

MINUTES
Town Council Meeting
March 9, 2026

Recorder Charles Mason 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:

Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle
Town Administrator Cindy Stover

A quorum was present.

Approval of Minutes:

Minutes for the 2.23.26 Town Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

Citizens' Concerns:

None.

Treasurer & Financial Reports:

None.

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 the Town is still evaluating how to address the MCPARC property on Southland Drive, stating that the property must be within Town limits in order to qualify for funding.

A discussion was held on annexing the housing development on Southland Drive and/or the road through it.

Audit Committee:

The audit committee met prior to the Council Meeting at 5:45 pm. Councilmember Bob Wotring made the recommendation to move forward with auditor Harold Fortner.

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:

Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle stated that in the month of February 2026, the White Hall Police Department responded to 423 calls for service, which generated 69 police report cases, and issued 97 citations. Deputy Chief Streyle then discussed notable investigations and arrests.

A discussion was then held on the status of the new PD radios and body cameras, which

have not been received yet because not all pieces of equipment are ready to ship.

Legal Department Report:

None.

Town Administrator Report:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that the company that was to be the Town's new internet service provider, DQE, has backed out. IT Technician Cliff Devault is looking into other options.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then gave an update on Public Works stating that banners were switched out today, and they painted the back room, down the hallway, and into the fire department.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then stated that she will have the budget completed by the end of this week and would like to have it on the next agenda.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that TextmyGov, the texting service voted on at the last Council meeting, raised the price, and so she and Marketing and Communications Coordinator Kristin Kirk have looked at other options and will continue to check other options to obtain a texting service.

Lastly, a discussion was then held on the work that IT Technician Cliff DeVault has started with.

Engineer Report:

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated Town Engineer Brag Piggott will have cost estimates for Moran Circle and Ruby Drive at the next meeting.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then stated that she and Director of Public Service Director George Hagan have discussed planting more daffodil bulbs in September to bloom in the space by Route 250. The blooms will then be done before it is time to mow.

Unfinished Business :

Consider Town Administrator Ordinance update:

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

A discussion was held on some of the changes made.

New Business to Consider:

Consider New Events:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover asked Council if they'd be interested in her speaking to Middletown Commons to partner with FSU's event center and host events.

A discussion was held.

Councilmember Mandy Espanol stated that she also would like for the event center to be asked if Sounds of Summer can be moved to their indoor event space in the case of rain.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion for Town Administrator Cindy Stover to pursue the White Hall Events Center at Middletown Commons to partner on events.

Motion passed.

Consider Re-Establishing White Hall Business Association:

Recorder Charles Mason stated that there used to be a White Hall Business Association and he would like to see that re-established.

A discussion was held on who would establish the business association, and the role the previous business administration had in the Town.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion for Marketing and Communications Coordinator Kristin Kirk to make a post on social media and send out an email to businesses to gauge interest.

Motion passed.

Declare 53 Doe Run a Nuisance:

Deputy Chief Jakob Streytle described deplorable property conditions inside and outside found by Police Officer Hunt during a domestic call behind Gwynn Tire, at 53 Doe Run.

A discussion was held on previous issues at this address, and the process of declaring the property a nuisance.

The nuisance ordinance was read and referred to.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover will ask Town Attorney Trey Simmerman about notifying both the property owner and occupant.

A discussion was then held on organizations that could help with elder care.

Councilmember Mandy Espanol made a motion to notify the property occupants and owner, give a 72-hour notice to show progress of clean-up, and issue a citation if progress is not made.

Motion passed.

Final Remarks:

Councilmember Mandy Espanol stated that if the Town cannot use the indoor event center at the Commons as she suggested earlier, to ask for permission to move into the atrium in the case of inclement weather.

Recorder Charles Mason stated that he would like to pass on to Public Works that the sign on Emerald and White Hall Blvd looks good.

Adjournment:

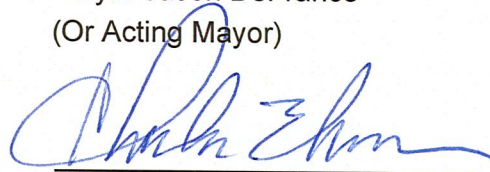
Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made the motion to adjourn.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:10 pm.



Mayor Jason DeFrance
(Or Acting Mayor)



Recorder Charles Mason
(Or Acting Recorder)

Minutes prepared by Kristin Kirk