

January 27, 2026

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fairmont was held at 7:00 p.m. on the 27th 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:

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

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: MOMENT OF SILENCE IN HONOR OF COUNCILMEMBER WARNER

Mayor Bolyard asked everyone for a moment of silence to honor Councilmember Chuck Warner.

IN RE: OPENING CEREMONIES

Rev. Wayde Wilson of Trinity Assembly of God Church gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Councilmember Rice.

IN RE: PROCLAMATION PRESENTED

Mayor Bolyard presented a proclamation to Retired Sgt. David Tucker proclaiming February 4, 2026 as the 84th birthday of the United Service Organization (USO).

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IN RE: MINUTES FOR THE JANUARY 13, 2026 REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Bolyard noted that each member of Council had received a copy of the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on January 13, 2026. She asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or amendments.

Councilmember Horton moved to approve the January 13, 2026 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

IN RE: 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

Pursuant to a notice duly published in the Times-West Virginian on January 16, 2026, a public hearing was convened to obtain citizen input on 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.

The Mayor asked if anyone present desired to speak to the proposed ordinance.

Councilmember Rice asked what we are planning to do with the property.

Mr. Blosser replied that that is currently in discussion associated with potential economic development opportunities in particular around housing and events that happen in that area would be tied to that based on those discussions. The existing green space that we have, if the discussions that are ongoing materialize in 2026, right now we really do not have a parking problem in that area, but we would begin to have that. It will initially remain a green space but the potential to turn that into a parking lot would be difficult given the size so that is off the table. He said that based on the existing discussions that are happening with CEC and with some of our community partners and those investors that we are having discussion with; it will be party to lot.

There being no one else to speak, the public hearing was called to a close at 7:11 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN RE: PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT COMMENDED

Councilmember Moran commended the Public Works Department for the snow clearing. She also said thank you to the residents, just looking around town she thought it was a really hard snow to deal with, but she thought more residents have been out there clearing their sidewalks and it is very much appreciated.

Councilmember McDaniel also gave a shout out to the City employees, not only the folks at the Public Works Department but also the Water Department employees repairing the water leaks.

IN RE: ARTS AND HUMANITIES COMMISSION AWARDS DEADLINE

Councilmember Moran reported that the Arts and Humanities award nomination period is open to the public 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: NIGHT OF HOPE

Councilmember Nuzum reported that the Union Mission is having their annual Night of Hope on March 21, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Elk's Lodge.

IN RE: COUNCILMEMBER CHUCK WARNER

Mayor Bolyard stated that Chuck Warner was not only a Councilmember, but he was a dedicated public servant, he was a friend and a mentor to all of us. We send our heartfelt condolences to his wife, Fran. The Mayor then mentioned the dates that Chuck Warner served on City Council.

Elected: 11/7/2006
For Term: 1/1/2007 - 12/31/2010

Re-Elected: 11/2/2010
For Term: 1/1/2011 - 12/31/2014

Elected Deputy Mayor: 1/8/2013
For Term: 1/8/2013 - 1/13/2015

Elected: 11/8/2022
For Term: 1/1/2023 - 12/31/2026
Served until his passing on 1/18/2026

CITIZENS PETITIONS

IN RE: COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING INITIATIVES

JENNIFER GONZALEZ, with Omporium, addressed Council regarding community development and housing initiatives that are currently underway in Fairmont. She said that they have been operating here in Fairmont for over a year and half. She said that Omporium is a multi-sector housing, advisory, and technology organization focused on long-term community investment. She said that in their time here, they have purchased and are actively renovating over 60 homes throughout the city and surrounding area.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

IN RE: FISCAL YEAR BUDGET

Mr. Blosser reported that we have been continually working the City's next fiscal year budget. He intends to deliver budget books hopefully on Friday. He reminded Council of the budget work sessions scheduled for Tuesday, February 3rd and Wednesday, February 4th, both at 4:00 p.m.

IN RE: USW CONTRACT

The Manager said that he has negotiated over a period of two months the contract for the United Steelworkers which covers the majority of the Utility workforce as well as the Public Works workforce. He mentioned that a five-year contract was negotiated between both parties and they ratified the contract.

IN RE: SNOW PLOWING

The City Manager thanked the workforce since we are still recovering from the winter storm and will be for the coming days. He noted that the crews were out working again today working as much as they could in the neighborhoods. He added that if residents are having a concern or problem, they are more than happy to call the City Manager's Office or call Public Works. They are dispatching crews to deal with issues.

IN RE: TRASH SERVICE

Mr. Blosser said that the City is focused on addressing issues to get trash service back online. He explained that he is continually having discussions with Republic Services working to get services back online and trash service back on its regular schedule.

IN RE: MEETING WITH OMPORIUM

Mr. Blosser said his appreciation to Ms. Gonzalez for her coming here this evening. He said that his office is also getting a meeting set up and it will be his pleasure to meet with them here shortly and that he appreciates their investment in our community.

IN RE: COUNCILMEMBER CHUCK WARNER

Mr. Blosser took an opportunity to talk about Councilmember Warner. He said that the

Warner family has always been good to him and when he was going through the process to be hired as the City Manager, when asked who his top three candidates were, he said Travis, Travis, Travis. He said that will always stay with him. He said that Councilmember Warner was never afraid to tell him what he thought and he appreciated that, but he was one of the biggest supporters he has had. Chuck was a very good man, and he appreciated his service to this City over the years.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

IN RE: ADOPTION, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL FOR THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AUTHORIZING THE ACQUISITION BY THE CITY OF FAIRMONT OF THE FOLLOWING REAL ESTATE BEING:

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The City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title.

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the adoption 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 adoption of the proposed ordinance. Councilmember Rice seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk.

The Mayor declared the ordinance adopted by unanimous vote of Council and the ordinance designated as Ordinance No. 2088 was duly adopted.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 705.06 FEES OF ARTICLE 705 AMUSEMENT DEVICES OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICES CHARGES OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT CODE TO PROVIDE FOR THE REQUIREMENT OF A CITY OF FAIRMONT GENERAL MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENSE.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance amending Section 705.06 Amusement Devices of the Fairmont City Code to provide for the requirement of a general municipal business license.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT REPEALING SECTION 729 PHOTOGRAPHERS OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICES CHARGES OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT CODE RESULTING FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITY OF FAIRMONT GENERAL MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENSE.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance repealing Section 729 Photographers of the Fairmont City Code resulting from the establishment of a general municipal business license.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT REPEALING SECTION 745 STORES OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICES CHARGES OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT CODE RESULTING FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITY OF FAIRMONT GENERAL MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENSE.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance repealing Section 745 Stores of the Fairmont City Code resulting from the establishment of a general municipal business license.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT REPEALING SECTION 747 INSURANCE COMPANIES OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICES CHARGES OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT CODE RESULTING FROM THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A CITY OF FAIRMONT GENERAL MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENSE.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance repealing Section 747 Insurance Companies of the Fairmont City Code resulting from the establishment of a general municipal business license.

Motion:

Councilmember Sole moved for the introduction of the proposed ordinance. Councilmember Nuzum seconded the motion.

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ARTICLE 743 SPECIFIC LICENSE TAX OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICE CHARGES OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT TO PROVIDE FOR A GENERAL MUNICIPAL BUSINESS LICENSE.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance amending Article 743 Specific License Tax of the Fairmont City Code to provide for a general municipal business license.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT, WEST VIRGINIA, APPROVING THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF THAT CERTAIN COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENT BY AND BETWEEN THE UNITED STEEL, PAPER AND FORESTRY, RUBBER, MANUFACTURING, ENERGY, ALLIED INDUSTRIAL AND SERVICE WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION, LOCAL NO. 1-02, AND THE CITY OF FAIRMONT TO BE EFFECTIVE MARCH 11, 2026, AND ENDING MARCH 11, 2031, AND FURTHER AUTHORIZING AND EMPOWERING THE CITY MANAGER TO EXECUTE AND DELIVER SAID AGREEMENT ON BEHALF OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance approving the terms and conditions of the collective bargaining agreement between the USW and the City of Fairmont to be effective March 11, 2026.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING ORDINANCE NO. 2075 DULY ADOPTED JUNE 10, 2025, WHICH ORDINANCE PROVIDES FOR THE CITY OF FAIRMONT'S CURRENT PAY PLAN AND LIST OF OCCUPATIONAL CLASSES FOR ALL CLASS TITLES AND EMPLOYEES, AMONG OTHERS, TO PROVIDE FOR CERTAIN INCREASES TO ADDITIONAL COMPENSATION PROVIDED FOR BY THE STEELWORKER'S PAY PLAN.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 2075 which provides for the current Pay Plan to provide for certain increases to additional compensation provided by the Steelworkers Pay Plan.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the public hearing set for February 10, 2026.

**IN RE: ONE APPOINTMENT, FAIRMONT AIRPORT AUTHORITY,
UNEXPIRED TERM ENDING OCTOBER 1, 2028.**

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for one appointment to the Fairmont Airport Authority for an unexpired term ending October 1, 2028.

Motion:

Councilmember Nuzum moved to appoint Michael DeVault to the Fairmont Airport Authority for an unexpired term ending October 1, 2028. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McDaniel.

Discussion:

Councilmember asked if Council was going into Executive Session to discuss this appointment. She said that she was under the impression for Airport Authority, that was an appointment by Council.

Mr. Blosser said that it is and it is on the agenda for Council's consideration as to whether or not Council is wanting to appoint that individual.

Councilmember Moran asked if Council was given all of the applications for everyone that had applied to consider.

Mr. Blosser replied yes. He noted that there was a prior Executive Session.

Councilmember Moran replied yes, and we do have some open applications.

The City Manager said that those applications did not change.

Councilmember Moran asked if we received any other applications in the meantime.

Mr. Blosser said not that he is aware of. He added that it was ultimately Council's prerogative as to what you do with the appointment. He said that he did not think there was a problem if you wanted to table this item and discuss it. He said that there is an Executive Session on the agenda, but it was not programmed for this item, but it still aligns with what that Executive Session would be.

Motion:

Councilmember Moran moved to table this item. Councilmember Weber seconded the motion.

Roll call was taken by the Clerk and the following votes were recorded:

Councilmember Rice	No	Councilmember Horton	Yes
Councilmember McDaniel	No	Councilmember Nuzum	No

Councilmember Moran	Yes	Councilmember Sole	Yes
Councilmember Weber	Yes	Mayor Bolyard	Yes

The Mayor declared the motion to table the appointment adopted by majority vote of Council.

IN RE: ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion to adjourn to Executive Session as per WV Code §6-9A-4(b)(2)(A) and City Charter 2.11 (a)(1)A - to consider matters arising from the appointment, employment, retirement, promotion, transfer, demotion, disciplining, resignation, discharge, dismissal, or compensation of a City Officer.

Motion:

Councilmember Horton moved to 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 7:35 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 8:05 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor entertained a motion for adjournment.

Motion:

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

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned by voice vote of Council at 8:06 p.m.