

**MINUTES**  
**Town Council Meeting**  
**February 9, 2026**

Councilmember Bob Wotring opened with the pledge of allegiance with Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour opening in prayer. The Town of White Hall Council meeting was held in the Council Chambers at the Town of White Public Safety Building and called to order by Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour at 6:00 p.m.

**Officers Roll Call:**

<i>Mayor Jason DeFrance</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Councilmember Bob Wotring</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Councilmember Kristine Mason</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Treasurer John Jacobs</i>	<i>Present</i>
<i>Councilmember Mandy Espanol</i>	<i>Absent without Pay</i>
<i>Recorder Charles Mason</i>	<i>Present</i>

*Also present:*

*Town Administrator Cindy Stover*  
*Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri*

*A quorum was present.*

***Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to excuse Councilmember Mandy Espanol without pay due to prior commitments.***

***Motion passed.***

**Approval of Minutes:**

***Minutes for the 1.12.26 Town Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved as written.***

**Citizens' Concerns:**

Scott Crouch spoke to Council by first telling Recorder Charlie Mason a Happy Birthday and explaining his roots in White Hall . Mr. Crouch continued to address Council and stated he wanted to formally introduce himself and state he is running for House district 74 in Mike Devault's seat.

**Treasurer & Financial Reports:**

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated January 2026 Treasurer & Financial Reports were sent to Council prior to the meeting that was to be scheduled January 26<sup>th</sup>, but canceled due to the snow.

***Treasurer John Jacobs made a motion to approve January 2026 Treasurer and Financial Report***

***Motion passed.***

**Communications & Announcements:**

- a. March 9, 2026 – Active Shooter Training for Council (during meeting at 6 pm)
- b. April 29, 2026 through May 9, 2026 – Early voting 8:30 am to 4:30 pm Weekdays. 9 am – 5 pm Saturday.
- c. May 1, 2026 – Sounds of Summer
- d. May 12, 2026 – Primary Election. 5:30 am Poll workers report. Opens at 6:30 am, closes at 7:30 pm.
- e. May 23, 2026 – Farmers Market Opening Day 9 am – noon
- f. May 16, 2026 – Spring Clean Up Day 7 am – 11 am
- g. July 11, 2026 – Appalachian Music Festival 4 – 10 pm

**Public Hearing**

None.

**Marion County EMS Report:**

None.

**Park Committee:**

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated that Town Attorney Trey Simmerman has documents from DEP and they are getting questions answered based on those documents. Mayor Jason DeFrance also stated that it was concluded that in order to use a bond, the park would need to be within the Town limits.

**Audit Committee:**

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that auditors have until the end of February to respond, and Council will need to get together in March for 10 minutes to go over things

### **Police Department Report:**

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri went over the total calls for year 2025. In 2025, there were 4,629 calls for service. Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri then gave a breakdown of what types of calls made of the total.

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri then went over the difference between 2024 and 2025 calls, which included 526 Total cases in 2024, and 635 in 2025.

Chief of Police Geno Guerri then stated that in January 2026, there were 370 calls for service, 48 cases, and 2 citations.

Lastly, Chief of Police Geno Guerri stated that February is starting off busy.

### **Legal Department Report:**

None.

### **Town Administrator Report:**

Town Administrator Cindy Stover gave an update on Public Works and salt usage. Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that the Town started the season with 20.47 ton of salt but ran out and couldn't find any more. Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that the Town did end up getting 10 ton of free salt from DOH that got Public Works through last it of the snow we had.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then stated that we are now down to 7 tons of salt left but is hopeful that 23 tons will be delivered tomorrow to get through the rest of winter. Town Administrator Cindy stover stated that because of the shortage, that delivery date has changed several times.

Lastly, town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that the Public Works Department also bought 10 tons of cinders twice, and found a new type of salt for sidewalks that works better for -20 degree temperatures.

Recorder Chrles Mason asked where the aggregates come from. Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that she believes it comes from JF Allen, but 4K transport brings it.

### **Engineer Report:**

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated that Town Engineer Brad Piggott is working on the new beautification area, which is in the are behind Dan Cava and on Route 250 including the sidewalk.

A discussion was then held on the house on Ruby Drive that Council has been unsuccessful on getting a signature from.

**Unfinished Business :**

None.

**New Business to Consider:**

**Consider Council Meeting Changes for Memorial Holiday and WV Holiday:**

A discussion was held on 2 Council meeting dates in 2026 that interfere with the Memorial Day holiday and WV Holiday.

***Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to move the Council Meeting dates from Monday, May 25th to Tuesday, May 26<sup>th</sup>, and Tuesday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> instead of Monday, June 22nd.***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Additions to Safety and Police Protective Equipment Policy:**

Town Administrator Cindy Stover explained that “cold-weather gear” needs added for Police and Public Works Protective Equipment Policy.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then stated that flashlights need added to Police Protective Equipment Policy.

***Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to consider additions to Safety and Police Protective Equipment Policy***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Bodycam/Radio Quotes:**

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri stated that the police department has a problem right now, and they have no body cams due to them being old and batteries blowing up and not working.

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri then explained to Council a bodycam/radio combination that does both act as a radio and a bodycam.

A discussion was held on needing the bodycam/radios to protect the police as well as citizens,

the state-of-the-art abilities of the bodycam/radio, and cost.

***Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to approve the Bodycam/Radio quote for \$69,726.00 for a 10 year lease term with Country Roads making the monthly payment \$789.98.***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Donation Requests:**

John Dodds spoke to Council on the WV Three Rivers Festival, first thanking the Town of White Hall for their past support, and asking for their continued support.

Council reviewed and discussed all 2026 Donation Requests, which included requests from Affiliated Horseshoe Pitchers, Inc., MCPARC, Wv Three Rivers Festival, Pricketts Fort Memorial Foundation, Busy Bee Band and Honeybees, East Fairmont HS Athletics, NACMHA, Fairmont Chamber Music Society, FSHS Madrigals, Seth Burton Memorial foundation, and the Charley Clayton Memorial Peep Festival.

Council then decided they would donate the same amounts to the organizations as last year, with the additions of \$500 for FSHS Madrigals, \$250 for NACMHA, and increasing the WV Three Rivers Festival to \$1,000.

***Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to consider the outside agency allocations for 2026 in the amount of \$6,850.00***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Employee Handbook Updates for Wellness Program:**

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that in the original write-up in the handbook it read “free of charge.” Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that needs changed to “there may be a taxable fringe benefit.”

***Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to consider employee handbook updates to Wellness Program to include there may be a taxable fringe benefit.***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Employee Handbook Updates for Side Work:**

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated that employees are required to gain approval from their immediate supervisor to ensure their work doesn't interfere with the Town of White Hall.

A discussion was held.

***Councilmember Bob Wotring made a motion to add into the Employee Handbook for Side Work.***

***Motion passed.***

**Executive Session: Employment Considerations and Community Development:**

***Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to consider going into Executive Session to discuss Employment Considerations and Community Development.***

***Motion passed.***

***The meeting went into Executive Session at 7:01 pm.***

***Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to go out of Executive Session and back into Regular Session at 7:38 pm***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Employment Updates:**

***Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to consider the employment update for IT as discussed.***

***Motion passed.***

**Consider Community Developments:**

This item has been tabled until the next meeting.

**Final Remarks:**

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour stated he would like to complement Town Administrator Cindy Stover, as he had told her about ice on Timrod and she got it taken care of quickly before the kids got on it to go to school. Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour then asked if Public Works had an idea of what potholes need done in the spring. Town Administrator Cindy Stover that Moran for sure has a pothole that needs filled, and Public Works will do a drive-through the Town after winter to see if any others are needed.

Recorder Charles Mason gave the Public Works Department a compliment saying they did a “bang-up job” this winter.

Mayor Jason DeFrance also complimented Public Works.

**Adjournment:**

***Recorder Charles Mason made the motion to adjourn.***

***Motion passed.***

*Meeting adjourned at 7:44 pm.*

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Mayor Jason DeFrance  
(Or Acting Mayor)

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Recorder Charles Mason  
(Or Acting Recorder)

Minutes prepared by Kristin Kirk