

February 24, 2026

The regular meeting of the City Council of the City of Fairmont was held at 7:00 p.m. on the 24th day of February, 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	Donna Wade
Seventh District	Julia "Julie" Sole
Ninth District	Kandice "Kandi" Nuzum

Absent:

Sixth District	Daniel "Dan" Weber
Eighth District	Bruce McDaniel

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: EXCUSE COUNCILMEMBERS WEBER AND MCDANIEL

Mayor Bolyard moved to excuse Councilmembers Weber and McDaniel from tonight's meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Nuzum.

The Mayor declared Councilmembers Weber and McDaniel excused by voice vote of Council.

IN RE: OPENING CEREMONIES

Pastor Patrick Bostedo from Bethel Baptist Church gave the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag led by Councilmember Moran.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

IN RE: MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 10 , 2026 SPECIAL MEETING

Mayor Bolyard noted that each member of Council had received a copy of the minutes from the Special Meeting held on February 10, 2026. She asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or amendments.

Councilmember Nuzum moved to approve the February 10, 2026 Special Meeting minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sole.

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

IN RE: MINUTES FOR THE FEBRUARY 10, 2026 REGULAR MEETING

Mayor Bolyard noted that each member of Council had received a copy of the minutes from the Regular Meeting held on February 10, 2026. She asked if there were any corrections, deletions, or amendments.

Councilmember Sole moved to approve the February 10, 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 OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 743.21 FEES FOR CONTRACTORS OF ARTICLE 743 GENERAL BUSINESS LICENSE OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICE CHARGES OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF THE FAIRMONT CITY CODE TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE FOR CONTRACTORS OF \$10.00.

Pursuant to a notice duly published in the Times-West Virginian on February 13, 2026, a public hearing was convened to obtain citizen input on an ordinance amending Section 743.21 of the Fairmont City Code to provide for a fee for Contractors of \$10.00.

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

Mr. Blosser spoke in favor of the proposed ordinance. He said that this is the last ordinance regarding the consolidation of the business licenses. This ordinance will take the contractor license fee from \$90.00 to \$10.00. He explained that this takes the business licenses from 90 different categories down to 14 different categories. He encouraged the passage of this ordinance.

There being no one else to speak, the public hearing was called to a close at 7:05 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

IN RE: MARION COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

Councilmember Moran reported that tomorrow there will be a Marion County Food Pantry distribution day from 8:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. beside the Union Mission.

IN RE: UNITED WAY TAX PREPARATION

Councilmember Moran announced that it is tax season and the United Way has their VITA tax prep program going on. She noted that they will help people file their income taxes.

IN RE: FREE NARCAN BOX LOCATION

Councilmember Wade reported that there is a free Narcan box located at 400 Virginia Avenue at the Marion County Rescue Squad.

CITIZENS PETITIONS

There were no citizens petitions for this meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

IN RE: SIDEWALK WORK ON GATEWAY CONNECTOR

Mr. Blosser reported that work is happening on the Connector. He went on to say that when the City does public announcements on social media, he would encourage people to read before they comment on things. He noted that it would be appreciated and would benefit them a lot. He explained that the work happening on the Connector that folks can see with the sidewalk work is in order to bring about full-scale asphalt resurfacing of that roadway. He said there will, however, be patching because the winter weather has eaten up that roadway pretty significantly so DOH before that contract is put out for bidding for asphalt resurfacing, the complicated nature of this is that they have to replace the ADA curb ramps that are there. He noted that the ADA guidelines change quite frequently and a lot of times as soon as we put in new ADA sidewalks in, the regulations will change within the next year in terms of what those standards are. He went on to say that DOH is required with the Federal funding that they receive in order to pave our roads, are required to upgrade those to the existing ADA standards. He noted that is a Federal regulation that DOH has to abide by and it frustrates them at times, however, he also said that with a community that does have a certain level of seniors, making sure that ADA ramps are ADA compliant is beneficial. Mr. Blosser added that work will also break out into East Park Avenue, Merchant Street, and Speedway as all of those roads on East Side that are state routes are slated for asphalt resurfacing. The contract includes that area, and some ADA related work will also happen in Pleasant Valley and somewhere in the Millersville area will also see some asphalt resurfacing. He repeated again that there would be some patching that would happen and he did not want anyone to suspect that is meant to stay there forever. He is very pleased that those projects are moving ahead at the speed they are.

IN RE: MET WITH LEGISLATORS

Mr. Blosser reported that he and members of his team met with the Legislators in Charleston last week regarding utility infrastructure upgrades. He said that part of the discussion with them was talking about these projects. He stated that there is a certain amount of resources of which we can get through the State that flow from the Federal government. He added that there is also Direct Federal support that we are working on as well.

IN RE: PODCAST PARTICIPATION

The City Manager also reported that he had the opportunity to participate in a podcast, Falcons Beyond the Classroom. He said that he anticipates that will be live talking about the City Manager job and the work associated with City Management and how he got here.

IN RE: VISITED MON POWER

Mr. Blosser reported that he and the Communications Manager visited the Mon Power headquarters in the Tech Park. They also had an opportunity for a sit-down meeting with the President of the WV and Maryland operations. He noted that it was a very impressive facility and he was not aware as to everything that is handled out of the facilities inside the corporate limits of the City of Fairmont for Mon Power's operations, not just in WV but outside of WV as well. He mentioned that tomorrow he has meetings with Mr. Estep at the WV High Technology Foundation specifically talking about improvements and in that area from a Utilities standpoint to look at further investments inside the Tech Park from their perspective.

IN RE: UNITED WAY AWARDS

Mr. Blosser reported that the City of Fairmont recently at the United Way Campaign Luncheon received the Gleason and Jean Kuhn Growth Award. He noted that this is the second time that the City of Fairmont has received that award.

The City Manager then recognized David Kirk, Communications Manager, who received the Outstanding Employee Coordinator Award at the United Way Luncheon.

IN RE: NEW AUDIO TECHNOLOGY IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

The Manager reported that March 16th through 20th, work will be happening in the Council Chambers to upgrade the video and audio technology. It will also lead to some changes. He said that now we stream directly to Facebook and that will change through this system and we will begin streaming to YouTube as Facebook has changed their policies, and they are not retaining those videos. He noted that it will still be posted on the City's social media where those video links are at and how to get access to that to watch the meetings. He added that the other benefit of that is that we will be able to build out a schedule associated on there where people can build out alerts to be alerted when those meetings

are set up in the system.

CONSIDERATION OF COUNCIL BUSINESS

IN RE: ADOPTION, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING SECTION 743.21 FEES FOR CONTRACTORS OF ARTICLE 743 GENERAL BUSINESS LICENSE OF CHAPTER THREE TAXATION AND SERVICE CHARGES OF PART SEVEN BUSINESS AND TAXATION CODE OF THE FAIRMONT CITY CODE TO PROVIDE FOR A FEE FOR CONTRACTORS OF \$10.00.

The City Clerk read the proposed ordinance by title.

The Mayor entertained a motion for the adoption of an ordinance amending Section 743.21 of the Fairmont City Code to provide for a fee for Contractors of \$10.00.

Motion:

Councilmember Sole 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 those Councilmembers present and the ordinance designated as Ordinance No. 2096 was duly adopted.

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE TO APPROVE AND ADOPT CURRENT REPLACEMENT PAGES TO THE FAIRMONT CITY CODE

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance to approve and adopt current replacement pages to the Fairmont City Code.

Motion:

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

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

IN RE: INTRODUCTION, FIRST READING, SET PUBLIC HEARING, AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF FAIRMONT PROVIDING FOR AND AUTHORIZING THE PURCHASE OF THOSE CERTAIN PARCELS OF REAL ESTATE SITUATE IN THE CITY OF FAIRMONT, MARION COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, NAMELY:

<u>CERTIFICATION #</u>	<u>DESCRIPTION</u>	<u>TAX MAP/PARCEL</u>	<u>ADDRESS</u>
2022-C-000098	PT LS 125-126 Spence St Fairmont Fairmont Corp	33/0020 0000 0000	204 Spence St.
2022-C-000086	LT 279 Bailey Circle Fairmont Fairmont Corp	30/0061 0000 0000	105 Bailey Cr.
2022-C-000108	PT LT 21 Chicago St Fairmont Fairmont Corp	34/0092 0000 0000	325 Chicago St.
2022-C-000109	LT Chicago St Fairmont Fairmont Corp	34/0093 0000 0000	323 Chicago St.
2022-C-000110	LT 5 Monroe St Fairmont Fairmont Corp	28/0111 0000 0000	640 Monroe St.
2022-C-000118	BLK S LT 5 Jackson Add Fairmont Fairmont Corp	36/0065 0000 0000	409 Holbert Ave.
2022-C-000132	PT LT 2 Pierpont Fairmont Fairmont Corp	34/0199 0000 0000	603 Jamison St.
2022-C-000190	LT 2 (OR 0.28 AC Merchant St Fairmont Union Corp	10/0013 0000 0000	

BY THE CITY OF FAIRMONT FROM THE STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA AUDITOR AS A RESULT OF THE NON-PAYMENT OF THE REAL ESTATE TAXES AND PROVIDING FOR AND AUTHORIZING THE CONVEYANCE AND TRANSFER OF ONE OR MORE OF SAID PARCEL(S) OF REAL ESTATE FROM THE CITY OF FAIRMONT TO SUBSEQUENT PURCHASER(S) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CITY OF FAIRMONT'S APPROVED HOME RULE PLAN AND THE ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED THEREUNDER; RATIFICATION.

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

Mayor Bolyard entertained a motion for the introduction of an ordinance providing for and authorizing the purchase of certain parcels of real estate situate in the City of Fairmont.

Motion:

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

Discussion:

Councilmember Moran asked the City Manager if it was possible to get a copy of the 2024 and 2025 Tax Sale Properties.

Mr. Blosser replied yes. He said that he has talked to staff and asked them to work that

up. He also mentioned that one of the parcels that was just read has a structure on it that we may not seek to remove and there would be some type of opportunity for a little nuance that we may discuss with Council.

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

ADJOURNMENT

The Mayor entertained a motion for adjournment.

Motion:

Councilmember Rice moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Sole.

The Mayor declared the meeting adjourned by voice vote of Council at 7:00 p.m.