're trying to keep it from 80 and then older. Now, now hold on, hold on, hold on. We will interview if there's a if there's an 82 or 80 3 or 85. 93 what?

Bud Jacobs: Corvette.

Ryan Danger: Okay.

Bud Jacobs: With 8,000 miles on it.

Ryan Danger: That's fine. You're in. For a small fee.

Bridge Littleton: And you know what? It's a good thing you said that before we voted.

Ryan Danger: Yeah. But you're always welcome. Thank you all for your time. I know we've had a it's been a long couple of months here, so.

Bridge Littleton: And as a Councilor, you pay a thousand.

Pam Curran: Does he get handicapped for having a newer car?

Ryan Danger: We can.

Bridge Littleton: Listen to Pam. She's Pam's got. Oh, look at this.

Pam Curran: I've got that 1969 thing.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, that's right, you should get a coefficient. I forgot about that. That's right. All right, all right. Sorry. Thanks Ryan.

Ryan Danger: See y'all. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Next up is the ordinance to amend town code. Oh, for sign penalties. Mr. Davis.

Danny Davis: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and Council, we discussed this at the last couple of meetings about sandwich board signs, signs being placed in the right of way, and Council supported the idea of developing additional or enhanced penalties in our town code related to signs and, separately, encroachments in the right of way if people either violate the ordinance or fail to remove such items from the right of way after notice. In discussions with the Town Attorney we've provided you with a proposal. The first item relates to a comment Miss Kirk had made ensuring that we do provide at least a written notice and warning for the first time. This might come up. But after that, the first offense would be a charge of \$100 per day of offense and subsequent to conviction of that first offense. Any further violation of the code would be \$250 per day of offense. The other question was related to confiscating signage. And then, as noted here we would store remove signs for up to seven days communicate with the owner. And if it's not retrieved within that period of time, the town would dispose of it. And if there is a repeated effort to violate this, then the town has then retains the right to remove and dispose of the sign with no notice, because it represents a safety hazard to the public and encroachments in the rights of way. So we're happy to answer any questions, but the ordinance amendments are ready for approval if Council is ready. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Thank you and everybody Will for getting this together. Really appreciate it. Anybody have any questions? I know we talked about multiple times. Any questions for them? Oh, go after it.

Chris Bernard: And I've been thinking about this, so I have maybe a small issue with the last little piece there, which is the repeat offender thing. I wonder if that is just a little too subjective. Maybe there needs to be some. I mean, one, I'd be okay just getting rid of that and look, if we have to come take it and hold it for seven days and you come get it on the sixth day, and you keep doing that over and over, and that's you're just a crazy person. But I just don't want us to get into a weird thing where, like, on the second time we get rid of somebody's sign and then they throw a fit, and we haven't clearly identified what does, you know, repeat offender mean, is it have you done it more than three times. And at that point, are we just is it too much minutia?

Bridge Littleton: Will jump in.

Will Moore: Two things. The comment about we pick it up, we hold it for a certain amount of days, they come get it, put it back out. And that keeps repeating that. Would be a crazy person. Well, we have crazy people. Well, yeah, but we have that. And it represents an ongoing issue for personnel having to take care of these things. As far as what is a repeat offender, if it's out a second time that plain language, that's a repeat offender.

Chris Bernard: We're going [off mic] to take that on the second time. [off mic] We're going to every for every person. We're going to take this time.

Will Moore: If we take it, we return it. It's going to be returned with an admonishment that this is the one time it happens. And if it happens again. Now, if it's Council's desire that you want us to wait till the third time, I don't think we have to

amend the code to do that, but we'll just establish that as policy rather than the second time. I wouldn't have a problem with that.

Chris Bernard: [off mic]

Will Moore: Sure.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Any other questions? Everyone good? All right. Who would like to make a motion? All right. They can go after Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: I move that Town Council adopt an ordinance to amend sections 91-6.1 and 91-12 of the Middleburg town code pertaining to sidewalk signs and violations and penalties.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Any other discussion? All right, Rhonda, do you need to call the roll because this is a penalty.

Rhonda North: Vice Mayor Bernard.

Chris Bernard: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Curran.

Pam Curran: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Daly.

J. Kevin Daly: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Jacobs.

Bud Jacobs: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Leonard-Morgan.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Pearson.

Cindy Pearson: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Real quick as we close that item out, I just want to say thanks to Danny, Will, Ali, Tim for picking them up. Everybody, as we've been trying to figure out a way to manage this better over the last, God, ten, 11 months. It's been hard. And I think everything you guys are doing to be proactive, to help, you know, with wayfinding and things like that, but then also putting in a regime where we can ensure public safety. I think we've gotten to a really, really good result. So thank you guys for all the hard work. All right. Yeah.

Chris Bernard: And this isn't the end of it. We've now fixed the penalty portion, but we still have a lot of work to do on making sure everyone knows where they're going and everyone's happy.

Bridge Littleton: Yes.

Danny Davis: And we'll be having draft designs of town signage to you guys, probably in the next couple of weeks.

Bud Jacobs: I'm not sure everyone's happy should be a metric on this. [laughter]

Bridge Littleton: Come on, Bud, we sell smiles here. Alright. Discussion items. Adoption of Virginia property management or maintenance code. Mr. Davis.

Danny Davis: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and Council Members, this is a new consideration for you. As noted in the memo here, there are a couple of different ways that we tackle complaints about unsafe or unsightly buildings. Specifically the two avenues that we currently have to date focus on, really, when a building gets to a level of being deemed unsafe or a dangerous structure. But we don't have any mechanisms currently in place for items that we're hearing a few more complaints of recently, where perhaps there's a lack of proper maintenance of the exterior of a building. Perhaps it is open to rodents or intrusion. And there might be it could be wood or molding that's starting to rot and create issues as well. And we don't really have any strong mechanisms currently in our tool bag. Ultimately, when we hear concerns about things like this, our goal is to help bring compliance from the property owner, similar to the discussion of signage that we just had. We need tools in our tool bag. But at the end of the day, it's really hoping that we don't have to wield those tools, but that we have ways to bring those properties into compliance with general standards and expectations and in this case code. So the recommendation here would be that the Town Council give direction for us to develop adoption of portions of the Virginia Property Maintenance Code, and that has to be enforced by a trained and certified building official. And so we would work with Loudoun County to enter into an agreement whereby they would enforce the town's adopted property Maintenance code in accordance with the county's application of their adoption of the property maintenance code. So it's a bit of a overlap where our code mirrors the county code, and then we designate them as the one to do the enforcement. That also involves entering into a memorandum of understanding with the county, which authorizes them to enforce a town code. Typically, if they do activities, they're only going to enforce county code. And if we are required to adopt it as a jurisdiction, they won't just come in the door and enforce a town code. We have to enter into that MOU. And in working with the Town Attorney and briefly speaking with the county administrator and the county attorney, they do this for Leesburg, have done it for about 11 years and have expressed support for doing the same thing with the Town of Middleburg, and I believe that meets our expectations as well. One final sidebar is the county is looking. They've only adopted portions of the property maintenance code, and they are looking to adopt the remainder of the property maintenance code and make that effective January 1st, 2020, oh goodness, I can't remember. I think it's 2027. So there's a little bit of pathway for that, but we would intend to bring to you the portions the county has adopted to date. And then once their new adoption of the property maintenance code takes effect, we would then adopt those portions as well to be coherent with what the county has in place. I hope that didn't confuse things. So anyway, our request to you is not action tonight. Just simply if there's consensus from Council, we'll keep going down this pathway. I think again, as discussed, it's another tool to work with property owners to help ensure we're keeping our town looking maintained and proper. And as many of you have heard, we've heard a lot of complaints from residents and business owners about the state of a certain number of the buildings in town.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions? Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: This it sounds like you've already coordinated and talked to the county about this.

Danny Davis: Some early conversations. Yes, sir.

J. Kevin Daly: And they're good to go if we go this direction to provide that enforcement?

Danny Davis: There was supportive of us working together on an MOU and don't see any roadblocks in our future. I can't commit them, but. Yes.

J. Kevin Daly: Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: I don't know if this is an ignorant question, I apologize. Is this referred to commercial or everything in the Town of Middleburg?

Danny Davis: This would apply to all properties in town.

Bridge Littleton: Bud.

Bud Jacobs: Could you explain a little more in depth why we would cede enforcement authority for this to the county?

Danny Davis: Sure. And the short answer is we don't have the capability under the requirements of the state code. It requires similar to it requires having a building official that is certified under state regulatory licensing. And we have already ceded that authority to the county for the Uniform Statewide Building Code, which designates whether a structure is habitable able to be occupied or deemed unsafe and unoccupiable due to a structural defect. So they already handle that for us, this would just be the additional portions focused on property maintenance.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. But I think the thing for folks to understand, right, is that everything the county does is complaint based enforcement, right? So, you know, if we adopt the same additional code provisions that the county uses for their building, I don't think a inspector will care one way or the other. They're coming in with a checklist, and you don't do this. You don't do this. Here's your violation. Because right now we only do the hazardous structures, one that Will maintains. But there's so much going on. Or let me rephrase that, there's certain buildings that don't rise to the level of hazardous structure, but the building owner is not doing what they should. And this will allow us to have that tool. [laughter] All right. Yeah. Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: Also, another good point. We don't have to then hire our own trained certified inspector.

Danny Davis: That is correct.

Bridge Littleton: Any concerns with Danny and staff moving forward with the county to number one, adopt the ordinance, which we will have to do and then putting together an MOU with the county for them to help when we need enforcement.

J. Kevin Daly: Go for it.

Bridge Littleton: Okay, cool. Thanks Danny.

Danny Davis: Thank you. Yes, sir.

Bridge Littleton: All right. Any information? Items? I did. Oh. Anybody concerns with me signing the letter? Did everybody read it?

Chris Bernard: Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. I did I did get a couple recommendations for edits from Jeff Morris. He used to be the Chair of LCPS. He's now on the charter school board. He. I mean, it was sort of the, you know, will or shall kind of stuff. And also highlighting more the fact that the school is 100% oversubscribed. So I'll add that stuff in but basic.

Chris Bernard: [off mic] the waiting list is, I believe, larger than the actual enrollment.

Bridge Littleton: It's exactly the same. I asked Stephen this morning. Yeah.

Bud Jacobs: So is Supervisor TeKrony winning? Is she aware of what they're trying to do?

Bridge Littleton: So I've talked to Laura a bunch this week. She's reached out. She's reaching out. I talked to our Loudoun County Public School Board Member. Her name is Doctor Rashid. She has stated that she does not support, you know, doing this, but I think it's going to be more incumbent upon us and Laura and the community to try to influence the other board members. So the it's four right now four are against doing this four are for doing this. There's one person who wants to learn and understand more. And I'm speaking to her and her chief of staff tomorrow. So you know And you know, my point is there's many points, but the one I want to express is look whether we should have charter schools or not that is always a valid political conversation, right? But while you have them, you maintain them. You do not jeopardize safety of students, you know, and apparently this is coming from a staff person. So, you know, so I don't want to make it a fight about whether we should have charter schools. It should be all schools should be supported equally. And if you want to get rid of charter schools, there's a public process for doing that. There's engagement, there's meetings, and then there's a wind down. But not this. This is doing indirectly what they can't do directly.

Bud Jacobs: Somebody wants [off mic] They can add to [off mic] their efficiency.

Bridge Littleton: Who knows. Well we had it. Was it four years ago Eric Hornbaker tried to surplus the school property and sell it out from underneath the school, which was like, you know, what are you doing? Yeah, exactly. Okay. Cool. I'll get that out to all the board members tomorrow. Any other information items? The only one I'm going to add is Ali and everybody did a great job at Oktoberfest. I think I mean, the Council brought the weather, so but, no, I think everything was great. I think we did learn, you know, next year, we want to, you know, maybe have, you know, there were some lines, but I think generally everybody was very happy. I spoke to a couple of the artists you know, they had done well and they were glad they were there, and they would definitely want to do it again next year. So yeah, all in all, I thought it was great.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: The Corgi races would like to be taking place on West Washington Street in the future. Please. Yes.

Cindy Pearson: Oh, I heard that.

Bridge Littleton: Yes. And, Pam.

Pam Curran: Yep. I wanted to thank Ali, too. I thought it was amazing. The one I went to and they had a new contest for holding the beer lagers, I guess.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, the Stein Holding Contest. Yeah.

Pam Curran: Somebody came in third on the Council.

Bridge Littleton: Oh. How many competitors?

Pam Curran: 20.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, wow. Okay. Kevin. Great job. That's not workman's comp. Okay. Are we going to be doing the closed session? We are going to do it. Okay. Would someone like to read the motion that you, Chris.

Chris Bernard: There it is. I move that Council go into closed session as authorized under section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, for consultation with legal counsel pertaining to actual litigation involving Cooper Building Services, LLC versus the Town of Middleburg, as allowed under subsection A7. I further move that Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.

Bridge Littleton: A second.

Cindy Pearson: Second. Sorry.

Bridge Littleton: Any discussion? All those in favor say aye.

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed? Abstentions? All right, here we go. I ask that Council certify that in the closed session just concluded, to the best of each member's knowledge, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters specifically identified in the motion to convene the closed session and to lawfully permitted to be discussed in closed session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, as cited in the motion. I would like to remind those present for the closed session that any discussion that occurred within it should be treated as confidential.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Yes.

Bud Jacobs: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Yes.

Chris Bernard: Yes.

Cindy Pearson: Yes.

J. Kevin Daly: Yes.

Pam Curran: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Any other business items? And meeting adjourned.