

MINUTES
Town Council Meeting
April 13, 2026

Treasurer John Jacobs 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 Mayor Jason DeFrance at 6:00 pm.

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 3.23.26 Town Council Meeting Minutes were reviewed and approved as written.

Citizens' Concerns:

Timothy McAteer, small business owner of McAteers, addressed Council and let them know he is running for Marion County Commission.

Treasurer & Financial Reports:

None.

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 featuring Fairmont State University Band, Fairmont Community Symphonic Band, and East Fairmont High School Busy Bee Band and Honeybees
- 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. Fireworks at 10 pm.

Public Hearing:

Consider Town Administrator Ordinance Update:

Mayor Jason DeFrance opened the Public Hearing at 6:07 pm.
Mayor Jason DeFrance closed the Public Hearing at 6:08 pm.

Marion County EMS Report:

None.

Park Committee:

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated he has reached out to the company that owns the ground that Tractor Supply is on and has not received a return call.
Mayor Jason DeFrance then stated that per Town Attorney Trey Simmerman, there is no foreseen issues with DEP and that property.

Audit Committee:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover will send signed documents to the auditor tomorrow.

Police Department Report:

Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle stated that in the month of March, there were 469 calls for service, which generated 59 investigations. 83 citations were issued, and there were 17 arrests.

Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle then discussed a recent investigation case with Detective Weaver.

Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle then stated that he has a meeting tomorrow with White Hall

Elementary, whose teachers and administration have all received new badges with panic buttons, which allows them to alert the police and 911 call center in case of an emergency.

Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle then stated that Detective Gary Weaver will be teaching a “Digital Evidence Examination Class” tomorrow in the White Hall training room. 21 officers signed up from various police departments.

Lastly, Deputy Chief Jakob Streyle gave Council an update that the White Hall Police Department is approaching one year without any injury or accidents to the officers.

Legal Department Report:

None.

Town Administrator Report:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that the annual discrimination and social media training needs scheduled for Council and gave a few dates to choose from. The training is scheduled for April 19th at 6 pm.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover then stated that on April 20th, Pruntytown Correctional will have inmates in the area doing litter clean up and all proper security measures are in place.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover gave an update on Public Works, stating that they have closed 25 work orders this week, which included a cleanup on March Drive. Director of Public Services George Hagan is still working on getting quotes for the roof.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that two quotes have been obtained for the microphones in the Chambers.

Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that Public Works has been watching for water on Garnet for the last 2 weeks and has not seen any.

Lastly, Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that White Hall employees will have active shooter training this Wednesday, April 15th at noon.

A discussion was then held on the lack of rain, which may be why water hasn't been seen on garnet and possibly painting the grates, so they don't rust.

Engineer Report:

None.

Unfinished Business :

Consider Town Administrator Ordinance update:

Deputy Mayor Tin Ridenour made a motion to update the Town Administer Ordinance update as written.

Motion passed.

New Business to Consider:

EMS Graduate Class Recognition:

Mayor Jason DeFrance presented two certifications of achievement to new EMS graduates and now employees of the Marion County Rescue Squad, Amiah Merrifield and James Dye.

Consider Proclamation for Child Abuse Prevention Month:

Mayor Jason DeFrance read a Proclamation which proclaims that April is National Child Abuse Prevention Month in the Town of White Hall, WV.

Deputy Mayor Tim DeFrance made a motion to consider April be National Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Motion passed.

Consider Sponsorship for Relay for Life:

Mayor Jason DeFrance read the sponsorship request form for Relay for Life, which is happening on June 5, 2026 at the Middletown Commons.

Councilmember Mandy Espanol made a motion to donate \$1,000 to Relay for Life, pending the budget revision.

Motion passed.

Consider Street and Highway Policy Update:

Mayor Jason DeFrance read the current policy regarding purchasing and quotes, and that an

update is needed to add that special projects may be completed by the White Hall Public Works Department.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to consider the Street and Highway Policy update.

Motion passed.

Consider NSF Fee Policy:

A discussion was held on adding a policy where the Town will charge a \$25 non-refundable insufficient fund fee to all returned checks and ACH payments.

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to consider a \$25 NSF fee policy.

Motion passed.

Executive Session: Wage Review:

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to go into Executive Session at 6:38 pm

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to go out of Executive Session and into Regular Session at 6:47 pm.

Consider Wages for July 1, 2026:

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to consider Wages for July 1, 2026, as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion passed.

Final Remarks:

Councilmember Bob Wotring showed Council the whole page ad for White Hall in the recent Follies show to give back in thanks of the Town's donation and also stated how he was thankful to also see the band participating in the Sounds of Summer on May 1.

Councilmember Mandy Espanol stated that there are still a lot of rocks in the lower part of her yard that came from a previous company that used the wrong dirt to fill during updates to the road. A discussion was held, and Public Services Director George Hagan will do a drive-by to check out the situation.

Recorder Charles Mason asked how the Business Administration is going. Town Administrator Cindy Stover that a meeting will be scheduled soon. Recorder Charles Mason then asked who

cut the tree down on Route 250, to which Town Administrator Cindy Stover responded it was Public Services Director George Hagan. Lastly, Recorder Charles Mason discussed a home on Lavender Lane that mows their grass into the road, and a discussion was held on high grass. Town Administrator Cindy Stover stated that she will look into the nuisance policy regarding this.


A discussion was then held amongst Council about dumpsters for nuisance situations.

Adjournment:

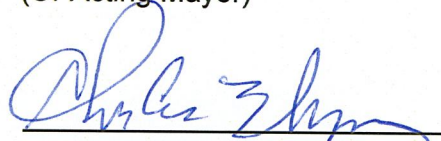
Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made the motion to adjourn.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 7:00 pm.



Mayor Jason DeFrance
(Or Acting Mayor)



Recorder Charles Mason
(Or Acting Recorder)

Minutes prepared by Kristin Kirk