

Dan Hoffman ([00:05](#)):

Hello, and welcome to another edition of the Rouss Review. I'm your City Manager Dan Hoffman. And with me is Communications Director Amy Simmons. Hello, Amy.

Amy Simmons ([00:12](#)):

Hello Champ.

Dan Hoffman ([00:13](#)):

Champ? We are perky today.

Amy Simmons ([00:16](#)):

[Laughs] Yes, but you know why.

Dan Hoffman ([00:18](#)):

No, I don't.

Amy Simmons ([00:18](#)):

You're officially champion of the 2021...

Dan Hoffman ([00:21](#)):

Oh, that's right.

Amy Simmons ([00:22](#)):

Chili Cook-Off.

Dan Hoffman ([00:22](#)):

I won our staff chili cook-off. It was anonymous. It wasn't like it was a little placard saying the City Manager's Chili or anything. It was an anonymous and fair...

Amy Simmons ([00:32](#)):

Judged.

Dan Hoffman ([00:32](#)):

Judged contest that I won.

Amy Simmons ([00:42](#)):

Congratulations.

Dan Hoffman ([00:42](#)):

Fairly. Congratulations to me indeed.

Amy Simmons ([00:44](#)):

And it's almost like the City Manager's Office was taking over because Kerri got People's Choice.

Dan Hoffman ([00:50](#)):

She got People's Choice. City Manager's Office rather talented in the culinary aspects. Patrick's been working on his Ted Lasso biscuits.

Amy Simmons ([01:01](#)):

And he dressed as Ted Lasso for Halloween.

Dan Hoffman ([01:03](#)):

He dressed as Ted Lasso. It was an awesome costume. Grew a legitimate mustache for it. Kerri, who didn't even intend to enter her chili gets people's choice. It was a very tasty chili, as well. We have to figure out something for you to cook now.

Amy Simmons ([01:18](#)):

I can't cook.

Dan Hoffman ([01:19](#)):

Oh, come on. You got to do one thing. One thing you're known for in the kitchen since you eat like three...

Amy Simmons ([01:26](#)):

Drawing a blank [laughs].

Dan Hoffman ([01:26](#)):

Yeah. We'll work on that.

Amy Simmons ([01:29](#)):

Okay.

Dan Hoffman ([01:29](#)):

So, chili cook-off was fun. Halloween was fun. We have relaxed the mask requirement here at City Hall. If you are vaccinated and visiting you do not have to wear your mask here in City Hall. If you are not vaccinated, still got to wear it.

Amy Simmons ([01:51](#)):

City Hall and all City buildings.

Dan Hoffman ([01:52](#)):

All City buildings. Yes. Thank you. Same goes for City staff. So if you see a City staff person not wearing a mask, it means they have been vaccinated. And this applies to anybody you see out in the general course of their duties, whether it's police, fire, or otherwise. If they are vaccinated, they do not need to wear a mask.

Amy Simmons ([02:11](#)):

Unless they just feel like they want to for safety.

Dan Hoffman ([02:13](#)):

If there's some kind of strange person that enjoys wearing a mask, have at it. So...

Amy Simmons ([02:50](#)):

Council meeting. What's coming up?

Dan Hoffman ([02:53](#)):

So tomorrow, let's see. On our agenda, we've got a bunch of land use stuff.

Amy Simmons ([02:59](#)):

As always. Seems like it's every week.

Dan Hoffman ([03:01](#)):

I'm going to go through a few things off the top of my head that are important. We already talked about right of way vacations last time. We've got a couple of developments coming up. One of them is over off of Legge Boulevard. But for those of you not aware where that is, that is a parcel of land...I think it's behind the Home Depot. It's over there, back off the highway.

Amy Simmons ([03:28](#)):

Or is it behind the old Pier 1, behind Lowe's? That little strip of land there.

Dan Hoffman ([03:32](#)):

Yeah, maybe it's behind Lowe's. Oh, it's behind the Lowe's, that's right. Home Depot, Lowe's.

Amy Simmons ([03:38](#)):

They're both right there.

Dan Hoffman ([03:38](#)):

Yeah, Lowe's. It's over there behind the Lowe's. That's one of them. The other one is off of...this one it's kinda hard to describe where it is. This one is, if you're going up Jefferson Street by the high school, and you kind of just keep going up the hill past the innovation center, it's going to be back in there. There's a cleared undeveloped area back there. It's actually part of the Glen Burnie Foundation, I believe. There's another parcel that's been purchased by the developer adjacent to it.

Amy Simmons ([04:12](#)):

Is that going to be apartments?

Dan Hoffman ([04:12](#)):

That's going to be age-restricted senior living. So single single family, detached homes, but it's going to be age restricted. You're going to get a lot of elderly couples, folks that want that kind of environment.

Amy Simmons ([04:30](#)):

According to the housing study, we need that.

Dan Hoffman ([04:31](#)):

We need all of the above. So, if you see something getting built just keep in mind that we desperately need housing throughout the city. We are 9.2 square miles and we cannot manufacture more land.

Amy Simmons ([04:45](#)):

Yeah. That's one thing I've been talking to Shawn about. It's mainly the higher end stuff that we need. So it doesn't make all the rest higher.

Dan Hoffman ([04:53](#)):

Exactly. It's not that trickle down. So we kind of needed it at all ends of the spectrum, particularly the top end and the lower end. We need more, this might sound kind of weird, we need housing for folks that have money because those folks are in essence buying down and pushing a lot of folks out. We need all of the above, including affordable, of course. Okay. We've got some housing stuff on there. We are going to approve the calendar for next year.

Amy Simmons ([05:27](#)):

Exciting.

Dan Hoffman ([05:27](#)):

Very exciting. Next year, we're going to have two recesses.

Amy Simmons ([05:34](#)):

Possibly.

Dan Hoffman ([05:34](#)):

Possibly. It's still gotta get approved, of course, but it's not the the kind of recess you had an elementary school.

Amy Simmons ([05:39](#)):

Darn.

Dan Hoffman ([05:39](#)):

You can have recess any day. You can at your lunch, you can go play Dodgeball on the...

Amy Simmons ([05:46](#)):

That sounds like me, yes.

Dan Hoffman ([05:50](#)):

That would be fun though. The Council is proposing that they will take a period of time in July off. So, in essence, we're canceling one meeting in July, and then we will cancel the meetings in December. Next year, for those avid City Council fans that want to show up at every meeting, just be aware to check the calendar once it's approved for next year. And then, we will have a Work Session after the regular

meeting, talking about north end revitalization. We'll be covering a variety of topics. You know, the status of parks, renovating parks, new parks property developments. We'll talk briefly about Zeropak, for example. We'll talk about some other revitalization strategies for that portion of town. When I'm talking about North End, I'm really talking about kind of everything up in that northeastern quadrant, for the most part. I know that there's different neighborhoods within there, including one called North End, but we are kind of talking about really the north side of the city, mainly the northeast quadrant. Kind of above National and mainly most of Ward 2, for lack of a better way to put it. So, that's the Council meeting and we've got Chief Piper here waiting on us. We're going to talk about mental health and a few other odds and ends. Let's go and get him in here since his time is precious.

Dan Hoffman ([07:25](#)):

All right, Chief. Welcome back.

John Piper ([07:27](#)):

Thank you. Good to be here.

Dan Hoffman ([07:28](#)):

Last time you were here, we talked about weed.

Amy Simmons ([07:31](#)):

[Laughs] Don't put it that way.

John Piper ([07:31](#)):

Legislative changes.

Dan Hoffman ([07:34](#)):

Legislative changes associated with marijuana. Fine. But what we're here to talk about today are some mental health stuff, not nearly as fun as discussing marijuana and the legislative reforms. Instead, we're here to talk about some of the issues and challenges we're having around individuals in our community that are having a mental health crisis or some type of event that folks that are in crisis. And what happens when the police department has to get involved. Or it could be that our fire and rescue folks get called to it. Folks are acting in a way that indicates they're a danger to themselves or others. Sometimes they'll just come right out and say that they're a danger to themselves. And I see in the shift summaries almost every shift, I'd say at least every other shift, there's a report of someone who has been taken into custody either on an emergency basis or temporary basis. And then what? Cause they haven't really committed a crime at that point. But Chief, explain the process. Let's start from the beginning, explain the process. Someone calls 9-1-1, they see somebody out on the street acting irregular or they're they seem like that person might hurt someone. You guys show up and it's one of these situations. What happens?

John Piper ([10:17](#)):

Right. Unfortunately, about 20% of the calls for service deal with somebody in mental crisis or going through a bad situation. And statutorily in Virginia, we can become involved in taking someone into custody against their will on what's called an Emergency Custody Order. If they're presenting with behaviors or statements that they're an immediate threat to themselves or others, and that's defined in

State Code. Oftentimes, when we come out in a situation like you just described, people will go to the hospital on a voluntary basis and get the care that they need. But sometimes people are in such a bad state that they're resistant to getting that help. So, more and more commonly, we're having to take people into custody to begin this process of getting them care that they need, because they're not have the right mental capacity or they're in crisis to be able to make those decisions for themselves.

Dan Hoffman ([11:06](#)):

That's an ECO process, the Emergency Custody Order. There's also TDO. What's the difference between those two?

John Piper ([11:13](#)):

When someone's taken into custody on an ECO, they're brought to the Winchester Medical Center Emergency Department for an evaluation. It's a two-fold evaluation. They're getting medically cleared and the folks at the Community Services Board, the CSB, the clinicians who are tasked with doing the triage or the evaluation of the patient to determine their care and their needs and where they should end up. There's a process that happens that can take upwards of eight hours. While the patient is getting medically cleared, and while they're being evaluated for psychiatric care, they are looking for bed space that may or may not be available. In 2014, there were some legislative changes that hopefully we're trying to expedite this process and take law enforcement out of it to the extent possible. But what's happened is during this process of evaluation that can lead upwards of eight hours, there may come a time where the clinician feels that the person needs additional care. And at that point, they'll petition the magistrate for what's called a TDO, which is the Temporary Detention Order. If that's issued, then the law enforcement officer then has to execute that paperwork on the patient and then drive that patient to either a private hospital or to the state hospital, depending on where a bed is available. And that's become more and more of the issue recently.

Dan Hoffman ([12:33](#)):

We'll get into the state hospitals here in a second. What happens when a bed is not available then? Where do they go?

John Piper ([12:43](#)):

What is supposed to happen is, by statute in Virginia after 2014, a state hospital, Northwestern Hospital, is supposed to be what's called the bed of last resort. What was happening previously was private hospitals decided they weren't going to take the person. Maybe they were too violent. They were uncooperative. Frankly, they didn't like their insurance. There was a variety of different reasons, or they just may not have bed space available.

Dan Hoffman ([13:11](#)):

And we can't force a private provider to take someone.

John Piper ([13:12](#)):

No. We have very little if any leverage there. The law was changed in 2014 to make the state hospitals, and I believe there's eight of them across the Commonwealth, to be the bed of last resort, so that we didn't end up in a situation where people weren't getting the care that they desperately needed. Recently, due to staffing shortages and other issues going on with people working in the State hospitals,

we were told, we law enforcement were told across the Commonwealth, that five of the eight hospitals, including the one in our region, we're closing two new admissions. Even though the State Code requires them to accept them. They said, 'Hey, we don't have beds available. We don't have people available to staff them.' So, it's created this huge issue where the law enforcement officers, that frankly need to be out policing the community, are now having to sit with people who are under a TDO. In the case of a juvenile, it could be 96 hours. Upwards of five days. For an adult it's 72 hours. And again, if there's no bed available, no bed is found, nothing is available in the State hospital that's supposed to be that bed of last resort, what happens, unfortunately, at the end of that TDO process is that law enforcement loses its legal authority to have custody of that person and they're released without any critical care. Especially for juveniles because there's no capacity here.

Dan Hoffman ([14:32](#)):

So, one of our officers would be sitting with a juvenile for four days...

John Piper ([14:38](#)):

Up to five days.

Dan Hoffman ([14:39](#)):

Up to five days over at, let's say Winchester Medical, waiting hopefully for a bed to come available. If it comes available. For four days, what's that juvenile doing?

John Piper ([14:53](#)):

They're getting very little, if any, psychiatric care number one. Sometimes, depending on their actions, their behavior and their needs, they could be restrained. They're getting, of course, medical care if they need it because they're in the emergency room, but it is a process that is completely broken. Now, I'll give you an extreme example. Of course, I can't get into the name or any details of the juvenile because it is a kid, but we had a situation recently where a young man needed to be taken into custody. I believe he was 15 years old. He sat up at the emergency room at Winchester Medical Center with one of our officers, several of our officers, being paid overtime.

Dan Hoffman ([15:33](#)):

Off the street, we're paying overtime.

John Piper ([15:36](#)):

Yep. Five days. No beds available. The child gets released back to the environment from which we took him. Within the matter of a few hours, his behavior escalated again, where he was assaultive and being destructive and the officers were called back to that location. He was taken into custody again. We watched him for another five days. Again, no bed was available. He received no critical care that he needed. And the end of that, he was released back to the custodian. That's an extreme example, but unfortunately, what we're seeing is an uptick in these. Just some numbers, year to date, just here in Winchester, we've had 170 total ECO's, Emergency Custody Orders. And that could be an officer generating it in the field in a situation we just described, or it could be that a clinician or a doctor petitioned the Magistrate for a paper ECO and we would go out and serve it.

Dan Hoffman ([16:28](#)):

That's about right. That's every other shift.

John Piper ([16:31](#)):

Yeah. It's about 19 per month, according to my calculations, and about 31 of those were juveniles in the ECOs. And it's just getting worse and worse.

Dan Hoffman ([16:45](#)):

Wow. So what's the fix here? This is clearly a big enough issue that the City can't just change the law. These are State laws. We don't have the resources to just stand up our own mental hospital. What's the fix?

John Piper ([17:06](#)):

In my opinion, and I came from Fairfax County Police, this was an issue there. It's an issue across the Commonwealth. It's not an issue, to your point, that's unique to Winchester. It needs to be fixed in Richmond. Number one, we need to have additional funding so that the State hospital systems in particular can higher quality personnel, pay them appropriately, so that they can work in those very demanding, challenging environments. That's the first thing. The irony in some of the criminal justice reform that was done over the last year and a year and a half was an attempt, rightly so, to get law enforcement out of things that are not law enforcement. This is a civil process, but when all else fails, oftentimes, law enforcement has to step up and I think that's one of these situations. Unfortunately, the end result is our officers being taken off the street, not out here policing Winchester where they should be and costing our taxpayers money by having to fund overtime in some situations. But to answer your question, I think that's the first thing is proper funding and staffing of our State hospitals, so they can at least accept patients when the private hospitals can't. I'd love to find a way to get our private hospitals across the Commonwealth more obliged to take some of the patients and strip away some of those things. But again, I'm not sure how much leverage that we have to make that happen. Our officers take a lot of pride in being CIT, Crisis Intervention Team training. The majority of our officers are. They're utilizing those skills, but they're not clinicians, they're not doctors, they're not psychologists. It's really not the business that we should be in in law enforcement. But again, we have to do it by default.

Dan Hoffman ([18:38](#)):

Yeah. If we were going to stand, if we were going to do something locally, and we've talked a little bit in the past about some type of crisis response facility, team, what have you. What does that look like?

John Piper ([18:54](#)):

There are some areas, some other models across the Commonwealth where they have a Crisis Stabilization Unit.

Dan Hoffman ([18:59](#)):

That's the phrase.

John Piper ([19:00](#)):

I would love to see something regional that would serve Winchester and Frederick County and Clarke. Where officers and deputies can drop people off, they can get the critical care that they need, and may not end up in a TDO. The officer doesn't have to stay there with with the patient, but rather there might

be a day bed that they have available. There might be the ability to medicate people or to give them medication and then discharge them from there or to give them therapy that they need and counseling. I'd like to see something like that, where we can essentially stabilize somebody who may be in crisis when law enforcement is dealing with them. But after a little bit of a calming down, cooling off period, may not need to be TDO'd or transported halfway across the state. It could be dealt there at a more regional, local area where frankly, when they're discharged, they can go back to their home or back to their family.

Dan Hoffman ([19:48](#)):

Yeah. Makes sense.

John Piper ([19:49](#)):

Requires money though.

Dan Hoffman ([19:51](#)):

Yeah. Money, time, people, and common sense. I know we're putting together our legislative agenda. For those of you who don't know what that is, every year before things go back into session in Richmond, the City puts together its list of priorities to inform our legislature what we would like to see. So, this is going to be one of our top priorities coming into this year. If any of you care about this particular topic, want to get involved in some way, shape, or form, pay attention to the to the City website. We'll be talking about this at Council. We've got a Public Safety Committee meeting coming up on November 17th here at City Hall starting at five. That one's starting at five o'clock, November 17th here at City Hall. Chief's going to do a presentation to start talking to Council about this issue. Feel free to show up, ask some questions. I think there's a public comment period at the beginning of all those meetings. Feel free to also call your State legislators if you feel like this is important to you. Okay. Moving on to slightly more, well, much more positive stuff. We've got an anniversary coming up.

John Piper ([21:18](#)):

We do. Yep.

Dan Hoffman ([21:19](#)):

Not ours.

John Piper ([21:21](#)):

Well, mine.

Dan Hoffman ([21:22](#)):

You're coming up on five.

John Piper ([21:23](#)):

Yeah, September 1st will be five years for me here.

Dan Hoffman ([21:26](#)):

September 1st of next year.

John Piper ([21:28](#)):

Next year. Still in year four. More importantly, the Winchester Police Department's 200th Anniversary is coming up in 2022.

Dan Hoffman ([21:37](#)):

That's a big one.

John Piper ([21:38](#)):

It is a big one. It's pretty remarkable. 1822 was when the first record in Council records of a police department, as far as we can determine, and that was what was called a Town Sergeant. It was one officer who went out and patrolled the streets.

Dan Hoffman ([21:54](#)):

It was Tim Youmans, actually.

John Piper ([21:58](#)):

[Laughs] We've obviously grown since then and we're our authorized number is now 79 sworn officers here in the city. But we're very excited about it. We put together a little work group and one of the things that I'm particularly excited about is we've developed an anniversary badge to commemorate the 200th anniversary. Looks similar to one of the older badges in the history of the department, and we'll be making those available for personal purchase. I'm authorizing that for uniform wear for the entire year of 2022.

Dan Hoffman ([22:28](#)):

Now, residents can't buy a police badge.

John Piper ([22:31](#)):

No.

Amy Simmons ([22:32](#)):

That was confusing there for a minute.

Dan Hoffman ([22:32](#)):

Yeah. These are for officers. They can spend their own money on it or challenge coins. No, random residents cannot buy a badge that's generally frowned upon. But we'll be giving out some of the challenge coins. I'm going to get a stack of the challenge coins to give out.

Amy Simmons ([22:52](#)):

And a yearbook. You can get a yearbook.

John Piper ([22:54](#)):

Yeah. That's the other thing we're working on is we're putting together a work group, and they're compiling a bunch of old photos, looking over at Handley Archives and other places. Other records that

we have within the PD and hopefully putting together a real nice book that the men and women of the department can purchase and and have.

Dan Hoffman ([23:13](#)):

Yeah. So if you took yearbook in high school...

Amy Simmons ([23:15](#)):

I did!

Dan Hoffman ([23:15](#)):

See that skill comes back up every so often. You never know when yearbook skills...

John Piper ([23:22](#)):

Scrapbooking.

Amy Simmons ([23:22](#)):

Totally different. [Laughs].

Dan Hoffman ([23:22](#)):

But they're very fun. I joke, but we never grow out of those kinds of traditions, those kinds of things that make us feel connected to our workplace. We definitely spend more time with the people that we see here every day than we spent with high school classmates. So, I think it's a very nice thing we're doing.

John Piper ([23:45](#)):

Before I left Fairfax, we did our 75th anniversary and I still have that book in my office. It's just so neat.

Amy Simmons ([23:49](#)):

Just 75?

John Piper ([23:49](#)):

Yeah. 1940 was when they were born.

Dan Hoffman ([23:55](#)):

If someone's driving by the PD headquarters, they're going to notice the little construction out front. Tell us about that.

John Piper ([24:05](#)):

Council approved a resolution a few months ago that is renaming the traffic circle in front of the Winchester Police Department to Officer Hunter A. Edwards Memorial Circle. Of course, Officer Edwards was killed in the line of duty on November 24, 2018. We're coming up on that anniversary sadly, as well. What we are putting together with Dan's support and Council support is a really beautiful memorial that will have a bronze plaque of Hunter's likeness, and some language about his service to the City of Winchester and of course his ultimate sacrifice. We'll be scheduling that unveiling. We'll be posting something on our social media pages and Facebook and inviting community members, and of course,

elected officials and others from the PD, including Hunter's family, to come out and unveil that very beautiful Memorial that we're going to have there.

Dan Hoffman ([24:59](#)):

All right. Anything else, Chief?

John Piper ([25:01](#)):

No.

Dan Hoffman ([25:02](#)):

All right. I'm sure we'll have you back in probably later in the summer, there'll be some new law or thing to talk about. People are always interested in the crime stuff. Thanks very much for coming in. And everybody remember November 17th Public Health and Safety Committee meeting. We'll be talking about this a little bit more and if you feel so moved contact your state legislator. Thanks, Chief.

John Piper ([25:28](#)):

Thanks for having me.

Dan Hoffman ([25:30](#)):

There goes Chief Piper.

Amy Simmons ([25:32](#)):

There he goes. So glad he came.

Dan Hoffman ([25:33](#)):

Yeah. Good guy. I say that about everybody after one of these things.

Amy Simmons ([25:40](#)):

You sure do. [Laughs] It's a pattern.

Dan Hoffman ([25:40](#)):

Yeah, but they're all good guys.

Amy Simmons ([25:42](#)):

It's a good pattern.

Dan Hoffman ([25:42](#)):

Yeah, they're all good. I wouldn't have them on if they weren't good. So, if you haven't been on yet...

Amy Simmons ([25:46](#)):

Uh oh. [Laughs]

Dan Hoffman ([25:46](#)):

Maybe you need to step it up. No. The Chief again, one more time, November 17th. If you're interested in learning more about that the mental health crisis issue with our Temporary Detention Orders and Emergency Custody Orders, show up in the 17th. That meeting's also recorded. Actually, it's broadcast live.

Amy Simmons ([26:08](#)):

It is.

Dan Hoffman ([26:08](#)):

So you can learn more even without coming down to City Hall. Now, if you do come down to City Hall for the committee meeting you will have a chance to meet our newest Deputy Chief, Deputy Chief Paul Cleveland, who joins us from Fairfax.

Amy Simmons ([26:26](#)):

Yes.

Dan Hoffman ([26:26](#)):

Fairfax that's right. He's only been with us for a couple of weeks. Excited to have him. Excited to have folks with new ideas, new perspectives...

Amy Simmons ([26:35](#)):

His experience.

Dan Hoffman ([26:37](#)):

His experience. He brings a great track record to the City. So, if you want to him, won't you to show up on November 17th for a little committee meeting.

Amy Simmons ([26:47](#)):

Sounds good.

Dan Hoffman ([26:48](#)):

All right. Good. It wasn't necessarily for you.

Amy Simmons ([26:50](#)):

Okay. [Laughs].

Dan Hoffman ([26:50](#)):

I was just looking at you cause you're the only other person in the room.

Amy Simmons ([26:53](#)):

Right.

Dan Hoffman ([26:54](#)):

All right. Amy, give me some news.

Amy Simmons ([26:57](#)):

Okay. Leaf collection season has begun as of today,

Dan Hoffman ([27:01](#)):

The big vacuum trucks.

Amy Simmons ([27:03](#)):

Vacuum truck, or you could put it in big bags or in bundles and they'll pick it up on whenever they get to your area. So they're starting an Area 2. And for those who don't know, they start in Area 2, because that's where they expect the most leaves to fall. And they have organized the entire city into seven different areas. So they'll start with two and go all the way to seven. And then they'll start over with one. So I guess there's less trees in area one.

Dan Hoffman ([27:26](#)):

Got it. So there is reason and some logic behind this. If you're grumpy, because well, we're getting picked up last, well, it's because of the trees in your area.

Amy Simmons ([27:36](#)):

Yeah. They'll come by with the, with the vacuum truck, but they don't know when they're going to get to each area. We can't say we're going to be in your area at this time, so we just encourage people to check the website, the leaf collection web page on the Public Works website, because they will post daily updates of where they are and when they expect to go to the next area. You can also, whenever they start posting No Parking Signs, that's when they're coming soon. So check the website.

Dan Hoffman ([28:19](#)):

Yep. Pay attention.

Amy Simmons ([28:21](#)):

Winchester Parks and Recreation. They have brought back their Little Turkeys program.

Dan Hoffman ([28:24](#)):

Oh. I don't know what that is.

Amy Simmons ([28:24](#)):

For ages one and up, it's the little craft and activities program. I used to take my kids all the time. I love it. Usually, I don't know if it's different this year because of COVID, but usually they set up tables all over the social hall and each table has a different craft. The kids can do it at their own pace. They can create and celebrate Thanksgiving with their families. And it's do at your own pace on your own, they'll have staff there to help explain, and there'll be directions on each table. But it's just a fun time just to go craft and have somebody else clean up the mess. That is on November 18th. And you must register by November 15th. There's another Turkey related event. Actually, two more. The Turkey Tossed. I can't say this. Turkey Toss Disc Golfed Tournament. Disc Golf Tournament.

Dan Hoffman ([29:15](#)):

Turkey Toss Disc Golf Tournament.

Amy Simmons ([29:16](#)):

That's a tongue twister. Turkey Toss Disc Golf Tournament. And that's going to be on the 20th. The Thankful for Volleyball Hat Tournament is on the 21st.

Dan Hoffman ([29:24](#)):

The what?

Amy Simmons ([29:25](#)):

Thankful for Volleyball Hat Tournament.

Dan Hoffman ([29:27](#)):

Thankful for Volleyball Hat Tournament. I know all of those words, but I don't know them in that order.

Amy Simmons ([29:32](#)):

What does that mean? If you sign up, you sign up as an individual, they throw your name in a hat, and then they draw teams.

Dan Hoffman ([29:39](#)):

Yeah. That makes a lot more sense.

Amy Simmons ([29:40](#)):

Doesn't it? Okay. You don't have to wear a hat.

Dan Hoffman ([29:42](#)):

Thank you for the explanation.

Amy Simmons ([29:44](#)):

[Laughs] That is on the 21st, the registration date for both of those is November 19th. Let's see. They also have a lot of holiday programs going on and check the website, check the activities guide. There are a lot of registration dates coming up for Thanksgiving and the Christmas holidays. And then November 11th is Veteran's Day. We will pay tribute to those veterans current and past by closing all of our offices giving our employees a day off. Courts will be closed, WinTran routes be canceled, and the Jim Barnett Park Rec Center will be closed.

Dan Hoffman ([30:16](#)):

Sounds good.

Amy Simmons ([30:18](#)):

Yes. That's all I have.

This Rouss Review transcript was exported on Nov 05, 2021 - view latest version [here](#).

Dan Hoffman ([30:20](#)):

Alrighty. Well, I think we've covered everything we need to cover. Thanks for listening and hopefully we'll see you tomorrow night at the City Council meeting. If not, hope to see you around City Hall.

Outro ([30:47](#)):

[Soft music]