

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
JANUARY 12, 2026 | 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 January 12, 2026 at 7:03 p.m.

Town Council Present

Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV
Councilor Carolyn Aliff
Vice Mayor Jeffrey Pennington
Councilor Diane Newman-Shannon
Councilor Jacob Skeith
Councilor George Smith

Absent

Councilor Jessica Chekaldin

Staff Present

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

1. Set Agenda

Mayor Harbaugh asked for a motion to set the agenda. Councilor Smith asked to amend the agenda to add a motion to approve the appointment of Jennifer Favela under Planning & Zoning Committee. Councilor Aliff seconded the motion. All Councilors were in favor and the agenda was set.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Mayor Harbaugh asked for a motion to approve the Town Council minutes from December 8, 2025. Councilor Pennington made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Skeith seconded the motion. All Councilors were in favor and the Town Council minutes were approved.

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

No citizen comments.

4. Report of the Personnel & Finance Committee

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

Councilor Aliff – Yes
Councilor Chekaldin – Absent
Councilor Pennington – Yes

Councilor Newman-Shannon – Yes
Councilor Skeith – Yes
Councilor Smith – Yes

Motion carried 5-0

5. Report of the Public Works Committee and Facilities Committee

Nothing to report

6. Report of Public Safety Committee

Councilor Pennington stated calls for service are in the packet. Chief Benedict added that K9 Edo was used in 3 positive alerts during duty.

7. Report of the Ordinance Committee

Councilor Newman-Shannon made a motion to approve an “ORDINANCE ADOPTING A REVISION AND CODIFICATION OF THE ORDINANCES OF THE TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN.” Councilor Smith seconded the motion. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a roll call vote.

Councilor Aliff – Yes

Councilor Chekaldin – Absent

Councilor Pennington – Yes

Councilor Newman-Shannon – Yes

Councilor Skeith – Yes

Councilor Smith – Yes

Motion carried 5-0

8. Report of the Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilor Smith made a motion to approve the appointment of Jennifer Favela to serve on the Planning Commission board. Council Skeith seconded the motion. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a roll call vote.

Councilor Aliff – Yes

Councilor Chekaldin – Absent

Councilor Pennington – No

Councilor Newman-Shannon – Yes

Councilor Skeith – Yes

Councilor Smith – Yes

Motion carried 4-1

9. Report of Special Committees

Nothing to report

10. New or Unfinished Business

Mayor Harbaugh set the Work Session meeting for February 2, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

11. Petitions and Communication

Mayor and Town Council presented a donation in the amount of \$25k to Chief Dalton on behalf of the Middletown Volunteer Fire & Rescue.

12. Adjournment

Mayor Harbaugh adjourned the town council meeting at 7:12 p.m.

Christina Smith
Municipal Clerk

Charles Harbaugh IV
Mayor