



**Final report: Columbia Gas of VA
- Natural Gas Emergency -**

Town Council Regular Meeting

November 12, 2025

Background: Incident and Recovery

The March 5th Incident

- Incident triggered by over-odorization.
- Multiple 911 calls reporting strong gas odor throughout town.
- EOC fully activated under the Emergency Operations Plan.
- Confirmed to be an **over-odorization issue**.

Final Financial Recovery

\$19,922.40

Full Reimbursement Received

Meticulous cost accounting across Public Works, Police, and Administration ensured the recovery of all verifiable costs, officially closing the Town's financial exposure related to the event.

Staff Recommendation: Reinvesting in Resilience

Staff recommends approving a resolution to allocate the total recovered amount of \$19,922.40 into three key preparedness areas. This is a direct, non-recurring investment in citizen well-being and disaster mitigation.

1. Community Preparedness: Funding public outreach, guides, and education campaigns.
2. Integrated Alert Systems: Expanding the reach and capabilities of the Alert Warrenton! notification system.
3. Internal Staff Preparedness: Dedicated funding for essential training, safety equipment, and organizational resilience programs.

Allocation Impact Summary

1. Integrated Alert Systems (\$9,961.20)

Dedicated to expanding the **Alert Warrenton!** notification system, ensuring more residents receive timely warnings for all hazards and community emergencies.

2. Community Preparedness (\$4,961.20)

Supports the printing and distribution of the Community Preparedness Guide, conducting public outreach events, and school-based public education campaigns.

3. Internal Staff Preparedness (\$5,000.00)

Allocated to Human Capital & Risk Management for essential training programs, specialized safety equipment, and the development and maintenance of internal programs to ensure organizational resilience during a crisis.

Conclusion and Policy Alignment

Policy Direction (Warrenton Plan 2040)

Funding these initiatives is a key factor of ****Governance**** that affects all aspects of the Warrenton Plan 2040. This investment directly supports the Town's mission of prioritizing the health, welfare, and well-being of the community during all emergencies.

Fiscal Responsibility

- **Non-Recurring:** The expenditure is one-time only.
- **Zero Obligation:** It does not create a future financial obligation for the General Fund beyond the current fiscal year.
- **Risk Mitigation:** The reimbursement process successfully closed the Town's financial exposure related to the event.



Questions?