



Agenda Abstract

BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

Meeting Date:	Feb. 24, 2025
Department:	Community Services
Agenda Section:	In-Depth Discussion
Public hearing:	No
Date of public hearing:	N/A

PRESENTER/INFORMATION CONTACT

Shannan Campbell, Planning & Economic Development Manager

ITEM TO BE CONSIDERED

Subject: Discussion of Potential "America 250" Celebrations

Summary:

July 4, 2026 will commemorate the 250th anniversary of the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Per America250.org, Inc. – "the journey toward this historic milestone is an opportunity to pause and reflect on our nation's past, honor the contributions of all Americans, and look ahead toward the future we want to create for the next generation and beyond." As a historic town with treasured revolutionary-era significance, there are opportunities for local events to celebrate and remember the past 250 years.

Local non-profit historical and cultural organizations have already begun discussions about potential events. This work session will provide an opportunity for the Board of Commissioners to discuss what role the town should play in organizing and supporting the America 250 celebration.

Staff's input for board consideration:

- There is a lot of energy already in the community, but it is not organized.
- The town may be able to play a role as a facilitator/convenor in order to focus the efforts.
- There has been an idea introduced for a "steering committee" that may be worth exploring. Representatives from the town, Tourism Board and Tourism Development Authority would be important participants in the committee from a funding standpoint.
- The town may not have the capacity to run a major event – it may make sense to focus on a series of smaller, scattered or daytime events and leveraging partnerships with other organizations.

Financial impacts:

Cost will depend on the level of town/Tourism Board/Tourism Development Authority involvement and the magnitude of planned events.

Staff recommendation and comments:

N/A

Action requested:

Discuss and provide feedback to staff on how to support potential America 250 events in town.