

Pleasant and Embarrassing Moments at the Meeting of July 3, 2025

Useful projects, warning to clubs, removal of Frank Demuyser from commissions

Our representatives voiced their **dissatisfaction** that the *appointment of the new alderman* once again took place behind closed doors. One wonders why the political majority does not allow citizens to participate in this democratic process in full transparency, as it is the case in other municipalities. Once again, the majority referred to the law. However, the Ministry of the Interior tolerates the alternative approach, which, in our view, better reflects today's democratic aspirations.

The mayor issued a **warning** to clubs in which there have been *disgraceful disputes* between members. Should such incidents occur again, it is conceivable that municipal financial support could be withdrawn. He urged the associations to treat one another fairly.

Our group **expressed concerns** when it came to *excluding Frank Demuyser* from four commissions. They voted against the exclusion of this council member, who, once again, was absent from the council meeting due to illness and whose relationship with his own party colleagues is clearly severely strained. It is up to the voters to form their own judgment about the actions of the council majority.

Across party lines, the *affaires judiciaires* were perceived as **irritating**; they are time-consuming and tie up human resources that could be used more effectively elsewhere. The CSV advocated for handling the second case in a confidential session as well, in order to avoid any damage to individuals' reputations in the public sphere.

Our parliamentary group spokesperson felt a special sense of **satisfaction** when the mayor announced that the *SEA minibus* would be made available to associations on weekends. Nadine Schares had proposed this during each of the past two years' budget debates.

It was also **welcomed** that, in addition to the three projects selected under the *budget participatif*, the submitted project "construction of a refreshment kiosk in Helfent Park" will also be included in the municipal budget. Incidentally, this kiosk had also been suggested during one of our workshops.

Our council members also approved:

- the *convention regarding the "Helfent Triangle,"* so that good plans can be developed for the design of this important part of our locality—though it is clear to everyone that this process will hardly be completed before 2035;
- the provisional *school organization* for the 2025/26 school year, during which the CSV noted the lack of space in the schoolyard of "Beim Schloss" and the fact that many children fulfill their compulsory schooling in other municipalities - something that does not promote social cohesion and *vivre ensemble*;
- the provisional *organization of the "Regional Museksschoul Westen,"* while expressing the wish to strengthen cooperation among the region's music schools;
- the project to renovate the *path* (for bicycles and pedestrians) between "Grevelsbarrière" and the Leudelage train station;
- the project for a pedestrian *path* along route de Longwy toward *City Concorde*; they explicitly praised that, finally, after decades of effort, a promising proposal is now on the table;

- the project “*Verkéiersgaart*” for small children on a playground that has been closed for years; however, they are eagerly awaiting the commissioned study, the resulting overall concept for playgrounds in our municipality, and the implementation of the plans;
- the project for an *underpass* (without ramps) beneath the railway line, along with an optimization proposal: a user-friendly, automated stair-assist system for bicycles. They also pointed out that the CSV had supported this underpass project at that location from the very beginning, as shown in the minutes of the meeting on June 7, 2021.

That report stated: **13. Fundamental decision regarding railway crossing PN 80.** Mayor Colabianchi repeats that his party will not support the motion of “*déi gréng*”, for the reasons stated, but will put a decision in principle to the vote, in which the Council of Aldermen and the DP political group will represent the previous common position of the Municipal Council. At present, they are against both the definitive closure of the PN 80 level crossing and the establishment of a one-way street, on account of the resulting traffic congestion on the axis between route de Longwy and route d’Arlon. The implementation of the aforementioned proposals would be possible only if there is a new alternative for motorised traffic, as permanent congestion is to be avoided at all costs. The solution proposed by the CFL is unrealistic and therefore not an option given the ownership situation of the land necessary for its realization. Mayor Colabianchi also reiterates that he is committed to the implementation of a subway in the vicinity of PN 80, and that the municipality would even bear the costs itself if no public financial support would be forthcoming. A study has already been commissioned. The decision in principle is adopted with **10 votes in favour (DP, CSV)** and 3 against (LSAP, *déi gréng*).

13. Decision in principle concerning the PN 80 level crossing

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The meeting ends at 11.50 a.m.

You will be able to read the full details of the meeting later in the municipality’s official bulletin.

For now, at the top of this page, you can once again find the extremely full agenda, which led to a meeting that lasted over 5 hours.