



**MIDDLEBURG TOWN COUNCIL**  
**Regular Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Thursday, July 9, 2020**



**PENDING APPROVAL**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Trowbridge M. Littleton  
Vice Mayor Philip M. Miller  
Councilmember Chris W. Bernard  
Councilmember J. Kevin Daly  
Councilmember Morris “Bud” Jacobs  
Councilmember Darlene Kirk  
Councilmember Peter Leonard-Morgan  
Councilmember Cindy C. Pearson

**STAFF:** Danny Davis, Town Administrator  
Martin Crim, Town Attorney  
William M. Moore, Deputy Town Administrator  
Jamie Gaucher, Business & Economic Development Director  
Estee LaClare, Planning & Project Associate  
Julie Rivard, Finance Director/Town Treasurer  
A.J. Panebianco, Chief of Police

The Town Council of the Town of Middleburg, Virginia held their regular monthly meeting, beginning at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, July 9, 2020. Due to Governor Northam’s executive orders requiring that people social distance, the Council meeting was held remotely with the Mayor, some of the Council and most of the staff participating from their respective homes.

Mayor Littleton explained for the viewing audience that it was the Council’s responsibility to conduct essential public business despite the COVID-19 pandemic; however, it recognized the need to do so safely, not only for its members but also for the Town staff and members of the public. He further explained that to that end, in accordance with the Council’s resolution declaring a local emergency and its ordinance implementing emergency procedures and effectuating temporary changes to address the continuity of governmental operations, the Council would hold its meetings via remote access until such time as the Governor rescinded his executive orders. Mr. Littleton advised the viewing audience that copies of the agendas were available on the Town’s website and that the meetings would be livestreamed and recorded for viewing on the website. He explained that anyone wishing to participate in the meetings during the public comment periods or the public hearings could do so by dialing (540) 339-6355. Mr. Littleton reviewed the process that would be utilized for the remote meetings.

Mayor Littleton led Council and those attending in the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag. The roll call was called at 6:00 p.m.

**Public Comment**

Punkin Lee, 1759 The Plains Road, appeared before Council representing the Middleburg Business & Professional Association (MBPA). She advised that their Board of Directors was concerned about public safety during the upcoming Summer Sidewalk Sale; therefore, they have proposed some changes. Ms. Lee reported that the Board agreed to extend the sale to Wednesday through Sunday in an attempt to flatten the attendance curve; offer senior hours early in the morning; and, offer two handwashing stations on Washington Street – one on the east and one on the west end – as well as provide hand sanitizer. She further reported that they would like to block off some of the public parking spaces on Washington Street to provide more room for social distancing. Ms. Lee advised that their goal was safety first and to make people feel welcome. She noted that this would be the 19<sup>th</sup> sidewalk sale the MBPA has held.

Kimberly Skelly thanked the Council for considering her request to file a petition against the proposed brewery on Route 50.

### **Special Recognition**

Mayor Littleton noted the Unity March that was held in Middleburg. He recognized Town Manager Davis, Chief Panebianco, the police officers and first responders, Town staff, organizers, and participants for a well-executed event. Mr. Littleton noted that it was safe and courteous, and raised awareness of issues in a respectful manner. He estimated that seventy percent of those participating were from the community.

Mayor Littleton noted that the Town was not able to hold its normal Fourth of July activities due to the COVID pandemic. He thanked the Town staff and their families for coming in on the weekend to provide alternative events that were geared toward the residents and noted that despite the fact that some of the antique vehicles did not show for the parade, he heard positive comments about them.

### **Staff Reports**

Town Manager Davis reported that the West End Pump Station Project was ninety-nine percent complete, with the exception of some site cleanup work and some computer programming. He opined that the improvements were well done and advised that the system was operating well. Mr. Davis reported that IES was continuing to work on a few issues at Well 4 that occurred as a result of the plant not operating for two and a half years. He noted that as of last week, it was operating at normal levels, which showed that while the Salamander Resort was not operating at full capacity, it was doing very well.

Town Manager Davis expressed appreciation to Chief Panebianco and his team for their hard work on the Unity March. He noted that the positive relationship he had with the organizers allowed it to go well.

Town Manager Davis announced that the Planning Commission would hold a public hearing on the Banbury Cross Reserve application on July 27<sup>th</sup>. He advised that the meeting would be held remotely; however, people would be allowed to enter the room. Mr. Davis suggested that if a lot of people came, they would be asked to enter, give their comments, and then leave the room. He noted that the Commission received comments remotely during their last meeting and reported that the use of the UberConference system went well.

Town Manager Davis reported that the Town Treasurer prepared the preliminary FY '20 end-of-the-year report and advised that the Town appeared to be positive in all of its funds. He noted that the staff was waiting for the final end-of-the-year reconciliations; however, they believed things were looking good despite the pandemic.

### **COVID-19 Updates**

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that Virginia continued to be in Phase 3 and advised that no information was available from the Governor's Office as to how long it would be in it or what the next phase would look like. He advised that he was meeting with the Chief Administrative Officers in Northern Virginia later in the week to discuss issues, such as enforcing the face covering order.

Town Manager Davis reported that while the Town Office was open to the public, visitors were asked to knock on the door before entering. He explained that the door was locked to allow the staff time to put on their face masks before someone entered. Mr. Davis noted that the staff was starting to see more in-person activity.

Town Manager Davis reminded Council of National Night Out scheduled for August 4<sup>th</sup>. He opined that it could be held as there was typically no more than a couple hundred people present at any given time. Mr. Davis reported that Chief Panebianco and his staff were working with the ride vendor to ensure hand sanitizer was available. He advised that there would not be a bounce house this year and that the rides would be of a nature that no one would be in someone else's personal space.

In response to an inquiry from the Council about whether the rides would be wiped down each time someone used them, Town Manager Davis reported that the vendor was prepared to do so. He advised that they would have cones to delineate the waiting areas. Mr. Davis reported that the plan was to hold the fireworks display that was originally planned for the Fourth of July this same evening. He noted that the plans were subject to any change imposed by the Governor. Mr. Davis acknowledged that other jurisdictions have cancelled their events; however, he reiterated that Middleburg's generally attracted a much smaller crowd.

Town Manager Davis announced that Oktoberfest and Art in the Burg had been cancelled. He advised that the staff was putting its efforts toward Christmas in Middleburg and event planning for 2021.

### National Night Out

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Manager Davis reported that Chief Panebianco would be the only individual in the dunk booth.

Mayor Littleton noted that under the Governor's order, two hundred fifty people could gather; however, they needed to social distance or wear a mask. He suggested the need to enforce the mask requirement if people could not social distance. Mr. Littleton questioned how the staff planned to ensure people were social distancing or wearing masks.

The Council and staff held considerable discussion of the proposals to ensure public safety. The Council expressed concern about what would happen if more than two hundred fifty people came or if people did not social distance and how public restrooms could be safely provided. They noted that the number of positive COVID test results was increasing and expressed concern about the possibility of many people having to self-quarantine if they attended the event and someone was sick. They noted that while they loved National Night Out, they were concerned as to whether it would be wise to hold it in August. The Council expressed concern that adding fireworks would result in a larger crowd. They noted that Purcellville, Leesburg, and Winchester had cancelled their events. The Council expressed concern about the precedent that would be set by holding the event. They suggested the staff determine the plans for enforcing the COVID regulations if the event was held. The Council further suggested they reach out to the Health Department to get their recommendations. They recommended National Night Out be postponed until October or cancelled.

Chief Panebianco acknowledged that the Council's concerns were valid and agreed the event should be postponed to October.

Mayor Littleton asked that Town Manager Davis, Chief Panebianco and Councilmember Daly discuss this and return with a recommendation for making the event safe. It was suggested that a final decision on whether to hold the event occur no later than September.

### Face Mask Enforcement

Mayor Littleton noted that the COVID-19 virus was spreading in Florida, as well as other states. He acknowledged that businesses could be forced to shut down again and suggested the solution was for people to be personally responsible by wearing masks and socially distancing. Mr. Littleton noted that the Governor's mask order put the burden of enforcement on the business owners and opined that it was not their role.

Mayor Littleton advised that earlier in the week, he asked other mayors and board chairs in Northern Virginia whether the jurisdictions had a greater responsibility to take on the ownership of enforcement since the State was not doing it. He noted that he asked the Town Manager, Town Attorney and Police Chief to look at the Town's authority to drive enforcement of social distancing and wearing face masks when indoors.

Town Manager Davis reported that the staff was in agreement that Chief Panebianco had no formal mask enforcement authority under the current executive order of the Governor. He questioned the potential incentives or disincentives that could be given to businesses to encourage them to enforce the order, and suggested the business owners needed to be the ones setting the tone for their staff to do the enforcement. Mr. Davis suggested the Town provide input on how the public could rate a business on how well they enforced the regulations.

The Council held some discussion of the issue. It was noted that if a business gave someone a face mask to wear and they refused to do so, the business should then ask them to leave. It was further noted that if they failed to do so, they could be fined \$2,000. The Council noted that this was difficult and recognized that an individual was sitting in their meeting room without a mask, despite having been asked by the Town Manager to wear one.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Chief Panebianco opined that it was not a good idea for the police officers to go into businesses and admonish anyone not wearing a face mask. He suggested the business owners needed to take responsibility for enforcement. Chief Panebianco advised that if the individual did not put a mask on after being asked to do so, the business owner could then call the Police Department. He suggested there were a couple of things the officer could then do, including giving the individual a gentle reminder that wearing a mask was for everyone's protection, or asking the individual to leave the premises and, if they didn't, charging them with trespass, which they would prefer not to do. Chief Panebianco noted that the ability to talk to people was one of the Department's strong suits. He reminded Council that if an individual went into a business repeatedly and noticed they were not enforcing the mask requirement, that individual could report the business to the Health Department. Chief Panebianco advised that while an officer could walk into a business and remind an individual of the need to put a mask on, he did not want that to be the purpose for the officer to go into the business. He confirmed the officers were reminding individuals of the need to wear masks when they observed them without one.

Town Manager Davis reiterated that he planned to discuss this with other area managers and advised that he would report back to the Council on how other jurisdictions were handling it.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Attorney Crim reported that under Executive Order 63, the Department of Health had the authority to enforce the order. He further reported that willful violations or refusal to comply with the order was a Class 1 Misdemeanor, which a law enforcement officer could enforce. Mr. Crim stressed that the individual must first be asked to put a mask on and refuse before they could be charged. He noted that there were exceptions for minors and those with a health condition that prevented them from wearing a mask. Mr. Crim reminded Council that if an individual said they had a health condition, one must take their word for it. He noted that the Department of Labor & Industry was developing rules for protecting worker safety and advised that if a business owner was not requiring individuals to wear a face mask, they were endangering their employees. Mr. Crim suggested the Town could also pressure people into wearing a mask when they were in a public space.

The Council held some discussion of the issue. They opined that most people would comply with the mask order; however, they acknowledged that there would always be someone who would not. The Council suggested the need to make sure the businesses had posters on their doors instructing people to wear a mask and to pressure the individuals to do so. They suggested the Town do a marketing campaign that Middleburg was a mask friendly zone and supported its businesses. The Council noted that the lack of enforcement was a problem in a few businesses in particular and suggested some direct outreach to the business owners to remind them of their obligations and of the potential danger they were putting their employees in by not doing so. It was suggested that the Town could issue badges to identify businesses that were safe mask zones that would be taken away if there were complaints that the business was not enforcing the order. It was further suggested that the Town purchase masks and pass them out to the businesses to distribute.

It was noted that one of the barriers to performance was the business' staff were uncomfortable asking someone to put on a mask, particularly if it was a younger individual talking to an older one. It was suggested that the Police Department do friendly enforcement in the businesses to help them be successful. It was reiterated that the Town could do a better job of marketing that Middleburg was a mask friendly zone through social media and video campaigns. The Council noted that it would be painful if the businesses had to close again due to the pandemic.

The Council discussed whether the Town should meet with the individual business owners to say while there's been a lot of great performance, the noncompliance was still too high and that we would like to help them be successful. It was suggested this be done in conjunction with the meetings on the Route 50 Project.

The Council agreed they had a personal responsibility as elected officials to police the town, talk to people directly and help businesses that may be struggling with mask enforcement. They noted that an outbreak that started in Middleburg would harm the business community. The Council commended the Salamander Resort for the incredible job they were doing to protect their guests.

**Reports of Town Committees/Council Liaisons**

**Appointments to Boards & Committees**

Mayor Littleton announced that the members would retain their current committee assignments.

**Consent Agenda**

- (A) Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – June 24, 2020 Special Council Meeting and June 25, 2020 Regular Council Meeting

*Councilmember Leonard-Morgan moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council approve and accept the consent agenda as presented.*

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie) (by roll call vote)

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**Action Items** (non-public hearing related)

**Election of Vice Mayor**

Councilmember Kirk noted that she had been the Vice Mayor for a while and loved doing so; however, she needed to step back a little. *She nominated Philip Miller as Vice Mayor.* Ms. Kirk advised that she had worked with Councilmember Miller in a number of capacities and opined that he was someone who could be counted upon.

No other nominations were offered.

Councilmember Miller noted that he was humbled and honored by Ms. Kirk's comments. He thanked her for her many years of service as the Vice Mayor.

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie) (by roll call vote)

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**Discussion Items**

**Request for Town Comment on Proposed Brewery ABC License Application**

Mayor Littleton reminded Council that when they discussed this request during their last meeting, they expressed concern about the impact of the proposed brewery on the neighbors, the misinformation that came out of the original briefing, and the size and scope of the business.

Town Attorney Crim advised Council that the ABC Department allowed localities to comment on a proposed license, specifically whether it, together with the other licensed establishments in the area, created a health, safety, welfare, or morals issue. He further advised that localities could comment on anything related to the health, safety, and welfare of the citizenry.

Mayor Littleton summarized that the Council had three options from which to consider – submit nothing, raise their concerns in a formal letter to the ABC Agent and let them use it as they saw fit or file a formal objection to the granting of the license. He noted that with the latter, the Town would be required to attend the hearing. Mr. Littleton questioned whether the Council felt the Town should do something, and if so, what.

After considerable discussion, the Council agreed the Town should send an official letter to the ABC Agent expressing their concerns, as opposed to filing a legal objection, as the proposed location was on the gateway to Middleburg. They noted the need to do so carefully as Middleburg had a great relationship with its business community, which was something they wanted to continue to foster in the right way. The Council asked that the letter be forwarded to each member for their review before it was sent.

**Gift Certificates in Lieu of Annual Volunteer Appreciation Reception**

Town Manager Davis reminded Council that during their last meeting, they discussed finding a different way of recognizing the volunteers that supported the Town as opposed to holding the annual volunteer appreciation reception. He reported that last year, the Town spent approximately \$27 per volunteer on the reception. Mr. Davis advised that the staff was recommending a gift certificate, like the holiday gift certificates, in the amount of \$25 be sent to each volunteer. He noted that if the Council agreed, the staff would contact the businesses to determine which would honor the gift certificates.

After a brief discussion, the Council agreed to cancel the reception and issue \$25 gift certificates to the members of the Town’s boards, commissions, and committees.

*Councilmember Pearson moved, seconded by Councilmember Jacobs, that Council approve the Town giving the volunteers a \$25 gift certificate for the volunteer appreciation for 2020.*

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

No – N/A

Abstain: N/A

Absent: N/A

(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie) (by roll call vote)

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**2020 Summer Sidewalk Sale – Middleburg Business & Professional Association**

Town Manager Davis reported that he attended the MBPA Board meeting where they discussed the options related to the Summer Sidewalk Sale, including blocking off some of the public parking spaces to make the event safer. He opined that this would only involve three parking sections on Washington Street, consisting of both sides of the street from Liberty to Madison Street and the north side of the street from Pendleton to Pickering Street. Mr. Davis opined that these areas had the highest concentration of retail stores and were where the choke points would be. He

explained that the intent of closing the parking spaces was to allow for greater separation between pedestrians and shoppers who were browsing the sidewalk sale merchandise. Mr. Davis reported that the Town could secure barriers for under \$3,000 for the Wednesday through Sunday period and noted that the MBPA expressed a willingness to share the cost. He advised that the staff believed this would be a low impact, low cost way of supporting the retailers. Mr. Davis noted that the retailers would be asked to sign a letter indemnifying the Town and agreeing to name it as an additional insured. He suggested that signage could be installed on the barriers welcoming people to Middleburg and encouraging them to support the businesses.

The Council noted the need to enforce the face mask and social distancing requirements during the sidewalk sale.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, the staff estimated that thirty parking spaces would be blocked off. Town Manager Davis reiterated that parking was discussed during the MBPA Board meeting and advised that the members were in concurrence that this was a good idea for promoting the safety of the event. He further reported that they felt that people would be able to find parking.

The Council suggested the need for the MBPA to get the concurrence of their entire membership to close the parking. They further suggested the need to identify alternative parking spaces. The Council noted the need to assure the public restrooms were available and were regularly cleaned. They suggested the need to identify where the additional parking would be located. The Council recommended the MBPA set up a welcome table and have masks available for distribution to those who needed them. They agreed that while blocking off the parking spaces was a good idea, there were a lot of details that needed to be worked out. The Council further agreed they had no problem allowing the parking space closures if everything was worked out, provided the businesses agreed and the MBPA agreed to split the cost of renting the barriers.

### **Information Items**

#### **Update on Route 50 Crosswalk Project**

Town Manager Davis reported that VDOT awarded the contract to replace all the concrete edging. He explained that the plan was to replace it over three weekends, beginning July 17<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Davis advised that the work would be done beginning at 10:00 p.m. on Fridays through 5:00 a.m. on Mondays and noted that this would involve overnight construction activity. He advised that traffic would be detoured during this entire period. Mr. Davis noted that the work would skip the weekend of the Summer Sidewalk Sales. He advised that the intent was that the work would be completed the weekend of August 7<sup>th</sup>; although, the contractor would have the following weekend as a back-up if needed.

Town Manager Davis noted that a lot of communication needed to occur in order to inform the public of the details of the project, which unlike the last time the work was done, would include a complete closure of the street. He reviewed the proposed project schedule with the Council. Mr. Davis advised that while handling the detours was not the Town's responsibility, Chief Panebianco would have extra officers on duty to assist motorists with the turning movements that would need to occur. He noted that the Town was also going to have to eliminate on-street parking in some areas, depending on where the construction activity was occurring, in order to reduce the number of conflict points when motorists were turning. Mr. Davis advised that the Town would issue regular news releases, add a project page to the Town's website that would be updated regularly, and use social media.

Town Manager Davis reported that the staff would also go door-to-door with the businesses as they would be impacted. He noted that on-street parking would be eliminated on portions of Washington Street depending on where the construction activity was occurring; therefore, alternative parking would have to be found. Mr. Davis advised that the sidewalks would remain open on at least one side of the street during the construction. He reported that message boards would be placed along the routes to alert motorists of the project.

Council suggested that message board signs be placed further out on Routes 50 and 15 to alert tractor trailer drivers of the detours in order to give them the opportunity to take a different route.

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Manager Davis confirmed the same contractor who did the Route 50 Project the first time would do the repair work. He advised that the Town had worked with them on a number of its projects and reported that they have performed well. Mr. Davis acknowledged that there were issues with the Route 50 Project; however, he noted that VDOT endorsed the onsite field repairs that were made at that time. He stressed that the Town made it clear to VDOT that this could not happen again; therefore, VDOT committed to assigning their top inspector to the project to ensure it was done correctly, to specifications and that no field decisions would be made that would affect the longevity of the crosswalks. Mr. Davis noted that VDOT involved their bridge and structural engineers in order to design a better tie into the cradle. He advised that the Town had been very clear with VDOT about the importance of getting this done correctly so Middleburg would not have to go through this again.

Council continued to express concern about having tractor trailers turning onto some Town streets. Town Manager Davis reported that the Sheriff's Department would send out text alerts to notify motorists of the detours. He agreed that Routes 15 and 50 were great locations for posting message boards.

The Council reviewed some of the possible detour routes. Town Manager Davis reiterated that the Chief would have extra officers on duty to assist motorists if needed. He reminded the Council that one of the benefits of doing the work on the weekends was that there would be less truck traffic.

Council stressed that providing alternative parking would be critical. They suggested that when the MBPA reached out to the businesses about the Sidewalk Sale that they let them know the parking would be affected for four (4) weekends in a row. The Council reiterated their request that the staff pursue alternative parking locations.

Town Manager Davis reviewed some possible alternative locations. He confirmed the staff would contact the owners to determine whether they could be listed as alternative parking areas.

Council noted that this was a good time to do the project as the traffic volumes were low. They asked the staff to let Supervisor Buffington's office know of the project so he could include the information in the alerts that were sent to residents in the Blue Ridge District.

### **Public Comment**

Christine Krieger, Pot House Road, advised that she respected what Councilmember Kirk had done for the community. She noted her earlier reference to an individual not wearing a mask in the Council Chambers and noted that HIPPA protected their right to not reveal why they were not wearing a mask.

Mayor Littleton recessed the meeting for five minutes, after which he called the meeting back to order.

### **Closed Session** – Property Acquisition, Disposition of Public Property & Personnel

*Vice Mayor Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Bernard, that Council go into closed session as authorized under Section 2.2-3711 of the Code of Virginia, for (1) the discussion or consideration of the acquisition of property for the Town Hall Building and a historic property located outside of the Town limits and (2) the disposition of publicly held property, where discussion in an open meeting would adversely affect the bargaining position or negotiating strategy of the public body, related to the Asbury Church, as allowed under Subsection (A)(3); and (3) for the discussion or consideration of the employment, assignment, appointment, promotion, performance or salaries of specific employees of the public body, said discussion related to the performance and salaries of certain Town employees as allowed under Subsection (A)(1). Vice Mayor Miller further moved, seconded by Councilmember Bernard, that the Council thereafter reconvene in open session for action as appropriate.*



Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Miller, Bernard, Daly, Jacobs, Kirk, Leonard-Morgan and Pearson  
No – N/A  
Abstain: N/A  
Absent: N/A  
(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie) (by roll call vote)

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Mayor Littleton asked that Council certify that to the best of each member’s knowledge (i) only public business matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was convened were heard, discussed or considered in the closed meeting, which the members so did. He reminded those present for the closed session that any discussion that occurred within it should be treated as confidential.

**Council Approval** – Employee Project Bonuses

*Vice Mayor Miller moved, seconded by Councilmember Daly, that Council approve action as discussed in closed session for Town Manager Davis to move forward with project bonuses for employees.*

Vote: Yes – Councilmembers Miller, Bernard, Daly, Jacobs, Kirk, Leonard-Morgan and Pearson  
No – N/A  
Abstain: N/A  
Absent: N/A  
(Mayor Littleton only votes in the case of a tie)

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**Discussion Items** (continued)

**Removal of Old Trash Cans**

In response to an inquiry from the Council, Town Manager Davis confirmed the Town would collect any old trash cans that remained. He asked that residents contact the Town Office if they had one that had not been picked up by Bates Trucking. Mr. Davis advised that the Facilities Supervisor would collect them over a period of time.

In response to an inquiry from Council, Deputy Town Manager Moore explained that Bates Trucking cut all ties with the Town and was not planning to return to collect the remaining old trash cans as they either did not bear their name or were in poor condition. He reported that American would assist the Town in their disposal.

Council noted that they have received comments from some residents that the new recycling bins were too small. It was noted that residents could provide their own larger bins if needed. Council suggested the Town mark any of the old trash cans it collected as recycling totes and provide them to residents who needed larger units. Deputy Town Manager Moore advised that this may be challenging; however, he would explore it.

There being no further business, Mayor Littleton declared the meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Trowbridge M. Littleton, MAYOR

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Rhonda S. North, MMC, Town Clerk

## July 9, 2020 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](http://www.middleburgva.gov))**

**Bridge Littleton:** We will call the July 9th meeting to order. Let me read the announcement first. It is the Middleburg town council's responsibility to conduct essential public business despite the COVID 19 pandemic. However, it recognizes the need to do so safely for not only its membership, but also for the town staff and members of the public. To that end, in accordance with the resolution confirming the declaration of a local emergency and the ordinance to implement emergency procedures and effectuate temporary changes to address continuity of government operations during COVID 19, the town council will hold its meetings, view remote access until such time as the governor rescinds an emergency order prohibiting the gathering of more than 10 individuals and mandating social distancing. Copies of the previously referenced documents are available on the town's Web site. For those who wish to view them. Okay. The next item is the Pledge of Allegiance. I'm trying to decide how we should do this. Well, no. I mean, number one, we all don't need to be breathing toward each other. And the second question is, it's going to lag for the folks on the TV screen. Yeah, let's just do Pledge of Allegiance for the folks who are here and I guess face the flag. Everyone's gonna be breathing at me. All right. [Pledge of Allegiance] Okay, so we will now do the roll call and I will do the roll call by calling your name and then stating that you're here to accommodate for folks on the phone. OK. [off mic] I'm going to say your name. But but yes. Say your name too. Phillip. Oh, wait, wait. Sorry. Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Chris Bernard.

**Bridge Littleton:** Philip.

**Philip Miller:** Philip Miller.

**Bridge Littleton:** Darlene.

**Darlene Kirk:** Darlene Kirk.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bridge Littleton. Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Peter Leonard-Morgan.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** Kevin Daly.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud.

**Bud Jacobs:** Bud Jacobs.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy.

**Cindy Pearson:** Cindy Pearson.

**Bridge Littleton:** Estee.

**Estee LaClare:** Estee LaClare, project and planning [inaudible].

**Bridge Littleton:** Danny.

**Danny Davis:** Danny Davis, town manager.

**Bridge Littleton:** Martin.

**Martin Crim:** Martin Crim. Town attorney.

**Bridge Littleton:** Great. Okay. I think that's everybody, right, that we normally call or that normally roll calls. OK. Next item is public comment. So we do have some people here in person. So what we'll do is we'll do in-person public comment first and then we'll do on the phone public comments second before we open the public comment session. I did give it a get a heads up from Danny earlier today as to Punkin being here. It's in regards to the sidewalk sale that's coming up. And a proposal that MBPA would like to put before the town council around utilizing some of the parking spaces to widen access and allow for social distancing and stuff like that. So I think that Punkin's gonna give a couple words on that and then we can discuss it after the public comment session closes.

**Danny Davis:** We do have an item on the agenda later so we can discuss it [inaudible]

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Punkin, would you like to. Oh, and anybody who wishes to address a town council, please state your name and your address. So, Punkin, you are first. Just right there with the microphone.

**Punkin Lee:** Good evening and thank you for having me. Punkin Lee and I live at 1759 Plains Road, but I'm wearing my Middleburg Businesses Association hat this evening. Our board met on Tuesday. And of course, our primary focus right now is the sidewalk sale to have or not to have in light of everything. But we're going forward. Our biggest concern is to keep everyone safe. Our merchants and our visitors. So we know it's a great revenue day weekend. And so we certainly want to try to move forward with it. We have a couple of changes for this year, hopefully in an effort to flatten the attendance curve. We're thinking of going Wednesday to Sunday. So encouraging locals to shop Wednesday, Thursday and Friday. That should cut little traffic on Saturday and Sunday. Also we plan to have senior hours in the morning to kind of coincide with the Safeway. And also to encourage locals, you know, to shop early. What else we are going to have two handwashing stations on Washington Street, one on the east and one on the west, as well as hand sanitizers. We haven't quite figured out how to set them up. But that's our plan, because we want people we want to welcome people to town. We want them to be safe while they're here, our merchants to be safe and for people to go home going, wow, the town really did a nice job for this event because we haven't had anything. So I think it's important that we kind of set a precedent to try to be as safe as we can. And with that, we were thinking, as you all know, on the south side of Washington, like Shaggy Ram down to the corner is one shop after another. And then on the other side, Chloe down to the corner and then on the north side of west Washington, probably from Artists in Middleburg up to Common Grounds. That's another busy area that if you all are in agreement to have some barricades into those parking spots, which would then give more room for social distance things while you're flipping through the rack and somebody is there, you've got to wait to move around, keep pedestrians moving on the sidewalk, but it just kind of expands the area a bit. So came up with that idea and hope that you all would be in agreement for that, especially for the weekend. I think Wednesday Thursday you'll probably be busier than normal. Been pretty quiet in town, but it should spark it up a bit. And that should help, I think, and make the merchants feel better that we're not cramming so much. And, you know, our goal is to have safety first and make people feel welcome. So I hope you all will be consider the barricade issue. And I would suggest if anyone drives through Warrenton on their main street and see what they've done to extend their dining on Main Street. It's beautiful. It's very simple, but it's very welcoming. So might be something for us all to think of because Lord knows how long this will be going. So I appreciate your time. And it will be the 19th sidewalk sale. So we don't want to miss a beat. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** Thanks. Before we go to the online any other member. [off mic] what. [inaudible] We'll follow up later.

**Punkin Lee:** You know where I am. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** So when we talk about it later Danny can take the questions. Yeah. All right. Any other member of the public who wish to speak. OK. Estee is there anybody online who would like to speak during the public comment?

**Estee LaClare:** [off mic]

**Kimberly Skelly:** Yeah, hi. Thank you. [inaudible] I thank the council for consideration of my request that they consider a request to filing petition against [Inaudible] Farm. [inaudible] 25th. I had read the paper in Loudoun County Now that you'd be considering that tonight. So am listening in is an interested citizen and thank you for your consideration of how best to protect the town and the public safety of this neighborhood.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Thank you very much. Is there anybody else online? [off mic] Ok. We will now close the public comment session. I don't there's any public hearing matters. Special recognition. So I guess I will say two things real quickly on special recognition. We've had two events in town in the last since the last council meeting that were I don't want to say out of cycle. But it's something we haven't normally done in the past. The first one was the Unity March, which was hosted by the Loudoun NAACP and some others. I just want to say to Danny and to A.J. and all the officers and first responders who were prepared and did all the work they did and the organizers and the participants. It was a unbelievably well executed event. It was safe. It was courteous. It was it's what these types of events should be about, raising awareness to issues. But in a respectful manner. I was really proud to see that I would say 70 percent of the people who participated were actually from the Middleburg community, which was great. And it was incredibly diverse. And just just really well put together. So, A.J., thank you. Estee, Will members of the town staff. But really also, A.J., thanks for all the hard work that you guys did and your team did for, you know, being prepared, but also working hand in hand with the organizers to make sure that, you know, all the goals were met, but in a respectful manner of our First Amendment rights and public safety. So just want to say thanks for that.

**Kevin Daly:** Hear, hear.

**Bridge Littleton:** Then the second thing I wanted to mention, too, was the Fourth of July. Again, our normal Fourth of July stuff is, you know, we've been doing it forever with the fireworks and the hot dogs and the and whatnot at the community center. This year with COVID it puts a new spin on the world. I do want to thank that the town staff, you know, for coming in on a weekend. You know, Danny, you and your family doing all the extra work, Estee, A.J. and what not. Unfortunate the antique vehicles, for whatever reason, didn't show up. But all in all, you guys kept that focus as a town event with the flags and the Boy Scouts and sending the fliers out to everybody's home. I've seen, you know, one or two things where people were critical. But by and large, everything I read online and the posts on Facebook were I mean, I'd say dozens easily, if not 100, you know, really positive comments. And the folks really appreciate it, especially, you know, given the fact that you guys everyone's working from home. Everybody's trying to social distance. We've got all these little issues going on and being able to pull it together. So really appreciate. Thank you guys very much. Ok, next item. I don't think there's any public presentations. So next, we're going to go to staff reports.

**Danny Davis:** Thank you, Mr. Mayor. A few things just to go over from the staff reports to let you know that the West End Pumping Station project is complete. We have just a little bit of site cleanup left to do, but they have to take this off by talk. I apologize. They have put up the gate in the new creek crossing and it's fantastic and it's going to service really, really well. So the improvements overall are very well done and continues to operate well. We have a little bit of programming on the computer side of it, but I just want to let you know that that is 99 percent complete. [off mic] [laughter] Continuing to work on a few issues with when you start operating a plant that hasn't been running for two and a half years. You find a few valves and actuators and things that just you need to tweak. So we're working through that. But it's getting there. I will say that I think it was Friday, last Friday into Saturday, Stuart said we produced about 120000 gallons of water, which is back to normal levels, maybe not quite peak, but very high levels for the town. And that is really great. So that shows that the activity in town is good. The resort is, if

not full, doing very well. And so that's good also from our revenue side. So just to let you know. My next item, I was gonna just mention the Unity March as well. And just thank especially, A.J., for just like you said, his hard work and really working with the organizers. And that was a very positive relationship that allowed it to go so well. And, of course, you continue to prepare up until the time it starts. And so I appreciate the dedication A.J. showed and his whole entire team there. In terms of the planning and zoning, just as awareness that Banbury Cross is coming to a public hearing to the Planning Commission on July 27. We are going to accommodate that remotely. So similar to using Uber Conference, people, the public will be allowed to enter in. But depending on the size crowd, we may have to meter the crowd and as they come and speak, then we may have to ask them to step out the door. And so we will manage that. And I think it will work well but the last Planning Commission meeting with about 10 public comments over Uber conference all went very smoothly in the planning commission, thought that that was an effective way of handling it. So just as an awareness there. And then finally, I would draw your attention. Julie has put together her end of year preliminary fiscal report for fiscal year 20. And so that is in the packet that was sent out on Tuesday and in iLegislate. And if there are any specific questions about that, Julie is on the call. She's happy to answer any questions. Short story. We are blessed that we appear to be positive in all funds and doing well, even as we await kind of final year ends reconciliations. But you can see the information, your packet. Things still look fairly good for the town at this point, despite the pandemic. So those are my overviews. But of course, if there are any questions on any other topics, we're here to answer your questions.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Does anybody have any questions for Danny on any of the monthly reports? Or members of staff. Ok, we're going to move on now to, why this not working. There we go. COVID 19 updates.

**Danny Davis:** So, Mr. Mayor, we as you all know, we're in phase three currently. We've had no additional information that I'm aware of from the governor's office about the length of phase three or what other phases might look like. So we continue to stay on top of that information as it does or does not become available. I have a regular meeting with the chief administrative officers of the Northern Virginia region again tomorrow, where we talk about some of these type issues related to phase three, reopenings, enforcing the face covering issues, things like that. So we'll continue to be discussing those. As you know, the town office is still open to the public, but we do generally ask that people knock on the door before coming in. And we generally keep it locked that way just we have time to prepare for putting on a face covering, and we make sure that they also have a face covering when they come in that we are meeting, seeing a little bit more activity here in the office just with, you know, people being out more also with the trash changes to, people, you know, reaching out with some of those questions. As I mentioned, the fiscal impacts. So you can see that in the report. And then really I think that the big item is national night out at this time. We are intending to continue to move forward and holding National Night out, which is August 4th. The first Tuesday of August is traditionally when it's held each each year. We believe that it works well for our community for a number of reasons. One, we typically don't get more than a couple hundred people at any given time at that event. A.J. is already working with his own staff and with the ride vendors to make sure that we have hand sanitizer wipes. We won't have a bouncy house. So we'll have rides that are appropriate for your family to sit in, but not where you're going to be up in someone else's personal space.

**Bridge Littleton:** And so is the plan there that you're going to wipe every ride down every time someone uses it?

**Danny Davis:** Yes. And the company is prepared for that as well. So AJ's been working with them, will have cones delineating waiting areas and then markers to say, wait here, wait here. And then at the end of that, our plan is that we will do the fireworks that had been originally planned for July 4th. We will do those at the end of national night out and that will be a community again, celebration. It's not a big event where we draw thousands of people from across the region, but it's really to celebrate the community and and to, I think, be a nice end to the evening. So we continue to work towards that direction. Of course, if there's any change from the governor. We will accommodate that as appropriate. You may have seen in the newspaper that Leesburg did cancel theirs. We think our crowd that we attract is much smaller than what the larger places might. So we still feel comfortable that it would be done safely. But I also wanted you all to know that and if there's any input or concerns that we can discuss that. And as mentioned, Oktoberfest has been formally canceled. Art in the Burg has been formerly canceled by the Arts Council. They met last night. So, as you know, we're just trying to, you know, carefully make the right decisions as hard to

because we don't know what October, September looks like, but put our efforts into looking towards Christmas in Middleburg and then looking to next year. So happy to answer any questions you may have.

**Bridge Littleton:** So what? Because we still got folks on line. We'll do the sort of round robin like we've been doing. But Kevin, you go first.

**Kevin Daly:** This is an off the wall question. Is it true that the dunking booth, in order to protect the mayor, is going to be filled with bleach rather than water?

**Danny Davis:** Yes. He'll come out with blond hair.

**Bridge Littleton:** Or no hair.

**Danny Davis:** So the dunk tank will be solely Chief A.J. No sharing of the dunk tank. [off mic] We are not intending at this point that people would be required to. [off mic] I'm sorry. [off mic] I don't believe that.

**Bridge Littleton:** The governor's order right now says gatherings of 50. Is it 50? 250 or less can happen. But if you can't, social distance, you are to wear a mask. But if you can social distance, you don't have to wear a mask. So as long as everybody stays six, I mean, if you're with your family, you're with your family, as long you stay six feet away. You can do so without a mask. But if you're gonna get within six feet of somebody, you need to put a mask on.

**Danny Davis:** And there may be aspects of it, too, like those. If they're serving hot dogs or things like that, you would be wearing masks.

**Bridge Littleton:** Oh, server's absolutely.

**Danny Davis:** We're gonna have handwashing stations, just like Punkin mentioned for the. [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** I mean, real quickly, Darlene brings up a good point. We need to seriously remind people that, you know, you can you're only not wearing a mask when you're six feet away from other people. And we need to be serious about enforcing that, because that's exactly the kind of event for one person who's sick comes in. And as a little kid who has no symptoms or whoever, and they give it to 50 and they give it to 50 people. [off mic] Well, and then Middleburg is now an epidemic center because we we held an event with 250 people and we didn't do it the right way. I honestly, you guys should consider canceling it. You really should. I mean, if it draws three or four or five hundred people, how are you going to manage that? I'm just saying think about it.

**Philip Miller:** I completely agree. I mean, I think it's unfortunate of course, one of the best nights of the year for our events. And I think it would be great for the kids. I think it needs a real hard look. I don't think even having to think about three or 400 people, I think 100 people and one problem and the whole thing blows up.

**Bridge Littleton:** I mean, that thing with Loudoun County that happened where those kids went to the beach. Right. Well, there's one hundred and fifty and four hundred people are infected.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** I guess that's the right way to say it. I don't think we're saying cancel it. But there is a serious concern about how we keep this safe. And just to say, you know, we're not going to. What's so I guess the way to ask it is what's the current plan and what are we going to do to ensure it stays safe? And if right now what we're saying is we don't have anything specifically in place. That's not what we're saying. OK. Well, I'm talking about how do you keep people outside six feet? What's the plan for that?

**Danny Davis:** So, OK, maybe I wouldn't clear. So, you know, there's there's multiple aspects that goes into anything like this. So when you walk into a restaurant, they're required to have posting of signage. We have the same we'll have the same things which are do not tend if you have these symptoms, et cetera, et cetera. Maintain social distancing, meaning six feet from other parties that are not in your group. When we have lineup for waiting for a ride, they will be. So they will be coned off and then there will be. Wait here. Six feet. Wait here. Six feet. Wait.

**Danny Davis:** So when people don't. So we have all of our volunteers, all of our staff that are police officers that will be there. So I feel confident and A.J. can speak to that, that we have plans in place to accommodate that. But if it will.

**Bridge Littleton:** What is the plan? I mean, no, seriously, tell us what you're going to do when people don't social distance. Are you going to ask them to leave?

**Danny Davis:** Well, yes, we have the ability to say if you're you know, if you don't cannot continue to do this, this is of service we're providing to the community. And yet we have to all respect that we're in a different situation than we've been in the past.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Estee LaClare:** I just want to let you know, I unmuted A.J. said he would like to reply, respond to concerns.

**Philip Miller** A.J., have any other municipalities moved it or.

**Bridge Littleton:** Who's having it? Who's having National Night out?

**AJ Panebianco:** I have not checked. We focused us. Those communities like a Hay Market. They canceled everything for the year. They canceled their hay market day. They canceled every event they had for the entire year. Danny and I can meet on this tomorrow and talk and then relay what my plan was to ensure less than 250 people is to try and encourage them to come through, which the overwhelming majority do, come through the front gate and have somebody there with a clicker and try and count them. And when we get to 250, do like they do in Wal-Mart. Sorry it's full you'll have to wait So till some people leave. We don't generally get more than 250, probably 200 people at one time. Now, over the course of that period, we end up getting more than that as they come and go. Danny and I have worked through some of those things. And if it doesn't look like it's something that can happen, then, you know, it's not in stone I guess that we have to pay, but we certainly are trying to do something for the community if we can and do it safely. My plan was to have to move our big signs that are down at the end of town, move one of those into the park that will be flashing the whole time, saying social distance, stay six feet apart and please wear your masks or something along those lines. So it will be a constant, big, bright reminder. We've got a few things in place where we're looking to. We purchased enough hand sanitizer and cleaning utensils and the types of rides we were able to get are you single family or, you know, you're with. You have two kids together that are related or whatever and get on the same side. But there you're not going to be like the bounce house where we just can't sanitize [inaudible]. We even have a plan for the dunk tank to have hand sanitizer there. And in between, people throwing the ball is sprayed. So we've got some plans in place. We think they are good plans. But again, it is we want to make sure it's safe and Danny and I talked about this at great length to try and make sure that if we put this on and we plan, you know, currently as planned, that it will be as safe as we can make it for the type of event that it is.

**Bridge Littleton:** So, A.J., my question is, what are you going to do when people don't follow the rules?

**AJ Panebianco:** We haven't actually I haven't actually discussed this with Danny because we haven't discussed that part of it. But the plan would be that if they're not social distancing, if they aren't following the rules, generally it's going to be with the parent there. We're gonna talk to the parent to remind them if they don't or if the parents aren't, we'll tell them unfortunately, they've got to leave private property and they have to leave. The community center is

private property and it is a joint venture between us. That would be the plan. We've not discussed that. That certainly would be the way we were intended to go.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok, well, hang on a sec, let's do this. So all of us are in the room here. It's easy for us to bat back and forth. Let's give Cindy and Bud a minute or two to say it's harder for them because they're online. And then we can we can continue diving in and they can jump in whenever they want. But, Cindy, do you want to add anything?

**Cindy Pearson:** Yes, please. You know, I'm just wanting to do it to have something for the community. But I just had this little gnawing feeling that it's not a good time to do it. I did Google, you know, other what other towns are doing for this this year. And actually they have moved the date to October six in some community, I don't know, that's a national thing. The site I went to with was [inaudible] something so it could have been I just you know, a lot of seniors supported this night and which they thoroughly enjoy the night because they get to see the police officers. They get to talk to them one to one. You know, the different people, though, even us. I know they won't feel comfortable, a lot of them coming. They came to get a hot dog and a drink and stand around. Well, there's you know, you're always standing right next to where the hot dogs are being cooked. I know there's a big area up there and it can be used differently. I'm not saying that you couldn't do that. You know, the other thing is bathroom. Once again, when you have these things, you have to have the bathrooms for people to use. So, you know, there's just a lot more to think of it with what we're going through right now. And with that count going back up again the last thing we want to have happen is something, you know, somebody to come there being sick and then they get all over that you know, the 200 people that attended all have to, you know, self-quarantine. So I would like to have A.J. and Danny think seriously about moving it to October. I know the weather is a little different then, but it's still warm. It's not cold yet. I don't think we're to where it actually it usually kind of hot usually in October. And the other thing is it gets dark a little bit earlier. So the fireworks could go off earlier or you wouldn't have to extend your night for fireworks. So just my thoughts tonight. Probably have one hundred more, but that's enough for right now. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** Thanks, Cindy. Bud do you have any thoughts?

**Bud Jacobs:** Well, Cindy pretty much covered the landscape for me. I'm torn because I really like this event as the message that it sends. Love seeing the little kids running around and all that. But I am not convinced that it's wise to hold it here. In early August and maybe [inaudible] is this is the way to go on this, if not outright cancellation. That's all I got.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok, thanks Bud.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** I haven't heard that.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok, Chris had a question.

**Chris Bernard:** I also this is right on the back of the sidewalk sale too. [multiple speakers] It's a week after. So a couple of days after. We're talking about two back to back big events. [inaudible]

**Bridge Littleton:** So any other input, Kevin?

**Kevin Daly:** I actually feel uncomfortable for both the sidewalk sale groups. We're not even in what one would call the second wave. We're still in the first wave and it's not looking bright and cheerful. I would recommend that. I really hate doing it because this is one event that's really for the community. And the community comes out and shows its support for the police department because they truly do operate with the idea in mind that they are here to



serve and protect Middleburg. And I think it would be in Middleburg's best interests preserving and protecting Middleburg to tentatively postpone till October.

**Bridge Littleton:** Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** I'm in agreement with Kevin, and I think most of sentiments in that national night out is recommending that it's postponed to October the 6th anyway. And everything I'm reading about a second wave and concerns about this. So far, we've really not had anything here in Middleburg touch. Knock on wood. And, you know, we've been very careful. I think we need to keep that way. So that would be my my recommendation.

**Bridge Littleton:** Darlene, any other input?

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Philip Miller:** I think the goal and the sentiment of the event is extremely important, especially now in light of what's going on around the world. I think it's a wonderful event. I always go to it. My son has a great time. But I can tell you from personal experience, my five year old is not going to socially distance. It's just not going to happen. None of the kids are. It's impossible. And, I think sometimes. The right way to serve the community is by not doing it. You know, I think we absolutely should postpone, if not cancel or find another way to organize the events so that it is far more safe. And I don't know if that's a one way in. One way out. Like you're going through, you know, it's one way only you can go to this ride. You can choose to skip it. You can go to the next ride. You can get your hot dog and your chips in and take it home. I don't know. But I still think that that's dangerous. None of us are a public health official and I really don't think it's worth the risk to the community. Despite the fact that it is the right event at the right time with the right message. And none of us can guarantee safety. That's just not possible right now.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. So any other thoughts I had or are this. Did you have anything more?

**Chris Bernard:** It's just that I agree. I don't know if the juice is worth the squeeze. I don't know if it's if adding all these precautions is going to kind of kill the fun and the spirit of the event. I agree with Philip wholeheartedly. It's sad because it's a really great event for right now. And it's a good message in the spirit of the thing. It's awesome. It's just logistically, I think it's going to be so much more work and we could focus that elsewhere.

**Bridge Littleton:** So I appreciate it. You know, again, I'm going to reiterate the goals, right? Great goals. So a couple of challenges. Number one. We're adding fireworks. That's going to draw a lot of people. Everybody who want to see the fireworks show in July. They're gonna come in August. So that's going to add an element to participation. We haven't even thought through what you do we do if 300 people show up three or four hundred people show up waiting to get in. You only let 250 in you got 100 outside milling around. You can't kick them off the public street. And they're going to be spreading it to one another. So I think there's a lot of elements of this that are near impossible to plan for. You know, you almost need a cop for every person and I've looked. Purcellville has canceled theirs. Leesburg's canceled theirs. So there's a probably look bigger than ours. Yeah, Winchesters canceled theirs. Somebody else moved theirs to October. So. And then I'm very concerned about the precedent we set. So the town of Middleburg can have a 250 person event, but another another group can't or, you know, if somebody wants to have concert on the steps for 250 people and everyone says, no, no, no, you can't do that. It's not safe. So we've opened the door to two hundred and fifty person events in Middleburg. Where we're actually leading that and these private events, we can't control them, but we're still going to be pointed at as the one who held the first 250 person event. And now we're gonna have the events that's going to eventually have to happen. You know, I mean, we're as we get forward and as you know, hopefully, you know, maybe we don't have a second wave. And but I just I think the sentiment is it's just too early. I personally, I see no problem with picking a date in October or the end of September and waiting and watching and seeing how things happen. I also see no problem. With doing the fireworks in August, you know, we paid for them. Let's have them, but not have an event around it. But I'm not saying we have to do that. Right. You can save those till October. But if we don't want to lose it, at least is not something forcing everybody to congregate more. You know, you get it from different. And so let me ask council if you guys feel this is the proper way to do it. A.J. and Danny, you guys sit. I mean, you know, on one level, I'm concerned when I ask

how are you going to enforce it? And we haven't talked about it yet, but we're already planning on doing it. So we don't even know what enforcement is going to look like before we decide, before we decided we're all we're going to do it. So maybe you guys get together in the next day or two with Kevin and think about, OK, these are legitimate concerns. How are we really going to enforce this? Can it actually be done? And if you guys can figure out a way to actually do it and it's feasible and workable and all that kind of stuff. OK, great. You know, we can call a special meeting or just e-mail everybody and say, here's our plan or not. But absent that, I would say we got to recommend at least postponing it and then seeing how the environment is end of September, beginning of October.

**Philip Miller:** And I would advise getting with the county health department and getting a consult from them.

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah, has anybody reached out to the county health department and ask how they want these, want to see these things handled.

**Danny Davis:** Not at this time.

**Bridge Littleton:** OK. So, A.J., this is your baby. What do you think?

**Philip Miller:** And, you know, we all want to dunk you.

**AJ Panebianco:** Yeah, but I've seen you throw. [laughter]

**Bridge Littleton:** Wait a minute. In October, it'll be nice and cold.

**Kevin Daly:** We can add ice cubes.

**AJ Panebianco:** They're all valid concerns and all valid issues that Danny and I had talked about, the overwhelming majority of most of these. It appears that the view of council is that it's probably not a good idea. And if that's the case, then I'm going to concur and say that it is not a good idea. The heart was behind this to try to do the best we could to make it as safe as we can following the guidelines, but also to give the community something because it's been such a tough summer. If it's not the right time and the right event with the council, then it's certainly not going to be for Danny and myself either. You know, our our heart is in the right spot. And I think the the premise behind this was we have really had a rough year so far and let's try and do something nice. But if what is nice is not viewed as what is necessarily safe, and that could then in turn reduce numbers even more and make the event, you know, not even a success. So if it's the will of council that you guys want to move forward with the October date. I haven't talked with Danny about this, but I believe that that's something that he and I should consider very strongly.

**Cindy Pearson:** Bridge, can I say one more thing?

**Bridge Littleton:** Sure Cindy, go ahead.

**Cindy Pearson:** I think you're right, A.J. You know, you guys heart is in the right place and you try to think of everything you can do. But a lot of it is out of your control. You can't control somebody coming in sick and not knowing it and spreading that. So I think that if you all will seriously go ahead and think about the October one, but just watch what happens between now and then. I would hate it to cancel it all together. But, you know, keeping people well is probably more important than having the event that before I know everyone enjoys it and like to see you all at that time. But I think you're on the right track right now [inaudible]. And then you know how it goes then. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** So let me throw this out. You guys get together the next day or two. See if you can actually figure out a way in which you work and maybe there's some other group that's done it and it's working great. Right. You know, some church in Florida that has 500 people and they have figured out how to make it work.

**Kevin Daly:** Florida's not a good example.

**Bridge Littleton:** I'm just saying. Maybe Maine. Maine doesn't have of the people anyway. You know what I'm saying if you guys can figure out how to make a work, great. We can get back together and you can bring it through with us. But if you figure out I mean, you know, to Cindy's point, if you get 250 people in there. You have to have 100 cops. Otherwise, you're not going to be able to watch everybody at once to take care of it. And so if after looking at that, you guys feel that there's just not the right ability to get there at this time. Then let's just, is everybody in agreement? Just go and postpone until October. Well, you guys pick the date, but, you know, postpone it in October and we'll plan on it then. And it also gives us a lot more time to plan as well. Yes, sir.

**Kevin Daly:** I agree with the postponing until October with the caveat. Should we start seeing spikes, let's have a drop dead date to where.

**Bridge Littleton:** First meeting in September.

**Kevin Daly:** Yes, where we decide it's not safe. Cancel. I rather air on the side of caution than having a lot of people come up sick.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** [inaudible] into November

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic] then they'll just keep pushing it back. And so I think just monitor that.

**Bridge Littleton:** [off mic] [laughter] I know we talked a lot about this and really obsessed over it, but it actually needed to be. I mean, this is one of the hard things you gotta really sweat through and I mean, at the end of day too, you know, we have a we have the greatest responsibilities to the public health and safety and welfare of the residents and citizens and prudence, I think here is just a smarter play. Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** One last item, A.J. and Danny, you know me. I'm not a micromanager. I don't need to be with two folks like you. I'm going to attend the meeting with you and with my mask on because that this way I don't have to shave. But again, I want to hear from you. And as chairman for public safety, I can't ask to work with a better group of people.

**Bridge Littleton:** It doesn't mean you're getting out of your parking ticket. So Danny is there any other input you you have on that?

**Danny Davis:** No, sir.

**Bridge Littleton:** So the last thing we want to cover on the COVID piece. And I had e-mailed Danny and AJ. Yeah. Danny, AJ and Martin about this earlier in the week. It's not in the memo, but I just figured we would talk about it. So give me a second here. I'm sure everybody's watching what's going on in Florida and the way COVID is being handled there and the way it's spreading in in certain other states. And it's really coming down. You know, at the end of the day, you can shut businesses down. You can do all that kind of stuff right. Which is what nobody wants. But at the end of the day, it's actually coming down to being responsible and wearing masks and social distancing, you know. And that comes back to a personal level of responsibility that, you know, we have to look out for each other from a community perspective. It's not about me getting sick. It's about me getting other people sick. You know, I will criticize the governor in his infinite wisdom, issuing a mask order that he said, you know, he wasn't going to while it is a penalty under law, as broadly stated as that is, and Martin can go into that, that he was not going to do anything about it. So it now starts coming back to local jurisdictions. And what really pinged it off for me was over the weekend, I was in Common Grounds and there were seven people in line and five people weren't wearing masks. Well, and, you know, and it's very tough for a business. You know, I empathize right there, struggling to try to get through this. And here these are these people are all two feet from each other. None of them are related breathing and coughing on each other. And, you know, it's just it's it's becoming really challenging. The order that the

governor issued really put the majority of his enforcement on the business owners. And that's unfortunate because that's not their role. Their role is to run a clean establishment. Their role is not to enforce, you know, this type of stuff. At the end of the day, it's just a mask. I will survive. I will go on. Life will be OK if this is my biggest problem in life. I'm doing OK. You know, I don't live in a hovel in India. So I asked a question earlier this week at the NVRC meeting with all the other mayors and board chairs of does the northern, especially the Northern Virginia region, because we're so densely populated. Do we have a greater responsibility to take on ownership of enforcement to whatever degree that means? Right. Since the state won't do it. Does it fall back on us. And, you know, someone's got to go first if that's what's going to ensure we don't become a Florida. That's exactly what Florida did. They did nothing. And people weren't responsible. And, you know, they now have more cases every day than we had as a nation two months ago. So this is a discussion. This is you know, there's no motion or anything like that. So I asked Danny and Martin and A.J. to take a look at from a town authority perspective, what or even if it's just talking to people, what could we do to help drive enforcement of social distancing and especially wearing a face mask when you're in indoors? So, Danny, I don't know if you want to take it first or have Martin give us his legal review or A.J. this is kind of on the fly.

**Danny Davis:** So, yeah, I I'm not going to speak, you know, any legal comments but I would say that I think we're all pretty much in agreement that A.J. has no formal enforcement authority under the current executive order of the governor. The question, I think for council and maybe the region, because it really is a regional type issue, is what are potential incentives or disincentives that could be given to businesses to encourage them to actually enforce it themselves? Because you're right, it has been placed upon and in many cases has been placed upon teenagers to tell adults, older adults who had maybe their parents age. If you're not wearing a mask, I'm going to ask you to leave. That's a very uncomfortable position to be in. However, there are also business owners that have to be setting that tone for their staff. And I'm not sure that always takes place. So I do think there, I don't know if I have a great solution for you. I almost think if there were a type of call me crazy yelp for face coverings. Right. How is your business doing? And you get rated by patrons to say, you know, I went in this establishment. They had free masks. Everyone was wearing a face covering. They asked me to wear a face covering. I gave it five stars for safety. I went in this place. [off mic] I know. So, you know, again, it sounds silly.

**Bridge Littleton:** But what can we do? We can't control Yelp.

**Danny Davis:** Well, that we can control how we provide input potentially and encourage the public to actually use that as a way of providing good or bad reviews, because public safety is an issue. From our side as a town I don't have an answer for you again, because I'm I mean, again.

**Bridge Littleton:** Well, so what can we do?

**Danny Davis:** Well, that question is quite broad. There are many, many things we can do. But I don't have an answer for you.

**Bridge Littleton:** I'm not asking for an answer. I think we're asking for options.

**Danny Davis:** I don't. I don't have an answer for you right now.

**Kevin Daly:** So I would say, let's give them a chance to discuss this. I think one big thing we can all do is set the example. We go out. We wear the mask. It begins in that manner.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic] But what I'm saying is it depends on the person who owns the business and how they're going to police it when people aren't wearing mask. Because, you know, if you give someone a mask and they still refuse to, you know, to wear it, what do you do?

**Bridge Littleton:** Ask them to leave. That's their job. By the governor's order, they're supposed to ask the person to leave. All right. If they don't, they can get a two thousand dollar fine and a misdemeanor. [off mic] That's the problem.

**Darlene Kirk:** That's the problem. That's the problem. Because, I mean, she's not wearing a mask right now and she's been here the whole time. Danny, asked her to wear a mask. Danny gave her a mask. But, you know, and that's why I'm saying it's hard to do it.

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah. Ok, A.J., what thoughts did you have?

**AJ Panebianco:** Really aside from actually speaking to people I think it needs to be a call from the business. I don't know that it's a good idea that we start going in businesses to say who doesn't have a mask on and then start policing or admonishing them. I think that business owners have to take some responsibility and say, you know, hey, you're supposed to have a mask on. And if they say, you know, I've got a medical condition with which exempts me, then I don't know that there's anything they can do. I don't know if there's an ADA rule for that or not.

**Bridge Littleton:** That's one intent.

**AJ Panebianco:** But if they don't just want to put the mask on, then the business owner can call us and there's a couple of things that can happen. One, we can give them a gentle reminder to say, hey, you know, it's for my health, your health and everybody else's health. Let's put a mask on. And if they don't, then we can ask them to leave or the business owner can ask and leave in front of us. And if they don't it turns into a trespassing, we would prefer not to get to that. I think that, you know, our ability to deal with people and talk to people and talk, not to at people, but with people is one of the strong suits of the PD. So if we are called I believe we can intervene in that manner. I don't think it's a good idea if we start going into businesses to look to see who doesn't have a mask on and then telling them they need to put a mask on. We'll do whatever where we're directed to do. But I that's my thought process on this, is that we can assist in the reminding. But I think that the first level of defense on this falls on the business owners. So I think finding a way to do incentives or disincentives for those business owners. And it very well could be that, you know, the Bridge goes into a shop in season three or four times in a row, Bridge can report them to the health department because, you know, they're not complying or they tell us and then we can report them. It doesn't have to come from the individual. But, you know, the preference would be not to get to that level. The preference would be to assist in reminding if we're needed and go from there. But I I think the true unfortunately, the weight of this has to come on the business owners themselves to say, hey, let's do this. I go into, you know, [inaudible] He's got a mask's as soon as I walk in he puts it on, I've got mine in my pocket when I walk in the door. I put it on and we hold a conversation, [inaudible]

**Bridge Littleton:** And A.J., let me ask a question. There's something you need to explain to me because I don't understand it. Explain to me why a police officer can't walk into a business, and if they see somebody not wearing a mask remind them to put a mask on.

**AJ Panebianco:** I'm not saying that we can't do that. Actually, that's exactly what I said we can do. But I don't want to be that that's the purpose for going into business.

**Bridge Littleton:** I understand that.

**AJ Panebianco:** Don't. Yeah, we we certainly and have been saying the whole time is we can certainly remind people we have a way, all of our staff. We actually pride ourselves on our ability to talk with people and not at people. And so I believe those gentle reminders from us when we're either called or there's a violation that we see is certainly appropriate. I don't think that the premise for our foot patrols and going into businesses should be we're going to go in there and [inaudible] customers and run them out, because at that point, the business owners are going to say, you know, we'd prefer you don't come in the business. And, you know, we don't want to get to that either. I think that the gentle reminder when we're needed to do so, but the first reminder, the way it's written and the way I think it was intended is that the business owners have to take some responsibility to say, I'm being open, I'm allowed to be open, and I have certain rules I have to follow. The town. When we go into the town hall, you know, there's a door that gives them time to mask up before people come in. It's not open and it's shut. And they tell people, you know, put on a mask and we have someone come to the PD. We tell them put on a mask. And if they don't, we're out

of the paper mask now. But we're going to get them more. But if they don't, we give them a mask. If not, we ask them, step outside. And we have a conversation outside of [inaudible] the offices.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. So, A.J., I think we got it.

**Danny Davis:** AJ that's good and I can. I mentioned this briefly earlier. I am on a call with the managers of the other jurisdictions. And I specifically asked that this be part of that conversation because I think it's hopeful to hear what others are doing or considering doing or how they've addressed this issue, because it's not just us. I mean, everyone is dealing with it. So I'm happy to report back to you. That's at noon tomorrow. So, I mean, I can keep you informed about how other jurisdictions see an opportunity to take care of this issue.

**Bridge Littleton:** So let's do this. So Martin, from a legal perspective give us the download and then let's see how everybody feels. Martin, from a legal perspective, I know you're reaching out to Michelle and other folks in the legal VML world. What did you find out?

**Martin Crim:** The executive order 63 that express face coverings provides for the Department of Health to have authority to enforce the order. But it's not the sole authority of the Virginia Department of Health. Are there any willful violation or refusal, failure or neglect to comply with the order is a class one misdemeanor. And so the law enforcement officer can enforce that. But the keyword there is willful. So if you see someone not wearing the mask. And and you say, sir, this is a business. You're gonna have to put a mask on in here and they say, ah, I just forgot, I just came in here and puts it on, it's not willful. So there is a willful nature to that. And there are exceptions for minors. There's a very large exception for people who have health conditions that prevent them from wearing a mask. And a lot of those are going to be invisible conditions or situations that people have. And if they claim to have a health condition, you have to take their word for it. The executive order is very clear that the people who decline to wear face mask because of the medical condition shall not be required to produce or carry medical documentation nor shall a person be required to identify the precise underlying medical condition. So all they have to do is say I have a medical condition and then that's the end of the conversation, the second thing I want to point out is that the Department of Labor and industry is draft rules that they're coming out with good public comment went through a second round of massive massive documents. I can't claim to be an expert in it, but it's going to have rules for protecting worker safety. And that component that we need to give some thought to, because if people are working in a business and the employer, the business owner or manager is not requiring people to wear masks that would be required by law, then that puts that manager or owner is endangering those employees. And that's going to be a worker safety issue. That's not are not primarily our concern, but it is a public health, safety and welfare concern that the town can pursue. And the third thing I wanted to point out is that we've been here before. One hundred years ago, there were two public spittings. People spat everywhere. And it was a combination of laws and social norms that ended that in this part of the world. I just did a quick Google News search and parts of India are just now this year getting around banning public spitting. So, you know, it's not everywhere. It's not all the time. That's not 100 percent effective. But if we can pressure people into not not spitting over the last 100 years, we can pressure people into wearing masks when they're in enclosed public spaces.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok.

**Estee LaClare:** May I interrupt. We have a person on a call that I don't know who it is. Number (540) 270 1123 could you please identify yourself? Hello. I know I unmuted them. Pardon me, number (540) 270 1123. Could you please identify yourself? Good evening. OK. All right. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** Do we have to know that.

**Danny Davis:** Not necessarily.

**Bridge Littleton:** So let's not ask. I mean, if someone from the public comes and sits. We don't ask who they are. Yeah, let's. That's. Yeah. So he wants to call in anonymously or come in anonymously. They can do that. Yeah. Exactly. So Martin, thanks. So let's just discuss it real quickly from a council perspective. And you know how

everybody feels like my you know, the thing that makes me nervous is this thing gets out of control and the measures we're going to have to do are going to be a whole lot worse than they were the first time. I mean, you look at Florida and it's going to be they are headed for a catastrophe. So but with that, Kevin. Any thoughts?

**Kevin Daly:** I can only think of what Forest Gump would say in a situation like this. Stupid is as stupid does. And you really can't legislate against stupidity.

**Bridge Littleton:** Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** So in my business, we have we have posters on the front and back doors basically instructing people to visit our business to where we haven't had an issue yet. Now we don't get the same sort of traffic that a lot of the businesses get. But I think in general, I would say there's a very large percentage of people who would do that willingly. And you're always going to get someone who is not. And it's a fact of life. It's a problem. And I think if there is, as we've mentioned earlier, setting an example and most people are setting examples and most people will figure out that they should either play the game or go home. It is a problem. I think we just keep pushing that. Make sure all our businesses have those posters on their doors and that they have people in there wearing masks and people asking politely, please wear a mask. It's not going to work on time, but it's going to work a lot of the time.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Philip Miller:** I think it's really difficult. It's obviously on the business. It sounds like we don't have anything that we can really enforce with the business other than sending the police in. Right. Unless we come up with some form of incentive. And I think that we could probably do a better job of making it clear at the entrances to town and on the public streets even. I mean, you know, especially on the weekends, you see people walking on the sidewalks and they're passing each other. No masks on. And I realize that that's not even something that's necessary for the order, but it's courtesy. It's respect.

**Bridge Littleton:** Well it's not six feet.

**Philip Miller:** Exactly. So maybe we could look at doing something like that, having some better signage than just the dot matrix display board. If we have no legal recourse, really, other than sending in the police, then if we have some complaints were and I tell you Safeway is bad too. [off mic] [laughter] That's right. You've got to change your habits if you want to stay protected. Part of it is personal responsibility. But I think maybe not just the CDC signs or the Virginia VDA signs, maybe we can create something or see if there's something that exists that we can put on our big banners as you enter town. [multiple speakers]

**Bridge Littleton:** [inaudible] did a video, their whole council did a video or I can't remember who it was. Oh, it was [Inaudible]. It's called mask up or something like that. Or mask it or something I can't remember.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** Exactly. Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Yeah. So I think, you know, we keep saying the onus falls on the business, saying the onus really it falls on the individuals to do the right thing and the people around them to remind them if they're not. And then it's up to the businesses to follow through on it, which is unfortunate that that was the setup. And the governor, although I don't think asking the police to do it the right answer. So I think I agree with Philip. I was thinking, you know, what can we do from a marketing and messaging standpoint to to promote that? You know, Middleburg is a mask friendly zone. This is you know, if you're if you're not wearing one please move on. Whatever it is. And that and that we support our businesses. You know, it's not just the CDC or the government, whatever. It's just like, look, we

agree that masks are important as a town. And I don't know what we can do beyond that. It's tough. It's really tough because no one hates wearing this stupid thing more than me. Drives me crazy. But you just do what you gotta do.

**Bridge Littleton:** Let me get Bud in here real quick. Bud any. What are your thoughts?

**Bud Jacobs:** Well, I have had the same experience that the mayor has had in the establishment that he mentioned when I was in there, there were two little girls behind the counters wearing their masks, and they were absolutely slammed with customers. There must have been 20 people lined up to get their coffee. And actually, I didn't see a mask on any one of them. I haven't had that experience in other businesses in town. It seems to me that actually things look pretty good considering. I do think it might be useful to think about some direct outreach, for example, to the owner of the establishments that we've been talking about. It might be worth a visit from town staff or maybe even a letter from the mayor and council reminding him of his obligations under the governor's order. And I would point out the issues that Martin raised, which way is that if he is not going to enforce the massive order, he may be putting his employees in potential danger and that conceivably could be actionable. So I think there are things we can do. I'm not sure it's that big of a problem, but it certainly is a problem in the establishments that Bridge first noted.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy?

**Cindy Pearson:** I did see something on the news about and I don't know where it was that, you know, they were beginning to address this. And it was about the employees and how they weren't being safe. So, you know, I know it's something we're all going to have to address soon here, but I was thinking too as was Philip and Chris, maybe have some eye catching signs that we. I'm not saying big posters but a sign of some sort that will catch people's eyes that we can put on the doors from the town saying something like, we support our workers by wearing masks. I don't know. But a something fun that will catch people's eye. Not the one that we have been using that's kind of plain. It was a good one, but I don't think it catches people's attention. And go ahead and start putting it back on our social media, maybe even you know how much people like to complain on social media, maybe they would rate our businesses on social media. I don't know. That's something you have to think through a little bit more to see if you really want that. I guess that's about all. I know it's the concern though. So I don't know more to talk about, I'm sure. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin. You had another comment.

**Kevin Daly:** This is just an off the wall idea. No mask, tax add a 20 percent surcharge for someone going in for coffee and say you don't wear a mask. It's going to cost you an additional 20 percent.

**Bridge Littleton:** You know, the only pesky problem with that is that little thing called the Dillon Rule. [off mic]

**Chris Bernard:** [inaudible] the branding and marketing aspect of this is there. I guess you'd say something about Yelp and is there some sort of, like, badge that says like that we can give out to businesses in town that says like, hey, this is a like a safe like the masks zone. And it gets taken away if there's complaints that you're not. And so we say everyone looks for the sign and you'll know that it's a it's a safe place or whatever.

**Bridge Littleton:** Remember the [inaudible] sticker? Mr. Yuck. Yeah.

**Danny Davis:** So Visit Loudoun and economic development and the chamber put the Loudoun is Ready program together. I don't know if any of our businesses have participated, but it's you committing that you're taking the precautions and you know, you're masking up, you're providing.

**Bridge Littleton:** Everybody is printing out their own thing.

**Danny Davis:** I'm sorry.



**Bridge Littleton:** Everybody gets to print out their own thing.

**Danny Davis:** Well, then I think that the comment there could be, you know, we if we see repeated violations and maybe we ask him to take them down

**Bridge Littleton:** Or we just have a Middleburg one that we manage.

**Chris Bernard:** So the last thing I want to do is put in place anything to make this harder on the businesses. Right. Because it's I mean, they're dealing with a real problem here. And it's impossible to manage. But they need to just they need to try their best. Right. And if and that's the real key. I think the letter is a great idea where you say, hey, so-and-so a business owner like we've had here, we've noticed certain things, like we just wanted to bring these few things. We're not threatening, but we want to bring this your attention in case you weren't aware of it. And then that's on the record that we've sent that. And then if there is a complaint, then they're going to feel that, I'm sure, because if anything ever goes to the health department, that'll be part of the deal.

**Bridge Littleton:** Well, they're totally unable to. They're totally unable to staff the management. I mean, they can't. How many businesses or the tens of thousands of businesses that are in Loudoun County? It's impossible. [off mic] We can figure it out. I mean, a couple quick thoughts that I had real quickly. Number one, there's a lot of businesses in town who are not buying masks and making them available for their patrons. I'm not required to. But for people who aren't. Let's buy them and give them masks. So when a guy walks in and says, oh, I forgot in the car, they say, fine, here you go. Got one right here for you. You know, I don't know what the costs that would be, right. But let's so there's excuses to performance and then there's barriers to performance. Right. And whenever something doesn't get done, it's one of the two. Right. So that's one you know, one excuse to performance is not having an all. We don't we don't have any masks. OK. We'll take care of that. Here you go. Here's the masks. [off mic] Exactly. Right now, we don't be spending hundreds of dollars a month on masks, but we know that that can be one piece of it. The other thing is, you know, what's the barrier to performance? Right. So the barrier to performances is staff or whatever. And many of these stores feel uncomfortable, especially, like you said, the teenagers feel uncomfortable doing it. So I don't think it's a bad idea that the police increase visits to stores. Not it's not a police state, but come by once or twice. Right. And actually saying something. Right. Not just walking into your coffee and leave, but you see somebody without a mask, say, hey I really would appreciate it if you could get your mask. I don't have one. Oh, no problem. I have one here in my pocket for you. You know. And it's friendly, neighborly policing, but if, you know, if we can if we can enforce that people can't smoke indoors and that's done by the businesses and you know, that's enforced that way. If we can. We can help. You know, we. Let's help them be successful. I think that I would say that's our responsibility as a town government, helping them be successful. And those are the two things are the most challenging. They feel uncomfortable doing it. How can we take some of that burden off of them? And then also just, you know, to to Martin's point, a guy has to willfully say, you know, be not doing it. So if he walks and says, whoops, I forgot my mask, let me just get my coffee real quick. No, no. Go back to your car or I got a paper one here for you, you know, and we need, I think, the driving of that message. And then, as everybody else said, we can start doing a lot more social media, maybe doing a video, having better signage, you know, reinforcing it and stuff like that. Because, I mean and I said this in [inaudible] on the call on Monday. I said this on Monday. We think it's a pain in the butt wearing a mask now? Wait till we hit wave two and it's twice as bad and everything is shut down. That's what real pain. I mean, the business just thinks it's painful to ask me to wear a mask. That's going to be what's really painful. The last thing I would say is do we want to have a meeting with the business owners? You know, and say, look, a lot, you know, there's a lot of great performance, but the noncompliance is too high and we want to help you be successful. How can we help you? What are your challenges? You know, is it that your staff feel uncomfortable? Is it you know, what is it you don't have? How can we help you help the greater community? Don't make it a threat. Don't make it a hostile environment. But we're here for your success, and that's why we want to do so. I don't know. Yeah, Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** No, no, no. I'm not saying get everybody in a room. Right.

**Danny Davis:** We're gonna have to go meet with the businesses anyway about the Route 50 project. So I think we can add this as a part of that [multiple speakers] It's that question.

**Bridge Littleton:** And they're not alone. Right. Right. That's the one piece about least having a couple business owners at one time is that there's a catharsis in it. Right? I'm not alone. Oh, you're having the same challenge. How are you dealing with. Right. But you guys got to do it safely, so. OK. Does anybody ever had anybody else have any other thoughts or ideas on this issue?

**Philip Miller:** I just think we have a personal responsibility, and especially as elected officials to police it ourselves and to talk to people directly, and I think that if one of our businesses is really having a hard time, they're struggling with this. If we can give them direct outreach and potential assistance to help them maybe change their patterns of how their business is running right now and innovate that so that it becomes safer for our residents and for everybody, then we should do that.

**Bridge Littleton:** Nothing would kill Middleburg retail quicker now than one person who's sick and doesn't wear a mask, goes into a business and gets four or five other people sick and they contact to trace it back to Middleburg. [Inaudible] real quick.

**Philip Miller:** I mean, has anybody been up to Salamander? They're doing a very good job.

**Bridge Littleton:** They're doing incredible job. [off mic] Yes, big, big time. They're serious. Yes, they are deadly serious. [off mic] Yeah, I mean, I was in there the other day, I saw Sheila walking around. She had a mask on the whole time. And Reggie, too. Yeah.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** [inaudible] say, you mentioned about a video and I don't know if it was just off the cuff, but I think that's actually a very good idea. Professional video that we can use, you know, done by the town that we can promulgate out there to social media and to the newspapers and make a big deal out of it. It is a big deal.

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah, there was one that I think was [Inaudible] that did it. Or Manassas Park, which I think they called it mask up or mask it or something. And it was it was really good. It was memorable. It's kind of funny, but it's serious. So it's lighthearted. But you get it really. It was a really well done. I'm sure there's a million out there we could steal ideas from. Okay. I know we beat this to death. I really appreciate everybody, you know, suffering through the conversation. It's just I just, you know, I'll say one last time I see what's going on in Florida and I'm just it just utterly. We have an older community here and it really, really scares me. So, OK, [off mic] Oh, no. I was actually glancing at Estee. Yeah. Platinum Blonde. [off mic]. Okay. Next item here is appointments to boards and committees. So I will say only one person made a written request to change the committee they were on it scared the ever living hell out of me. And upon which after he let me sweat for a day and not responding to my email and then not calling me when he said he was going to call me, he informed me yesterday that he was kidding and he was gonna he wanted to stay on the Planning Commission. [off mic]. So Bud I appreciate you aging me three years.

**Bud Jacobs:** Wait, wait. Are we done talking about mask? [laughter]

**Bridge Littleton:** Oh, God. So with that, unless there's any other request for I mean, everybody was happy with what they had. So unless there's any other request to make a change or add somebody to a committee, I think what we'll do is just keep everybody on the same committees as they stand. And if Bud ever does that to me again he's getting waste treatment. [off mic] Yeah, exactly. Yeah. [laughter] [off mic] What's Go Green? Ok. The next is this consent agenda. Would anybody. Minutes. Would anybody like anything removed and consent agenda. Okay. Is there a motion for the consent agenda?

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** I move that council, approve and accept the consent agenda as proposed.

**Kevin Daly:** Second.

**Bridge Littleton:** Any discussion. All right. I'm gonna do the roll call vote. Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Philip.

**Philip Miller:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud.

**Bud Jacobs:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy.

**Cindy Pearson:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** And Darlene.

**Darlene Kirk:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Consent agenda is approved. Next item, action item is election of the vice mayor. [off mic] Yeah. [off mic] So, yes, Darlene. Your mic. Just letting you know.

**Darlene Kirk:** Actually, my grandfather always said it was the mayor of vice, not vice mayor. Anyway, I've been the vice mayor for a while. And I love being the vice mayor and I love being on council. I kind of need to step back a little bit. And I don't think it's fair for me to be the vice mayor and have to step back and miss meetings and not be able to be out to support our team all the time, like, you know, for the march and all. So I would like to nominate Philip if you're willing to be the vice mayor. I've worked with Philip in a couple different roles. I mean, like he and I on doing the [inaudible] thing and he up. We also worked on the Health Center Advisory Board, and I think he's very level headed, pretty steady. And I love it that he always has ideas for something out that bless you. Even outside the box, like, you know, OK, we'll get a couple of Cub Scouts and we'll go up there and we'll dig it up ourselves. And, you know, you're always looking at finding something to do to solve it. And I think that's important. And you have a sense of humor, which is also very important because you really need it. But it's someone you can count on. So, I mean, I've been I think I've been very lucky working with you this year, and I feel like I really can count on you. So if I'm not there, you're always there. So that's my nomination. It doesn't need a second, we just have to vote on it.

**Bridge Littleton:** OK. Darlene, thank you. I appreciate it. Does anybody else wish to make a nomination for vice mayor? Cindy or Bud?

**Bud Jacobs:** Nope, I'm ready to vote on Philip.

**Cindy Pearson:** Nope, I'm good.

**Bridge Littleton:** Let me look at. I got to read the rules of procedure here. Make sure we do this right. All right. [inaudible]. OK, we'll close the nominations. Anybody wish to discuss anything about the nominations? [off mic] Yeah, I've so. Yeah. Exactly. So the biggest problem I have with Philip. [laughter] I don't have enough paper. All right.

**Kevin Daly:** Well the pro is he's a snappy dresser.

**Bridge Littleton:** That's a matter of. You must be colorblind.

**Philip Miller:** I just want to say that I am humbled and honored by what Darlene said and that she has chosen to nominate me. I hope that I'm equal to the task. And I think that it's definitely going to be some big shoes to fill. You've been doing this for like, what, 20 years or something? [off mic] Yeah. Well, you'll still be here. I mean, it's it's not.

[off mic] It's important that we have a lot of energy right now. Middleburg is in a very good place. We're in a place of leadership within the county. I think we're being constantly inundated with potential dangers, not just COVID, but, you know, things happening on the county level with their rezoning policies due to the the well, the interests of certain parties for developers especially. And we've got a lot of big projects coming up. We're potentially doing a town hall. And I just think that we've really got to buckle down and keep pushing forward and keep Middleburg as prepared as possible and just focus on getting all this stuff done and done right, because we've been doing a really good job. And I commend Darlene on her many, many years of service as vice mayor.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** I was going to say, that candy drawer is staying right there. [laughter] OK. Well, Darlene, thank you very much, Philip, thanks. I will call for a vote. So how do we do this? You say, well, I got to do a roll call. [multiple speakers]

**Kevin Daly:** Second.

**Bridge Littleton:** No, no, you don't do a motion. It's just a vote. A vote for election. Yeah. You no, it's on here. Yeah. We just do a vote. I guess the question would be, do you vote for Phillip? Yes or no. Ok. Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** OK. Peter. How much is it worth to you?

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Philip.

**Philip Miller:** I vote? Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** All right, Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy.

**Cindy Pearson:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud.

**Bud Jacobs:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** All right, Darlene.

**Darlene Kirk:** Aye. Did Cindy vote twice?

**Bridge Littleton:** Nope.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** Oh, God. Kevin, did I ask you?

**Kevin Daly:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** I think the eyes have it. OK. [applause]

**Kevin Daly:** Darlene, correct me if I'm wrong, but the tradition is the new vice mayor buys the first round of an adult beverage for every other member of the council and town. Weekly for the first year.

**Philip Miller:** I believe that's called hazing.

**Bridge Littleton:** Get over it. All right. We'll thank you all very much. [off mic] And matching cufflinks. [off mic] Ok. Next. Next item is. Oh, right. OK. This is the request for town comment on the proposed brewery for the ABC license application. Open it up. Ok. Everybody was here last meeting except Chris. Right. OK. So, Danny, do you want to take us into this briefly and then we can have a nice lengthy discussion.

**Danny Davis:** If you'd like.

**Bridge Littleton:** Or if you want me to go, I'll do it.

**Danny Davis:** I'm not sure there's much more for me to add.

**Bridge Littleton:** All right. Did everybody has a chance to read the memo. OK, great. So as we all discussed last time, I think, you know, there's that there was a level concern around the impact to neighbors and some of the information that came out in the original briefing versus what we heard afterward. And then some size and scope issues which, you know, were were brought up that was another level of of concern. From a town perspective. Martin I can't remember if you had any additional information on, you know, the legal ABC process for this.

**Martin Crim:** Yes. So the ABC allows any locality to comment on the proposed license and the focus of the comment is under the ABC statute whether the license, together with all their licensed establishments in the area, would create a health, safety, welfare or moral issue. But the comments are not limited to just the concentration of businesses. And you can comment on anything that is related to health, safety and welfare of the citizens of this town.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. So there's I think there's two paths or there's three paths that the town council could take. First path is to, you know, submit nothing and let it stand as it stands with the objectents and the applicant. The second path would be if we wanted to raise our concerns in a formal letter to the ABC for them to use as they see fit in terms of, you know, as they do their evidentiary hearings and collect information and do their own fact finding. The third thing we could do is to actually submit a formal objection, which and I've been to this process twice. A formal objection basically is you are formally objecting to the granting of the license and bringing yourself into the process by which the ABC agents and the judge will adjudicate it. Right. So you would be required to come to the hearing and stuff like that. And not that it's a bad or good, it's just sort of what it is. So the first question here is, do we feel the concerns that were discussed in the last meeting rise to the level of the town wanting to do something or nothing? And if it's something, then what is that something? But so the first sort of threshold question, you know, what's what

is everybody. And Chris, if you've got any questions, OK, if you've got any. So, yeah. So whereas everybody's feeling on, you know, wanting to submit something versus submitting nothing?

**Darlene Kirk:** I think we need to submit something. OK. I don't know that we need to get so heavily involved that we're going to have to go to hearings and that sort of thing. But I think we need to at least submit a letter and say what our concerns are. I mean, that's the gateway to our town. That's a lot of possibly drunk people at 300 or so. I think we need to do a letter and not go to the full [inaudible] route though, at this time.

**Bridge Littleton:** OK. Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** I think we need to do something. I'm still a little miffed of the misrepresentation when they said that they had talked to their neighbors only we found out that that indeed did not happen. And that's really. I thought, as I said before, it's really bothersome to me. And I I would go to the more formal route.

**Bridge Littleton:** No it's ok. Absolutely. Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** So I am in agreement with Darlene. We have a a citizen who is not a citizen or resident of Middleburg itself, the town, but a local resident who came out to live in this part of the country, like most many of us did, you know, to enjoy the countryside and and has come to us to ask for our help. And it seems to me that a letter would be the way to go on this matter, to at least make our concerns known and then allow the ABC agent to investigate and take it further.

**Bridge Littleton:** So your viewpoint is to do like a letter of concern. OK. Philip.

**Philip Miller:** We've got to do a letter. I don't know if it should be concern or outright objection. I'm kind of conflicted on it because the more I've thought about this and particularly the misrepresentation, it leaves a really bad taste in my mouth. But I'm definitely for doing something. So whatever the overall consensus is.

**Cindy Pearson:** I can't hear Philip clearly.

**Philip Miller:** Sorry. Sorry. I said we should definitely do a letter. I am on the fence as to which side it should be. Should it be formal or informal. But I will, you know, acquiesce to whatever council decides. I mean, it sounds like that's the way it's going. So.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy, how about you go next?

**Cindy Pearson:** Ok. Yeah, I guess. Well, we need to be concerned about our town citizens and how this affects us and then, you know, and the traffic in town and what any other aspects of that might be for us. But I would only go the informal statement. I think we need to send something. And I think it's just the informal at this time. I don't think we need to go the formal statement. I think that's all I have to say right now.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Bud.

**Bud Jacob:** I guess I agree with the general sentiment that we should ban some sort of sort of communication. I would lean more toward a formal objection, but I'm happy to go along with the majority views on what actions we might take.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Yeah, so I had a chance to kind of review this and think about it a little bit, and I want to make sure that were kind of clear on what the purpose of this letter is. Right. So are we objecting to the project outright, saying that we don't like it and we don't think it fits. Or are we objecting to kind of the process that they've gone through to bring it before us? Right. And so I want to make sure that we weigh the feelings of this person's neighbors, you

know, who have brought forth some concerns. But we also need to weigh the developers concerns, the property owners and they have a if they have the right to develop the property the way they can under the law, then so be it. So I think the letter that we we need to send is a letter of our concerns and it's informal. But to bring to the ABC boards, I guess knowledge or to let them know kind of what's happened and what our concerns are, but not a formal objection.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. So and Chris, you weren't here last time. So for a little background on that from a development standpoint, right, ABC doesn't care. Their whole thing is, are you, you know, is having a liquor license no matter who you are, is it going to be a detriment to the local community? And a number two is are you of upstanding moral character that you should be granted a license? So I get your point right. Well, yeah. So. And I think the issue that that that the that the neighbor brought up last time, it was like a two-step, right? It was a number one. You got you know, we weren't consulted, so you should be aware of that. But number two, we are worried about the diminishment of the value of our house, you know, potentially 300 parking lot thing right next to it, quiet use and enjoyment. And those are all things that ABC absolutely reviews. So. But I think you bring up a really good point. And I think what you're touching on is we do have to be very, very careful that, you know, business we have a strong business community here and we have great relationship with our business community. And, you know, we want to make sure we foster that in the right way. And we don't want to be hostile towards bringing the right kind of businesses to the town to thrive in and make the our natural welfare and betterment be better. Right. But that doesn't mean we're going to have a nuclear waste treatment plant in Middleburg, even if it could be zoned. I think we would fight that. So there's that balance of making sure we go about the all the right reasons. So Chris go ahead.

**Chris Bernard:** Yeah. So just the. Yeah. And that makes sense. So the I guess the my thought on it is it sounded when they proposed the plan and what they say is like we want to work with the town to do it right and make it fit and all that. And if they were to do it the right way, whatever that looks like, then I think it could be a benefit to at least part of the town. Right. Not everyone's going to like it. Not everyone's going to dislike it. So I think the biggest concern that I've had so far is that due to the kind of misrepresentation, then you look at the part where they said, OK, well, we want to make sure that this is safe and we want to go through the steps, do it right. And you just wonder, can we trust that that happens once they get their ABC license because then then it's too late. [multiple speakers] That's where my concern lies.

**Bridge Littleton:** And I think you've hit the nail on the head.

**Kevin Daly:** And that's why I think having a more formal, stronger statement upfront is better than sending it out informally.

**Bridge Littleton:** I mean, we'll send it to them formally. It just won't be a a legal process. But you know, totally understand.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** So just in a quick little back of the envelope, it seems like it's the the majority is for sending an official town letter to the ABC agent and the ABC judge, but not filing an actual legal objection. The way I count it was sort of five to two. So it just, you know, go around the room. I mean, you obviously majority rules. But does everybody feel comfortable with that? And I mean, just because, you know, it's an official letter from a town not an objection doesn't mean it can't be worded as strongly as possible. You know, and it's you know, I don't think you if you're going to go through the trouble of doing a letter, I don't think you do creampuff, right? You state out what you feel are the problems, the concerns. And it's part of the record. And they may call and ask, would you be willing to provide more information and we can decide we want to do so. Ok. By and large, is everybody comfortable with that? Oh, Bud I'm sorry. I didn't hear you.

**Cindy Pearson:** It's Cindy.

**Bridge Littleton:** Oh, Cindy. Sorry. Go ahead.

**Cindy Pearson:** All right. So we'll all get a copy of that to look at those before you send it out.

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah, I think what we'll do is I mean, I'll work with Danny. We'll we'll put together a draft and we'll send it out to everybody on council before it goes out for any other input.

**Cindy Pearson:** Yes, please.

**Bridge Littleton:** And I guess the goal would be try to have it over there sometime early next week. So, Danny, make sure you put that on your quick To-Do list. [off mic] [laughter] God, it's too much. OK. Any other questions or roundabouts on this topic? And I'm trying to get the right word. I can't. OK. Next item. Gift certificates in lieu of 2020 volunteer appreciation. Yeah.

**Cindy Pearson:** You have a draft at the bottom of this. Do we need to do a draft motion?

**Bridge Littleton:** Do we have to do a motion for this Danny?

**Danny Davis:** I mean, not necessarily. If you if there's consensus, then you can just say yes. And then we get a letter together and send it out. So I mean it's not a.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Yep. That makes it easier. Save five minutes of voting.

**Bud Jacobs:** This is Bud, I'd like to echo Cindy's request to see the letter before it's sent.

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah, Bud we'll make sure the draft goes to everybody on council for feedback and input. And then we'll also send the final out before it goes as well.

**Bud Jacobs:** Great. Thank you.

**Bridge Littleton:** You're welcome. Ok, next item here is the the gift certificates to lieu 20 20/20 volunteer appreciation reception.

**Danny Davis:** So, Mr. Mayor, this item is just to recommend a different way of recognizing our volunteers who support the town and give their time to the town. I think we talked to the last meeting about not holding the volunteer reception. So Rhonda went and did a little bit of math, and it equates to approximately twenty seven dollars. Twenty five dollars per volunteer that we have. So the recommendation here is to do it similar to the holiday gift certificates, that we would use the same vendors or contact the vendors again and then see if they're willing to honor that for the twenty five dollar gift certificates for the members of our advisory committees.

**Darlene Kirk:** I think it's a good idea.

**Bridge Littleton:** And it's funny. Well, I was going to say is this is actually, you know, sort of in line to with our discussion at National Night out, yeah, we're canceling this event. You know, we do want to try to drive consistency.

**Danny Davis:** So, I would ask.

**Bridge Littleton:** No go ahead.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Kevin Daly:** And it's usually held in a closed area.



**Bridge Littleton:** Danny, you had a question?

**Danny Davis:** I would just ask for since it's expanding funds. I would ask for a motion. It can be very simple.

**Bridge Littleton:** Who wants to move to approve the request.

**Cindy Pearson:** It's Cindy. I make a motion that we approve the town [inaudible] volunteer a twenty five dollar gift certificate. Is that good enough for the volunteer appreciation 2020.

**Kevin Daly:** I heard Bud's second it.

**Bridge Littleton:** All right. I will do a roll call vote. Any further discussion?

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic] [multiple speakers]

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah. I mean, I don't see why we wouldn't. Ok, Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** Philip.

**Philip Miller:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy.

**Cindy Pearson:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud.

**Bud Jacobs:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Darlene.

**Darlene Kirk:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Aye.

**Darlene Kirk:** You have to write our names down.

**Bridge Littleton:** I want to make sure I don't forget anybody. I did it last time with Bud and, you know, it didn't work out too well for me. Okay. Next item is summer sidewalk sale. I think we already discussed that. Oh, yeah.

**Danny Davis:** Yeah, I got it. I'll just so briefly, after the MBPA board meeting on Tuesday night, I spoke well, we spoke at length at that meeting and then I spoke with A.J. the next day. And we talked through the options before us. As Punkin mentioned, it really is only three sections of parking that we're talking about that on the both sides of Washington Street between essentially between Liberty and Madison, maybe not all the way up to Madison and then the section on the north side of 50 between Pendleton, essentially Pendleton and Pickering. That's where the

concentration of retail stores are and where it is. We think most of the choke points, if you will, during the sidewalk sale, as Punkin did. Also mentioned, I think the intent here is really to try to provide separation during the event so people can safely browse through the items outside. But then there is a safe path for pedestrians. A.J., reach out to the company that does barriers for the Christmas parade and they can do it for under three thousand dollars and it would be up from Wednesday to Sunday. Punkin and also did mentioned that they would be willing to share in the costs of that with the town because it is supporting the MBPA. And it also, you know, of course, we think is overall beneficial for the retailers and supporting them in this time. So we I would say as staff think that it's a way of supporting our retailers. We think it's a low impact way. It will take some parking away, but not a significant portion throughout. When you consider the full length of Route 50. So that being said, I'm open to conversations about it. If there are any concerns or questions. I would also if we go forward with this and council's okay with it, there would be some aspects of it that we would ask the retailers to agree to, such as signing a letter of indemnification similar to what we did with the restaurants, as also indicating they have the proper insurance and would name us as an additional insured. It's a very simple process that any insurance company can do in a snap. And so to us, that's a very important piece if they're going to be putting their wares out in the street. And then we would also look at potentially and we'll have to see if the timing works and if we are if the cost is prohibitive. But just like we did open for takeout banners for the restaurants, I think it would be nice to have some additional banners that we can place on the barriers. So it doesn't look like you're just staring at a metal grate that that we could have some signage saying welcome to Middleburg MBPA in town in Middleburg, you know, sidewalk sale it support the businesses as much as we can. Yeah. So anyway, those are some general ideas. We realize it's coming up very quickly, but we also think that this can come together fairly simply.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** I like the idea of the barriers. Now, it begs the question, were canceled postponing a national night out. We've just talked about concern about people going in to Common Grounds, not wearing a mask. Now we're going to have people from all over Northern Virginia and from D.C. as far as D.C. to come out, see the country and walk the sidewalks. Are we going to enforce mask regulations?

**Bridge Littleton:** This is a private event. We can't stop it, but we are absolutely going to enforce it. Right. Yeah. I mean, if we see people, you know, I mean, like we talked about how we remind and how we cajole and I think Kevin's bring up a really good point. Right. Better see something from MBPA, which has a strong element of how they're going to remind people to wear masks and social distance and all that kind of stuff. [off mic] Exactly. Masks required. All that stuff. Great question. Darlene.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Danny Davis:** So I have unmuted, A.J., I'm not sure if we know the exact number of spaces. So from Liberty to Madison, it would be both sides of the street, because that's where the concentration of retailers that participate. And then only one side of the street across from the bank in the post office. Because, you know, the bank and post office don't have stuff out. The Fun Shop hasn't put out something last couple of years. And they also had that side area, that little patio for lack of a better term.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic].

**Danny Davis:** Well, I think we can work with them.

**Bridge Littleton:** They've actually got a segregated area [inaudible]

**Danny Davis:** So it's not it's just over a thousand feet. And I don't know how many how long our parking spaces are. [off mic] Oh no, it's more than three or four per side. [off mic] It's probably 30 ish.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic].

**Danny Davis:** A.J., do you have any idea if not, we can get that information for you.

**AJ Panebianco:** As far as a parking spaces? I don't know off the top of my head, but it probably it is probably the number that you said.

**Darlene Kirk:** Everybody is always so concerned about parking and Middleburg. That's a lot of parking spaces. I'm just mentioning that to think about it.

**Danny Davis:** And that was part of the conversation with MBPA on Tuesday night was, you know, we're talking about impacting parking. And they they all felt I don't want to speak for any of them, but I think generally everyone was in concurrence that this idea would actually promote safety of the event and it would promote it perhaps even being better. And people generally are able to find parking when they come into town. And then it's the walking through town.

**Bridge Littleton:** How many people are at that meeting?

**Danny Davis:** It was their board, which is eight members. It's the MBPA board. It wasn't [inaudible].

**Bridge Littleton:** So couple of quick thoughts. Number one, they need to go out to all their membership and educate them and get their concurrence, because one of the things we hear from street business on Main Street all the time is that there's not enough parking. And 30 spaces is about half of the spaces that we have on Main Street. I think it's about 60. So it's close to half. I mean, I think it's a great idea. But what is the contingency plan to identify additional parking spaces for people to go to. Need to understand that. I mean, we do have you know, there's other lots in town. We have the one behind the Methodist church is the one behind the bank. We can use that. There's the community center one, whatever.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** What was that?

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** Exactly. Exactly. [off mic] Exactly. Exactly. So. Philip.

**Philip Miller:** Have they given thought to making the sidewalks one way?

**Danny Davis:** They did not discuss that.

**Philip Miller:** They thought about having traffic only go one way just to kind of keep the flow working for. If there is a lot if there are a lot of people.

**Bridge Littleton:** I think it's a real challenge because what you're not going to have is compliance by residents. [off mic] Philip, I mean, I don't think it's a bad idea. Let's see if, you know, you guys need to look and see if it's workable.

**Chris Bernard:** The thing about the parking is what other lots are available. And have you guys reached out to them to figure this out?

**Bridge Littleton:** Well it's MBPA needs to reach out.

**Chris Bernard:** That's what I'm saying. I'm talking to Danny like he's on the MBPA. And then and I like your point about making sure that because they just did they had their meeting the other night and it was just the board. I don't know. Has that been kind of agreed upon by the majority of the businesses? I don't know. Or does it need to be? But

then the last thing is so Punkin brought up Warrenton and I work in Old Town Warrenton and they have done a fantastic job of setting up dining on their main street. Main Street in Warrenton and Main Street in Middleburg are very different animals. So just from a safety standpoint, I think we want to be cognizant of that. I know the speed limit is 25 through town, but and then any do you have like some bigger trucks and stuff like that, which you don't get on Main Street in Warrenton. So from a safety thing, but also from like a I guess a legality standpoint. And maybe you've already thought of this. But I mean, we'll VDOT let us do that. I mean can they stop us? I don't know.

**Danny Davis:** The parking spaces, I think we have the ability to handle and we've done on in other situations. And I'm getting some nods from our town attorney not to speak for him, but I'll nod for him. But yes, I think we have the ability to to deal with the parking spaces as we see appropriate.

**Bridge Littleton:** And the other thing to think about to is this is now five days. Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Danny Davis:** Our intent was to start Wednesday with with the parking. But I mean, again, you know, that may be a compromise where if they reach out to their constituency and they say not for five days, but we're willing Friday, Saturday, Sunday, then it's a compromise. Again, the goal here was also, you know, you've all walked down between Tully's and Creme and it's really and you've got the big trees. And I would argue just I mean, again, from a ability to physically distance and to spread out those things even if the crowd on Wednesday, Thursday is not as big as we would see on the weekend, I still think it's it's important to have from a just for that perspective. [off mic]

**Danny Davis:** Liberty and Madison. In terms of. [off mic] So that's a conversation I'm willing to have if you wish. But we'd get into other conversations where they would have to be able to comply with ABC and things like that if they're willing to.

**Bridge Littleton:** You got to rope it off, all that stuff.

**Danny Davis:** We you know, we had we had thought of perhaps not extending the barriers all the way to Madison Street. So once you get to essentially get to Chloe's, then allow parking on those last three or four spaces in front of Cuppa and Red Fox. However, you know.

**Philip Miller:** That's something could be a little bit dangerous with people parallel parking.

**Danny Davis:** With appropriate distance we have with and we can block one off with cone. I mean, we can work through that.

**Bridge Littleton:** So OK, Bud. Was there any input you had.

**Bud Jacobs:** No, I don't have anything to say at all.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy, how about you?

**Cindy Pearson:** Yeah, well, I do. You know, we are July 9th and they're just starting to work on this. This is a lot to get done and have this out there for that first weekend in August. But I know they can do it. The other thing we haven't I haven't heard anything about. Are they going to do something more with bathrooms? You know, businesses are not going to want people going in. We only have one public restroom. Is it going to be clean more during the day? How is that going to be handled? They need to when they figure out the more parking have signs here and there for people or on their social media guide people to the parking. Maybe MBPA could have a little welcome table somewhere and give out masks. They could buy some of the paper masks to have to give out to people. Let's see. Oh, another thing. With Christmas Middleburg with those barriers it was really nice to have that extra room to walk.

So I'm thinking that's going to help a lot with this. But I do agree to maybe only take it to Chloe because the Red Fox uses that, the two spots up there, especially the one to let people go in and out of their business. And I think they're open again now. I think your patio is open for business.  
[inaudible] So I think that's all for right now.

**Bridge Littleton:** Thanks, Cindy. So. From what I'm hearing an if anybody disagrees. Oh, Peter did you have anything? OK. So I think what I'm here from everybody is it's a good idea. There's a lot of details to be worked out. Yes. And then until those details are worked out, I don't think we're on board.

**Kevin Daly:** Especially safety and masks.

**Danny Davis:** So what is your request? [multiple speakers]

**Bridge Littleton:** If there's a big blowback from the businesses. If they don't want to do it to lose the parking. And I don't say we do it. I mean. [off mic]. Yeah, yeah, I'm talking about retail businesses. You know, if there's a majority of them that actually don't think it's a they don't want to do it.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** And real estate and whoever is on Main street.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah, no, I mean. All right, so let me ask the question this way.

**Chris Bernard:** [off mic] There's a couple of details still to be ironed out. And I don't think we're saying don't go and do it. But if those things come back that aren't satisfactory. We have a we might have to. We should revisit this at the next meeting in two weeks.

**Danny Davis:** That was my question is how you want to revisit this.

**Chris Bernard:** We're going to work with them on it.

**Bridge Littleton:** Oh, totally. Just we need to know. [off mic] Absolutely. Yeah. Well, let me ask this question. Does anybody have any objection, assuming everything gets worked out, that we'll do the barriers and we'll split the cost with them?

**Bud Jacobs:** No problem.

**Bridge Littleton:** OK. That's probably their biggest.

**Cindy Pearson:** It's a good idea.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok. Danny, are you comfortable with that? OK. Next item is the Route 50 crosswalk project.

**Danny Davis:** [off mic] No. Thankfully.

**Bridge Littleton:** It's that whole week in between.

**Danny Davis:** And in fact, we had we did have the date wrong in the ad, but they were the contractor was willing to flex and work with us. So the VDOT did award a contract on the Route 50 crosswalk project to replace all the concrete edging. And they had the design that they believe will be structurally sound and lasts a long time. The plan is that it will take place over three weekends. The first of those is not this coming weekend, but the next weekend.

They will work from Friday night at 10:00 p.m. till Monday at five a.m. They will work all weekend long. So there will be overnight construction activity. There will be all weekend long detours. So the first weekend is July 17 through the 20th. So that's late Friday night again to Monday morning at 5:00 a.m. The next weekend will also be one, which is the 24th to the 27th. And then they will skip the week of the sidewalk sale, the 31st through August 2nd. And then the final weekend will be August 7th through the 10th. Their intent is to be done and three weekends, knock it out. They do have the following weekend in August as a backup should there be any weather issue or a reason they can't do their work over a weekend. They have incentives to be done by August 31st or maybe 21st anyway, sometime in late August. So I'm certain that they will be done by the end of August unless we get literally loads of rain or something like that. Now there are just as we've been talking about all these other issues, there's a lot of communication that has to occur between now and Tuesday, really. And that is beginning to let the public know about what's happening, because there are business impacts, there are residential impacts there are visitor impacts, and there's just overall travel impacts. If you recall the last during the rail 50 project, the entire road generally was not shut down. It was just one lane. But this is a complete closure. So the first weekend Route 50 will be shut down prior to the Plains Road all the way past Pickering because they'll be dealing with the crosswalks at Plains Road. Take I'm sorry, pass Pendleton because they will be dealing with the Plains Road. Pickering, the mid-walk cross from Common Grounds to the post office. And then at Pendleton. We will be having to route traffic for that weekend through Ridgeview, similar to like we do for the Christmas parades. And we are working with the contractor and VDOT on that. And with A.J., of course, the second weekend they'll work on Madison and Liberty and we're working on the best way to flow that traffic. And then the final weekend, they will be working on Hamilton and Jay. This actually it didn't hit me until further looking at the map. This is actually probably the most challenging of the weekends because all traffic, both directions will have to go down [Inaudible]. And there's no way around it. There is no way to go south because they'll be closing off Jay. There will be no way to go any other direction. So I've already asked A.J. to begin. I mean, it's technically not our responsibility to handle the detours and all that. But I do think in that particular situation, all three weekends are important. But that one in particular, that we need to have a couple extra officers on duty to assist with that turning movement at Pinckney and Route 50. [off mic] A narrow street. And then, of course, you're coming downhill trying to turn left. We are going to have to eliminate on street parking. Selectively during each weekend, depending on where the activity is occurring. So, for instance, on that day, we will likely have to limit parking on Jay Street. And clearly on Pinckney. But most people don't park there. But on Jay Street from Pinckney all the way up to. I'm sorry, Marshall. from Pinckney to Jay at a minimum just to be able make those turning movements. And as you know, there's a lot of cars that part along Jay along and along. Yeah. So we'll have to work on, you know, options and communications. [off mic] Yeah, yeah. And then we're looking at the best way to flow traffic in on the other weekends. So there are fewer conflict points when they're turning. But we're waiting on getting the plan from the contractor and then we're going to provide our input on that. So in terms of communication, we have a multitude of ways we're gonna get this out. Number one, I have a news release I plan to send out tomorrow. As a reminder, we just had the conversation with VDOT this morning. So, I mean, it's all flying fast. We'll get a general news release out. This is what's happening. These are the weekends. Please be aware and be alert and pay attention. I plan to stand up a separate Web page on our Web site specific to the Route 50, I'll call it Route 50 crosswalks or detours or something. I don't know. Where we can continue to update it with additional information. And then we will be doing regular news releases about upcoming detours. And then we'll be doing social. We'll be doing door to doors because clearly businesses are gonna be impacted. So say for the first weekend, I mean, there won't be any on-street parking between the community center and essentially until you get to Safeway. And so, you know, businesses on that section of road, people are going to have to find alternate parking. Probably the sidewalks will not be impacted. So the sidewalks will remain open. And then the crosswalks say at Pickering or Pendleton may be impacted in a limited basis, but we are working with the contractor to ensure that at least on one side or another, pedestrians can continue along Washington Street. Preferably they would be able to go on either side and may just have to divert around the construction a bit. But we made that very clear to them today that pedestrian access is critical because once people park, then they begin walking. So trying to see what the other. And then, of course, the contractor and VDOT are letting the appropriate folks, E.M.S. know they'll have a variable message boards up the D2 routes will all be posted by them as appropriate. And then, of course, you know, locals who know their way around may find their own ways around. But it's going to be a change. It's gonna be a challenge. So our goal is to try to then just get the word out as much as we can. A.J., have I missed anything?

**AJ Panebianco:** No, sir. And just so you know, we already have that weekend staffed with two extra officers.

**Danny Davis:** That's great. So that's a broad overview. But they they have, I will say, push hard to get this done in the time frame that we had discussed. And they have involved the town much more directly in these conversations about timing and in getting it done. So.

**Bridge Littleton:** Okay. Yes. Real quickly, let me ask Cindy, do you have any questions?

**Cindy Pearson:** Oh, yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** I'm starting to three minutes now.

**Cindy Pearson:** Hope Danny has on his armor and everybody in the town office. He's gonna need it. So will they put signage up, farther out maybe at 50 and 15 letting tractor trailers know that this is happening. Or maybe it. I don't even know going west how far out that will be. So they can take a different route if they don't want to go through our little mess. I think you go through the sheriff's department to get those things up A.J. probably knows that better than I do. And maybe suggest to the contractor. I don't know if they can do that because they may be doing each crosswalk in different sections, but maybe they could finish the Jay Street one first when they get to that port so they wouldn't have to use the little street further down. Maybe on Saturday or whatever their first day is, they could finish the Jay Street. I don't know if that works or not. They might have to let concrete that or something. So there may be a reason that can't happen, but maybe it could. I don't know. But good luck.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud. Any input?

**Bud Jacobs:** The contractor that is do the work, is it the same contractor who did the initial installation?

**Danny Davis:** It is, so it is the contractor that did the first project. And we work with them on a number of projects throughout town and we discuss that with VDOT and under procurement law and under their contract and their bid process they didn't [off mic] Yeah. They do not have an ability to make that choice. I will say, you know, they, I want to be careful to say the contractor has performed well for the town in other projects. I'm not saying that what they did on this project a few number years ago was was great because there were clearly issues made. However, the issues that they the repairs that they made in the field onsite were endorsed by VDOT as well. So they built it to the approval of VDOT. So there are multiple aspects of that that happen. However, we have made it very, very clear to VDOT that we can't have this happening again. And so I have heard from the head of engineering in Loudoun, as well as or through her, that they are committing their top star inspector to this project to ensure that it's done correctly and to specs. And there aren't field decisions made that impact the longevity of these. And also that they have the full understanding and report of what happened the last time and why that both what happened that time and the repair they did, why it did not hold. I do think having the bridge and structural engineers involved in this is important. And they were about how to create a a better tie in to the cradle. They're not ripping out the entire cradle. I mean, they are cutting it down. They're providing it. And they're anchoring it much, much better than previously. So I have to have confidence in the engineers. But I also have the same feeling that, you know, this is a road project. And so, you know, there's always things that can go wrong. But they understand the council's perspective on this. We have been nothing but very clear about the importance of getting this done. And to be fair, VDOT is out half a million dollars fixing these. So they don't want to go through this again and they don't want to have to, to do this ever again. So, you know, I do believe they they have a plan that will be, that will be workable. So to answer your question. Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** There we go.

**Kevin Daly:** But they're experienced now.

**Bridge Littleton:** They've been to this rodeo before. And Danny, to correct one thing you said, it's the taxpayers who's paying for this again. Not VDOT.

**Danny Davis:** Understood.

**Bridge Littleton:** OK. Peter, you got a question.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** So my concern is and Cindy was talking about tractor trailers turning down Pinkney Street on the best today. I just I can see us having a nightmare. I mean, I just don't understand how they're going to do that.

**Danny Davis:** Well, I do think and Cindy, I appreciate that input. I think working with the sheriff's office. So we're already talking with them about sending out the text alerts. If you sign up for the road closure, text alerts doing that, you know, the Friday afternoon, you know, leading up to it, the Saturday morning, the Sunday morning, just so people know. But I do think getting variable message boards out at, I think at 50 and 15 is a great location.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Is it worth. Is it worth saying something to the weight bridge the weighing bridge up on Gilbert's Corner? They be involved.

**Danny Davis:** I don't know we can ask them.

**Bridge Littleton:** [off mic]

[multiple speakers]

**Danny Davis:** We don't intend at this point to be using Hamilton as as one of our through a bypass through roads [inaudible]. Just because we have other options those days. Yes, literally no other way around it, so. But yes, I agree. And that's why having extra officers there is going to be key. And I think, you know, I would hope maybe by that time people have seen it a few times and and we'll stay.

**Bridge Littleton:** [off mic]

**Danny Davis:** It takes two takes 20 minutes though. It takes 20 minutes. And to your point, part of the reason that we talked about doing this on weekends is hopefully to avoid more of the actual truck traffic. That's a goal.

**Kevin Daly:** And just the comment I'm sorry, this is classic government. There's never enough time to do it right the first time. But there's always enough time and more money to do it over again. I'm really kind of depressed hearing that it's the same contractors coming out and probably under the same supervision. This is a four years ago it was a huge disruption to the town and it took us a long time to recover. And I just hope this is not going to be a repeat process for somebody who's looking for a perpetual job program for every four years. They repeat the same process.

**Bridge Littleton:** Darlene, any input?

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

**Philip Miller:** Communicating this with businesses is going to be brutal.

**Kevin Miller:** And thank you for volunteering Philip. [laughter]

**Bridge Littleton:** Communication extraordinaire.

**Philip Miller:** Yeah, I mean. I guess maybe there's there's a silver lining to it in the fact that we don't have that much traffic right now as it is now, certain terms of traffic to the businesses, but providing parking for those businesses that are going to be blocked with parking in front. That is really going to be tough. And it's critical. So. I don't really know.



**Bridge Littleton:** Actually add to that. When MBPA reaches out to her businesses, do they understand that this is actually going to be four weekends in a row, that there's no parking or that there's limited parking on Main Street? I mean, the sidewalk sale adds another weekend of limited Main Street parking. I just thought about that.

**Philip Miller:** If we think we're gonna need it during these next few. Events, weekends. Should we think about talking to Salamander and using that area that we use during Christmas in Middleburg?

**Danny Davis:** So I just. It's a thought. I think we have multiple options before us. And I think we can pursue some of those. I'm not saying it's bad that when you start getting into a field, you also introduce, you know, whether it's people getting stuck or, you know. I don't mind asking Reggie. But we also have. We also have options. You know, assuming community center potentially, if they're not doing one of their events. We have the sporting library. We have the bank parking lot that used to be where the farmer's market was. So I think there's some of those that we can reach out to and just see if they can be listed as alternate parking areas. And again, many, many all out there. But, yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** You already passed. Go ahead.

**Darlene Kirk:** I know that when I've been going up to the community center during the week, especially like towards the end of the week, that back lot is already full by the time I get there at 11 when the pool opens. Yeah. So, yeah. So I just thought I'd let you know.

**Danny Davis:** Well we may see if she can open, she's willing to open up the grass lot.

**Bridge Littleton:** Ok, Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Parking. So this has to be done. We know when it's going to be done. I think we absolutely have to reach out to this the all the lights and lock that down, because then that's part of your when you talk to the businesses, hey, we have secured parking, not hey, we're going to talk to them about it. And then the messaging to the businesses, I think is similar thing has to be done. We've gone through great, painstaking conversation to make sure that we did it in as least an impactful way as possible. Right. So it's got to be done on the weekends because of the traffic load. We don't have control over that. But I think we did squish it from, like, what did they say, five or six weekends down to three because we asked some multiples at once. So we worked really hard to make this is as painless as possible. And again, like Bridge said, it's happening or maybe as it it's happening at the best possible time because everything's already slow. So it just makes sure that that's all communicated.

**Danny Davis:** Yes. And if anyone does ask, you know, the typical criticism of government is why don't you take advantage of opportunities right when they hit. If we could have done this in April, it would have been ideal, but there was no way to get it done. We pushed and we asked. And it's just so but it's worth noting that the effort was there and the answer was no, it couldn't be done any faster.

**Bridge Littleton:** So the only thing I would add is let Tony's office now, because they send those alerts out to everybody in the Blue Ridge district and ask them just, you know, as these happen, if they could do their weekly blast because they're doing it for what's going on in Hillsborough, letting people know about the road closures. Ok. We're going to go into close session now. But before that, we have a second public comment session and then we're going to take a five minute break. So as we're coming to the close of the public part of the meeting, is there any member from the community who would like to speak to the town council? If so, we will now open the public comment session. Step forward to the, where's the microphone. Ok State your name, your address. You have three minutes.

**Christine Kreger:** Christine Kreger. I'm on Pot House Road and I would like to speak with Darlene. I really respect what you've done. I think it's incredible for the community and I really appreciate it. But because of HIPPA I don't even have to say anything. Are you familiar with the 10th cranial nerve? All right. Has to do with respiratory issues.

[off mic] OK. But I'm just I'm just letting you know I respect you and I have to respect myself as well. So just to kind of clear that just for the future, I need to let.

**Bridge Littleton:** Just for future reference. Yeah. Public comment is not meant to address a member of council specifically.

**Christine Kreger:** Oh Sorry.

**Bridge Littleton:** It's to address an issue.

**Christine Kreger:** OK. All right. Well it was an issue. I just wanted to clarify it.

**Bridge Littleton:** Yeah. Thank you. Estee is there anybody online on the phone. [off mic] OK. We will close the public comment session and we will now go to close session. [off mic] No, we're going to go into closed session right now. Oh, that's right. Okay. Yeah. Yeah. We'll adjourn the public meeting and then take a recess. That's the word I was looking for. It's been a long week. We will recess and reconvene in five minutes. All right, I'm gonna read the motion here. No someone else has to read the motion.

**Chris Bernard:** Vice Mayor what's his face.

**Philip Miller:** [off mic]

**Chris Bernard:** Second.

**Bridge Littleton:** Any discussion? All right, Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Philip.

**Philip Miller:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud.

**Bud Jacobs:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy.

**Cindy Pearson:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Darlene.

**Darlene Kirk:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** All right. We're in closed session. I direct that. I ask that each I ask. I asked the council certified to the best of each member's knowledge, one only public matters lawfully exempted from open meeting requirements under the Virginia Freedom of Information Act. And two, only such public business matters as were identified in the motion by which the closed meeting was can be were heard, discussed or considered in the closed session. I would like to remind those present for the closed session that any discussion occurred within it should be treated as confidential. Peter.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** Philip.

**Philip Miller:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** Kevin.

**Kevin Daly:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Cindy.

**Cindy Pearson:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** Bud.

**Bud Jacobs:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** Darlene. [multiple speakers] Chris.

**Chris Bernard:** Yes.

**Bridge Littleton:** Is there a motion for somebody?

**Philip Miller:** I move that council approve action as discussed in closed session for Danny to move forward with project bonuses for employees.

**Kevin Daly:** Second.

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

**Everyone:** Aye.

**Bridge Littleton:** All those opposed. All right. We did that one quickly. But on one last thing, Bates. Yes. Getting the old trash cans.

**Danny Davis:** Yes. So if if residents and council members would contact the town office 687- 5152 and let us know that you have an old trash can that hasn't been picked up or that you won't take it up. Then we can put you on a list and we will begin taking those up over a period of time. And we will do them as quickly as we can. But Tim will be working on that.

**Bridge Littleton:** So why is Bates not doing it?

**Will Moore:** [off mic]

**Kevin Daly:** We put a notice out on either the website or in the newsletter?

**Bridge Littleton:** So let me ask a question. I've had several calls from folks about the recycling bins being too small when they had a regular full sized toter under Bates. Like I don't need my extra Bates, I don't need my Bates' toter. It's green, but I don't need it. [off mic] Well, no. But my question is, is that is that all. I mean, so if I understand correctly with American, you want a big recycling toter, you got to buy it yourself. OK. They'll give you the small one. But you've got to buy a big one if you want it. If we collect these extra toters, if Tim comes around and gets them. Do we want to paint them Blue and offer them to somebody if they want it as their recycling one? Not saying think about it. Right. There's probably going to be a hundred toters.

**Peter Leonard-Morgan:** So one of the issues is no more glass recycling.

**Bridge Littleton:** But that's everybody. [off mic] Well, put it this way I have had multiple people call me saying I want a bigger toter. And the problem is you're got to buy one.

**Philip Miller:** I have a bigger toter that I've purchased myself. And what I'm using a little one for is I'm actually putting glass in it and then I'm just going to put it in the car and drop it off at Mickey Gordon at the county glass disposal. Yeah.

**Bridge Littleton:** So anyway you guys think about it if that's something that would work and ask American if they saw blue painted one, would they still do it as recycling.

**Darlene Kirk:** [off mic]

[multiple speakers]

**Will Moore:** [off mic]

**Bridge Littleton:** I mean, if it doesn't work, it doesn't work. But, hey, we're probably gonna have 100 toters. [off mic] [multiple speakers] OK. Anything else? Meeting adjourned.

**Kevin Daly:** Congratulations Phil again.