

MINUTES
Town Council Meeting
March 23, 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 6:02 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>Present</i>
<i>Recorder Charles Mason</i>	<i>Present</i>

Also present:

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri
Town Administrator Cindy Stover

A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the 3.9.26 Town Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

Citizens' Concerns:

None.

Treasurer & Financial Reports:

The Treasurer & financial Report was emailed to Council to review.

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to approve the treasurer & financial report.

Motion passed.

Communications & Announcements:

- a. April 21, 2026 – Laying of the Levy 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 – Homegrown Edition
- 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

Mayor Jason DeFrance read a thank-You note from Brenda Giannis- Fairmont Chamber Music Society, for the Town’s donation to their organization.

Mayor Jason DeFrance then read a Thank-You note from Cathy Clayton - Charley Cayton Memorial Festival, for the Town’s donation to their organization.

Lastly, Mayor Jason DeFrance read a Thank-You note from NHCMA, for the Town’s donation to their organization.

Public Hearing

None.

Marion County EMS Report:

There were 887 calls in February 2026. This is a decrease from 2025, where there were 913 calls. Primary calls were for transports, then for sick, and then falls. A short description of transport calls were listed. Marion County EMS is currently hiring and have received 9 applications. Of those applications, Marion County EMS has hired 1 full-time paramedic, and 2 part-time EMTs. More interviews are scheduled.

Staffing will decrease at the White Hall substation the first two weeks in April because of staffing until new hires can be trained to be on their own.

Park Committee:

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated that he was not sure who is the owner the road for the development on Southland Drive and if ownership was turned over to their Homeowners Association. This is getting looked into.

Audit Committee:

Auditor Harold Fortner will come in August 2026.

Wage Review Committee:

The wage review committee will be scheduled at a later date. Town Administrator Cindy Stover recommended a meeting in April.

Police Department Report:

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri stated that he will give March 2026 statistics at the next meeting.

Chief of police Geno Guerrieri then stated that February and March were busy months for the White Hall PD, and officers will also be working on the Governor's Highway Safety "Click it or Ticket" efforts coming up.

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri then thanked one of his officers, Officer Hunt, for a great job on an indecent on Moran Circle over the weekend that led to an arrest and seizure of gun, drugs, and cash.

Lastly, Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri gave an update that Route 250 is reopened so some traffic will be eliminated.

Legal Department Report:

None.

Town Administrator Report:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that the Town will stay with Aflac for short-term disability. The Town's representative for Aflac was able to get the information we needed for this benefit so it is best stay with them.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then gave an update on the last line address in White Hall, which is that the post office is now recognizing White Hall as a preferred last line. The post office will be sending a letter to all residents and businesses. Town Administrator Cindy Stover also stated she was going to talk with Marketing and Communications Coordinator Kristin Kirk about posting on social media and doing a press release.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then stated that there is a leak in the roof. Public Services Director had someone come today to look at it, and although some repairs are included in the warranty, some are not. An estimate will be coming for those repairs.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that Town Clerk Cheri Wright has reached out to our

insurance agent about employee and Council's annual Harassment and Cyber Security Trainings.

Lastly, Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that she reached out to Mountain State Waste about the cost of a dumpster. Town Administrator Cindy Stover then brought up the idea of having a line item set aside in the budget for the cost of a dumpster where the dumpster would be paid for by Town and placed at nuisance situations in the Town, like Doe Run. A discussion was held.

Engineer Report:

Town Engineer Brad Pigott stated that he is going through Stafford Village's Declaration of Easements right now applicable to the question mentioned earlier under 'Park Committee' about who owns the road and will update Council on what he finds out.

Unfinished Business :

Consider Town Administrator Ordinance update:

Councilmembers were emailed the original and new copy of the Town Administrator Ordinance.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to update the Town Administer Ordinance update as written.

Motion passed.

This is the first hearing of the Town Administrator Ordinance update.

New Business to Consider:

Executive Session: Budget Considerations

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to go into Executive Session for Budget Considerations.

Motion passed.

The Council Meeting went into Executive Session at 6:27 pm.
6:27 pm.

Consider Budget FY 26-27:

Councilmember Bob Wotring made a motion to Consider Budget for fiscal year 26-27 as presented.

Recorder Charles Madon performed a roll call:

<i>Mayor Jason DeFrance</i>	
<i>Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour</i>	Yes
<i>Councilmember Bob Wotring</i>	Yes
<i>Councilmember Kristine Mason</i>	Yes
<i>Councilmember Mandy Espanol</i>	Yes
<i>Recorder Charles Mason</i>	Yes
<i>Treasurer John Jacobs</i>	Yes

Motion passed.

Consider Sending Town Administrator to ICMA Credentialed Manager Summit in August 2026:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that she has been doing the International City Manager's Association, and if approved on April 1st after sending in her reports, Town Administrator will go from a candidate to a credentialed city manager.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover requested to attend the Summit to join other credentialed managers to learn things from outside the state to bring growth to our Town, which includes the cost of the summit and 2 nights in a hotel.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to send Town Administrator Cindy Stover to ICMA Credentialed Manager Summit in August 2026.

Motion passed.

Consider Moran Circle Project Estimate:

Town Engineer presented an estimate to Council to improve Moran Circle. The total cost of these improvements to Moran is estimated to be \$200,895.53

Town Engineer gave a description of the process of the improvements to Moran Circle.

A discussion was held on the curbs on Moran Circle and if they are needed, drainage, and if the road is wide enough for 2 lanes.

A discussion was then held on the process of the state requiring the Town to have approval from all the houses on Ruby Drive for the Town to annex the road. The state is requiring additional signatures.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to allow Town Engineer Brad Pigott to work up a bid package on two projects: Moran Circle and if can get approval from the state, also Ruby Drive.

Motion passed.

Final Remarks:

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour asked if there was an update on the microphones. Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated there is no update, as quotes are still being obtained.


Treasurer John Jacobs asked of public Works cut the tree on Ruby, to which he was told the power company did that.

Adjournment:

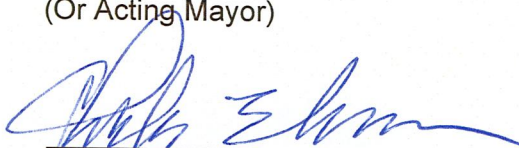
Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made the motion to adjourn.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:33 pm.



Mayor Jason DeFrance
(Or Acting Mayor)



Recorder Charles Mason
(Or Acting Recorder)

Minutes prepared by Kristin Kirk