

MIDDLEBURG MEMO

10 W MARSHALL ST. PO BOX 187 MIDDLEBURG, VA 20118-0187 | MIDDLEBURGVA.GOV | (540) 687-5152 | INFO@MIDDLEBURGVA.GOV



GET READY FOR GREAT TOWN and COMMUNITY EVENTS

The Town and community partners are already planning for all of our great events to return in 2023, including:

- Middleburg Spring Races - Saturday, April 22nd
- Middleburg Hunt Point-to-Point - Sunday, April 30th
- Art in the Burg - Saturday, May 13th 10am-6pm; S. Madison and W. Federal Streets
- **Farmers Market** - Saturdays 10am-1pm - starts May 20th at M'burg Charter School
- Summer Concerts - Open Late at NSLM and Concert on the Steps at MCC
- Upperville Colt & Horse Show - June 5th-11th
- Independence Day Celebrations - Tuesday, July 4th
- National Night Out - Tuesday, August 1st
- Middleburg Oktoberfest - Saturday, September 16th
- 1000 Miglia Warm-Up USA - October 31-November 5
- Christmas in Middleburg - Saturday, December 2nd

Read all about our great events at www.middleburgva.gov/events



CELEBRATING CHIEF AJ!

We are excited to celebrate Chief AJ and his 11 years of service to the Town of Middleburg. Join us on Friday, April 21st, from 5pm-7pm at the Middleburg Community Center to thank AJ for his dedication to Middleburg and to wish him the best in his retirement. The event is free and is open to all members of the community! Please visit www.middleburgva.gov/chiefaj or contact Rhonda North at 540-687-5152 or rnorth@middleburgva.gov for more information. Please RSVP by April 10th.

TOWN COUNCIL STRATEGIC PLAN - 2023

The Town Council met on March 6th at The Hill School to discuss its strategic priorities for 2023. The discussion centered on three main areas:

- Protecting established neighborhoods with additional zoning regulations: The Town has heard from residents concerned by the scale of new homes built in the Ridgeview neighborhood; the Town Council has already adopted a number of restrictions and will be considering additional regulations to protect the character of the neighborhood.
- Infrastructure Needs, focused on South Madison Street: The Town Council spent time discussing the need to conduct a comprehensive review of South Madison Street, to improve commercial vitality and safety. Examples include enhancing visibility, adding more infrastructure, and repairing the sidewalks.
- Engage the community regarding Asbury Church: In the fall of 2022, the Town Council decided to retain the historic Asbury Church and invest the time and dollars to restore and reuse the Church for community purposes. The Town Council is ready to initiate this process and has made it a strategic priority.

Read more about the Council's Strategic Initiatives at:

www.middleburgva.gov/council

CONSERVING WATER!

We appreciate when the community alerts us to possible water leaks. The Town wants to be good stewards of our water system and reduce the amount of wasted water.

If you notice water leaking from the ground, please call the Town Office at 540-687-5152. If it is after-hours, you can contact Inboden Environmental Services at 800-648-1010.

Together we can protect this valuable resource!

UPCOMING TOWN EVENTS

- CHIEF AJ'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION:

April 21, 2023 - 5pm-7pm - Community Center

- ART IN THE BURG

May 13, 2023 - 10am-6pm - S. Madison and Federal Streets



TOWN OF MIDDLEBURG

10 W. Marshall St., PO Box 187
Middleburg, VA 20118-0187
middleburgva.gov (540) 687-5152

MAYOR & TOWN COUNCIL

Trowbridge M. Littleton, Mayor

Peter Leonard-Morgan, Vice Mayor

Chris W. Bernard
Darlene Kirk

J. Kevin Daly
Philip M. Miller

Morris "Bud" Jacobs
Cindy C. Pearson

What's Happening With the Town Hall Project?



The Town's general contractor has once again provided the Town notice that it will be delayed in delivering the new Town Hall. The anticipated move-in date for Town staff is now May/June 2023.

The Town Council has heard from some members of the public concerned about what these delays mean in terms of cost. The Town has a fixed-price contract that requires the project to be delivered at the contractual cost, regardless of time delays. In addition, the contract calls for the contractor to pay the Town set amounts per day of delay, which the Town will assess at the completion of the project.

The Town staff and Town Council are working closely with our construction management team to ensure the Town's interests are fully protected and that the project is completed according to design.

Despite these setbacks, progress continues to be made on the project:

- Permeable pavers have been laid in the two main parking areas;

- The retaining walls are complete;

- Interior drywall is nearly complete and most trade activities are nearing completion;

- Grading of the Village Green continues;

- Upcoming work includes: resolving trim issues on the windows to meet design specs; installing the exterior EIFS (stucco-like facade); finishing the driveway and asphalt; laying sidewalks and other concrete; installing floors and millwork; connecting permanent power; and fabricating the cupola.

Please remember that the site is an active construction zone and only authorized personnel are allowed onsite.



PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR 2024 BUDGET



The Town Manager presented his proposed budget for fiscal year 2024 (FY24) on February 23, 2023. The Town continues to see increases in tax revenues, primarily from the Meals Tax and Transient Occupancy Tax (sometimes called the "lodging tax"). The Town is also realizing significant interest income from its investments.

Property assessments, conducted by Loudoun County, have resulted in property values increasing 12% for 2023. The Town Council has already decided to lower the real property tax rate. A Public Hearing will be held on March 23rd at 6:00pm at the Town Office to hear from the public on the

proposed tax rate.

Proposed expenditures in the Town budget are intended to accomplish the Town Council's strategic goals and to continue operating the Town government in an effective and efficient manner. Enhancements include safety items in the Police Department, technology improvements, and community-focused events for residents.

In the Utility Fund, the Town Manager has recommended 3% rate increases for both water and sewer service, in accordance with the Utility Rate Model conducted last year. The Town Council has expressed a desire to review current rates and to discuss how to help low-income residents with utility bills.

The Town continues to invest in infrastructure, primarily in the area of repairing aging sewer lines and replacing old water mains that are susceptible to breaks.

Residents are encouraged to review the proposed budget at www.middleburgva.gov/budget

Public input is accepted at all Town Council meetings, as well as at specific public hearings that are required by state code. Input can also be provided by calling the Town Office, emailing the Town Council/Town Clerk, or submitting a public comment on the Town's website.

LOUDOUN TOGETHER: PLANNING OUR SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Tuesday, April 11th - 8:00am - 3:00pm - Salamander Resort & Spa

In Middleburg and Western Loudoun County, we all recognize the critical importance of maintaining the rural landscape of Loudoun County. It protects our water supply, it preserves open space, and it promotes agricultural activities. All of these save the County millions of dollars per year and protect the health and welfare of our citizens.

At the same time, development pressure and unfettered growth **threaten the quality of life** for ALL of Loudoun County – east and west. We need to learn how to speak to the issues of preserving rural Loudoun and standing against continuous growth across the countryside.

This is a ticketed event: More information will be on the Town website in the coming week. Please help us spread the word, especially with our neighbors in eastern Loudoun!

TOWN NOTES:

The Town Council recognized DeeDee Hubbard and Jay Hubbard for their longstanding efforts supporting the community with the *Middleburg Eccentric*, which published its last edition in December 2022. Both DeeDee and Jay have invested incredible time supporting the community and businesses through their work and volunteerism.

FARMERS MARKET RETURNS:

We are excited to have the Middleburg Farmers Market return, starting May 20th at the Middleburg Charter School (101 N. Madison). Get more info on our website at middleburgva.gov



WATER METERS:

Please remember that property owners are not permitted to tamper with or open up water meters, as this can damage the Town's water system. If you need assistance with your water or have concerns about water consumption, please contact the Town Office

WATER TOWER WORK:

The Town's contractors will be working on the Marshall Street water tower this spring/summer. Please use caution in the area. Note that T-Mobile customers may experience reduced cell phone service during this work.