

**TOWN OF MIDDLETOWN
TOWN COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
AUGUST 10, 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 August 10, 2026 at 7:00 p.m.

Town Council Present

Mayor Charles Harbaugh IV
Councilor Carolyn Aliff
Councilor Jessica Chekaldin
Councilor Diane Newman-Shannon
Councilor Jacob Skeith

Town Council Absent

Vice Mayor Jeffrey Pennington
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 Finance Committee meeting discussion under Personnel & Finance Committee. Councilor Aliff seconded the motion to amend the agenda. All Councilors were in favor and the agenda was amended.

2. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Mayor Harbaugh asked for a motion to approve Town Council minutes from July 13, 2026. Councilor Skeith made a motion to approve the Town Council minutes. Councilor Aliff seconded the motion. All councilors were in favor, and the Town Council minutes were approved. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a motion to approve the Finance Committee minutes from August 3, 2026. Councilor Dr. Newman-Shannon made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Skeith seconded the motion. All Councilors were in favor, and the Finance Committee minutes were approved. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a motion to approve the Work Session minutes from August 3, 2026. Councilor Aliff made a motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Skeith seconded the motion. All Councilors were in favor, and the Work Session minutes were approved.

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

Janah Plummer 7701 Church Street updated mayor and council on The Joyful Place Childcare & Preschool located at 7690 Main Street. She advised there are still a few items to complete with Frederick County, then they will be ready to open. Miss Plummer advised she hopes to be open by the second week of September.

Matthew James Frederick County voiced his dislike that the Town of Middletown has Flock Cameras and that there is no agreement. He asked that the mayor and council do their research.

4. Report of the Personnel & Finance Committee

Councilor Skeith updated Town Council on the opportunity to purchase land behind Village 1. Parcel ID 91 A 122, 2 acres. Councilor Skeith stated this is for green space and preservation. And that the mayor has negotiated the asking price below market value. Councilor Skeith would like council to give general consent to proceed with the purchase. Mayor Harbaugh asked for a consensus. All Councilors were in favor.

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

Councilor Aliff – Yes

Councilor Chekaldin – Yes

Councilor Newman-Shannon – Yes

Councilor Skeith – Yes

Motion carried 4-0

Treasurer Keith Smith asked for the go ahead from the council to transfer promised monies to FNB Bank. Chairman Skeith gave the go ahead to proceed as planned.

5. Report of the Public Works Committee and Facilities Committee

Nothing to report

6. Report of Public Safety Committee

Mayor Harbaugh stated the calls for service can be found in the packet for review. Chief Gary Benedict reported K9 Edo currently has an eye infection and is being treated. He stated National Night Out was a success. We had the same number of attendees as last year. Chief Benedict also mentioned we have the car show coming up this weekend.

7. Report of the Ordinance Committee

Nothing to report

8. Report of the Planning and Zoning Committee

Nothing to report

9. Report of Special Committees

Mayor Harbaugh announced the 16th annual car show is this Saturday August 15, 2026 on Main Street from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m.

10. New or Unfinished Business

Mayor Harbaugh set the Work Session meeting for Tuesday September 8, 2026 @ 7:00 p.m. Monday is Labor Day.

11. Petitions and Communication

Nothing to report

12. Adjournment

Vice Mayor Pennington adjourned the town council meeting at 7:06 p.m.

Christina Smith, CMC
Municipal Clerk

Charles Harbaugh IV
Mayor