



MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL
Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes
Thursday, October 12, 2023



PENDING APPROVAL

PRESENT: Mayor Trowbridge M. Littleton
Vice Mayor Peter A. Leonard-Morgan
Councilmember Chris W. Bernard
Councilmember J. Kevin Daly
Councilmember Morris E. "Bud" Jacobs
Councilmember C. Darlene Kirk
Councilmember Philip M. Miller (arrived late)
Councilmember Cindy C. Pearson

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

The Town Council of the Town of Middleburg, Virginia held their regular monthly meeting on Thursday, October 12, 2023 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

Gary Nickleson, Commander of American Legion Post 295, reviewed the activities that have been occurring or that were planned to occur at the American Legion. He noted that they were working to finalize the design of banners recognizing local veterans and reported that they would have five or six of them. Mr. Nickleson expressed hope to have them ready for display on the Town's banner poles on Veteran's Day. He invited the Council and community to attend the Legion's Oktoberfest event scheduled for October 14th. Mr. Nickleson reported that the Legion had applied for a Middleburg Charitable Foundation grant.

(Councilmember Miller arrived at the meeting at 6:03 p.m. He advised that he was participating in the meeting remotely from home due to an illness.)

Staff Reports

September 2023

Town Clerk North reported that much of her time continued to be devoted to the Town Hall Project and noted that a report on that project was scheduled for later in the meeting.

Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre thanked the American Legion for allowing their facility to be used for the Miglia 1000 training. She opined that the recent Cops & Dogs event provided a nice community feel. Ms. MacIntyre announced that Southern Living was in town to work on a feature story on Middleburg. In response to an inquiry from the Council, she reported that thus far, eleven people were signed up for the CTA training. Ms. MacIntyre opined that others would sign up at the last minute and noted that there were usually fifteen to twenty people there.

Mayor Littleton advised Ms. MacIntyre that the slides she provided were helpful during the recent Coalition of Loudoun Towns meeting. He reported that the RADC would be contacting her as they were looking to focus on tourism in Western Loudoun, outside of Visit Loudoun.

Town Treasurer Staples reported that she transferred excess money from the Town's operating account into the NAV Fund so it would earn more interest.

Chief Jones reported that the Police Department recently hosted Cops & Dogs, as well as an interactive event with the residents of Windy Hill. He advised that they completed the safety patrol training at the Middleburg Community Charter School and would soon present the students with their certificates during a Council meeting. In response to inquiries from the Council, Chief Jones reported that like all law enforcement agencies, Middleburg did not have anyone applying to be a police officer. He advised that the recent Coffee with a Cop event was successful. In response to an inquiry from the Council regarding preparedness for Christmas in Middleburg, Chief Jones reported that he received responses from other law enforcement agencies to his call for assistance. He noted that items were being added to the event, which he was trying to accommodate.

Council asked that Mr. or Mrs. Myers, of Christmas in Middleburg, attend the November Council meeting to discuss the logistics of the upcoming event.

Deputy Town Manager Moore thanked the Council for their support of the staff's training. He noted that he recently attended the Virginia Municipal League Annual Conference, and that Planning & Project Associate LaClare recently attended the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials Conference. Mr. Moore reported that the Planning Commission would hold three public hearings during their October meeting - two involving special use permit applications and one involving a zoning text amendment to bring the Town Code into compliance with recent State Code changes related to the advertisement of public hearings related to certain zoning items. He further reported that the Streetscape Committee was working to address the impact of mature trees on the Town's sidewalks and advised that a pilot project would be done that would involve the placement of a flexible porous material around a large tree in front of 18 East Washington Street. Mr. Moore opined that this could be a good solution to this problem. He reported that Council would soon receive requests to release and/or reduce the performance bonds posted for the Residences at Salamander development.

In response to an inquiry, Deputy Town Manager Moore reminded Council of the community meeting scheduled for October 16th, at the American Legion, to discuss infill development and redevelopment in the R-2 District. He reported that a mailer went out to all Town residents and that it was also hand delivered to those residents in the R-2 District. Mr. Moore advised that outreach was also being done through the Town's website.

Town Manager Davis advised that during that meeting, he would do an introduction. He further advised that The Berkley Group would talk about zoning in general and then specifically about the R-2 District, including what actions have been taken to date. Mr. Davis reported that the attendees would be broken into groups for round table discussions. He advised that the tables would then report their findings. Mr. Davis opined that the meeting would last for an hour and a half.

Mayor Littleton noted that a few people had asked him about the purpose of the community meeting. He advised that he suggested that one gentleman, who indicated he would not attend, submit his comments via email. Mr. Littleton reported that everyone was impressed with the Town's level of outreach to engage with its residents. He thanked the staff for their hard work.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Deputy Town Manager Moore reported that the staff was continuing their inspections of properties in the town.

In response to inquiries from the Council, Deputy Town Manager Moore reported that Business Development & Community Partnerships Director MacIntyre was working on a policy related to the Town's chalkboard signs that would identify things such as who would be allowed on them. He reported that the boards had been purchased and were being readied for production once the policy was finished.

The Council expressed concern about the number of chalkboard signs that were being displayed in the Town's rights-of-way and their impact on pedestrian safety and visibility.

Town Attorney Crim reported that he recently attended the Virginia Municipal Local Government Attorney's conference. In response to an inquiry from the Council, he reported that he had not yet seen any bills that were pre-filed by members of the General Assembly; however, he anticipated that bills would be filed that would restrict local governments zoning and taxing authorities.

Town Hall Project Report

Town Clerk North reported that the work on the cupola was nearly complete, with the exception of the installation of the finial on the lightning protection system and the painting. She further reported that the work on the Council dais should be completed next week, again with the exception of the painting. Ms. North advised that the contractor continued to work on the ADA door opener for the north entrance doors and noted that they needed to replace one more part. She noted that training was underway on the various systems and advised that the staff had received training on the security system, the AV system, and the electrical system. Ms. North advised that they would receive training on the mechanical system next week. She reported that the testing and balancing for the HVAC system was complete and that the Town was just awaiting receipt of the TAB report so the Commissioning Agent could review it and begin the commissioning of the system. Ms. North advised that the contractor was continuing to work in order to obtain the temporary certificate of occupancy that would allow the Town to move into the building.

Reports of Town Committees/Council Liaisons

Vice Mayor Leonard-Morgan announced that the Middleburg Sustainability Committee would hold the Town Clean-Up event on October 28th. He noted that it would begin from two locations this year – the Middleburg Community Center and the Levis Hill House. Mr. Leonard-Morgan advised that posters would be distributed around town, as they were seeking additional volunteers to help with the clean-up.

Consent Agenda

A. Council Approval – September 14, 2023 Regular Council Meeting Minutes

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

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

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

Discussion Item

Mickie Gordon Memorial Park

Mayor Littleton announced that the County's special use permit application to redevelop the Mickie Gordon Memorial Park into cricket fields had been withdrawn. He reported that the next steps were for the County Parks & Recreation Department to use the community feedback to develop ideas for the park. Mr. Littleton advised that once this was done, the County Parks & Recreation Director would return to the community to share their ideas. He expressed appreciation to those who participated in the community workshops and advised that he was impressed by the level of community engagement and how everyone respected one another.

COLT Debates

Mayor Littleton reminded Council that the Coalition of Loudoun Towns (COLT) hosted five debates related to the Board of Supervisors' races. He noted that they could be viewed on COLT's Facebook page, as well as on U-Tube. Mr. Littleton reminded Council of the new 10th Congressional District seat. He noted that Loudoun County represented 50% of that district. Mr. Littleton advised that COLT would host a debate of the candidates for that seat next year.

Early Voting

Mayor Littleton reminded the audience that early voting was open at the County Registrar's office in Leesburg. He noted that voting in Middleburg would occur at the new Town Hall.

Mickie Gordon Memorial Park (continued)

In response to an inquiry from an audience member about the cricket games that were still being played late at night at the Mickie Gordon Park, Mayor Littleton reported that he would discuss this with the County Parks & Recreation Director.

Closed Session

Vice Mayor 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 consultation with legal counsel retained by the public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the legal advice of such counsel related to the Town Hall Project contract as allowed under Subsection (A)(8). Vice Mayor Leonard-Morgan further moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that the Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Leonard-Morgan, Bernard, Daly, Jacobs, Kirk, Miller, 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 7:07 p.m.

APPROVED:

Trowbridge M. Littleton, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Rhonda S. North, MMC, Town Clerk

October 12, 2023 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: All right. We'll 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: All right. The next item is roll call.

Chris Bernard: Chris Bernard.

Bud Jacobs: Bud Jacobs.

Darlene Kirk: Darlene Kirk.

Bridge Littleton: Bridge Littleton.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Peter Leonard-Morgan.

Cindy Pearson: Cindy Pearson.

J. Kevin Daly: John Kevin Daly.

Rhonda North: Rhonda North, Town Clerk.

Danny Davis: Danny Davis, Town Manager.

Bridge Littleton: Okay.

Martin Crim: Martin Crim, Town Attorney.

Bridge Littleton: Oops. Sorry, Martin. Not really.

Martin Crim: No worries.

Bridge Littleton: All right. The next item is public comment. So any member of the public would like to address Town Council. You have three minutes to do so. No. Gary. Thank you. Please state your name address? Yeah. Blood type. [laughter]

Gary Nickleson: Mr. Mayor, Members of the Town Council. My name is Gary Nicholson. I'm the Commander of the American Legion here in town 111 the Plains Road. A positive. [laughter] Yeah. [off mic] 295 I forget that. Okay, I'll start over from the top. No, no, but. We've had a very busy month these last few weeks. First off, we started with the volunteer training for the 1000 Miglia. Miglia warm up. So worked with Ali on that one. And then we followed up with the Mickie Gordon community, the second Mickie Gordon community meeting. So I had a nice turnout for that one. I think about 60 members of the community showed up to hear their comments about the park, and it was really good for us because we gained three new members from that one. So I think that put us up just under 60. So we are growing. Our hometown hero tribute banners, the design has been finalized. And thank you, Council Member Pearson for submitting

that picture of your father who [inaudible], if you didn't know is our flagpole at our post is actually dedicated to Cindy's dad, so that'll be nice. And then on your flagpole here you have James Bell. It's dedicated to him. So I think his picture is also going to be going up on these tribute banners. So so the goal to that is just to really get about 5 or 6 short list of names up there so that we can kind of start this program, and then we'll expand from there as we seek demand, trying to get those out in time for Veterans Day. And of course, Danny, I'll take it to you for final approval before anything goes up. This weekend, on Saturday, we're holding our own Oktoberfest. If you don't know, about 11 years ago, the Middleburg Alliance actually started on Oktoberfest as a private event that grew and grew and eventually became the town Oktoberfest. So some of you might want to come out and kind of see how the beginnings of Oktoberfest for the Town Middleburg started. The following week we got a pretty busy week. Let's see, the R-2 route zoning is being held at our place. Then I'm pretty excited we have the Governor coming out. He's one of his stops for his kind of get out to vote message. He's going to be stopping at our post and utilize that. But not to be outdone by our very own Middleburg Meet the Candidates for our Town Council. So that's happening on the 19th. 19th. Yeah. Get better. Yeah, yeah. So so I will work with the Council Members and the Mayor to get all that ready for you all as well. And then I did apply for the Middleburg Charitable Foundation grant. So that has been in and I hope to speak to you about that later. As you know, we've have many youth programs, and we're going to be expanding the oratorical contest this year. So all those dollars will go a long way to helping out our youth of local county high school. So thanks again for your support. [buzzer sounded] Yeah. [laughter]

Chris Bernard: You guys all seem so impressed when they do that. But they're looking at.

Rhonda North: Mr. Mayor.

Bridge Littleton: Yes.

Rhonda North: You may want to note that Mr. Miller has joined the meeting.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Philip do you want to do your roll call?

Philip Miller: Philip Miller calling in remotely. Third time's the charm. Third time's the charm with Covid.

Chris Bernard: Whoa!

Bridge Littleton: Wow! Fun, fun. [off mic] Would anybody else like to address Town Council? Okay. We will close public comment. Okay. [00:05:00] All right. Next item is staff reports. So the glamorous Rhonda North.

Rhonda North: Thank you, Mr. Mayor. These days, most of my time is spent on the town hall project. We're going to talk about and do that report here shortly. So you have my report, and I stand ready to answer any questions you may have.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Rhonda, who's standing? Nope. All right. Next is Ali MacIntyre.

Ali MacIntyre: Good evening everybody. You have my report. Do you have any questions? I have a couple other updates. I'll try to be quick. Less than three minutes. While you're thinking of your questions. So I just wanted to say thank you to Gary and Annie for just taking care of us and the Mille Miglia group. We had the technical training and everything was so easy as it always is at the Legion. So just thank you guys so much for having things just be so easy there. Also, and I'm sure Chief Jones will mention this, but they had Cops and Dogs I believe it was last week and it was just the community feel was so nice. The team at Northwest and Mark Putnam and Chief Jones just it was just a good Middleburg vibe. And everybody really seemed to be enjoying themselves and eating plenty of hot dogs and chicken sausage. Other than that, I did want to make mention that Southern Living has been here this week and we'll be here next week and is going to be doing a feature on the town. So Vicki Bendure shared that with me as well as a lot of the businesses in town, so they're all really excited about it. So as soon as that's published, we'll let you know. Any questions?

Bridge Littleton: Questions for Ali? Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Just a quick question about the CTA and how many people we got signed up? Do you know?

Ali MacIntyre: Right now we only have 11 and it's at Green Hill Winery. So we're hoping to get a few more. It's on the 24th. And we certainly, you know, we have more books here, but usually we end up at about 15 to 20. So I'm sure there'll be some last minute sign ups.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Thank you, thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Any other questions for Ali? I have just a FYI, we had a COLT meeting last night. Chris Hornbaker your slides were very helpful. So he's the COLT representative for REDC, and I cannot remember who it was at REDC, but he's going to reach out to you. They want a Events and Economic development point of contact for every town. So clearly that's you. But and it's I can't remember who it was in REDC but it wasn't somebody from the Chamber. I think it's somebody from Buddy Rizer's office.

Ali MacIntyre: Okay. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: So but I told Chris just to reach out to you and whatnot. But and they said that they're doing this whole new focus on tourism in Western Loudoun outside of Visit Loudoun. So there's a whole they want to have like an integrated calendar for events and all that kind of stuff. So be on the lookout.

Ali MacIntyre: Thank you very much.

Bridge Littleton: You bet. Okay. Who's next? Tina.

Tina Staples: Hi, everyone. You have my report. I think the only significant change from this month to last month is we transferred some of the excess in the operating fund over into the Nav fund so that it would earn a little bit more interest at the recommendation of the finance committee, which you can see on the accounts page where it details those accounts. Outside of that, I'm happy to take any questions that you have and encourage you all to continue to eat out at restaurants and use lots of electricity, because it helps our tax revenue. Thank you. [laughter]

Bridge Littleton: Electricity helps our tax revenue?

Tina Staples: Sure does.

Bridge Littleton: How does electricity help our tax revenue?

Tina Staples: Because we're able to tax the electric companies and then they have to pay us to.

Danny Davis: Pass through.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Wow.

Tina Staples: Oh I know right. [laughter]

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, yeah. Okay. Yeah. All right. Any questions for Tina? All right. Thank you, thank you. All right. Next is the Chief.

Shaun Jones: Good evening everyone. You [00:10:00] have my report in front of you. Just a couple of quick things. Ali mentioned earlier we had the Cops and Dogs event Friday in front of the Northwest Federal Credit Union. We also went down to Windy Hill and interact with the residents at Windy Hill and broke the ice. Made some new connections with the residents there. Mark and myself [inaudible] went down there and spent the evening on the grill, cooking hot dogs

and hamburgers and interacting with the residents down there. We completed the safety patrol training for the students at the charter school, just waiting to set up a date so we can present them with their certificates here in front of the Town Council. Any other questions?

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Shaun? Kevin.

J. Kevin Daly: How are we doing with recruitment?

Shaun Jones: We're just like any other agency in the Commonwealth of Virginia. We're having a hard time recruiting. We just don't have a lot of people applying at this time. We're not the only agency that's going through the same problems and struggles.

Bridge Littleton: Peter.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Chief. Sorry I couldn't make Coffee with a Cop. I just wondered how that went.

Shaun Jones: Coffee with a Cop was another successful event that we did last week as well. It was very good attendance. The Sheriff's office had their command staff there as well, so it was a good event for the town.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Thank you sir.

Bridge Littleton: Any other questions? Yeah.

Chris Bernard: Christmas in Middleburg.

Shaun Jones: Yes, sir.

Chris Bernard: How are you guys? How are you feeling?

Shaun Jones: It's my first one, so. But, you know, we sent out the request for the assistance from the other agencies. We've got responses back from them. So we're in a process of planning and so forth. So we have some things that are new that are being added this year. So we're trying to adjust to accommodate those as well.

Chris Bernard: Do you feel ready?

Shaun Jones: I feel ready I think we are yes, sir.

Bridge Littleton: On that note, are we planning to have one of the organizers come in and give us an update before Christmas in Middleburg? Danny, question.

Danny Davis: If you'd like, we can. She was at the meeting two meetings ago. Is that right?

Bridge Littleton: Yep.

Danny Davis: If there's concern about issues.

Bridge Littleton: I think it'd be good. Maybe the first meeting in November, you know, because we don't have the second one. So just with all the stuff that's the changes going on, let's.

Danny Davis: Sure.

Bridge Littleton: It'd be good to touch base and.

Chris Bernard: [off mic] very budget focused.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. Yeah.

Chris Bernard: Just things are going on.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. And logistics and yeah, all that stuff.

Shaun Jones: I spoke with Michelle earlier this week and I also told her I'd like to with all the new changes, I'd like to meet with her. Hopefully we will have something set up where we can sit down and talk with her next week. That's what we're shooting for.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Yeah, let's see if they can come in or it don't have to be both of them, but just her or Doug to talk the first meeting in November. Okay, cool. Shaun. Thank you.

Shaun Jones: Sure.

Bridge Littleton: All right, Mr. Moore.

Will Moore: Thank you sir. Mr. Mayor, Members of Council. You have my report. Just a few things to highlight. First of all, I'd just like to thank Council for continuing to support our professional education and engagement opportunities. I was fortunate enough to attend VML Conference earlier this week. Estee just last month attended the Virginia Association of Zoning Officials conference. Of course, Manager Davis was away at ICMA. Tina just informed me she has Dana away at a Treasurers Association Conference right now, so we certainly appreciate that continued support. A couple of highlights. We do have three public hearings at our Planning Commission meeting later this month. So two special use permits and then a zoning text amendment to account for some code changes in the way that we advertise hearings. So they had a couple of months off. So we're putting them back to work now. One thing to highlight, working with the Streetscape Committee and certain members of it, we've been kind of targeting some different ideas to combat areas where we have mature trees that are impacting sidewalks. So we're going to do a pilot project tentatively we'll kick off next week, and it's only a day or two project. But doing a flexible, porous pavement in front of 18 East Washington, which is where Lou Lou is. So there's a pretty big tree that's really impactful right there. And we think [00:15:00] this is going to be a good solution, but it's a pilot. So we'll see how that turns out. So you'll see some activity there next week. And then just it's a very busy time for us right now. So a lot going on. Just one thing that will be coming to you probably fairly soon is that as The Residences at Salamander has moved on with a lot of their public and private improvements, they're going to be requesting bond releases and or reductions soon to account for a lot of the work that is been accomplished, but that's a process to go through and have engineering inspections to make sure everything is being constructed as designed. But that's something that we will come to you for action at some point in time soon. With that said, happy to answer any questions you might have.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Will? Yes, sir.

Bud Jacobs: Want to say a few words about the Community Forum Workshop on October 16th?

Will Moore: Oh, yes, sir, we did have that as an information item later, but yeah. So it is October 16th, 6 p.m. at the Legion. We did. We put out a community wide mailer to all the property owners in town. We also hand-delivered notices to every R-2 resident. So just to make sure that a resident as opposed to an owner might have that direct notification, and we're doing some social outreach on the website as well. So trying to get the word out. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: Absolutely.

Bud Jacobs: We're supposed to read the agenda before these meetings. [laughter]

Bridge Littleton: It's optional. Yeah.

J. Kevin Daly: You know double check on Tuesday because that's when they revise it.

Danny Davis: Regarding if you want to go ahead and finish the conversation about this regarding that.

Bridge Littleton: That's fine. Yeah.

Danny Davis: The intention is that I'll briefly intro and welcome everyone and why we're there. Berkley will take probably 8 to 10 minutes and just generally talk about what is zoning, because it's always helpful to start with a baseline what zoning can do, what it can't do, what is the R-2 zoning district? And even what has been done to date? Because as we know, Council has taken some interventions already and then it will lead into some small tabletop group exercises very similar to what you saw with the Mickie Gordon Park discussions. There will be some facilitated discussion from the front, but really having the tables look at different examples and provide feedback. And then there will be a reporting out. So we think it will be helpful in how we get feedback from the community on this particular topic. So that's the intent. Probably about an hour and a half max and we'll call it a day.

Bridge Littleton: So I don't know if anybody else has been asked about the fliers and the notification or anything. I've gotten 1 or 2 folks who've said, like one person was said, so what's really this about? I don't understand it. I'm like, well, look, it's just there's development trends going on in R2, and we want to understand how people in R2 and the town in general feel about it. And are there concerns and, you know, what do you like, what do you not like and try to make sure that we're capturing public sentiment in what we may or may not do about zoning. So it may result in nothing. It may result in something, but we don't want to do anything before we hear from the community. And so the individual said, Oh, I get it, I'm not coming. [laughter] To which I said, okay. And it's someone who's lived there 60 years. And I said, well, I told Danny this story. No, no, it wasn't Snooks that would be 90 years. So I said to the individual, I said, well, do you understand kind of what we want to understand? He said, Oh, yeah, I totally understand what you want to say. I said, well, do me a favor then. Just write an email to Danny and, you know, say what you feel. So, you know, we want to capture everybody's feedback. So he's like, okay, fine, I'll do that. And he was really like, I just don't like being around people anymore. I said, I got it. [laughter] It was pretty funny. So but a couple of folks who did stop me. And I know we were not trying to like tilt one way or the other. So it's sort of like, okay, yeah, I get it, but what? Oh, okay. But everybody was incredibly impressed with the level of thoughtfulness and outreach to get their engagement. So I really want to thank you guys for going way the extra effort to make sure people knew about it, its importance, and hopefully to show up. [00:20:00] So that was great.

Will Moore: It was Estee and Tim who were going door to door with the fliers and hand delivering. So kudos to them.

Bridge Littleton: Hey, real quickly, how are they doing on their you know, their walk around?

Will Moore: I mean, they're compiling their information now. They've not I've not really had a briefing with them to get kind of, you know, any prioritization of issues to this point, but that's still in progress.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Any other questions for Will? Thank you.

Chris Bernard: Yeah. And I don't know if this is for you or for Ali. What's the status or update on the chalkboard sign [off mic] around the intersection? Yeah.

Will Moore: So I was talking with Ali about that earlier today. She's been working on a proposed kind of policy document for us on that. So we have, you know, good policy on who's included in them, who's not included in them, those kind of things. So we're going to we want to work through that first. But we have purchased the boards and we're ready to get them in production as soon as we finish with that document. So soon.

Cindy Pearson: It seems like they're jockeying for the very last space to the road.

Will Moore: Yeah.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, I mean, it certainly does. I worry about safety, right? Yeah. Yeah. Exactly. Oh and the site line is a good point too.

Cindy Pearson: [off mic] other side of town [off mic] chalkboard sign up there [off mic].

Bridge Littleton: Yeah, exactly. [off mic]

J. Kevin Daly: Particularly crowded on Saturdays.

Bridge Littleton: Chalkboards for everyone. Okay, any other questions for Will? Okay. What's that?

Darlene Kirk: [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: You are talking about sandwich boards. Okay. Yeah.

J. Kevin Daly: When it rains. [multiple speakers]

Bridge Littleton: We won't have them.

Darlene Kirk: Okay. Thank you.

Bridge Littleton: Well, just in your office. Okay. All right. Good. All right. Rhonda, Town Hall.

Rhonda North: Martin.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, Martin. Oh, God. We're paying for this. Martin, please.

Martin Crim: Thank you. Yeah like everybody else I've been to a conference. I was at the Local Government Attorneys of Virginia Conference last week, and so that was a good conference to get to. And to hear all the recent case law and make sure I haven't missed anything important, as I was pretty happy with that. So you have my report. I'm ready to answer any questions regarding that or any other legal issues you'd like.

Bridge Littleton: Any questions for Martin?

Cindy Pearson: How many times did you give your card out at that conference? Just kidding.

Bridge Littleton: Hey, Martin, just a quick question, though. I mean, I know we're going to have a whole new crew of people come January 1st, and Lord knows what that shape will take. Are you seeing any pre filings or any things running around the hill or the wrong hill? The state Richmond that I mean I know like the short term rental stuff is kicking up again that we really need to be worried about?

Martin Crim: I have not seen anything yet. I think I can predict pretty easily, though, that we're going to see, you know, further restrictions on our zoning authorities for the restrictions on our taxing authority. And, you know, it's going to be a rearguard action like every year.

Bridge Littleton: Exhausting, okay. All right. Thank you very much. All right. Town Hall project.

Rhonda North: Thank you Mr. Mayor.

Bridge Littleton: And we'll leave the room. [laughter]

Rhonda North: I know. It's like. What? What did I say? Okay, so. So they've been working on the cupola this week. They were working on the installation of the lightning protection system today. So hopefully the cupola is pretty much finished minus the finial ball that needs to go on top and the painting. The dais, we had to do a little bit of change with regard to the bolts for the structural supports. We think we finally got that issue resolved.

Bridge Littleton: I've got wood glue if you need it.

Rhonda North: They're going to hopefully finish installing the supports tomorrow. And then Virginia Casework will be in next week to start filling in the holes that they had to cut in the dais to make those fixes. So by Monday everything should be finished minus the painting again. The HVAC system, they did do the tab the testing and balancing that is complete. We're just waiting for that tab report to come in so we can do some commissioning. Still having some issues with the ADA door opener for the north entrance door. Some success today, but still missing another piece. So we're still working to resolve that. [00:25:00] We have started doing training on the building. We had training on the security systems, the AV systems and the electrical systems thus far. We'll have training next week on the mechanical systems. And really at this point, we're just working towards addressing those items that need to be addressed so that we can get our occupancy permit. So things are progressing.

Bridge Littleton: If need be on the occupancy permit, I have some pull with the Zoning Administrator. [laughter]

Rhonda North: You do?

Bridge Littleton: Shaking his head.

Rhonda North: He tells me otherwise. Yeah. [off mic]

J. Kevin Daly: Good personal friends.

Danny Davis: Neither do I.

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Any questions for Rhonda or Danny? All right. Consent agenda or Any Town Committee Reports, Peter?

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Well, now that you ask, we do have the town clean up on the 28th. Is it?

Bridge Littleton: Yep.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: On Saturday 28th, we've got two meeting points. One is at the Middleburg Community Center around 7:45 a.m., and the other is at Levis Hill House. Because we've got a contingent that's going to be cleaning up at Windy Hill as well. So sort of optional really, where folks want to go. But the main thrust will be. [multiple speakers] Levis, Levis Hill. Yeah. So that's that. Other than that, we have some posters. I asked if we could put one up here, and I'm going to take them around town and put them in some, see if the business owners will put some up so that we can get some more volunteers, because we tend to get the same volunteers every time, plus or minus a bit. So it'd be nice to get some new volunteers in. [off mic] We love you guys. Love you.

Chris Bernard: [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: Okay. Preparing for turnover. Yeah. Okay. Got it. Any other inputs? All right. Consent agenda. Who would like to make a motion on the consent agenda?

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

J. Kevin Daly: Second.

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

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed? Abstentions?

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Oh, [expletive]. Sorry Philip.

J. Kevin Daly: Oh she's writing it down.

Philip Miller: I said aye.

Bridge Littleton: Sorry, I know it was Philip. It's been one of those weeks. All right. No action items. Any discussion items? All right, moving on to information items. You guys heard about Mickie Gordon Park? Okay, so the special exception application was pulled today by the county, which is great. [applause] I got a call from Mr. Torpy around noon and yeah, you know, and he, as you said, Chris earlier, he kept to his word. And if it would work, it work. And if it wouldn't, he pulled it. And they pulled it.

Danny Davis: Right.

Bridge Littleton: So, he reaffirmed that the next steps are to take all the community feedback that they've gotten, come up with some ideas and thoughts and plans of what we could or should do at Mickie Gordon. And when that's ready, I'm assuming that's going to take, you know, a month or two, they'll come back to the community, engage and say, here's what we're thinking. What do you think? So it'll be an iterative process. But he's committed to it with transparency and thoughtfulness. And so I really do appreciate Steve just being as diligent and respectful as he was. And I said it earlier in the post, I am so impressed with how the community came together to discuss this issue and the concerns with the county in a thoughtful, respectful, polite, intelligent and diligent and cooperative manner. Right? Sure, there was some passions or whatever, but everybody respected one another and that's what happens. That's how you get to a good outcome. And everybody's rowing together. So it was great.

Cindy Pearson: Yeah, I think that was a great way for Loudoun County to see how a town supports what's going on.

Bridge Littleton: Yes, ma'am.

Annie in the Audience: Am I allowed to ask a question?

Bridge Littleton: Not really. At the end. Yeah. And so then the next thing here I wanted to mention was COLT has finished all the debates. The chair debate was last Thursday, I believe. And so we did five in total. If you haven't watched them, they're on the COLT Facebook page. But there was one. And then we also have them on a YouTube page. So it's just the five videos. So Danny, I'll send it to you. If you guys could just throw it out there on a post, you know, people [00:30:00] can go to the Facebook page or they can go to the YouTube page and they want to watch them. And yeah, I really yeah, it was a good job. And last night we had a COLT meeting we were talking about maybe so in the new 10th Congressional District the only county that's full in that district is Loudoun, and Loudoun will make up 50% of the. So we were thinking maybe next year once the Republican and the Democrat choose a candidate. Maybe we'll do a congressional debate around issues they need to be thinking about from a local perspective. So yeah, everyone was pretty excited. [off mic] Yeah, no. And then just a reminder to everybody early voting is already underway. If you'd like to go up to the Loudoun County Board of Elections offices in Leesburg, you can vote there in person or voting is going to be with a 98% chance of certainty at the new Town Hall on January 7th.

Danny Davis: 99.9. [laughter]

Bridge Littleton: Okay November 7th, not January 7th November 7th.

Darlene Kirk: January. [multiple speakers]

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. So that's it on that. Does anybody have any other information items? Philip anything? Okay. All right. I think that's and we've covered the R2 unless anybody's got any questions on that. One, two, three. Okay. So with that, I think we're ready for Closed Session. [off mic] Yeah. Oh, Annie. Yeah. I'm sorry. What was the question you had?

Annie in the Audience: When will you stop playing the game at cricket?

Bridge Littleton: When will they stop playing cricket there?

Annie in the Audience: Still every night at 11:00 p.m..

Bridge Littleton: Oh, it's a good point. Let me, reach out to Steve and ask him. Can we dial back the hours, have the lights off by 9:00 or something like that? So it's a good point. Yeah. I mean, to redesign the park, that's going to be that's going to take a couple of years. So yeah. Let me ask Steve I'll let you know back. Okay. [multiple speakers] No. You know, it's funny I was driving back the other night and it was like 10:45 and the lights were just.

Annie in the Audience: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Yeah. Okay, so this is now the time we get to go into Closed Session. So who would like to read the motion? [off mic] Peter. [inaudible]

J. Kevin Daly: Yeah. [off mic]

Bridge Littleton: It sounds royal.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Yeah. Thank you. I move that Council go into closed session as authorized under section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, for consultation with legal counsel retained by the public body regarding specific legal matters requiring the legal advice of such counsel related to the Town Hall project contract as allowed under subsection A8. I further move that the Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action, as appropriate.

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

All of Council: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Opposed. Abstentions.

Philip Miller: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: I keep. Okay. All right. Now we are.

Bud Jacobs: Took longer than the actual meeting.

Bridge Littleton: All right. I asked the council certify that in the closed session just concluded, to the best of each members knowledge, nothing was discussed except the matter or matters, one specifically identified in the motion to convene in Closed Session, and two lawfully permitted to be discussed in a Closed Session under the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act, as cited in the motion, I would like to remind those present for the Closed Session that any discussion that occurred within it should be treated as confidential.

Chris Bernard: Yes.

Bud Jacobs: Yes.

Darlene Kirk: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Yes.

Peter Leonard-Morgan: Yes.

Cindy Pearson: Yes.

J. Kevin Daly: Aye.

Bridge Littleton: Any other items?

Philip Miller: Yes.

Bridge Littleton: Sorry. Philip. Any other items? All right. Meeting adjourned.