

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
MARCH 9, 2026 | 7:00 P.M.**

The Town of Middletown Town Council meeting was held in the council chambers located at 7875 Church Street, Middletown VA on March 9, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Town Council Present

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

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 Skeith made a motion to amend the agenda to add FNB Bank as our first agenda item. Councilor Pennington 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 February 9, 2026. Councilor Newman- Shannon 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)

Cort Maddox, FNB Bank, Regional Manager asked for the support of council, citizens, and businesses with the perspective of establishing a bank in town. Mr. Maddox spoke about current locations and the advanced technology deposit system used.

4. Report of the Personnel & Finance Committee

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

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

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

Motion carried 6-0

Councilor Skeith made a motion to approve abatement of Personal Property Taxes greater than 5 years in the amount of \$71,291.49. Councilor Aliff second the motion. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a roll call vote.

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

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

Motion carried 6-0

5. Report of the Public Works Committee and Facilities Committee

Nothing to report

6. Report of Public Safety Committee

Councilor Pennington stated the calls for service can be found in the packet for review. Chief Benedict gave an update on Officer Seabaugh in which he advised she was doing well and will return soon. Sgt. Monse recently received a Certificate in Criminal Justice from Liberty University and will graduate with a Bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice this May.

7. Report of the Ordinance Committee

Nothing to report

8. Report of the Planning and Zoning Committee

Councilor Smith announced the Comprehensive Plan Open House will take place on March 23rd at 5:30pm with the regularly scheduled Planning Commission meeting at 7pm.

9. Report of Special Committees

The mayor announced the Freedom 250 Mobile Museum is coming to the Wayside Inn on March 27th and 28th from 10am-5pm.

10. New or Unfinished Business

Mayor Harbaugh set the Work Session meeting for April 6, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m.

11. Petitions and Communication

Councilor Skeith made a motion to approve the Resolution in Support of Increased Funding for Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA). Councilor Aliff second the motion. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a roll call vote.

Councilor Aliff – Yes

Councilor Chekaldin – Yes

Councilor Pennington – Yes

Councilor Newman-Shannon – Yes

Councilor Skeith – Yes

Councilor Smith – Yes

Motion carried 6-0

12. Adjournment

Mayor Harbaugh adjourned the town council meeting at 7:16 p.m.

Charles Harbaugh IV
Mayor

Christina Smith, CMC
Town Clerk