

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 11, 2025 | 7:03 P.M.**

The Town of Middletown Town Council meeting was held in the council chambers located at 7875 Church Street, Middletown VA on August 11, 2025 at 7:03 p.m.

Town Council Present

Vice Mayor Jeffrey Pennington
Councilor Jessica Chekaldin
Councilor Diane Newman
Councilor George Smith

Remote Participation

Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV
Councilor Carolyn Aliff

Town Council Absent

Councilor Jacob Skeith

Staff Present

Town Manager & Public Works Superintendent Les Morefield
Chief Gary Benedict Jr.
Town Treasurer Keith Smith
Town Clerk Christina Smith

1. Set Agenda

Vice Mayor Pennington asked for a motion to set the agenda. Councilor Newman made a motion to set the agenda. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. All Councilors were in favor and the agenda was set.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Vice Mayor Pennington asked for a motion to approve the Public Hearing and Town Council minutes from July 14, 2025. Councilor Newman made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. All Councilors were in favor and the minutes were approved.

3. Citizen Comments (3 minutes per person per meeting – max 30 minutes)

Kurt Creager – 182 Hites Road shared information with council on a potential data center, north of town limits on Valley Pike.

4. Report of the Personnel & Finance Committee

Councilor Newman made a motion to approve the Treasurer's Report. Councilor Smith seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Pennington asked for a roll call vote.

Councilor Aliff – Yes
Councilor Chekaldin – Yes
Councilor Newman – Yes

Councilor Smith – Yes

Motion carried 4-0

Councilor Newman made a motion to approve the LEASE between the TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN, VIRGINIA, a political subdivision of the Commonwealth of Virginia, (“Lessor” or “Town”), and the WINCHESTER AND MIDDLETOWN MODEL RAILROAD ASSOCIATION, INC. (“Lessee” or “WMMRRA”). Councilor Chekaldin seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Pennington asked for a roll call vote.

Councilor Aliff – Yes

Councilor Smith – Yes

Councilor Chekaldin – Yes

Councilor Newman – Yes

Motion carried 4-0

5. Report of the Public Works Committee and Facilities Committee

Nothing to report.

6. Report of Public Safety Committee

Councilor Pennington advised calls for service are in the packet. Chief Benedict Jr. shared K9 Edo has 2 more weeks in recovery and that National Night Out this year was a success.

7. Report of the Ordinance Committee

Councilor Newman reported the ordinance committee will meet on September 8, 2025 at 6:15 p.m. just before the Town Council meeting.

8. Report of the Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilor Smith read a Resolution to accept/adopt the roadways in Village at Middletown, Sections 1, 2 and 3. Councilor Smith advised this was in the form of a motion. Councilor Aliff seconded the motion. Vice Mayor Pennington asked for a roll call vote.

Councilor Aliff – Yes

Councilor Smith – Yes

Councilor Chekaldin – Yes

Councilor Newman – Yes

Motion carried 4-0

9. Report of Special Committees

Mayor Harbaugh announced ground breaking for the Winchester and Middletown Model Railroad Association, Inc. will be tomorrow August 12, 2025 at 4:00 p.m. and the car show will take place on Saturday August 16, 2025 at 3:00 p.m.

10. New or Unfinished Business

Vice Mayor Pennington set the Work Session meeting for Tuesday September 2, 2025 @ 7:00 p.m.

11. Petitions and Communication

Town offices closed Monday September 1, 2025 in observance of Labor Day.

12. Adjournment

Vice Mayor Pennington adjourned the town council meeting at 7:13 p.m.

Christina Smith
Municipal Clerk

Jeffrey Pennington
Vice Mayor