

January 13, 2026

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fairmont was held at 7:00 p.m. on the 13th day of January, 2026, at the Public Safety Building located at 500 Quincy Street in Fairmont, West Virginia.

Mayor Bolyard called the meeting to order.

Roll call of members was taken by the City Clerk.

Councilmembers present were:

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|------------------|-----------------------|
| First District | Joshua D. Rice |
| Second District | Anne E. Bolyard |
| Third District | Rebecca Moran |
| Fourth District | Anthony T. Horton |
| Sixth District | Daniel "Dan" Weber |
| Seventh District | Julia "Julie" Sole |
| Eighth District | Bruce McDaniel |
| Ninth District | Kandice "Kandi" Nuzum |

Absent:

| | |
|----------------|------------------------|
| Fifth District | Charles "Chuck" Warner |
|----------------|------------------------|

Also present were:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------------|
| City Manager | Travis L. Blosser |
| City Clerk | Janet L. Keller |
| City Attorney | Kevin V. Sansalone |
| Communications Manager | David A. Kirk |

IN RE: COUNCILMEMBER WARNER EXCUSED

Mayor Bolyard made a motion to excuse Councilmember Warner from tonight's meeting. Councilmember McDaniel seconded the motion.

The Mayor declared Councilmember Warner excused by voice vote of Council.

IN RE: OPENING CEREMONIES

Rev. Issac Harmon of Hagens Community Church gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Councilmember Rice.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IN RE: MINUTES FOR THE DECEMBER 16, 2025 REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Bolyard noted that each member of Council had received a copy of the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on December 16th. She asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or amendments.

Councilmember Nuzum moved to approve the December 16, 2025 Regular Meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rice.

The Mayor declared the minutes approved as submitted by voice vote of Council.

PUBLIC HEARING S

There were no public hearings scheduled for this meeting.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN RE: ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION AWARDS DEADLINE

Councilmember Moran reported that the Arts and Humanities award nomination period is open and the deadline is February 6th if anyone would like to nominate a community member who has outstanding accomplishments in the Arts and Humanities.

IN RE: COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Councilmember Moran stated that she will be hosting a community conversation on Monday, January 19th at 3:30 p.m. in the conference room at the Chamber of Commerce specifically to take input for the draft of the new sign code but if you have anything else you want to talk about, you are more than welcome to stop by. She noted that when the sign code is in planning, we have options to amend and make changes but once it comes to Council, it is yes or no.

IN RE: CONGRATULATIONS TO CITY CLERK JANET KELLER

Councilmember Horton extended congratulations to City Clerk Janet Keller on 48 years of service. He thanked her for her service to the City of Fairmont.

Councilmember McDaniel said that Janet was here when he was hired by the City years ago. He said that she is a joy to work with.

IN RE: MRDC RECEIVES GRANT FUNDING

Councilmember McDaniel reported that MRDC was successful in obtaining a Site First Grant that was a program put together by the WV State Economic Development Council and Marion County was one of 23 counties to receive \$75,000 for engineering and development of the Sharon Steel site. He noted that was done with the help of our City Manager as a board member and Jay Rogers.

IN RE: WELCOME FSU STUDENTS

Mayor Bolyard welcomed back the Fairmont State University students, the spring semester started yesterday.

CITIZENS PETITIONS

IN RE: CONGRESSMAN RILEY MOORE

KENNEDY ROBERTS, with Congressman Riley Moore's Office presented each Councilmember with a copy of his 2025 Annual Report. He said that through Congressman Moore's leadership on the House Appropriation Committee, he is working to secure funding for 14 Community Projects to make our state a better place to live, work, and raise a family and one of those projects is for \$2,000,000 for the renovation of the Watson Fire Station. He announced that funding is continuing to clear all of the hurdles and it has only been good news so far and they are hopeful by the end of the month to have some actual good news to report.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

IN RE: EAST SIDE ROUTES FOR PAVING

Mr. Blosser reported that the East Side DOH routes are planning to be prioritized for asphalt resurfacing and that would include the Gateway Connector, Speedway Avenue, East Park Avenue, and Merchant Street. In order for that to occur, ADA ramp upgrades have to occur on all of those roadways. That contract was awarded and we anticipate the DOH contractor getting started potentially this week, weather dependent. They anticipate the start on the Gateway Connector. He noted that this is part of the process that has to happen with these routes, in particular because of the funding that DOH utilizes for that asphalt resurfacing. Every DOH route on the East Side is to be resurfaced.

IN RE: BUDGET PROCESS

The City Manager stated that he is going through the budget process and he will be presenting the Capital Budget Plan to the Planning Commission next week. He reminded City Council that budget work sessions are scheduled for February 3rd and 4th. He noted that the General Fund budget will be presented and discussed on the 3rd and then Council will receive a Utility overview of the entire Utility System on February 4th.

IN RE: UTILITY UPDATE

City Manager Blosser reported that the Water storage tank project is wrapping up. The Watson storage tank is being placed back into service, and he is incredibly proud that our entire storage network would have pretty well been upgraded and be within warranty across our entire system based on the upgrades that were made.

He reported that staff had a significant water related issue that had us producing 1.5 million gallons of water per day but none of our residents or customers experienced any

issue in water service. He added that we are continuing to make improvements in our water and sewer system in 2026 and the years beyond.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY THE CITY OF FAIRMONT OF THE FOLLOWING REAL ESTATE BEING:

| <u>Description</u> | <u>District</u> | <u>Map/ Parcel</u> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|
| PT LT 17 (58 X 82) ADAMS ST | Fairmont, Fairmont City | 01/ 0168 0000 0000 |

FROM CHARLES E. ANDERSON FOR PURPOSES OF THE ABATEMENT OF A COLLAPSED OR PARTIALLY COLLAPSED STRUCTURE, APPROVING THE FORM OF THE ACQUISITION AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER SAID AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT, AND TO DO ALL THINGS REASONABLE AND NECESSARY IN CONNECTION THEREWITH; RESERVATION OF RIGHTS.

The City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by synopsis for the first time.

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance authorizing the acquisition by the City of Fairmont from Charles E. Anderson (200-202 Adams Street) for purposes of the abatement of a collapsed or partially collapsed structure.

Motion:

Councilmember McDaniel moved for the introduction of the proposed ordinance. Councilmember Moran seconded the motion.

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for January 27, 2026.

IN RE: ADOPTION, A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO SUBMIT THE PROPOSED FIRE DEFERRED RETIREMENT OPTION PLAN (DROP) AGREEMENT (Revised 2026) TO THE MUNICIPAL PENSIONS OVERSIGHT BOARD PURSUANT TO THE PROVISIONS OF WEST VIRGINIA CODE §8-22-25a.

The City Clerk read the proposed resolution by synopsis for the first time.

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the adoption of a resolution authorizing the City Manager to submit the proposed Fire Deferred Retirement Option Plan (DROP) Agreement to the Municipal Pensions Oversight Board.

Motion:

Councilmember Weber moved for the adoption of the proposed resolution. Councilmember Sole seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk.

The Mayor declared the resolution adopted by unanimous vote of those Councilmembers present.

IN RE: ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion that Council adjourn to Executive Session pursuant to WV Code 6-9A-4(2)(9) and City Charter Section 2.11(a)(3) - To consider matters involved or affecting the purchase, sale, conveyance, or lease of real property. Councilmember McDaniel moved that Council adjourn to Executive Session. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sole.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned to Executive Session by voice vote of Council at 7:17 p.m. She announced that Council will not be discussing any additional business when the meeting is reconvened.

IN RE: MEETING RECONVENED

The Mayor declared the meeting reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor entertained a motion for adjournment.

Motion:

Councilmember Nuzum moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Horton.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned by voice vote of Council at 8:01 p.m.