

MINUTES
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
6:30 P.M., MAY 19, 2025
AV ROOM #308, CITY HALL

Joseph Jenkins Chair, called the meeting of the Charleston City Council Committee on Finance to order at 6:30 p.m., May 19, 2025.

A silent roll was taken by the Clerk and a quorum was established. The following committee members were present:

Joseph Jenkins, Chair
Brent Burton, Vice Chair
Becky Ceperley
Mary Beth Hoover
Larry Moore
Chad Robinson
Shawn Taylor

Absent:

Other Councilmembers present:

Harper Gardner
Joe Solomon
Beth Kerns

I. DISCUSSION:

a. Approval of Previous Minutes - Councilmember Burton asked for unanimous consent to dispense with the reading of the minutes for the May 5, 2025 meeting and that they be approved as distributed. There were no objections, and the minutes were approved.

II. RESOLUTIONS:

- a. Resolution No. 25-043 – Authorizing approval of Amendment No. 7 of the FY 2024-2025 General Fund Budget as indicated on the attached list of accounts.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

That Amendment No. 7 of the FY 2024-2025 General Fund Budget as indicated on the attached list of accounts is approved.

Finance Director Andy Wood added that the amendment will fund the purchase of a backhoe, shifts funds to align with insurance claims and shifts funds for the settlement associated with a settlement to pay for updates to City playground equipment.

Councilmember Jenkins confirmed with Wood that the company associated with the settlement was Lipitor.

Councilmember Burton moved to approve the Resolution. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, Chairperson Jenkins declared Resolution No. 25-043 approved.

- b. Resolution No. 25-044 – Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to purchase seventy-three (73) sets of turnout gear for the Charleston Fire Department from Witmer Public Safety in the amount of \$249,295.00 pursuant to a competitively sourced contract for the purpose of supplying a second set of turnout gear for Charleston firefighters.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

That the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to purchase seventy-three (73) sets of turnout gear for the Charleston Fire Department from Witmer Public Safety in the amount of \$249,295.00 pursuant to a competitively sourced contract for the purpose of supplying a second set of turnout gear for Charleston firefighters.

Wood added that the resolution authorizes 73 new sets of gear for the Fire Department. This purchase of a second set of gear has been allocated for in the budget.

Councilmember Burton moved to approve the Resolution. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, Chairperson Jenkins declared Resolution No. 25-044 approved.

- c. Resolution No. 25-045 – Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to purchase a New Holland B95D Extend-A-Hoe backhoe with thumb and 4-in-1 bucket from Green’s Equipment Group for the Refuse Department at a total cost of \$116,977.00 pursuant to a competitively sourced contract.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

That the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to purchase a New Holland B95D Extend-A-Hoe backhoe with thumb and 4-in-1 bucket from Green’s Equipment Group for the Refuse Department at a total cost of \$116,977.00 pursuant to a competitively sourced contract.

Wood added that the backhoe will be used by the Refuse Department. The current backhoe was damaged beyond repair. The insured amount will partially pay for the purchase.

Public Works Director Brent Webster confirmed that the original backhoe was damaged due to driver error while being transported to a vendor in Cross Lanes. The only damage that occurred was to the backhoe.

From the audience, Councilmember Gardner confirmed that the new backhoe is essentially the same, but is a different brand.

Councilmember Burton moved to approve the Resolution. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, Chairperson Jenkins declared Resolution No. 25-045 approved.

- d. Resolution No. 25-046 – Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to enter into a lease agreement with the Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority for property adjacent to Charleston Fire Station 8, where the intended purpose is for Charleston Fire Department to establish a non-permanent training facility and where the term is one-year with optional renewals and no cash consideration will be paid by the City.

Be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

That the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to enter into a lease agreement with the Charleston-Kanawha Housing Authority for property adjacent to Charleston Fire Station 8, where the intended purpose is for Charleston Fire Department to establish a non-permanent training facility and where the term is one-year with optional renewals and no cash consideration will be paid by the City.

Wood added that the resolution is for a 1-year renewable lease for land adjacent to Charleston Fire Station 8 for non-permanent training facility.

Councilmember Burton moved to approve the Resolution. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, Chairperson Jenkins declared Resolution No. 25-046 approved.

- e. Resolution No. 25-047 – Authorizing settlement of a pending disputed claim against the City, by Dutch Miller – Subaru, related to a ruptured private water line attached to a private fire hydrant that was being used for training purposes by the Charleston Fire Department, as recommended by the City Solicitor.

Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia:

That the City Council hereby authorizes and approves the settlement of a pending disputed claim against the City, by Dutch Miller – Subaru, related to a broken private water line attached to a private fire hydrant that was being used for training purposes by the Charleston Fire Department, in the amount of \$137,167.17, as recommended by the City Solicitor. The City Council authorizes the City Solicitor and City Manager to take all necessary steps to finalize resolution of the claim.

City Attorney Kevin Baker added that the settlement relates to a training incident by the Fire Department on a private water system. It was determined that the fire hydrant was opened and closed too fast, resulting in damage to the pipes and necessary repairs. The settlement will pay for all of the plumbing and paving work.

Councilmember Jenkins spoke in favor of the settlement.

Councilmember Burton moved to approve the Resolution. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, Chairperson Jenkins declared Resolution No. 25-047 approved.

Councilmember Burton motioned to adjourn the meeting.
Meeting adjourned.