

MINUTES
Town Council Meeting
June 8, 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 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 5.26.26 Town Council Meeting were approved as written.

Citizens' Concerns:

Town Administrator called Susie per her request, who lives behind Middletown Commons. Susie let Council know that there are buildings below her on Doe Run that began tearing it down but then stopped. Susie stated that she received notice to clean up boards on her property, and would like those cleaned up. Mayor Jason DeFrance let Susie know they will look into it.

Treasurer & Financial Reports:

Town Administrator Cindy emailed Council the April Treasurer & Financial Report prior to the meeting.

Recorder Charles Mason made a motion to approve the Treasurer & Financial Report for the month of April.

Motion passed.

Communications & Announcements:

- a. Farmers Market 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month from 9 am – noon. May 23rd through Sept. 26th.
- b. June 17, 2026 – First Responders Dinner
- c. June 23, 2026 – Council Meeting Date Change
- d. July 11, 2026 – Appalachian Music Festival 4 – 10 pm. Fireworks at 10 pm.
- e. July 16, 2026 – 6 pm. Council/Employee Picnic
- f. Municipal League Conference – Charleston, WV. August 4-7, 2026

Mayor Jason DeFrance announced that Council was invited to Marion County Senior Citizen's Center Summer Picnic on June 26th from 11 am – 23 pm at the North Marion Senior Center in Mannington.

Mayor Jason DeFrance then read a "Thank-You" letter from the Marion County Relay for Life.

Public Hearing:

None.

Marion County EMS Report:

None.

Park Committee:

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated he has been in contact with the property owners where Tractor Supply is and discussed how that owner is reaching out to Tractor Supply about annexing.

Audit Committee:

None

Police Department Report:

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri then stated that for the month of May, there were 292 calls for service, 24 citations, and 39 cases.

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri then stated that radio programming is being done this week so hopefully will be running by the end of the week.

Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri provided Council with an update on the recent fire on Lanham Lane. He reported that Officer Norman was the first to respond to the incident, followed shortly thereafter by Chief Guerrieri. Chief Guerrieri expressed his appreciation for Officer Norman's actions, noting that although the incident occurred outside the Town's jurisdiction, Officer Norman responded without hesitation because a life was in danger.

Legal Department Report:

None.

Town Administrator Report:

None.

Engineer Report:

Mayor Jason DeFrance reported that Town Engineer Brad Pigott will conduct the pre-bid inspection for the Moran Circle project on Friday. Sealed bids must be submitted by 4:00 p.m. on June 23, 2026, the date of the next Council meeting. Council will review the bids and consider awarding the project at that meeting.

Unfinished Business :

None.

New Business to Consider:

Consider Temporary Help for Public Works:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover explained to Council that Public Services Director George Hagan had previously requested assistance from inmate work crews for weed-eating services, but those crews are fully booked through the summer. She explained that while the Public Works Department continues mowing as weather permits, it is difficult to keep up with weed-eating throughout Town. Town Administrator Stover requested Council's permission to utilize a temporary staffing agency on an as-needed basis to provide additional weed-eating services.

A discussion was held on pay and the process in case of an injury.

Deputy Mayor Tim Ridenour made a motion to consider hiring a temp agency to help Public Works with weed eating.

Motion passed.

Consider Grant Opportunity:

Town Administrator Cindy Stover discussed a grant opportunity through the WV First Foundation focused on addressing substance abuse within the community. She explained that the grant would allow the Town to develop a six-month probation and recovery program for eligible individuals who would not be processed through the state system. Participants who enroll in the program would receive counseling services through Valley Healthcare during the six-month period.

Town Administrator Stover outlined the structure of the grant and explained that grant funding could be used to assist participants with transitional needs, such as housing and other support services, to help them achieve stability and successfully reintegrate into the community.

Councilmember Kristine made a motion to consider the grant opportunity as discussed.

Motion passed.

Final Remarks:

Councilmember Mandy Espanol stated that the grass is high again by "The Turn" and also asked if Chief of Police Geno Guerrieri had checked on the abandoned car there.

Mayor Jason DeFrance stated that he spoke with Pam Cooley and they are looking for donations of backpacks for kids in- need.

Deputy Mayor Tim Rideour then stated that he thinks White Hall Elementary School will be reaching out to the Town for a "Back to School" bash.

Adjournment:

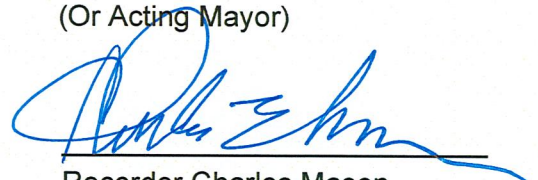
Recorder Charles Mason made the motion to adjourn.

Motion passed.

Meeting adjourned at 6:31 pm.



Mayor Jason DeFrance
(Or Acting Mayor)



Recorder Charles Mason
(Or Acting Recorder)

Minutes prepared by Kristin Kirk