



**JOURNAL of the PROCEEDINGS  
of the  
CITY COUNCIL**

CITY OF CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

---

Regular Meeting – Monday, November 17, 2025

at 7:00 P.M.

Council Chambers – City Hall – Charleston, West Virginia

---

**OFFICIAL RECORD**

**Amy Shuler Goodwin**  
Mayor

**Miles C. Cary II**  
City Clerk

***CALL TO ORDER\****

---

The Council met at 7:00 P.M., for the second meeting in the month of November on the 17<sup>th</sup> day, in the year 2025, and was called to order by the Honorable Mayor, Amy Shuler Goodwin. The invocation was delivered by Councilmember Overstreet, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Steelhammer. City Clerk, Miles C. Cary II, called the roll of members and it was found that there were present at the time:

<b>ANNIE</b>	<b>COOK</b>	<b>FAEGRE</b>
<b>CEPERLEY</b>	<b>GARDNER</b>	<b>GIANOLA</b>
<b>FERRELL</b>	<b>HOOVER</b>	<b>JENKINS</b>
<b>HAAS</b>	<b>KERNS</b>	<b>KING</b>
<b>JONES</b>	<b>OVERSTREET</b>	<b>PEPPER</b>
<b>MOORE</b>	<b>ROBINSON</b>	<b>RUBIO</b>
<b>PHARR</b>	<b>SNODGRASS</b>	<b>SOLOMON</b>
<b>SALANGO</b>	<b>TAYLOR</b>	<b>MAYOR GOODWIN</b>
<b>STEELHAMMER</b>		

With twenty-five members being present, the Mayor declared a quorum present.

All absences were excused by the City Clerk per Resolution No. 582-21.

Pending the reading of the Journal of the previous meeting, the reading thereof was dispensed with and the same duly approved.

***PUBLIC SPEAKERS***

---

1. Rico Moore – Spoke about police excessive force.
2. Olubumi Kusimo-Frazier – Spoke about police excessive force.
3. Geoffrey Cullop – Spoke about police excessive force.
4. Tara Raymo – Read a passage of the Bible.

***CLAIMS***

---

1. A claim of Brian Love, Charleston, WV; alleges damage to vehicle.

***PROCLAMATIONS***

---

None

***COMMUNICATIONS***

---

None

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**COMMITTEE ON FINANCE**

Councilmember Jenkins, Chair of the Council Committee on Finance, submitted the following reports:

1. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 25-112 be adopted.

Resolution No. 25-112 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to contract with Amwins Group Benefits, LLC for medical and prescription drug coverage for the Medicare eligible retiree health plan at a set cost per member per month described in the attached exhibit as Alternative Medical Plan 5 for the plan year starting January 1, 2026.

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

That the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to contract with Amwins Group Benefits, LLC for medical and prescription drug coverage for the Medicare eligible retiree health plan at a set cost per member per month described in the attached exhibit as Alternative Medical Plan 5 for the plan year starting January 1, 2026.

Councilmember Jenkins added there will not be a premium increase. There will be an increase of \$200/year for the out-of-pocket expense. This agreement will be for one year, starting in 2026.

Councilmember Kerns added that most retirees are on a fixed, low income. It is not fair to change their benefits after they have retired.

Councilmember Snodgrass stated that Option 4 should have been chosen as it does not change the current benefits or cost. \$200 is a lot since most of the people affected do not have the ability to increase their income.

Councilmember Snodgrass motioned to Amend Resolution No. 25-112 by:

Changing Line 4 by removing “5” and inserting “4”. And changing line 10 by removing “5” and inserting “4”

Councilmember Solomon seconded the motion to amend.

Councilmember Overstreet confirmed with Finance Director Andy Wood that the monthly premium would increase the cost to the City. It would not change the retiree's premium.

Councilmember Ceperley confirmed with Wood that the City's cost would increase by \$68,000 if the proposed amendment should pass.

Councilmember Annie confirmed with Wood that the City's coverage is secondary to Medicare. This would affect 564 retirees. The City was told to expect an 8-10% increase for the following year (2027).

Councilmember Overstreet stated that he would abstain from voting as he is on the retiree plan.

Councilmember Gardner confirmed with Wood that the budgeted amount is within the Plan 4.

Councilmember Faegre confirmed with Wood that the proposed \$200 increase will be to the maximum out-of-pocket cost. Councilmember Faegre suggested tabling the resolution to get feedback from retirees. Wood added that it could delay having cards sent to retirees, but they would still have coverage.

Councilmember Cook asked if they knew how many more retirees would soon be in this pool. Wood replied that he did not know that information presently, but the report for it does exist. It is reasonable to expect the numbers to grow every year.

Councilmember King spoke against the amendment.

Councilmember Gianola confirmed with Wood that the out-of-pocket maximum has been \$300 since at least 2013.

Councilmember Robinson stated that part of the Committee process is to allow for this type of discussion and amendments.

Councilmember Snodgrass stated that it was important for every member of Council to vote to change benefits of retirees. They should not raise the cost of benefits for people that are mostly below the property level.

With members present recorded thereon as voting in the majority in the negative, the Mayor declared the Amendment to Resolution No. 25-112 as not passed.

Councilmember Jenkins reserved the right to close discussion.

Councilmember Jones confirmed with Wood that Medicare population retirees are not allowed to use the City Clinic.

Councilmember Faegre stated that before the current Administration, most City workers were underpaid, which made their social security benefits very low.

Councilmember Snodgrass requested a roll call vote.

Councilmember Overstreet stated that he would abstain from voting as he is on the retiree plan.

Councilmember Solomon motioned to table the resolution. There was no second.

Councilmember Pharr confirmed with Wood the only the out-of-pocket maximum was changing, not the deductible. The deductible is set by the Federal government.

Councilmember Gianola confirmed with Wood that if the resolution did not pass, there would not be a plan in place come January 1, 2026.

Councilmember Steelhammer confirmed with Wood that if the resolution should not pass, the City would have to go back to the brokers to secure a different plan with the same or possibly different proposals. There would be a definite risk of loss of coverage if an agreement could not be reached by the two meetings in December.

Councilmember Jenkins stated that the premiums and out of pocket costs have not changed since 2013. This is very rare when other insurances costs are increasing by 1,000% and most private businesses do not offer this supplementary plan. The proposed resolution keeps the increase to a minimum.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Hoover seconded the motion.

A roll call was taken:

YEAS: Annie, Ceperley, Cook, Ferrell, Gardner, Gianola, Haas, Hoover, Jenkins, Jones, King, Moore, Pepper, Pharr, Robinson, Rubio, Salango, Solomon, Steelhammer, Taylor, Mayor Goodwin

NAYS: Faegre, Kerns, Snodgrass

ABSTAIN: Overstreet

ABSENT: Burka, Burton

With members present recorded thereon as voting in the majority in the affirmative with 21 YEAS  
3 NAYS and 1 ABSTAIN, Mayor Goodwin declared Resolution No. 25-112 as adopted.

2. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 25-113 be adopted.

Resolution No. 25-113 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to purchase a total of twelve model year 2026 Ford Interceptors from Thornhill Group, Inc. for the Charleston Police Department at a total price of \$806,450.36, where the price also includes the purchase and installation of all equipment necessary to upfit the vehicles for CPD use, all pursuant to a competitive bid process.

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

That the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to purchase a total of twelve model year 2026 Ford Interceptors from Thornhill Group, Inc. for the Charleston Police Department at a total price of \$806,450.36, where the price also includes the purchase and installation of all equipment necessary to upfit the vehicles for CPD use, all pursuant to a competitive bid process.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the purchase will be for the vehicles and all items needed to outfit them. The lowest bid did not meet the specifications.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Ceperley seconded the motion. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, the Mayor declared Resolution No. 25-113.

3. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 25-114 be adopted.

Resolution No. 25-114 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to enter into an agreement with Advizex in the amount of \$58,766.43 for the purchase of firewall and edge routers to update outdated equipment and software for Information Systems pursuant to 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 enter into an agreement with Advizex in the amount of \$58,766.43 for the purchase of firewall and edge routers to update outdated equipment and software for Information Systems pursuant to competitively sourced contract.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the resolution is to upgrade equipment for cyber security.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Ceperley seconded the motion. With members present recorded thereon as voting in the majority in the affirmative, Mayor Goodwin declared Resolution No. 25-114 as adopted.

***REPORTS OF OFFICERS***

---

1. City Treasurer’s Report to City Council Month Ending October 2025.
2. Municipal Court Report to City Council Month Ending October 2025.

***NEW BILLS***

---

Introduced by Councilmember Mary Beth Hoover

November 17, 2025:

Bill No. 8065 – A BILL to amend the Zoning Ordinance of the City of Charleston by amending the sign regulations relating to the size of digital display signs.

Refer to Municipal Planning Commission and Planning, Streets and Traffic Committee

***MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS***

---

None

***REMARKS BY MEMBERS***

---

1. Mayor Goodwin stated that the Christmas Parade will be December 11, 2025.
2. Councilmember Kerns stated that the new black seats at the Convention Center are very nice and elegant.
3. Councilmember Annie thanked the Engineering Department and Public Works for help with paving in his Ward after the gas company did work.
4. Councilmember Faegre stated that City Attorney Kevin Baker was the Board President of West Side Soccer and was recently awarded the 2025 West Virginia Soccer Association Administrator of the Year.
5. Councilmember Solomon encouraged the creation of a Citizen or Council Review Board to ensure accountability and transparency.
6. Councilmember Pharr the recent Farm to Table Event was one of the best meals she ever had. She added that Earl Lloyd was the first African American MBA player and thanked the Mayor for giving his family a key to the City.
7. Councilmember Snodgrass requested a total amount of how much the City has paid in lawsuits against CPD.

8. Councilmember Pepper thanked the Mayor, Parking Director Terri Allen, City Manager Ben Mishoe and others for their help with the West Virginia International Film Festival.

**ADJOURNMENT**

---

*City Clerk, Miles C. Cary II, called the closing roll call:*

YEAS: Annie, Ceperley, Cook, Faegre, Ferrell, Gardner, Gianola, Haas, Hoover, Jenkins, Jones, Kerns, King, Moore, Overstreet, Pepper, Pharr, Robinson, Rubio, Salango, Snodgrass, Solomon, Steelhammer, Taylor, Mayor Goodwin

NAYS:

ABSENT: Burka, Burton

At 8:27 p.m., by a motion from Councilmember Ceperley, Council adjourned until Monday, December 1, 2025, 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at City Hall.

---

Amy Shuler Goodwin, Honorable Mayor

---

Miles C. Cary II, City Clerk