

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

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

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

Hello, Dan.

Dan Hoffman ([00:14](#)):

How are you?

Amy Simmons ([00:14](#)):

I'm good. But I hear you almost floated away last week.

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

Yes. The storm of last week, which did a fair amount of damage.

Amy Simmons ([00:24](#)):

It was crazy.

Dan Hoffman ([00:25](#)):

We had a bunch of trees down throughout the city, a few vehicles got damaged, and one of the light poles over at Bridgeforth Field snapped.

Amy Simmons ([00:35](#)):

That's so scary.

Dan Hoffman ([00:36](#)):

Yeah. So we do have money actually in this year's budget that was just approved to start working on the lights and replacing lights. Yeah, some of those older wooden poles, it happens sometimes. I mean, it's rare, but it does happen.

Amy Simmons ([00:51](#)):

So much water.

Dan Hoffman ([00:52](#)):

So much water everywhere.

Amy Simmons ([00:53](#)):

It was flooded.

Dan Hoffman ([00:55](#)):

We're gonna talk about that in the second portion. It's coincidence that we're talking about a stormwater utility today.

Amy Simmons ([01:04](#)):

It was like a storm of a decade seem like. Thankfully, it was short.

Dan Hoffman ([01:07](#)):

It was, yeah. I got drenched. I was going in for a meeting at a place and with a business owner, and I was so soaking wet that I just had to buy clothes there. Go into the bathroom and change.

Amy Simmons ([01:21](#)):

<Laugh> That's terrible.

Dan Hoffman ([01:22](#)):

Yeah. It was awful. I was just soaked to the bone.

Amy Simmons ([01:24](#)):

I waited it out, and then, I had to somehow cross the river that was on Cameron Street.

Dan Hoffman ([01:28](#)):

Yeah. Good thing. You didn't get rushed away.

Amy Simmons ([01:31](#)):

<Laugh> Right.

Dan Hoffman ([01:31](#)):

Little thing like you would just <woosh sound> into Town Run.

Amy Simmons ([01:35](#)):

<Laugh> I did get a video of Town Run. It looked like a river. It was almost like a white rapid.

Dan Hoffman ([01:41](#)):

Yeah. The irresponsible child in me always whenever I see something like that, I was like, 'oh, I just wanna jump in on in there so bad and just ride it.'

Amy Simmons ([01:49](#)):

That would be so dangerous.

Dan Hoffman ([01:51](#)):

Horrible. You's die. Don't do that people.

Amy Simmons ([01:52](#)):

No, never do that.

Dan Hoffman ([01:53](#)):

Don't that's why I said irresponsible. Don't do that. We've had people die in Town Run.

Amy Simmons ([01:56](#)):

Unfortunately.

Dan Hoffman ([01:56](#)):

Yes, very sad. Do not do that. It's very dangerous, but man, I can't understand the temptation.

Amy Simmons ([02:04](#)):

Yeah. Check out Instagram. I posted it yesterday. It was pretty dangerous.

Dan Hoffman ([02:08](#)):

Yep. Just another reason why we need a stormwater utility, which we'll talk about a little bit. All right. We got a a meeting tomorrow. We actually have two meetings tomorrow.

Amy Simmons ([02:19](#)):

Work session this time?

Dan Hoffman ([02:20](#)):

No.

Amy Simmons ([02:20](#)):

Oh, that's right. It's the joint meeting.

Dan Hoffman ([02:21](#)):

Yes, the joint meeting. So this will be a joint meeting between the School Board and the City Council. They're gonna discuss communication, the budget process. As I think some people might be aware, during this budget process, there was the school's request, and then there was the City's allotment. There was a lot of debate over how much the school system should get. And this joint meeting is meant to kind of help iron out some of those wrinkles and make sure that next year's process is good. Keeping in mind that it's always a debate, there's always a discussion.

Amy Simmons ([03:02](#)):

Yeah. It's healthy.

Dan Hoffman ([03:04](#)):

That's exactly right. There's the request. And then there's the discussion. So should be a productive joint meeting. Following that, we'll have our regular meeting. Now, regular meeting will start at 6:30 pm not six o'clock. So the joint meeting will start at five. It should go from 5:00 to 6:30 pm.

Amy Simmons ([03:24](#)):

That's held here, correct? At City Hall?

Dan Hoffman ([03:26](#)):

That is held here. Yes. The joint meeting will be up in the Exhibit Hall. When you come to City Hall, it's not in the normal chambers to have enough room for everyone to sit around a table. It is in the Exhibit Hall, which is on the fourth floor. And then, we'll adjourn. We'll go down to the main chambers at 6:30 for our regular meeting. At that meeting, we've got a few small items on it. The stormwater utility first reading for that is on it. We'll talk about that a little bit. That's a big item. A few other kind of administrative things. Another performance appraisal for me which is an Executive Session. So it should be a reasonable agenda. I think probably the most interesting discussion will happen at the joint meeting, but hey, if you're interested in the stormwater stuff, pop in at the 6:30 meeting.

Amy Simmons ([04:22](#)):

Will they be doing any discussion at that meeting? Usually first reading is you just read it and move on.

Dan Hoffman ([04:26](#)):

No, we present it. I believe nothing has changed since the Work Session. This was presented at a Work Session before. And if this is your first time hearing about the stormwater utility, it was discussed at Finance Committee (April 2022). It was discussed during the budget process earlier this year. It's been really discussed for the last decade. I mean, let's not sugar coat it here. We've been taking nibbles at this for a long time. And now we're finally here and probably two meetings away from potentially approving it. But we'll get into that a little bit later. What do you got going on Amy?

Amy Simmons ([05:07](#)):

Okay. Few announcements because it's summertime and there's always something going on. But first I wanna congratulate Winchester Fire and Rescue for achieving the American Heart Association's Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Plus award. That just means that they are committed to and are treating people who experience cardiac arrest at the best possible level. So they have received that for many consecutive years and they deserve it. They work hard for that. In observance of Independence Day, City offices, the Joint Judicial Center, WinTran. That is the usual time. You know, they did change their holiday schedule, but they will be not running routes on July 4th. And also the Jim Barnett Park Rec Center will also be closed on Monday, July 4th. But the outdoor pool is open normal hours. They always open on holidays during the summer. Okay. Speaking of the park, the next outdoor movie, I think I mentioned that last podcast is Space Jam.

Dan Hoffman ([06:00](#)):

Space jam. I have not seen any Space Jam movie.

Amy Simmons ([06:02](#)):

Me either.

Dan Hoffman ([06:02](#)):

Even going back to like the Michael Jordan one. I don't know. I missed that one as a kid.

Amy Simmons ([06:06](#)):

Yeah. It wasn't my type of movie.

Dan Hoffman ([06:09](#)):

That doesn't surprise me in the slightest.

Amy Simmons ([06:10](#)):

I know. We talked about that last time. Yeah. Not my movie, but Space Jam: A New Legacy with LeBron. I think it's LeBron, right?

Dan Hoffman ([06:16](#)):

Yes. This is LeBron.

Amy Simmons ([06:18](#)):

Yep. So that's June 30th.

Dan Hoffman ([06:20](#)):

And he's getting two. This is his second Space Jam movie, isn't it? Oh, or are we watching the first Space Jam movie?

Amy Simmons ([06:26](#)):

Whichever one is the new legacy. <Laugh>

Dan Hoffman ([06:28](#)):

I think that's the second one.

Amy Simmons ([06:30](#)):

Okay. I don't know.

Dan Hoffman ([06:31](#)):

I do like LeBron. He's a very interesting guy. Completely off topic.

Amy Simmons ([06:35](#)):

Completely.

Dan Hoffman ([06:36](#)):

Maybe we'll do an entire podcast about LeBron.

Amy Simmons ([06:39](#)):

Or maybe not. Okay.

Dan Hoffman ([06:40](#)):

<Laugh>

Amy Simmons ([06:42](#)):

So anyway. It's the New Legacy One. And it will be in the field behind the Rec Center. They call that Festival Field. So that's where it's gonna be. But if it rains like it did last week, they're gonna move it into the gym. So rain or shine. Okay. Rockin' Independence Eve is July 3rd, the Eve of Independence Day.

Dan Hoffman ([07:00](#)):

And it's rockin'.

Amy Simmons ([07:00](#)):

And it's always rocking...this year, any way. Didn't rock the last two years, unfortunately.

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

<Laugh> Serious lack of rock.

Amy Simmons ([07:08](#)):

<Laugh> But any way, there'll be two live bands, one at 4 and 7 PM, family activities, and more happening on the Old Town Mall. It's free, of course, as usual. But the fireworks show, as we mentioned before, has been moved back to the park as it was many, many years ago.

Dan Hoffman ([07:22](#)):

Sweet. And you're gonna get a bigger, better fireworks.

Amy Simmons ([07:24](#)):

Right. And more places to sit and view.

Dan Hoffman ([07:27](#)):

Bring a blanket.

Amy Simmons ([07:29](#)):

Yeah. Or a chair.

Dan Hoffman ([07:30](#)):

Or a chair. Yeah. If you are so inclined.

Amy Simmons ([07:32](#)):

Yeah. So you can sit near the ballfield area or the fields behind the Rec Center. And they start at 9:20 PM. That's the best place to see them. They will have a couple vendors if you like ice cream, kettle korn, lemonade.

Dan Hoffman ([07:48](#)):

Who doesn't like those three things?

Amy Simmons ([07:49](#)):

Tell me about it. Especially on Independence Day.

Dan Hoffman ([07:51](#)):

Although, you can't have ice cream.

Amy Simmons ([07:52](#)):

I cannot, but I can have kettle korn which I love.

Dan Hoffman ([07:55](#)):

I love kettle korn is delicious, but you know, what's disappointing when you get a bag of kettle corn and it doesn't have enough of the sweet stuff on it. And you're like, wait a minute. What is this? It's like stale popcorn. No. You gotta have enough of that. That crispy.

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

It has to have the sweetness. So, while you're doing all that, getting ready for that, you can also go to the pool and swim til 8:30 PM. It's gonna be open late. Usually, they close at 6:30 PM. Staying open late for Independence Eve. Let's see. If you are new to the Winchester-Frederick County area, the visitor center is holding another welcome event where you can come and learn about the community. We'll be there to represent the local government for the City. If you wanna come and ask questions that is on...

Dan Hoffman ([08:38](#)):

Tell 'em about the podcast.

Amy Simmons ([08:40](#)):

Always. <Laugh> first thing I mention.

Dan Hoffman ([08:43](#)):

<Laugh> Exactly.

Amy Simmons ([08:44](#)):

The visitor center's at 1400 South Pleasant Valley road is that big red building next to Abrams Delight. And we're holding that on Thursday, July 7th from 5:00 to 7:00 PM. So just stop by. It's come and go. Very casual. We always like to talk.

Dan Hoffman ([08:57](#)):

Yeah. You have some nice little exhibits and stuff in there too. Buy yourself some swag.

Amy Simmons ([09:01](#)):

Exactly. Winchester, swag. Okay. Our second attempt to hold KidzFest. Thank you, Mother Nature is July 9th. This free, family-friendly event will be held on the [Loudoun Street] Mall, of course, from 12 to 5:00 PM. It features lots of fun events, interactive exhibits, and activities for all ages.

Dan Hoffman ([09:19](#)):

Wonderful. Especially kids.

Amy Simmons ([09:21](#)):

Mostly kids. Fun for families. And the Winchester Police Department has a new event. Their Cops and Cones event.

Dan Hoffman ([09:29](#)):

Traffic cones?

Amy Simmons ([09:31](#)):

<Laugh> That's funny, but no. Ice cream.

Dan Hoffman ([09:34](#)):

Oh, okay. Well, that's better.

Amy Simmons ([09:35](#)):

On July 13th, they're gonna be partnering with Maddie Self-Serve to just get together and meet some new people. They're gonna be at 1850 Valley Avenue at 7:00 PM.

Dan Hoffman ([09:45](#)):

Excellent. Okay. That does it for the updates part of the Rouss Review. We're now gonna move on to the City, Works component. Stick around. We're gonna talk about stormwater utility. If that is something you are not interested in the slightest, thank you for listening to this portion, and we will see you around City Hall. Otherwise, hang out and get ready to hear about stormwater.