



MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 13, 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 C. Darlene Kirk
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
Ali MacIntyre, Director of Business Development & Community Partnerships
Angela Fletcher, Finance Director/Town Treasurer
Mark Putnam, Police Lieutenant

The Town Council of the Town of Middleburg, Virginia held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, November 13, 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

Liz White, 708 Stonewall Avenue, noted that the Council Chambers was used for elections and opined that it was well designed for that purpose. She expressed appreciation for this. Ms. White advised Council that there was a vehicle accident at the intersection of Chestnut Street and Stonewall Avenue, during which a car failed to stop for the stop sign and ran into a school bus. She further advised that motorists frequently failed to stop at this stop sign and traveled too fast coming down the hill. Ms. White requested the Council consider making this a four-way stop. She noted that new fencing was installed in this area, which blocked motorists’ view of traffic coming north on Chestnut Street. Ms. White opined that the intersection was poorly designed and advised that motorists had to ease out onto Stonewall Avenue to see oncoming traffic.

Punkin Lee, President of the Middleburg Business & Professional Association (MBPA), thanked the Police Department and those who participated in the Halloween gathering at the Middleburg Community Center. She noted that approximately two hundred children and parents participated in the parade. Ms. Lee advised that she left copies of the new events card, which highlighted the upcoming Christmas events.

Public Hearing

Ordinance to Vacate Portion of Independence Street Right-of-Way

Deputy Town Manager Moore reported that this request was related to a forty-foot stretch of unopened, unimproved right-of-way located between the Catawba property at 404 East Federal Street and the eastern town limits. He further reported that there were no plans to construct a street in this location and advised that it did not show in the Comprehensive Plan as a potential street connection. Mr. Moore reported that the Ad-Hoc Property Committee reviewed this request in February of 2023 and recommended approving the vacation, subject to establishing the necessary utility easements. He advised that he and the Assistant Town Attorney worked to develop the easements and noted that everyone was now comfortable with them. Mr. Moore explained that if the Council wished to approve the vacation, they could set a price that was based on either the fair market value, which was \$9,250, or the contributory value, which was \$9,000, whichever was greater.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan noted that he and Councilmember Jacobs served on the Ad-Hoc Property Committee and reported that they both felt the request should be approved. He opined that the appraised value was fair.

No one spoke and the public hearing was closed.

Councilmember Daly concurred with Councilmember Leonard-Morgan and Jacobs' assessment.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan moved, seconded by Councilmember Jacobs, that the Council adopt an Ordinance to Vacate a Portion of Independence Street right-of-way and convey it to Catawba Associates, Centreville, LLC for a price of \$9,250. Councilmember Leonard-Morgan further moved, seconded by Councilmember Jacobs, that Council accept the related deed of easement.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Special Recognition by Mayor & Council

Council Approval – Resolution of Appreciation – Charles Proffitt

Mayor Littleton noted that Charles Proffitt had served as a part-time police officer for the Town of Middleburg and also served as the Police Chief for the Town of Remington, as well as operating his own business. He further noted that he filled in when the Department was short staffed and assisted with special events. Mr. Littleton advised that he resigned his position in Middleburg, as he had more responsibilities in Remington and needed to focus on his business. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Proffitt for his assistance over the years.

Councilmember Daly thanked Mr. Proffitt and noted that he was a member of the family.

Mayor Littleton read the resolution of appreciation aloud and, following its adoption, presented a signed copy to Mr. Proffitt.

Councilmember Daly moved, seconded by Councilmember Leonard-Morgan, that Council adopt a resolution expressing its appreciation to Charles Proffitt for his service on the Middleburg Police Department from October 29, 2014 through October 10, 2025.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Mr. Proffitt thanked the Mayor and Council and advised that he appreciated the opportunity to work with the members of the Police Department. He advised that he loved Middleburg and enjoyed working here.

Staff Reports

October 2025

Deputy Town Manager Moore reported that he conducted interviews for the Planner position and noted that the Town had many strong candidates. He opined that the position would be filled soon.

Town Clerk North reminded Council of the Volunteer Appreciation Reception held on October 29th, which had approximately twenty-five people in attendance. She opined that it was well received and noted that she received a nice thank you letter from some of the committee members. Ms. North recognized Tutti Perricone, of Back Street Café, who did a wonderful job of catering the event.

Town Clerk North reminded Council that a number of terms on Town committee's were due to expire December 31st and advised that in accordance with Council's new policy, she advertised the vacancies and contacted the existing members to determine if they wished to apply for re-appointment. She reported that two members of the Planning Commission were not seeking re-appointment, and one member of the Sustainability Committee was not. Ms. North reminded Council that the Town also had a vacancy on EDAC and the Strategic Finance Committee due to resignations. She asked that Council encourage anyone who may be interested in serving on a Town committee to apply using the online application that was available on the Town's website. Ms. North noted that the deadline was November 25th.

Town Clerk North reported that work to correct the exterior deficiencies and address punch list work on the Town Hall Project had been suspended due to the low temperatures. She advised that work would resume in the Spring. In response to an inquiry, she reported that most of the remaining work involved the exterior and interior trim, and the HVAC system.

Town Manager Davis reported that the HVAC system was mostly operating correctly; however, there were still some tweaks that needed to be made. He noted that as the contractor was working on the exterior trim, they found some items that were not on the punch list because Phase II did not go through a formal punch list process. Mr. Davis advised that these items would affect the long-term longevity of the building, such as trim that was not painted or waterproofed properly. He reminded them that now was the time to get the work done. Mr. Davis advised that Town Clerk North and Downey & Scott continued to put a lot of effort into making sure those items were addressed to protect the integrity of the building.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre thanked those who attended the Middleburg Business & Professional Association's (MBPA) Biz Buzz and noted that next month's event would be a holiday one, during which awards would be presented. She reported that the MBPA was working to organize their December activities and opined that the carriage rides would sell out soon. Ms. MacIntyre advised that the MBPA would offer free hot chocolate again this year. She reported that they would host Jingle in the Burg on December 13th and reviewed the schedule. Ms. MacIntyre advised that the MBPA would also host the Jingle Paws Parade on December 20th in collaboration with the Town and Police Department, who would lead the parade down Washington Street. She reminded Council of Christmas in Middleburg and advised that she was working with the businesses to organize their parking spaces. Ms. MacIntyre noted that she would report on the Burns Night, Farmer's Market and America's 250 events later in the meeting.

Finance Director Fletcher reminded Council that the draft audit report for FY '25 was under review by the staff. She reported that the auditors would present it to the Finance Committee on November 17th and the Council on December 11th.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan noted that he was happy to see the revenues were higher than anticipated and the expenditures were lower.

Lieutenant Mark Putnam reminded Council of the Walk with the Chief event on November 19th. In response to comments from the Council, Lt. Putnam advised that November and December were "No Shave November & December," during which officers made donations and did not have to shave. He reported that they collected \$420, which was used to purchase canned good for Seven Loaves. Lt. Putnam announced that they would also hold a Stuff the Cruiser event to benefit Seven Loaves on December 12th. In response to a comment from the Council, he opined that everyone was happy to see the Loudoun County Sheriff's Department at the recent Coffee with a Cop event.

Town Attorney Crim noted that the Council had his report, and that he was happy to answer any questions.

Asbury Church Project Report

Town Clerk North reported that the Asbury Church Project Committee would meet with Glave & Holmes' design team on November 17th to hear their initial recommendations related to the schematic design for the restoration project. She noted that she met with the team earlier in the week to discuss the occupancy level for the building, which impacted building code life safety items such as the size of the HVAC system and the number of handicapped accessible restrooms that were needed. Ms. North reported that the Town was trying to minimize the occupancy number in order to minimize the cost for the life safety items. She advised that as to the Oral Histories Project, six of the individual interview videos had been received and noted that while they needed some minor tweaks, they were close to being in final form. Ms. North advised that the remaining four and the composite video should be received soon for the Town's review. She noted that the plan was to hold a private showing of the videos for the individuals who were interviewed next month and to hold a public premiere on February 11th, as a part of the Americas 250 celebration. Ms. North noted that the restoration design plans for the Asbury Church would also be unveiled at the same time. In response to an inquiry from the Council, she advised that the composite video would be approximately twenty minutes long and the individual interview videos would range from six to eleven minutes. She reported that all together, there was more than two hours' worth of video time.

Water Status Update

Town Manager Davis reported that Middleburg did not receive any significant precipitation over the past month and noted that the staff was watching this carefully. He further noted that despite the lack of information due to the federal government shutdown, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality was providing information as best it could. Mr. Davis reported that the demand for water was lower this time of year, as few people were doing outdoor activities. He noted that even though the town had not received a lot of precipitation, it was also not currently experiencing challenges in the water system. Mr. Davis reported that Well 3 was operating nicely and supplementing Well 4. He further reported that Well 4 had not shown any concerning drops below the transducer level this month and continued to stay at the proper level. Mr. Davis noted that Wells L and P continued to function. Mr. Davis advised that with this in mind, the staff and Utilities Committee were recommending the current voluntary water conservation measures be lifted. He noted that should the Town face a situation in the coming six months, whether operational or production related, he would ask the Council to reinstate the appropriate level of conservation measure. Mr. Davis reiterated that currently, things were running fine. He noted the continued drought and other pressures that could result in things changing quickly or in a long-term fashion and reported that the Utilities Committee held a long conversation about utilities capital improvement projects, including how to get the water treated at Well 3. Mr. Davis advised that the Council would see the results of these planning activities during their upcoming budget discussions. In response to an inquiry, he reported that when Well 3 was run, approximately 20,000 gallons of water was drawn from it; however, it was only being operated once or twice a week – just enough to supplement Well 4 or top off the water towers.

Mayor Littleton reported that the Coalition of Loudoun Towns (COLT) recently met with the Loudoun County Conservation & Preservation Coalition. He advised that the Coalition gave them a presentation on the issues and concerns about water in Loudoun County and provided a copy of their study. Mr. Littleton displayed a page from the study, which showed the areas in Loudoun that had significant water level declines over the past forty years. He advised that when the development patterns were overlaid on the map, it showed an interesting pattern. Mr. Littleton noted that there was no data for some of the areas and advised that what was shown was just the areas where there was conclusive evidence. He reported that the Coalition was asking the towns to engage on this issue with the County and noted that Chair Randall and Supervisor Kershner were present during the COLT meeting. Mr. Littleton advised that he inquired as to what the ask was and suggested that, while collecting more data and doing additional analysis was always desired, the County clearly had a directional issue. He further advised that he questioned how they could start addressing this issue, to which Chair Randall and Supervisor Kershner inquired as to what they could do. Mr. Littleton advised that his response was that they could stop development in Western Loudoun, to which they replied that they had not approved one new home in Western Loudoun County since 2016. He noted that this was not an issue of zoning but rather was about a facility standards manual and using building code requirements for by-right development to limit where wells could be put. Mr. Littleton explained that he was

not talking about taking away someone's right to develop their property - only about mandating how the wells could be installed. He reported that a member of the Coalition, who was the County's hydrologist for twenty-five years, advised that 75% of the wells in Western Loudoun were located within two hundred fifty feet of each other, which was really bad, as they should be one thousand or more feet apart to avoid pulling water from their neighbor. Mr. Littleton reported that he told the Chair and Supervisor that the County needed to start a conversation about tighter well restrictions, tighter building requirements, larger setback requirements, etc. He noted that in 1990, there were a thousand wells in Western Loudoun and there were now eighteen thousand. Mr. Littleton advised that he would send the Council a link so they could download the Coalition's study to view the data. He noted that since 1985, over seven hundred fifty wells had gone dry and questioned what this meant. Mr. Littleton opined that it could not be good. He reiterated that the Coalition was asking the towns to work with the County and advised that the towns could have a voice and push them. Mr. Littleton suggested the development of an intertown working group to discuss water and noted that it was time to start taking action.

Town Manager Davis agreed the development of a working group was not a bad idea; however, he suggested the County needed to be a part of it. He opined that the towns had a lot of data that could be shared. Mr. Davis suggested that while the towns could participate and support this effort, it would take political will on the part of the Board of Supervisors. He further suggested that COLT and the Town Councils could encourage the Supervisors to put time and resources into this. Mr. Davis noted that additional studies may be needed to understand where the water was and how it flowed.

Councilmember Jacobs thanked Mayor Littleton for getting this before COLT.

Councilmember Jacobs moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council rescind the Voluntary Water Conservation status for the Town's utility customers based on current data and water demand trends.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Consent Agenda

A. Council Approval – October 23, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes

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

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Action Items

Council Approval – Maintenance Agreement for Town Hall Security System - NGSC

Town Manager Davis reported that the new Town Hall included two measures of security – access control and distress buttons and a video security system, with most of the cameras being located on the exterior of the building. He noted the need to keep the systems updated, repaired, and maintained and recommended the Town enter into a contract with the firm who also had the contract for Loudoun County's systems. Mr. Davis noted that their proposal included multiple options and recommended the Town enter into a five-year contract, which would make the pricing very competitive. He advised that the contract would cover hardware replacement and labor should something fail and included pricing for other ad-hoc

services that could be needed, such as additions to the system. In response to inquiries from the Council, he explained that a distress button would alert people to an emergency without letting the offender know. Mr. Davis advised that if activated, a notice went to the Chief of Police, himself and the on-duty police officer to let them know there was an issue at whichever station it was triggered from. He noted that the County dispatcher could be alerted if needed.

Councilmember Daly moved, seconded by Councilmember Pearson, that Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract with Next Generation Security Concepts through cooperative procurement, using Loudoun County Contract #221836 for Access Control and Security System Services in the amount of \$10,363 annually for a five-year term.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Council Approval – Amendments to Ordinance Establishing Middleburg Sustainability Committee

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that the Sustainability Committee presented their annual report two months ago, during which time they expressed an interest in amending the ordinance that established them relative to their role and responsibilities. He advised that he and Deputy Town Manager Moore worked with the Chair of the Committee to develop a draft ordinance and noted that the Committee recommended its approval. Mr. Davis explained that the ordinance would identify the issues on which they would focus, including water resources, tree coverage and soil health, reuse and recycling of products, and an increase of biodiversity. He further explained that the ordinance called for them to establish an annual action plan and long- and short-term goals. Mr. Davis advised that he reminded the Committee that the suggestion for any new programs and/or community outreach activities that required funding or staff resources needed to go before the Council for approval. He noted that the Committee was a great one that put a lot of effort into what they did and opined that their ideas were valuable and would improve areas of the town.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan thanked the staff for working with the Chair and noted that she was very committed. He advised that the Committee had thoughts and questions about what it actually did, what the Council wanted it to do, what it was allowed to do, and what was achievable. Mr. Leonard-Morgan noted that while they sometimes had great ideas, they were not things that could be done. He advised that the Committee wanted to make a difference in and around Middleburg and opined that the draft ordinance would help clarify their role.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan moved, seconded by Councilmember Jacobs, that Council adopt an Amendment to the Ordinance Establishing the Middleburg Sustainability Committee of the Town of Middleburg

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Discussion Items

Overview – Burns Night Event

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre reminded Council that Burns Night would be held on January 24, 2026 and noted that the intent was to bring people to town during the slower season. She reported that it would be held at the Middleburg Community Center; therefore, it would be limited to one hundred sixty people. Ms. MacIntyre reminded Council that the event was a celebration of the Scottish poet Robert Burns. She explained that the

event would include a full buffet consisting of a traditional Scottish meal, alcoholic beverages, and five hours of entertainment to include music and dancing. Ms. MacIntyre noted that she and the members of the Arts and Community Events Committee were organizing and advertising the event. She reported that the ticket price was \$100/person and noted that a decision had not yet been made on whether this would include only one beverage or a flight of beverages. Ms. MacIntyre reiterated that the hope was to bring people to town not only for the event, but to the restaurants and lodging establishments. She reported that they were working with the local lodging establishments to put together discounted packages so people would not just come for the event but would stay the weekend. Ms. MacIntyre advised that once those packages were solidified, they would be included on the Town's website. She reminded Council that the Town budget included funding for the event in the amount of \$15,000 and asked that it be increased to \$23,000. Ms. MacIntyre noted that the catering cost alone would come to just under \$15,000. She advised that posters were being printed and expressed hope to leverage the Christmas in Middleburg event to sell tickets to this one. Ms. MacIntyre reported that marketing had begun on social media and advised that eight tickets had been sold thus far. In response to inquiries from the Council, she advised that they planned to work with a non-profit to organize a raffle, as this was not something the Town was allowed to do, with the monies raised being given to a designated non-profit organization. She confirmed the goal was for this to be an annual event.

Mayor Littleton suggested the Council see how well this worked the first year and, if it was popular and successful, then the Town could try to make it an annual event.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre explained that even though revenues would come in from the ticket sales, the Town could only spend what had been appropriated in the budget. She reiterated that the budget for this event was currently \$15,000. Ms. MacIntyre advised that even if she sold all one hundred sixty tickets, she could not spend more than the \$15,000 that had been appropriated.

Town Manager Davis explained that the budget included expenditures set at \$15,000, with no anticipation of revenues. He explained that he was asking Council whether it was okay to spend \$23,000. Mr. Davis noted that if the revenues came in at \$15,000, the Town's net cost would only be \$8,000. He reiterated that authorization was needed to spend \$23,000 and expressed hope that this would be offset by the revenue raised based on the number of tickets and sponsorships sold. In response to an inquiry from the Council, he confirmed that any revenues received would go into the General Fund revenue line item titled "event sponsorships and sales."

Council asked that in the future this be included in the staff reports.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre reported that her goal was to receive \$10,000 in sponsorships. She acknowledged, however, that none had been sold to date. She opined that between the sponsorship and ticket sales revenues, the entire cost of the event should be covered.

Vice Mayor Bernard noted that when he first looked at the request, he was concerned about spending that much money for an event for only one hundred fifty people, many of whom probably would not live in town. He suggested the need to be cognizant of the net cost at the end of the event.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan moved, seconded by Councilmember Pearson, that Council allocate an additional sum to increase the original budget of \$15,000 to \$23,000 for the Burns Night budget.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Preliminary Schedule for Americas 250 Events in Middleburg

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre reported that she had meetings with some community partners to discuss the upcoming events and advised that they had something planned for every month. She further reported that the America's 250 event would kick off on January 23, 2026, and would include a celebration of Middleburg's history. Ms. MacIntyre advised that the Middleburg Business & Professional Association (MBPA) and the American Legion would assist in marketing and organizing this event. She noted that the Whitehall Hounds would handle the portion of the event that would honor the nation's hunt capital. Ms. MacIntyre reported that the Salamander Resort offered to help with all of the events throughout the year. She noted that the Middleburg Museum was trying to determine how they could be involved. Ms. MacIntyre reminded Council that her report included a brief description of each monthly event and noted that the details were still under development. She reported that February would be a celebration of African American history and would also occur at the Community Center.

Town Clerk North advised that the Oral Histories Project videos would be presented during the Americas 250 event on February 11th, as would the restoration plans for the Asbury Church.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre advised that the remaining themes would be women's history; local government; and, American arts and culture, which would be incorporated into Art in the Burg. She noted that there would not necessarily be a new event every month and explained that she would incorporate some of them into existing events. Ms. MacIntyre advised that she would work with the Arts & Community Events Committee and the America's 250 Committee. She noted that she was not sure what would be done in June, September and October and advised that she was open to feedback. Ms. MacIntyre noted that they would honor America's veterans in November and advised that the American Legion was taking the lead on that. She noted that she included a budget request of \$15,000 for the 2026 calendar year in her memo; however, she was still trying to determine the exact cost.

Councilmember Kirk suggested Ms. MacIntyre wait until she knew what she would really need before requesting money.

In response to inquiries from the Committee, Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre confirmed that while Loudoun County was planning events, she had not attended their meetings; although, she had connected with a member of their committee. She advised she would be connecting with them as soon as possible to leverage those relationships. Ms. MacIntyre confirmed that committee was not a County government committee.

Mayor Littleton advised that it was a group of people who came together to develop events for each month. He opined that Middleburg could tie into some of them and suggested Ms. MacIntyre connect with them.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Manager Davis noted that Ms. MacIntyre was working with the Community Center to reserve their facility for some events, which would result in a cost. He opined that some of the event costs would be covered under other events and some contingency funding. Mr. Davis suggested the budget request could wait until the cost for the full twelve months of activities were known if this was the Council's preference.

Vice Mayor Bernard opined that \$15,000 would not be enough and advised that he would rather approve the full amount.

Town Manager Davis advised that the staff would develop more details, including a clear number. He reiterated that some events would be co-partnered with others, which would result in minimal costs. Mr. Davis advised that the staff was trying to keep the costs tight and not turn these into major events. He noted that they would try to refine the numbers and return with a proposal in December or January. Mr. Davis opined that the one big expense would be related to the enhancement of the fireworks display and suggested it be more robust next year.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Manager Davis opined that the Community Center would not be interested in taking the Fourth of July Celebration over again because the viewing angle of the fireworks from the Community Center was difficult due to the trees and the new location from which they were launched. He opined that they would continue to partner with the Town on some of the activities, such as offering free swimming earlier in the day and starting the parade from their location.

Mayor Littleton opined that holding it at the Charter School was great, especially since the fireworks launch location changed. He noted that they could no longer go as high as they used to.

Initial Review of 2025 Farmer's Market

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre reported that the farmer's market season had come to an end and noted that it lasted twenty-six weeks. She further noted that there was no need to cancel any of the Saturdays due to inclement weather; although, they did have to provide bottled water to the vendors and customers due to the heat. Ms. MacIntyre reminded Council that the market remained at the Town Hall; although, it was moved to the Marshall Street Park, drive aisle, and east arcade. She noted that this made it more visible from Marshall Street. Ms. MacIntyre reported that they initially had twenty vendors; however, this number dropped to between nine and fourteen during the last month, with those that remained being the consistent vendors from previous years. She reported that the foot traffic varied from two hundred twenty-five to four hundred people per week, with there being a slight uptick when there was a large event in town. Ms. MacIntyre advised that if the market continued in 2026, they would ensure the visitor counts were taken for the full season. She reported that from the standpoint of marketing and wayfinding, they implemented new directional banners on Pendleton and Washington Streets, and a local balloon vendor provided balloon towers and fun vegetables from time to time. Ms. MacIntyre advised that during the large events, they also increased the social media posts.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre reported that the primary challenge continued to be the volume of foot traffic. She noted that while the vendors offered positive feedback on the changes that were implemented, the most difficult thing for them continued to be the lack of foot traffic, which meant they could not sell as much product as they needed to sell. Ms. MacIntyre reminded Council of the larger markets located in the surrounding area that occurred during the same time. She reiterated that the vendors indicated foot traffic was a challenge; although, they offered positive feedback on the access to parking and restrooms and the availability of the portico for those who did not have tents, in particular the child entrepreneurs. Ms. MacIntyre advised that while they did not have as many as she had hoped, they did offer special themes some weekends and did new things, such as offer live music. She reported that the Town had been approached by a local entity that may be interested in running the farmer's market from their location; although, she did not have any details to share at this time. Ms. MacIntyre expressed hope to bring their proposal to the Council in December. In response to an inquiry, she reiterated that this entity would want to hold the market at their location, not at the Town Hall.

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that a long time ago, the Town received a proposal to construct a permanent structure on the Homewood Farm property; however, that was not this proposal. He suggested the staff speak with the individuals to see if they were truly interested in taking the market over and, if so, the staff would review their proposal and bring it to the Council. Mr. Davis noted that a decision needed to be made soon and reminded Council of the need to decide whether they wanted to continue the market next year. He further reminded the members that last year, they talked about the need to discuss the success of the market at the end of the season and whether it should be continued.

Councilmember Kirk suggested the staff ask the entity if they were willing to hold the market on Town property. She questioned whether the entity saw the market as a positive or negative.

Councilmember Daly opined that a better question was how successful they felt the market was this year compared to previous years.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre advised that she received a lot of good feedback on the changes that were implemented this year. She reiterated that there were a lot of new vendors and advised that she wished they had stuck it out a bit longer. Ms. MacIntyre reported that overall, the feedback was that this year's market was better than the previous one. She reiterated that they indicated there were still areas of improvement that were needed and suggested she could not negate the need for more foot traffic, which was the biggest pain point for the vendors. Ms. MacIntyre opined that the Town had wonderful vendors, who believed in the market and wanted to see it continue; however, the Town still had the problem of bringing in adequate foot traffic. She reported that there were things she had hoped to do this year that did not come to fruition and advised that should the Council decide to continue the market, she would like to have more theme days and things of that nature.

Councilmember Jacobs opined that everyone agreed the market was better this year. He questioned whether that improvement was reflected in the vendor revenue to the degree they would have liked. Mr. Jacobs further questioned the reason for the decline in vendor participation.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre confirmed it was reflected; however, the needle did not move as much as the vendors would have hoped. She confirmed the lack of foot traffic was the reason for the decline in vendor participation. Ms. MacIntyre noted that the vendors who stayed to the end of the season were the ones who have been with the market for a long time. She reiterated that there were competing markets in the surrounding areas that brought in a couple of thousand customers and advised that it was hard for Middleburg to compete with them.

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan advised that he attended the market quite a few times and noted that the vibe was really good; there were great, high-quality vendors and food trucks; and, that people had fun. He opined that the community feel was really good; however, he acknowledged that not enough people were going. Mr. Leonard-Morgan advised that it would be great if the Town could continue it.

Mayor Littleton noted that at the end of the day, the farmer's market was a business that the Town created. He advised that the staff had done an amazing job and improved it into something very special. Mr. Littleton noted that they were to be commended for their hard work. He advised, however, that someone could have the best restaurant in the world but if it was in the wrong location, it was going to fail and opined that this was the problem. Mr. Littleton suggested the Town survey all the vendors and ask them some key questions. He opined that a vendor may say he/she would return if they were guaranteed a minimum of \$500 in sales. Mr. Littleton advised that he was not saying the Town would do that. He reported that he was contacted by two vendors who said that while they loved being here, they would not return because they were losing money. Mr. Littleton advised that they said it was the most enjoyable farmer's market; however, they would go bankrupt if they continued to come here rather than going to one where they would actually sell produce and make money. He reiterated that the staff had created an amazing environment; however, without vendors, this did not matter. Mr. Littleton suggested the need to determine how the vendors felt and opined that the issue was going to be lack of revenue. He noted the need to survey every vendor, even the ones who only came once.

Councilmember Curran questioned whether the Town should survey the residents who did not attend to determine why. She further questioned whether they knew about it. Ms. Curran questioned whether more marketing would improve the foot traffic. She noted that everyone agreed it was wonderful.

Town Manager Davis noted the question the Town continued to have about how best to communicate with the residents and opined that the answer was personal connections. He advised that every water bill that was sent contained information on the farmer's market and posts were sent out over Facebook and on Middleburg Uncensored. Mr. Davis suggested the Town could send out a postcard to everyone in the two zip codes.

Councilmember Jacobs opined that this was not a communication issue and advised that, based on the conversations he had with people, the reason they did not attend was lack of interest. He noted that while he did not hear it this season, in the past, he heard comments about the produce being too expensive. Mr. Jacobs reminded Council of the demographics of Middleburg and noted the expensive produce was a strong obstacle for people to overcome. He expressed hope that in the future, the Council could sort out the community spirit piece of this, which was sound, from the drain the farmer's market took on the staff. Mr. Jacobs noted that he attended a number of farmer's markets in the area and advised that Middleburg's market was sad in comparison to what was available. He advised that his inclination was to stop hosting it and noted that if he had a vote next year, his vote would have been to stop doing it.

Councilmember Pearson agreed with Councilmember Jacobs. She noted that the produce was very expensive. Ms. Pearson acknowledged the vendors needed to make money; however, she advised that at those prices, not many local people would come. She noted that she also heard from two vendors that when Ms. MacIntyre was present, the feel was different and better. Ms. Pearson opined that there were little things that were a problem and reiterated that it was price, both in the form that the vendors were not making money and that customers were not going to spend that kind of money on produce every week.

Councilmember Daly agreed with Councilmembers Jacobs and Pearson. He noted that a lot of effort had been put out by the staff and vendors, who were not making money. Mr. Daly questioned how much expense in the form of staff time and cash the Town was spending on the farmer's market and whether it was seeing any return for the Town's benefit.

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that they authorized \$40,000 for the farmer's market, with hard costs for this year's market coming to approximately \$25,000. He noted that the Town did not see any direct revenue from the market. Mr. Davis advised that this figure did not include the cost of Ms. MacIntyre's time, which was significant even though she was not present every Saturday. He reminded Council that she managed the logistics of the market, which took at least 10% of her time over the past six months.

Mayor Littleton reiterated the need to figure out the right key questions to ask the vendors.

Councilmember Jacobs advised Ms. MacIntyre that the Town appreciated her work and noted that she did a terrific job.

Information Items

Swearing In Ceremony

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Clerk North confirmed she had not yet heard back from the Clerk of the Circuit Court on a date for swearing in the re-elected and newly elected members of the Council.

Closed Session

Councilmember Leonard-Morgan moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council go into closed session as authorized under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, for the performance review of the Town Manager as allowed under Subsection (A)(1). Councilmember Leonard-Morgan further moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that the Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

(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 7:47 p.m.

APPROVED:

ATTEST:

Trowbridge M. Littleton, MAYOR

Rhonda S. North, MMC, Town Clerk

November 13, 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: We will call the meeting to order. First item is 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.

Bridge Littleton: Next item is roll call.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Peter Leonard-Morgan.

Bud Jacobs: Bud Jacobs.

Darlene Kirk: Darlene Kirk.

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: Okay. Next up is public comment. If anybody would like to address Town Council on any matter, they can walk right up.

Liz White: Okay, how about that?

Bridge Littleton: Provide your name, address, and then you have three minutes.

Liz White: Hey, my name is Liz White and I live at 708 Stonewall. I have two things. First, I want to pay you a great tribute that we were able to use this room on election day. There were eight officers election officers that served well over 600 people. And your accommodations and your planning of how this building is designed allowed us to be able to retreat to that area and have separate room, that we'd have enough to manage all the voting stations at one time and have an exit door that was opposite to the entrance door. The other thing we accommodated was that for people, actually, because we have an outdoor doorbell that they can pull up and actually vote. This accommodated many people who are not able to walk very well or other disabilities that prevent them. That allows us, as officers to go out and serve them and allow them to provide voting. So I want to tell you, I you, I appreciate that. I do appreciate your police support, particularly in this building. We got the most compliments from the officers. I think I'm the only one really between there's two of us are

from this area. Others travel from far away from Loudoun County. And they said this is the best voting site they have ever worked in all the years that they were officers. So I just want to pass that on second.

Bridge Littleton: Well, duh. [laughter]

Liz White: Okay, second of all there was just a traffic accident at the corner of Chestnut and Stonewall, where I live right there. What is happening? That is a school bus stop for three busses in the morning and three busses in the late afternoon into the evening. The third bus in the evening is coming in dark. This accident happened because of failure to do the stop sign. What I heard from a lot of my neighbors is that is a critical intersection where people fail to stop and are coming down too fast from the hill. So going westward on Stonewall. And so that makes it a little bit more critical. Obviously, the police department came, and then we had the fire department come and clean up the gasoline and the other stuff that was on the street. So I'd like you to think about either figuring out doing a four way stop at that intersection. I'd like you to really think about that, especially because of the school busses. And there's just too much traffic. Not a lot, but there's enough. They're not quite very well be able to see that intersection well. The new fencing from the if you think about my front door and I look out at the white fence, it's pretty high. It blocks the people coming up north on Chestnut to that intersection. It's a poorly designed things. They have to almost ease out onto Stonewall to be able to get that clearance to see both east and west on Stonewall. So I'd like you to think about that. I'd really appreciate that. Thank you very much. And have a nice evening.

Bridge Littleton: Thanks. Anybody else? Miss Lee.

Punkin Lee: Thank you. Punkin Lee, 2 West Federal Street. Wearing my MBPA hat to thank the police department and all those of you who attended the Halloween gathering at the community center. The parade was great. We had just probably around 200 kids and parents in it. I think we would have had more had ICE not been in the neighborhood all day. It was a noticeable absence of the Latino families that usually come and join us for that event. But it went smoothly, safely. Right? Seemed to. So, I just wanted to thank you all for letting the police help us with that. And also we just printed a card, which I left [inaudible] so she can make sure all the officers have it, that have all the Christmas events coming up and what day they are and where they are. It's a big card and it's full. And they were all the events that we know about. So there's probably some more in the woodwork that are going to pop up. But we just got it done and they have it now. So help they're planning hopefully. And so that's all just two thank you's. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Thanks, Punkin. Anybody else? All right. Next we will go to public hearing. We have one public hearing tonight on an ordinance to vacate a portion of Independent Street right-of-way. Danny, do you want to give us a quick overview or Will, I'm sorry.

Will Moore: Sure. Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Mayor and Council discussed this at a recent meeting of the subject right of way is an unopened, unimproved piece of right of way that lies between the Catawba property at 404 East Federal Street and the eastern town limits. It's a 40 foot stretch of right of way that extends from Washington Street down to the unopened, unimproved portion of East Federal Street. There are no plans to ever conduct or construct a street in this location. It does not appear in the Comprehensive Plan as a potential street connection. Again Mayor and Council discussed this at a recent meeting. As I noted in my report the ad hoc property committee reviewed this request a couple of years ago. In February of 2023. And had recommended at that time approving the vacation and conveyance subject to establishing any necessary easements. Myself, as well as the Assistant Town Attorney, worked on that easement document with representatives of the Council for Catawba. And we're at a comfort level with that document. If Council were to vacate and convey this, that we would have any necessary access for utilities within that easement area in the future. So the decision point is whether or not to approve the vacation. If you do approve the vacation, as noted in the report you have the ability to set a price up to the either the fair market value or its contributory value to the abutting property, whichever is greater. The appraisal that we had done set the fair market value at \$9,250 and contributory value at \$9,000, meaning you could set a price anywhere up to \$9,250 if you decide to approve the vacation and conveyance. And if you do make that motion to approve, I would request that you include the recommended price in that motion as well.

Bridge Littleton: Does anybody have any questions for Will? Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Actually, it's not really a question. Bud and I were on that ad hoc committee at the time, and we both felt that we should approve it. I think there's a great wording. And my personal opinion is that probably the appraised value is fair to that would be my thought.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. I think what we'll do now is we'll open the public hearing then we'll see if anybody has any other questions after we have the hearing and then we can discuss it.

Darlene Kirk: Oh. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: Nope.

Bridge Littleton: All right. So at this point I will open the public hearing. Anybody who wishes to address Council on this matter may do so. All right. They're lining up. We will close the public hearing. And now go to any other discussion.

J. Kevin Daly: I concur with the assessment that Bud and Peter have come up and accept their recommendation.

Bridge Littleton: So do we want to have a motion and make it for \$2,950? Okay. [off mic] Or \$9,250? Sorry.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: So I.

Chris Bernard: Yeah. No.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: I move that Council adopt an ordinance to vacate a portion of Independence Street right of way and convey it to Catawba Associates Centerville, LLC, for a price of \$9,250. I further move that Council accept the related deed of easement.

J. Kevin Daly: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Any discussion? Rhonda, will you call the roll?

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 Kirk.

Darlene Kirk: Yes.

Rhonda North: Council Member Leonard-Morgan.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Pearson.

Cindy Pearson: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Awesome. So we will now go to the next item, which is. Oh, boy. Special recognition. [off mic].

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, we're talking about you. So this is a Special Recognition for Charlie Proffitt, who, as you guys know, has been a what would it be? Part time officer for us for a long time over ten years. And has always been willing to chip in and help whenever we were short staffed, especially at that time, we were really short staffed. You kept our bacon out of the fire. And as it's amazing, too, that he's also the chief of police for Remington. And you know what I think I know we will all miss about you being on the Middleburg Police Force is you, like all the rest of our officers, and everybody on Council and on staff, exemplify community engagement, right? You practice community policing, and that's very special. It's very important. And it's a special person who can do that the right way, especially for this community, and you have upheld yourself with, you know, utter dignity, grace and professionalism and completely understand the need to you know, focus on I think you've got more responsibilities in Remington and another business that you're running. I don't like it. Yeah. We called Remington to see if we could do something about it. They refused. But and then I did recommend, you know, an \$80,000 pay raise, and they said no. But no in all seriousness, we really appreciate all the help you've given us and the countless hours of dedication. And we do expect to see you back here in Christmas in Middleburg. Yeah. Yeah. Yeah, exactly.

Danny Davis: You realize he has his own parade that same day?

Bridge Littleton: Well. So what? Yeah. Exactly. Yeah, exactly. This is a real parade. Wow. But no. Again, Charlie, thanks for everything. We really are going to miss you. So we've got a resolution of appreciation. So what I will do is read the resolution, and then we'll vote on it, and then, you know, anything you'd like to say? Alright. Unless anybody else wants to say something right now. I knew Kevin did.

J. Kevin Daly: Keith isn't here. Mark's kind of shy. We want to thank you for being here for our town. As a member of the police force, I know I've chatted with you when you were off driving and on duty here. You're a member of the family. Always know that you will be welcomed here.

Bridge Littleton: And you can put our patch on anytime you want to come back. The door is always open. Okay. Resolution of appreciation for Charles T. Proffitt service as Middleburg Police Officer, whereas Officer Charles Proffitt began service with the town of Middleburg as a part time officer on October 29th, 2014, providing coverage when officers were on leave, leaves of absence and assisting with special events such as Christmas and Middleburg. Excuse me? And Whereas, Officer Proffitt also serves as the Chief of Police for the town of Remington, as well as operating a personal business. And Whereas, Officer Proffitt has resigned from the town of Middleburg effective October 10th, 2025, due to increased responsibilities and workload with the town of Remington as well as his personal business and Whereas, Officer Proffitt demonstrated professional and personal dedication to the town of Middleburg during his tenure with the town of Middleburg, and Whereas the town, the Middleburg Town Council deems it appropriate to express its earnest and heartfelt gratitude to Officer Proffitt for his years of service to the town over the past 11 years. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the mayor and members of the Town Council hereby recognize and express our sincere appreciation to Charles T Proffitt for his service. Service to the Town of Middleburg from October 29, 2014 to October 10, 2025, as a Middleburg Police Officer. And express our profound thanks to him and wish him well in his future endeavors. [applause] Make a motion? Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: I move that. Excuse me. I move that Council adopt a resolution expressing its appreciation to Charles Proffitt for his service on the Middleburg Police Department from October 29, 2014 through October 10, 2025. Second.

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

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed? Abstentions? All right. Charlie, the mic is yours. If you'd like to say anything.

Charlie Proffitt: I don't. Okay. I'll be quick. I'm [inaudible]. Thank you. I've appreciated working with all of you, the town all the police department. And it's always been a pleasure to come work with you guys. And I enjoyed working. I love this town, too. So I do enjoy it. So thanks a lot for this, this means a lot.

Chris Bernard: We're going to miss you. [multiple speakers]

Bridge Littleton: We're going to miss you.

Charlie Proffitt: All right. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: All right. Charlie, one second.

J. Kevin Daly: [off mic] Get a free card. [multiple speakers]

Bridge Littleton: You're in the middle or on one? Okay. Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: Mr. Vice Mayor told me.

Charlie Proffitt: Absolutely. [off mic].

J. Kevin Daly: Okay, guys, turn up the lights it makes you look thinner. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: Thank you. Really appreciate it.

Charlie Proffitt: Thank you. Thank you. [applause]

Bridge Littleton: Don't forget that.

Charlie Proffitt: Thank you, sir.

Bridge Littleton: Excuse me. Next up is staff reports. So the first staff report is Deputy Town Manager.

Will Moore: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Apologies for not having a written report this month. It's been a busy time. The main thing I wanted to highlight is that we just conducted our interviews for the open planner position, and we have had the benefit of having many strong candidates. So we think we're on the pathway to filling that position in the very soon. Happy to answer any questions you have of any of my activities or maintenance activities.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Will? Okay. Over to Miss North.

Rhonda North: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Well as you know, we had our volunteer appreciation reception on October the 29th. Attendance was a little low. We only had about 25 people this year, but I do think it was well received. I received a very nice thank you letter from some of the committee members would be remiss in not recognizing Tutti of Backstreet Cafe, who once again did a wonderful job with the catering of that event. So, as you know, we have a number of terms on our boards and commissions that expire December the 31st of this year. So in accordance with Council's new policy we have been advertising those positions have also contacted the folks who are currently serving in those positions. We do have some folks who are not going to seek reappointment. So we do know that we will absolutely have some vacancies that will need to be filled. We have we'll have two on the Planning Commission one on the Sustainability Committee, one on EDAC and one on the Finance Committee. So we would like to encourage, if you know of anyone who may be good, if you'll encourage them to go to our website and submit an application. The deadline is November the 25th. And then

finally on the town hall project because the temperatures have dropped below 50 degrees the exterior work to correct the deficiencies and finish the punch list items has been suspended until the spring. Because when you paint, it has to be above 50 degrees. So we'll, return to working on those items in the spring.

Bridge Littleton: How many items are left?

Rhonda North: Mostly it's the exterior trim. They got part of it done. Just the weather didn't last long enough for them to finish the whole building. And then we've got a little bit of trim work inside that still needs to be addressed. But we're getting a lot of work done. And, of course, we still have the infamous HVAC system that we still have some items that need to be addressed.

Danny Davis: But it's the HVAC is mostly together. Mostly we're making some tweaks on. What's interesting is when we bring in, for instance, on the trim work on the outside of the building, the amount of items that they've identified, that because we didn't go through a formal punch list process some significant things that were not completed that could risk the long term longevity of the building not being painted or waterproofed properly. So, you know, as we go through it's like we find more and more to keep doing. But now's the time to get it done when we're early in the building and not 15 years from now. So Miss North and the folks from Downey and Scott continue to put a lot of effort into making sure those are addressed. And we're protecting the integrity of the building.

Bridge Littleton: That's great. Any questions for Rhonda? Okay. Next up is Ali. Get off Instagram. [off mic]

Ali MacIntyre: So I'll be up here a couple times tonight. So that's why I kept my report relatively short. Good evening everybody. Just a few updates. Thank you to everybody who was able to come out last night to Biz Buzz. As Punkin mentioned, we do have she mentioned it just a minute ago. But we do have the holiday Biz Buzz next month or we have awards and it's our biggest one. So MBPA has been working really hard on all December activities. So you may have seen carriage ride tickets are up. Tickets are selling fast, so I'll be posting about them probably one more time before they sell out, but tickets are going really well there. We do, we will have free hot cocoa again. Piedmont Drip and Dip is stepping in to do that in place of Scruffy's this year. So we're excited for that and we'll offer that on the weekend starting on November 29th. We have the Jingle in the Burg on Saturday, December 13th. That's going to be from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. on South Madison Street. And similar to last year, we'll have the Renaissance dancers. They're still being called Dance Like the Dickens, just because that's what they've done. So they're excited to come back. We do have Erin Coulter from The Hill School putting on several theater performances. So we'll have the little kids do Saint George and the Dragon, and then she's come up with a new show that she'll be debuting that has some nods to Middleburg in it, and is somewhat a Christmas Carol themed. We also have the Jingle Paws Parade on December 20th. So we collaborate with MBPA and the Middleburg Police Department who lead that down Washington Street, and they'll end at Brick & Mortar for Yappy Hour. So we're excited for that. And if you guys have any four legged friends, please bring them out and enter them in the costume contest. Next up, other than that, I've been getting ready for the holidays. We have a little tiny parade coming up that you guys might remember here in a couple weeks. So we've been working with the businesses to start organizing the parking spots. We've had about 15 businesses sign up so far. So leading up to the event, we will distribute those parking passes and try to get everybody squared away for that event because it is quite a busy day. And then you'll hear from me regarding the Burns Night Farmer's Market and America's 250 here shortly. That's it.

Bridge Littleton: Thanks Ali.

Ali MacIntyre: Any questions?

Bridge Littleton: Yes Cindy.

Cindy Pearson: I don't have a question. I have a comment. If you need some help with Saint George and the Dragon, Bridge can help you.

Ali MacIntyre: Oh, yes. Oh, yeah. Absolutely. That's a great idea. [laughter]

Cindy Pearson: What was it?

Bridge Littleton: Oh my gosh. Oh! [laughter]

Cindy Pearson: Do you remember?

Bridge Littleton: Oh, God. Yeah.

J. Kevin Daly: You still have the costume?

Bridge Littleton: No, it's a school costume. You don't take it. Those costumes, like, went decades. [off mic] Yeah.

Ali MacIntyre: That's some good Intel. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. I can't remember I mean, I wouldn't say George or the Dragon. I know that.

Cindy Pearson: [off mic] Probably one of the. Yeah, I'd have to get some pictures. Yeah. Please. Please.

Bridge Littleton: Wow.

Bud Jacobs: Well, the town website.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, yeah. Jesus. Alright. Moving on. Any other questions for Ali? Okay. Ali, thank you. All right, up next is Angela. Yeah.

Angela Fletcher: Thank you, Mayor and Council. Mine's not nearly as fun, but nonetheless you're aware that auditors were here September 29th through October 1st, and the draft audit is currently under review by staff, and the auditors will give their presentation this coming Monday to the Finance Committee and then present that to Council at the December 11th meeting. I'm happy to answer any questions you might have.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Angela? Yeah. Peter. Sorry.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: [off mic] Just an observation. Green line is going to be. Very happy to see the green line above in revenues and below in expenditures. Thank you for that. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: Anybody else? Okay, Angela. [off mic] Thanks. Okay. Next up is Mark.

Mark Putnam: Good afternoon. Council Members and Mayor. Chief couldn't be here today. He's a little under the weather. If you have a copy of his report, I'll try to answer any questions if I can. Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: Come on, let's go.

Mark Putnam: You can refer to the chief when he gets back.

Bridge Littleton: Where'd you get all that white hair on your face?

Bridge Littleton: I don't know, over years.

Cindy Pearson: You want to explain that?

Mark Putnam: Oh, and then another thing. remember, November 19th is a walk with the Chief. Starting here at ten. Hopefully.

Bridge Littleton: Is that a Wednesday?

Mark Putnam: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Of course. Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Actually, I have an apology to make. During the Town Cleanup, I inadvertently and accidentally demoted Lieutenant Putnam to Corporal during my speech, so I apologize profusely for the mistake there. And I hereby make you Captain. [laughter]

Mark Putnam: Apology accepted.

J. Kevin Daly: Since the question was asked and you're too shy to explain.

Mark Putnam: I'll explain, it's no shave November. We took a collection of money for November and December. You can do it till either November or December. The money we collected, I think, was like \$420. And we bought canned goods for Seven Loaves and donated to Seven Loaves. Sometimes I'm not really sure, but I know it's in December. It's coming a couple of weeks.

Danny Davis: I think it's the 12th.

Mark Putnam: Yes, the 12th.

Bridge Littleton: Anything? Oh, Pam, sorry. Go ahead.

Pam Curran: So at Coffee with a cop?

Mark Putnam: Yes.

Pam Curran: Were there any common themes that kept coming up that you and the Chief heard.

Mark Putnam: Not to my knowledge that I know everybody was happy to see the sheriff's office. That had a bunch of guys here for that. So, yeah. Of course. [laughter] Of course. Yes. Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: No donuts. No free donuts.

Mark Putnam: No, there's no free donuts.

Bridge Littleton: If there are free donuts, the place would have been, you know. Exactly. Any other questions for Mark? Okay, Mark. Thank you.

Mark Putnam: Thank you.

Chris Bernard: Great job. Mark.

Bridge Littleton: You're the man. We don't even need Shaun. Next up is Town Attorney. Yeah.

Martin Crim: Thank you, Mayor. You have my report. I'm happy to answer any questions you may have.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Martin? Martin, we appreciate you.

Martin Crim: Oh thank you I appreciate that.

J. Kevin Daly: Is your beard getting a little longer?

Martin Crim: You know, it is. In fact, thank you for noticing.

Cindy Pearson: Getting ready for Christmas. Right.

J. Kevin Daly: You got the suit to go with it, don't you? The red one?

Martin Crim: No, actually, it's more of a John Brown beard.

J. Kevin Daly: Oh.

Cindy Pearson: Santa Claus beard.

J. Kevin Daly: All right. Sorry.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. Asbury Church. Rhonda.

Rhonda North: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. So we will be meeting with Glavé & Holmes and the design team on Monday to see the first draft of the schematic design plans. We did meet earlier this week talking primarily about the occupancy level of the building because that drives a number of life safety issues including the size of the HVAC system as well as the number of handicapped restrooms that have to be provided. So we are doing our best to minimize that number so that we minimize our costs related to those life safety items. As far as the oral histories project is concerned we received six of the individual videos for the interviews that were done. We do still have a few minor tweaks, but they are very, very close to being in final form. Hopefully we'll receive the last four as well as the composite video soon. Our intention is to do a private showing probably next month for the, the folks who interviewed and then to do our public premiere on February the 11th as a part of the Americas 250 celebration. And at that time, we'll also unveil the schematic or the design plans for the restoration project.

Bridge Littleton: That's great. The final video that would be shown to the public about how long is it going to be?

Rhonda North: So the composite video is 20 minutes long. But each of the ten videos the individual videos range anywhere from 6 minutes to 11 minutes. So if you add them all together you know, we're probably talking more than two hours' worth of video time.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. That's great. Okay. Any questions for Rhonda on Asbury Church? All right. Next up is water status.

Danny Davis: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. Just a few updates for you on our current situation with water in the town. We still have not seen any significant precipitation over the past month. And so we're watching our situation carefully. And the US drought monitor has been shut down due to the federal shutdown. The state DEQ has been keeping up their information as best as they can, although they are lacking certain information because USGS has not been active on the groundwater monitoring side. However the good news for us is the demand on our water system is lower in this time of year. Very few people doing outdoor watering, outdoor activities. And so even though we aren't seeing a lot of precipitation, we're also not seeing any challenges in our water system. Additionally, as discussed at the last few meetings, Well 3 is running very nicely to supplement Well 4. I have graphs I can show you if you're interested, but I can just walk you through it to say that Well 4 has not shown any of those concerning trends where it was dropping below the transducer level. So the well continues to stay at a proper level. Well 3 is running smoothly. And then Wells L&P continue to function at the same time. So with all of this in mind, it would be staff's recommendation. And the utility committee consented to this earlier today that the Town Council rescind the current voluntary water conservation measures. They're really not doing much, honestly. I think and I'm not inclined to recommend that we keep them in place just for the sake of it but that we rescind those measures. And then should we face a situation in the coming six months, or either sooner or later for a variety of reasons, whether operationally or other production reasons. Then the town we would come to ask the Town Council to

reinstate the appropriate level of water conservation measures at that time. So that's where things stand. I'm happy to answer any questions, either about the Wells themselves or about our operational status. But again currently things are running fine. As reminded at the last meeting, we need to always be aware that with the continued drought and continued lack of precipitation and other pressures around us, that things can change either quickly or change in a long term fashion. And part of our utility committee earlier today was a long conversation about all of our CIP projects on the utility side, including Well 3 and how we can get that water treated. So it's part of our overall full capacity of the system. So a lot of planning happening, and you'll probably see more of that in the upcoming budget discussions early next year. Happy to answer any questions.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Danny? Bud.

Bud Jacobs: Really good news on Well 3. Do you know offhand what the draw is on Well 3?

Danny Davis: Gallons per day? When we run it, we run about 20,000 gallons from, Well 3, but we're not running it every day, so it's maybe once or twice a week, perhaps just to supplement Well 4 from time to time or to top off the water towers.

Bud Jacobs: Great. Thank you.

Danny Davis: Yes, sir.

Bridge Littleton: Any other questions for Danny? I did want to mention something. Last night, we had a COLT meeting and the Loudoun County Conservation and Preservation Coalition. And it was Madeline Skinner and a couple. Oh, Jim Bengel was there a couple other folks and a person who used to be like the county hydrologist for like 25 years. I can't remember his name. He retired 2 or 3 years. That's it? Yeah. David Ward. They came and came and gave us a presentation on sort of the issues and concerns around water and you know, the with Loudoun County. I'm going to see if I can pull this up real quickly. They gave us a hard copy of a study, and, I mean, it was like 60 pages and I mean, very well researched and very well, you know, data driven. So these are the areas in Loudoun County which have had significant water level decline over the last 40 years. Wow. Yeah. And if you overlay the development and the smaller, you know well, it's like, you know, I mean, the development in Western Loudoun is like, you know, 70 homes, right? Or 30 homes, something like that. But when you overlay all those on this, you start to see a hell of an interesting pattern. And so and some of these are don't have red because they don't know. Right. There's no data there. These are just the ones that they could conclusively and I'll make sure this link gets sent to everybody. They're asking for the towns to engage on this issue with the county. And so Chair Randall was there last night and Caleb Kershner was there, and the issue of water came up and, and from the PEC presentation, one of the things I said to PEC was, I said, so what's the ask? Right? What's the next step? And, you know, oh, we want to gather more data, get more studies. And I'm like, okay. Yeah. You know, you always want to collect data, you always want to do the analysis. But I think it's clearly we've got a directional issue here. So how do we start addressing it? How do we actually start looking at it? And with the Chair and with Supervisor Kershner. You know, as it came up, the point was, well, what can we do? I'm like, well, you know, we can stop the development in Western Loudoun. And it was an instantaneous we have not approved one home in western Loudoun County since 2016. And I'm like, okay, that's not what I'm saying. I'm not talking about zoning. I'm talking about facility standards manual. How close, you know, you can put building code requirements on top of the by right development that limits the ability of how they can put wells and where they can put wells. It's got nothing to do with zoning. I'm not saying take away somebody's development. Right? Right. You can mandate how a well has to be dug or, you know, one of the things that what's his name, David Ward brought up was like 75% of the wells in western Loudoun are within 250ft of each other, which is, like really bad. It's a really, really bad thing to do. You want them 1000ft or more and it's, you know, when you read the report, when you look at the report, like when you dig a well, when the well pulls the water, it actually creates a sucking effect and draws water away from your neighbors and actually can literally change the flow of a stream. I mean, it was really, really interesting. So, you know, what I said to the supervisors were, was that is a conversation the county has to start having on, and we will be a part of that conversation but tighter, well restrictions, tighter building requirements, larger setbacks, whatever it is, right? Because in 1990, there was a thousand wells in Western Loudoun. There's now 18,000. You know, so that's what, 35 years? I can't do the math, you know. I mean, it's 18 x increase in wells. No wonder this problem is there? So it was a really good conversation. Like I said, I'll send you guys the link on the

conservation preservation website. You have to download the report, but they've got a lot of really great graphs like this graph right here I thought was amazing. You see the blue? One second here. [off mic] What's that? [off mic] No, no. It's okay. So you see that blue? That's the number of wells that have gone dry by year. So, like, since 1985, over 750 wells have gone dry. So now what does that mean? Is that average? I don't know. But it's certainly not good. So anyway, as we're talking about water, I think we, the coalition was asking the towns to be leaning in with the county because there's only so much we can do. I mean, there's nothing we can do about this in the little town, but we can have a voice and really push it. So one of the things I was thinking is, you know, do we want to have a intertown working group to discuss water? You know, and again, I don't want to create work for you guys. I don't want to create work for a you know, whatever. But this there, you know, talk is we've got enough talk. We've got to actually start thinking about action. Yeah. Danny.

Danny Davis: Well I think excuse me. I think your point on a working group is not a bad idea, but I think it would need to be a I would ask that it be a joint group with the county part of that. Right. Because I don't think the towns by ourselves have really any say or influence. But if the county were to engage in some kind of committee or working group and wanted representatives from the towns to be a part of that, I think we have a lot of data and a lot of information that we can share into that, because we track this so much more detailed than a normal homeowner or business owner in Western Loudoun might. So I think there's a way for us to participate and support I do think it's going to take some political will from the elected Board of Supervisors. And so I think COLT and, you know, the Town Councils being able to encourage them to continue to put effort, time, resources. And there may be some additional studies needed to even understand where this water is. Because underground, in the fractured bedrock we have, you don't know where the water is and how it flows because it is truly fractured. So that's part of the challenge is you might drill a well here and well there, and they hit completely different sources of water, or they could interact with each other. And so a lot of information needed, but I think it's at least a step into the conversation, which is the important piece.

Bridge Littleton: Anyway, any other questions about water? Bud.

Bud Jacobs: Just a hardy thank you for putting that on the agenda with COLT. Well done.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, you know, I mean, they reached out and said, we'd like to talk to you about it. And, I mean, I said, sure, absolutely. And they, you know, we only had 30 minutes, but I mean, it was eye opening. It was eye opening.

Danny Davis: So if Council is okay, there is a motion to rescind the voluntary water conservation measures.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. After all that.

Bud Jacobs: I move that the Town Council rescind the voluntary water conservation status for the town's utility customers based on current data and water demand trends.

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 the consent agenda. Is there a motion?

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 item is Council approval of a maintenance agreement for the town hall security system.

Danny Davis: Thank you, Mr. Mayor and Councilmembers. When we built the town hall, we introduced two additional measures of security. One is access control. So that is our swipe cards. Distress buttons and other items related to simply access in and out of various locked doors in the building. And the second is a video security system, the majority of which is on the exterior of the building. We also have two cameras, one in each foyer as you enter the building. To continue to keep those updated and repaired and maintenance, we do need to enter into a maintenance agreement for these. We were able to find a contractor who works with other municipalities around us, other small towns, but also has a contract with Loudoun County so we can ride their contract for these services. Their proposal included options for one, three and five year terms. And by going with a five year term, it actually makes it a very competitive price and beneficial to agree to five years. Also, there's no price increase over that five year period of time. And this covers things from if a card reader on the wall fails, they'll replace it. So it's hardware and labor. If there are any wiring issues or things that we've seen over the past couple years in this building, they'll also fix those. And then, of course, if we have needs for other call out that might be ad hoc services. We need to add a swipe or we need to make some changes. They have a set rate for that. And they can access the same equipment that we already use. So we suggest moving forward with this contract and are happy to answer any questions you might have.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions on the contract? Cindy.

Cindy Pearson: Just I don't know, what is a distress button?

Danny Davis: Panic button? Essentially, if there's an emergency happening, maybe at your desk or here at the Council chambers, and we need to alert people immediately without letting the offender know that we've tried to make.

Bridge Littleton: It's like a bank teller button.

Cindy Pearson: Yeah.

Darlene Kirk: Connected to our police department as well, so they would know right away.

Danny Davis: So there was a little bit of challenge in the system as didn't quite get as what we had designed it to be. But currently if it is activated, it goes to the Chief to me and to the on duty officer via email and text, I believe. So we did not link it directly into a phone call system. There's some significant costs with that. But this would at least allow them us to see that there's an issue happening at the clerk's desk or in the Council chambers. And then at the same time, we can also begin informing dispatch if needed.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions on this one? All right. Would anyone like to make a motion? Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: I move that the Town Council authorize the Town Manager to enter into a contract with next generation security concepts through cooperative procurement using the Loudoun County contract number 22, 1836 for access control and security system services in the amount of \$10,363 annually for a five year term.

Cindy Pearson: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Any discussion? Rhonda, can you call the roll?

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 Kirk.

Darlene Kirk: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Leonard-Morgan.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Pearson.

Cindy Pearson: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Now it's on to the Ali evening. Oh.

Danny Davis: We have one more action item. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Which one is that? [off mic]

Danny Davis: This is in the revised agenda.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, okay. Sorry.

Danny Davis: I'll.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, go ahead.

Danny Davis: Go ahead and jump into it. Thank you. It's very brief. The sustainability committee made a presentation to the Council a month or two ago and indicated that they had an interest in making some amendments to their authorizing ordinance just for the focus of where they would like to put their time and energies. And so Mr. Moore and I met with Miss Kaye to walk through their intents. She discussed that with the Sustainability Committee, who unanimously approved the proposed amendments that reflect what they had presented to you at that prior meeting. So what we have done is just update their amendment or, excuse me, their ordinance. And you'll see here the bullet points then focusing on issues related to water resources, tree coverage and soil health, reuse and recycling of products, and then increase of biodiversity. In addition to this, it calls for them to establish annual action plans and short term and long term goals. So that's not included in the actual ordinance itself because those might change from year to year, but it allows them to adopt those and focus on particular items each year. The one item I did reiterate to them, and I think also just for Council's sake, is that we do recognize that if they have the suggestion of new programs, community outreach activities needed funding or other staff resources that that would need to come to the Town Council for approval. So they might come up with some great ideas, but then we would need to bring that forward to you. If it takes staff time away from our other duties, or might need an infusion of dollars for tree plantings or other activities like that. So we look forward to their great work. They're a great committee. They put a lot of effort into what they do, and I think that their ideas are valuable and will allow us to improve and enhance various areas of our town so I can answer any questions Council Member Leonard-Morgan might be as well if you have any questions about this proposal.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions? Peter, anything you want to add?

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Thank you Danny for that. And thank you Will as well for working with Lynne. Lynne Kaye has been an amazing chairperson for the committee. She really is very committed and I think what this really does also is it clears up any ambiguity. But you know, thoughts about, you know, what do we actually do on the committee and what are we allowed to do? And what does the Council want us to do and what is attainable and achievable. Because sometimes, you know, we have some great ideas and you go back and you go, we really can't. What are we going to are we going to make a difference? And we want to make a difference here in Middleburg and around Middleburg. So this really helps to clear it up and clarify it. And, and it's good for everyone. So we really appreciate your work on that. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Any other questions? Anybody opposed to moving forward. I'll make a motion. Go ahead Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Yeah. I move that the Town Council adopt an amendment to the ordinance establishing the Middleburg Sustainability Committee of the Town of Middleburg.

Bud Jacobs: Second.

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

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed? Abstentions? Okay. Next up is the Ali evening.

Ali MacIntyre: Alright, guys, we have a few items on the agenda. First, we have Middleburg Burns Night. So just wanted to give you a little bit of an update since the event is about two months away. It will be held on Saturday, January 24th, 2026. I came to you guys with Kathleen and or to you all with Kathleen Fraser, who this is really her idea to bring this event to town. And really, the reasoning is to have an event here in Middleburg during our slower season. So it is a more intimate event. We only have capacity in the community center for 160 people. So we do have tickets live for this. Just a little bit about the event as a reminder for those watching that might not know about it, it is in celebration of the Scottish Poet Robert Burns. This is Robert Burns is celebrated all over the world. There is actually another celebration not too far away in Alexandria. But as you may or may not know, we do have the Scottish Games just right in our backyard. Not our literal backyard. It's just like right down the way there. And yeah, so there definitely is a community for it to celebrate all things Scottish. So we do currently have the Middleburg Community Center booked for Saturday, January 24th from 5 to 10 p.m. is the actual event time? Doors will open at 4:30. We've booked the Salt Pot Kitchen for our catering and it is a full buffet. Can't remember if I included on there. Okay. I didn't include all of the details, but it is quite a hearty, traditional Scottish meal with Haggis. And I know that's it's delicious. [off mic] It is a full meal. So we are we're hoping not everybody feels that way. And then, of course some beverages to supplement that meal. The Sean Healy Band is one of the biggest expenses, but they do the full entertainment for five hours with music and dancing and in the memo that I included I just included a descriptive timeline put together by myself. Stephanie Burget, the Chair of the Middleburg Arts and Community Events Committee, and then Kathleen, who's been working directly with the Sean Healy Band, The Caller, the Scottish Heritage Dancers, to really get this all together. So we are advertising the schedule as well. So people who maybe haven't been to a Burns Night who are interested in coming have an idea of what they're signing up for especially because the price point is a little bit higher than maybe some of our other events. The price point is \$100. But just so everybody knows it is you know, includes the full meal a little bit of alcohol. Right now, we're trying to decide exactly if it's going to be one beverage or a flight of beverages from our local Lost Barrel, Greenhill, Boxwood, and Mount Defiance. So we are just trying to figure out the logistics there. So our attendees do get the best bang for their buck. But then also five hours of entertainment. So you know, really, for something like this, bringing people to town you know, while we do hope our locals come, this is also to draw visitors into town not just for this particular event, but for our businesses mainly the restaurants and the lodging.

Ali MacIntyre: So we are working with Salamander, Goodstone and Red Fox to put together discounted packages so people don't just come for this event, but they stay for the whole weekend. So as soon as we have that solidified, which should be in the next week, we'll include those discounts on our website. So yeah. And then one other little item in this is a request for a budget increase. When we initially came to Council with the proposed budget we asked for and were allotted \$15,000 in the planning process, we realized that it is going to take a little bit more. So I requested an additional \$8,000 Dollars to bring our total budget up to 23. And then the budget breakdown, you'll see the catering itself, and that's all inclusive of the buffet staffing. The China, the linens, coffee soda water that comes right under \$15,000 at \$14,497. And then we have the expenses for the band the centerpieces and the marketing materials and posters and what I was working on when I almost missed my report was this which is only the first draft. There have been 25 renditions not during this meeting, but at some point. So we are hoping to get this printed or just a poster for Burns Night printed and up by the end of next week. So we can leverage the Christmas in Middleburg parade to sell those tickets. So we have started marketing it on social media in the past week. And so far we have eight tickets sold. Eight. So not a ton, but.

Bridge Littleton: It's great.

Ali MacIntyre: Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions? Yeah. Bud.

Bud Jacobs: But is there a charitable purpose behind this event or is this just a promote Middleburg event?

Ali MacIntyre: So we do have we are. So I did include raffle prizes, but we as the town and Town Clerk, Rhonda North can keep me honest on here and also Martin. We're going to have a local nonprofit in town. It hasn't. They haven't. They need to bring it to their board. We have items that can be raffled, but we as a town are not permitted to do that. So that would the whole thing would have to be orchestrated through the nonprofit. And then the full monies gathered from that element of within the event would be given to that, that designated nonprofit. So we would not be touching any of it. They would just be involved in it. So there is the nonprofit element for it. Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Darlene.

Darlene Kirk: Is this going to be a yearly event? Is that what you're thinking?

Ali MacIntyre: That's the goal? Yes.

Bridge Littleton: I think the idea is let's see what the you know, how well it works out this first year. And if it's very popular and great and all that, then we could have it as a trying to make it an annual thing. And if not, then we'd reassess.

Darlene Kirk: I have a question.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Sorry.

Darlene Kirk: The rest of my question was you said something in your memo about the money that's collected would help to offset cost and.

Ali MacIntyre: Yes, that would be the cost of the tickets.

Darlene Kirk: Okay, but now you're asking for \$8,000 more.

Ali MacIntyre: So my understanding is that, can keep me honest. My understanding is that I am not allowed to use it to so if we so, you know, we anticipate \$100, you know, selling the tickets for \$100. And I can't remember what that math works out to now, but I can't spend more than what's been. Yeah, I can't spend more than what's been allocated. So my budget is 15. Even if we sell all 160 tickets for \$100, I still can't spend money that I don't have.

Danny Davis: Yeah, [multiple speakers] I think Miss McIntyre explained it just right. So essentially we're getting into that differential between the expenditure side and the revenue side of an event. So the budget as approved has the expenditure set at \$15,000 with no anticipation of revenues. Correct. So if the event itself is going to cost 23, we're just asking Council to affirm that you're okay with us spending \$23,000. However, if we bring in a full \$15,000 in revenue, the net cost of the event only \$8,000. But to spend that full 23, I need essentially approval authorization to spend the full 23. But then we also recognize that that's offset by the number of tickets we sell, which is hopefully between 10 and \$15,000.

Ali MacIntyre: Right. And sponsorships.

Danny Davis: Right.

Darlene Kirk: Okay. When the money comes back in, where would it go? Would it go to?

Bridge Littleton: General fund?

Darlene Kirk: General fund.

Danny Davis: It's there's a we have a miscellaneous revenue line item for event sponsorships and sales. Yeah. So it doesn't go right into that expenditure line item. It goes into a general fund revenue line.

Bridge Littleton: But I mean it's all washed at the end of the year. Yeah. Cindy.

Cindy Pearson: With planning many events, it just. This is hard to take this in, but can't you show on the reports? That would be easier to see.

Danny Davis: Yes.

Cindy Pearson: What was going to be happening? That you're just not asking for another \$8,000 that probably the amount you take in is going to cover everything, and you're really not even going to be spending the whole 15 maybe, you know.

Danny Davis: Yes. We'll add a, we'll have a revenue and expenditure line just so it's clear.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. Chris.

Chris Bernard: What are we expecting as far as sponsorships?

Ali MacIntyre: Sponsorships? I sorry, I did not include that in there. I think our goal is \$10,000. But we have not sold any to date.

Chris Bernard: So between the sponsorships and the tickets, it should cover the whole thing.

Ali MacIntyre: That's the goal.

Chris Bernard: Okay. Okay. Yeah. I just want to be cognizant because at first when I was looking at it I was concerned about the idea of spending that kind of money on an event for 150 people, many of which you probably don't live in town. So I think we just need to be cognizant of the net at the end.

Bridge Littleton: Any other questions? What's that?

Peter Leonard-Morgan: [off mic] That was the same question.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. Okay. Does anybody want to make a motion for the eight grand?

Peter Leonard-Morgan: I move that the Town Council allocates an additional sum to increase the original budget of \$15,000 to \$21,997.76 for 2023. I take it back for \$23,000 for the Burns Night budget.

Ali MacIntyre: Thank you.

Darlene Kirk: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Second.

Darlene Kirk: Second.

Bridge Littleton: Any discussion? Rhonda, can you call the roll?

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 Kirk.

Darlene Kirk: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Leonard-Morgan.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Aye.

Rhonda North: Council Member Pearson.

Cindy Pearson: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Okay, thanks. Ali. Next up is Ali.

Ali MacIntyre: Thank you. Thank you everyone. So next on the agenda just an update on the America's 250th Celebration in Middleburg. So we did have a meeting a couple weeks ago with some community partners to discuss all of the upcoming events. You did see it in my report. We have something planned for every month. But the most the nearest event would be. And I accidentally misprinted the date, so forgive me for that. It's actually January 23rd. This is not going to coincide with our Burns Night event directly, but it is going to be the day before. So it's going to be Friday. January 23rd, 2026. That's going to be our kickoff event for celebrating Middleburg history. So some of the people included in that are, of course, the Middleburg Business and Professional Association. They will help us in promoting the event to the town, marketing it for the event in January the Middleburg American Legion will be bringing in color guard, honor guard honoring our military services. So Annie is one of the people on the committee, so she is spearheading that. We give her

direction and she takes it and completely takes it to new heights. So the American Legion will be involved, of course. There is an element of honoring the nation's hunting course capital, which Whitehall Hounds will be doing? I met with Salamander today, and they just pretty much have offered to help in any way possible. Not just for this particular event, but all the events throughout the year. Of course. So we're happy to find a place for them, not just in July, but throughout all of the celebrations. And the Middleburg Museum, we are still working to figure out how they can be involved, but for January 23rd it will be relatively low key. It's going to be from 5:30 to 7:30 at the Middleburg Community Center. And we really just want to use it as an opportunity to celebrate America's 250th anniversary. And like that, let the community know what we're going to do to celebrate all year long. So you will see in my report just a brief description of what we have planned so far. It's a little vague as we are still developing it out. But in February Miss North will be really spearheading that particular event with celebrating African American history at the community center. Do you want to share anything about that particular event?

Rhonda North: Well, I mean, essentially it's what we talked about earlier. We will be premiering the Oral Histories video, and we will also be presenting the plans for the restoration of the Asbury Church.

Ali MacIntyre: Absolutely. So first two months down and then just our theme for the following months are celebrating women's history, local government art, American arts and culture, of course, incorporated into Art in the Burg. So we won't necessarily be doing a new event for every single month because that's a lot of events. But we do have we are finding ways to incorporate celebrating our beautiful country into some of the existing events that we have. So we're working with the Middleburg Arts and Community Events Committee, as well as this America's 250 subcommittee to get things in order. There are a few months that we're still we're not 100% sure on what we're going to do. So I definitely you know, am welcome to feedback if you guys have ideas for the months that have gaps, which is June, September and then October. We think we have figured out. But please let us know. And then, of course, for honoring America's veterans in November, it's a big one. So Amy and Gary are the Middleburg American Legion will be taking the lead on that, and we'll support in any way we can. I did include a budget request to request \$15,000 for the 2026 calendar year. For this celebration. I did not include a full breakdown of what that would be used for, as we are still kind of figuring out how we're going to plan these events and where they're going to be. So just for transparency on that, just a brief update. I'm happy to answer any questions about anything we have planned so far or take direction on future events.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions? Yeah. Darlene.

Darlene Kirk: Wouldn't you rather to request money until you know what, you're really going to need more. When you have more meetings. I mean we can approve 15 but then you have to come back if you need more. I just thought about that. Okay.

Bridge Littleton: Bud.

Bud Jacobs: Just a quick one, Ali. Do we know of anything Loudoun County is planning for the 250th that we might be involved in or asked to be involved in?

Ali MacIntyre: We there are things. I have not been to one of the meetings yet. I did connect with Norm. And then there was one other individual that sent me just a reminder to come to the meetings and then the VA 250 as well. So Loudoun 250, VA 250 I'll be connecting with as soon as possible to make sure that we're leveraging those relationships to not completely reinvent the wheel. Yes.

Bridge Littleton: But if I have it right, that group is not Loudoun County government, right?

Ali MacIntyre: It is not.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. It's I mean, it's a bunch of people.

Ali MacIntyre: I don't believe so.

Bridge Littleton: Actually, a bunch of people. It's Norm and a lot of folks have come together to and they've you know, from what I've seen, they've put together a lot of really good, neat events for each month. You know, some we can tie into, some we won't. [off mic] Yeah. Yeah. Totally. Totally. Or they're doing something broadly across the county. Let's adopt it here and do it for that month or whatever. So yeah, if you can definitely connect with them that would be great. Yes. Any other questions or. Yeah.

Chris Bernard: It's more of a question for the group. So how do we want to handle the budget thing? Do you guys need money right now that you need to start spending? Is that why you're asking now, or is it just?

Danny Davis: Miss McIntyre is working specifically with the community center to reserve some evenings, which there's obviously some cost to that, though. They're being very generous and have a whole new rate structure for government and non-profits, which is really great. So there's a little bit of money. I mean, some of that can be covered under just our other events. We have some contingency lines. So I think looking out for the full 12 months of activity we can wait if Council prefer to wait just so we have some more clarity around it.

Chris Bernard: I just don't think 15 is going to be enough. And it's. I think it would be easier to.

Danny Davis: We don't want to just take it each. [multiple speakers]

Chris Bernard: Get the full amount rather than chip away at it.

Danny Davis: Sure. We'll as we get more details in the plan together and more clarity around it, we will try to have a more clear number around that. I do think, as Ms. MacIntyre mentioned, the good news is some of the events will be co partnered with other events. So there will be minimal if any costs. Maybe just some giveaways. And then the ones at the community center will have some set costs. So we're trying to keep things pretty tight and not make them major events like we see in our other activities. But we'll try to refine that and bring that back, if not in December, early in January.

Bridge Littleton: Awesome.

Danny Davis: The one I'm sorry, the one big expense might be, we have talked about enhancing the fireworks display. That one will be a separate conversation with you guys, but that one's likely a more significant. Well, I have yet to have that conversation with him, and I need to I that was on my list of things. But we do want to make sure the fireworks display is, is quite a little bit more robust this year.

Bridge Littleton: And I mean, that is always its own separate budgeted event. Yeah. Okay. Darlene.

Darlene Kirk: I forgot [inaudible]. [off mic]. Is there any chance that the community center will take back the fourth? I mean, the fireworks like they were doing before?

Danny Davis: I don't think there's an interest too partly because the viewing angle from the community center is really difficult now because the trees and where we have to shoot them off from, right. So I they do partner still with us by doing some of those activities earlier in the evening. Free swimming for a few hours. The parade kicks off from there. But I think now that we're running that event, we'll probably have it.

Bridge Littleton: The charter school is great. I mean, the charter school is great. Especially when they had to move the fireworks because of the houses. That's the big part. So and they can't go as high if I remember Yeah. Okay. Any other questions for Ali? Okay. Last item is or next item I should say is Ali.

Ali MacIntyre: Yes. So last but certainly not least, our Middleburg Farmers Market. The season has come to an end. It did conclude on Saturday, October. Oh, did I get the mic? Sorry, am I too loud? So we did have so our market season has concluded. We did have 26 weekends. Which of all of which we, we were able to host for better or for worse, because of the weather, we did not have to cancel any due to inclement weather. There were some pretty toasty days in the summertime. But for the majority of the summer, we did have water bottles out, coolers full of water bottles. Not just for

our vendors, but for our market goers as well, so they could stay cool maybe give their little pups some water. We did have the little bowls. I'm sure all of you saw them at one point or another. Just to help our four legged friends at the market. But, yeah. So just a few updates for how it went this year. You know, we did keep it at the main location, but we did move it down the driveway which our residents and visitors really did seem to like. It is a little bit closer to the main street, but it was visible as you were, as you were coming down that back street area. We did have more vendors initially. As we kicked off in May, we did have around 20, a little bit more vendors. And then throughout the season it did drop off quite a bit. We ended the last month between 9 and 14 vendors. Our most consistent vendors were the ones that had been there previously with Hess Orchards, Cobbler View, people that have been with Middleburg for quite some time. We had a ton of new vendors though, which is really great. So a lot of new people this season based on our foot traffic count, that was a manual foot traffic counter with Kim we had about 225 to 400 people per market. There was a slight uptick during the large events such as Art in the Burg and Oktoberfest. And then I believe just October in general as well. Just cooler weather which was good. But we do, you know, if we plan to continue in 2026, we will ensure that the visitor counts are taken for the full season manually. And then depending you know, hopefully our, platform will be a little bit more accurate there. For marketing and wayfinding, as you guys probably saw, we did have implemented the new directional banners on Pendleton and Washington Street. We had Balloons by Beth, our local balloon vendor do a balloon towers and fun little vegetables from time to time. Blowing in the wind. Over the course of the market season, mainly the beginning and the end. But then for some of the larger events and then we did increase our social media posting. We did a number of posts on Facebook about half that on Instagram. And then we allocated I don't have the number with me. I can get that to you guys, or I will get that to you. But I would say probably just under \$1,000 perhaps a little bit more for our boosting for Farmers Market. So I don't have the exact number. I was trying to pull it. But I can find that out from our marketing team and share that out with you if you're interested. And then just some of the takeaways. You know, our primary challenge continues to be foot traffic and volume. When I did send out an email and while we received mostly positive feedback on the changes that took place the hardest part for the vendors really just is the foot traffic. You know, they're happy to see all of our regulars, our market goers that come. But you know, due to the number of vendors, you know, some are our competitors in the marketplace you know, they're really just not quite able to sell as much as they feel like they should be selling. And of course, there are a lot of other markets just in Loudoun County alone. Some you know, in the surrounding 10 to 20 miles you know, just going on at the exact same time. So foot traffic, I would say, was one of the biggest challenges based on the feedback from our market vendors. The location, though, we did have a lot of great feedback on the location with the access to parking, the restrooms, and then just the space to expand when we did have drop in vendors maybe that didn't want to bring their tents because we did only have room for about 17 to 20 vendors because we did have a couple of folks that had trucks. Some people could just set up their tables and drop in underneath the portico, which was really nice, especially for our children entrepreneurs who really loved it. And we still maintain that the third Saturday of every month. We did have some special themes, not quite as many as we had hoped for throughout the year. But we did have quite a, you know, we did a lot of new things this year. One of those, which I actually forgot to mention was music. So in the previous year, it was me rolling in with our little sound system and putting on my farmer's market playlist. I think everybody was tired of hearing Fleetwood Mac by the end of the season there, but we had wonderful live musicians. You know, Gary Smallwood, we had Jamie Pyles. We had we just had a lot of wonderful people and new voices this year and people that really loved being at the market and got good feedback on just the overall environment. Again, from our vendors and our and our market goers. I did want to mention that the town has been approached by local entity who may be interested in running the farmer's market at their location. I don't have any details. We're really ready to share it this time, but we're hoping to bring that back in December. So just wanted to make a note of that. And that's all I have for.

Cindy Pearson: Did you say at their location?

Bridge Littleton: Ali here or a place they want to do it?

Ali MacIntyre: A place they want to do.

Bridge Littleton: It. So not at the town hall?

Ali MacIntyre: No.

Bridge Littleton: Got it.

Ali MacIntyre: That's correct. Not at all. No.

Darlene Kirk: Do you have that same request from somebody who was going to put [off mic] Huh? Put one on by the school down past Middleburg school that they wanted to do, like a market type thing.

Bridge Littleton: They said where.

Danny Davis: That was a long ago proposal to do a more permanent type structure on the Homewood Farm property that's not this particular proposal. I think what we can do is speak with these folks and see if it's a true interest. And if it's something that that they then bring forward to staff, we'll review it, have conversations and bring that to Council. But we also know that any decision needs to be made sooner rather than later, because then the question for Council is whether A, to consider that and then B if not, then do we still continue with the market for next year? Because I know we talked about, you know, reviewing this, how successful was it? Do we continue on year after year and continue to get input from the community on the benefit of the market for the overall town?

Bridge Littleton: Darlene.

Darlene Kirk: Two questions. One asked the group if they would be willing to have it, you know, on the town property. And the other question is, how did you see the Farmer's Market as a good thing, a plus or a negative? I mean, I know how I saw it.

Bridge Littleton: That's I don't know. I don't think that's a fair question.

Darlene Kirk: Well, I mean, she can say that, you know, there were a lot of problems that were, you know, or it was difficult, you know.

J. Kevin Daly: But I think a better question would be how successful do you feel it was this year compared to previous years?

Ali MacIntyre: All right. So comparatively to previous years, you know, with the additions, you know, with the location being the same but also different we received a lot of good feedback on the changes. Like I said, with the location, consistency, the signage, the music, the new vendors, I mean, we had so many new vendors this year, you know, I wish some of them would have stuck it out a little bit more rather than, you know, just coming a couple of times. But overall, the feedback year over year was much better. There's still, of course, areas of improvement. I think, in any event, you know, in anything. But, definitely don't want to negate the need for foot traffic, which is the biggest pain point. Because we do have some wonderful vendors coming in and we have people driving from an hour and a half, two hours away to be a part of our market, which is really wonderful. And then also some people that are right in our right in our backyard. So I've used that term many times, I think, in every presentation today. But we have a lot of we have, you know, people coming that you know, really believe in the market and want to see and keep it going. But we still have the problem of bringing in adequate foot traffic. So really determining what that looks like and how we can help. But I will say that there are some things that you know, I really was hoping to do this year that didn't come to fruition. That should we decide to move forward you know, whether with whether it is us or another group you know, I think it would have been great with theme days and things of that nature. So yeah, I don't know if that answered the question, but.

Bud Jacobs: I think everybody agrees that it has that this year was better than last seasons. Last several seasons. I wanted to clarify. Did you say that that improvement was not reflected in vendor revenue to the degree that we might have liked or certainly that they might have liked?

Ali MacIntyre: It was reflected, but I think it still didn't. It didn't. The needle was moved, just not quite as much as they had hoped. You know, with all the additions, with music and marketing and.

Bud Jacobs: To what do you attribute the decline in vendor participation as the season went on.

Ali MacIntyre: The traffic. So the vendors that really stuck it out to the end were vendors that have been our vendors for a long time. You know, definitely the pass through since we brought it back in 2023, 2023. I think that, you know, when we have competing markets just in the surrounding areas, and they're able to see a couple thousand people. It's a little bit harder to you know, to compete with those markets.

Bud Jacobs: Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: We're averaging 300.

Ali MacIntyre: Exactly.

Bridge Littleton: So I think we. Oh, sorry Peter. Go ahead.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Well, I like to say we went quite a few times and the vibe was really good. And you had some really great new vendors, high quality and some food trucks and some fun people. And I thought the whole community feel was really good. You know. Yes. Not enough people are going, but it seems to be going up a bit and put some investment into it. And it just had a, I think on a Saturday morning, had a very nice feeling about it. And it'd be great to see it continue if we can, you know.

Bridge Littleton: So a couple questions, right. I think at a high level. The I mean, it's at the end of the day the Farmer's Market is a business. It's a business, right? And we created it. You guys created it. Well, number one, let me say you guys did an amazing job. I mean, how it has improved into something that's very, very special is awesome, right? So, you know, you are all to be commended for all the hard work and Kim and you and everybody who, you know, really made it something unique. The question I've got is you know, you can have the best restaurant in the world, but if it's in the middle of pig's knuckle Arkansas, it's going to fail. Right. I mean, that's the problem, right? Is. No, I'm, you know, I mean, that's the that's the challenge. Right? And what we I think one of the things we need to do is we need to send a survey to all of our vendors and ask them key questions about, did it meet your revenue expectations. You know, the people who if you left early, why did you leave early? You know, what are the top three things that we could do to improve it? Right. Do you plan to come back next year? I mean, that's a big, big question, right? If you don't, what could we do that would entice you to come back? Right.

Bridge Littleton: And you may find a vendor, say, guarantee me a minimum of \$500 and I'll come back, you know, because to your point, no, I'm not saying that's what we're going to do. I mean, I had two vendors call me, right and say and said they love being there, but they are losing money, so they're not coming back that's the problem. They said it is the most enjoyable Farmers Market to go to, but they will go bankrupt if they go to Farmers Markets that they enjoy joy, as opposed to the ones that actually sell the produce and make the money and all that kind of stuff. So I think first and foremost, right, you've created an amazing environment, but without vendors it doesn't matter, right? So we got to know from the vendors how they feel, what they think. You know. And I bet that on like all the community pieces of it, the music, the vibe, the location, it's going to be ten stars, you know? But the thing that's going to be 1 or 2 or 3 is revenue, right? So now if somebody else wants to take it over, that's totally interesting idea, all that, you know, whatever. But we got to know from the vendors because the what do we have 23 to 26 averaging 14 something like that.

Ali MacIntyre: The so yeah we yeah.

Bridge Littleton: We got to go to everybody who came if they only came once okay. You know and we got to figure out and again you know probably ten straightforward questions. But we got to know what they think. Yeah Pam.

Pam Curran: Is there anything we can do to find out from the residents who haven't attended? Did they know about it? You know, more marketing to get the foot traffic there because everybody agrees how wonderful it was. And, you know, the improvements.

Danny Davis: But Ms. Curran. I think that goes back to the perpetual question we continue having about how we best communicate with our residents. And that's a lot of in our town that's a lot of personal connection. That's a lot of one on one. I can tell you it was in every single water bill that we sent out all over Facebook on Middleburg uncensored as much as possible. But again, you're not always going to reach everybody. And so I think we even did a direct mailer or did that not happen? Okay. Never mind. So.

Ali MacIntyre: We attempted that.

Danny Davis: So there are things we can do to keep letting people know, you know, a postcard at the beginning of the season to everyone in the two zip codes that says, here's our Farmers Market.

Pam Curran: And we had talked about possibly some type of a coupon or first purchase or something to get people there. I think we thought we didn't do that this year either. But anyway.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, Bud.

Bud Jacobs: I don't think it's a communication problem in the community. Fair number of the people with whom I've had a conversation about the market, and there actually haven't been very many because of lack of interest. It's just people greet it with a big yawn. The few criticisms I've heard, and I didn't hear it this season, but in previous seasons was that it's expensive. Why would I go buy my vegetables there? And if we bear in mind the demographic of what this little town actually looks like, that's a pretty strong obstacle for folks to, overcome. You guys are going to have some tough decisions to make next year, and I hope you'll be able to sort the community spirit piece of this, which we all agree is sound and something that the town should be doing with the drain it represents on staff. And frankly, the image that it presents I went to a number of community markets this year in in Fairfax. I went in Fairlington, I went to the Stone Harbor one several times to Aldie went to Buchanan Hall a couple of times. And my own view is that our little market is kind of sad in comparison to what is available to other residents. So my own inclination initially was to stop doing it, and if I were going to vote next year, I'd be voting to stop doing it again. But that's for you guys to decide.

Bridge Littleton: And he lays an egg. Cindy.

Cindy Pearson: I have to agree with what Bud said. I've said this before that it is very expensive. And don't get me wrong, I know they have to make money to do what they're doing, but when you have your produce priced at that amount, it's not. I mean, you're not going to get that many local people coming. It's not your fault. It's what they do. I also had some comments from two of the vendors that when you're there, the market has a whole different level of feel than when you're not. I hate to put that on you because you cannot be there. We can clone you maybe. Maybe Danny can work on that and figure that out somehow. [off mic] But yes, totally better. Read into it what you need to read into it. So there are little things I think that's the problem with our market. And it is the price both ways. They're not making the money, and we're not going to spend that kind of money on it. You just can't do it every week. It's not possible.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: Piggybacking on both what Bridge and Bud and Cindy said. There's a lot of effort being put out by the town staff and vendors who are not making money, and this is their living. The big question is how much expense and not we understand the time that staff is putting in how much cash money is the town spending on the Farmers Market, and are we seeing anything coming back for the town's benefit for that?

Danny Davis: So the town authorized \$40,000. What I see in our system currently to date. Now, this doesn't include all the marketing costs so that the Facebook posts and all that. But hard costs for the year was approximately 22 to \$25,000, so we didn't spend the full 40 that I'm aware of, unless there's money somewhere that got coded the wrong way in our system, but still \$25,000. We don't see any direct revenue return. There's no offset, there's no cost or revenue received. And as you mentioned as well, Mr. Daly, this does not include all the significant amount of time that Miss MacIntyre puts in to the event, even though she's not here every Saturday. There's a lot of time that goes into helping coordinate, discuss

logistics, manage all the expectations and prepare things. So that's taken up, probably could say at least 10% of her time over the past six months. So maybe 20%. We have a lot of events going on.

Bridge Littleton: No, I mean, I think I think the next most important thing is we need to ask all the vendors. Right? And we got to figure out what the right questions are. And it's like ten questions. But, you know, it's the key ones. And the key one being what, you know, if it was exactly the same next year, would you come back. Right. I mean, of course if there's more foot traffic, but we can't guarantee that. I mean, I think you guys did everything you could to get as much foot traffic as possible. And, you know, what's that next 10%? What's the effort for that next 10%? You know, that's it's that law of diminishing returns. So anyway. All right. Yeah. Bud.

Bud Jacobs: I didn't want to give the impression that we don't appreciate your work because you did a terrific job. And if this activity does go on, my only request would be to structure it so that when I go, I don't bump into the Mayor quite so frequently.

Ali MacIntyre: Let's see what we can do there. [laughter]

Bridge Littleton: Love you too, Bud. [laughter] Any other questions before we move on? Okay. Next up is, I think, just information items. Any information? Thanks, Ali. Any information items? Going once, going twice. Rhonda, a quick question. Have we heard back from Gary Clemens?

Rhonda North: I have not, Mr. Mayor.

Bridge Littleton: Just curious. Okay. With that, we now have a closed session item.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: I move that Council go into closed session as authorized under section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia for the performance review of the Town Manager as allowed under subsection A1. I further move that the Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.

J. Kevin Daly: Second.

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

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed? Abstentions? Okay. We're in closed session. All right. 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 in closed session, 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 discussions that occurred within it should be treated as confidential.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Yes.

Bud Jacobs: Yes.

Darlene Kirk: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Yes.

Chris Bernard: Yes.

Cindy Pearson: Yes.

J. Kevin Daly: Yes.

Pam Curran: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: All right. And with that Meeting adjourned.