



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

CITY OF CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

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Regular Meeting – Tuesday, February 17, 2026

at 7:00 P.M.

Council Chambers – City Hall – Charleston, West Virginia

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**OFFICIAL RECORD**

**Amy Shuler Goodwin**  
Mayor

**Miles C. Cary II**  
City Clerk

***CALL TO ORDER\****

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The Council met at 7:00 P.M., for the second meeting in the month of February 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 Pepper, and the Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilmember Ferrell. 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>BURKA</b>	<b>BURTON</b>
	<b>COOK</b>	<b>FAEGRE</b>
<b>FERRELL</b>	<b>GARDNER</b>	<b>GIANOLA</b>
<b>HAAS</b>	<b>HOOVER</b>	<b>JENKINS</b>
<b>JONES</b>	<b>KERNS</b>	<b>KING</b>
<b>MOORE</b>	<b>OVERSTREET</b>	<b>PEPPER</b>
<b>PHARR</b>	<b>ROBINSON</b>	<b>RUBIO</b>
<b>SALANGO</b>	<b>SNODGRASS</b>	<b>SOLOMON</b>
<b>STEELHAMMER</b>	<b>TAYLOR</b>	<b>MAYOR GOODWIN</b>

With twenty-six 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***

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1. Jennifer Bauman – Spoke about the homeless.
2. Tara Raymo – Read a passage from the Bible.
3. Benny Green – Spoke about roofing.
4. Emily West – Spoke in favor of term limits and staggered elections.

***CLAIMS***

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1. A claim of Scott Young, Charleston, WV; alleges damage to property.

***PROCLAMATIONS***

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

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Councilmember Solomon motioned that Resolution No. 26-020 be discharged from the Ordinance and Rules Committee to the Floor. Councilmember Snodgrass seconded the motion.

Resolution No. 26-020 - Amending and reenacting Rule 2 of the Rules of Council in order to change the process for the appointment of standing committee members and to enact a process for the selection of chair and vice chair positions within the standing committees.

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

That Rule 2 of the Rules of Council be amended and reenacted to read as follows:

Rule No. 2. - Committees.

(a)The city council shall have the following standing committees:

Committee on Finance.

Committee on Ordinance and Rules.

Committee on Planning, Streets, and Traffic.

Committee on Public Safety.

Committee on Parks and Recreation.

Committee on Environment and Recycling.

Committee on Urban Renewal and Economic Development.

Committee on Facilities.

Committee on Parking Facilities.

(b) All standing committees shall consist of not less than three nor more than nine members unless the city council by resolution specifically provides otherwise. All standing committees shall be appointed by the mayor Council President. The members of the Committee on Parking Facilities shall be the same as those appointed and serving as the members of the Committee on Finance.

(c) In addition to the foregoing standing committees, the city council may authorize such select committees as may be provided by resolution.

(d) Members of each committee shall vote on their own Chair and Vice Chair, selection of which is decided by a majority vote. Provided that, from the date of such selection for Chair and Vice Chair, every

standing committee shall be required to conduct an election for Chair and Vice Chair every two years conforming with the voting process referenced herein.

Councilmember Faegre confirmed that the Resolution did not move out of the Ordinance and Rules Committee. The motion would bring the Resolution to Council for debate and a vote if passed.

Councilmember Solomon stated that as the resolution seeks to reform the Committee process, it is best fit for the full body to decide.

Councilmember Gardner stated that the reason that the resolution did not move out of Committee was that there were issues such as changing the nature of the Council President Pro Tempore, timing, etc.

Councilmember Gianola confirmed that the Resolution was only referred to Ordinance and Rules.

Councilmember Snodgrass stated that it was important that every Councilmember has an opportunity to vote on the matter.

Councilmember Cook spoke against the discharge as the proper process was followed.

Councilmember Pepper spoke against the discharge.

A roll call was taken:

YEAS: Burka, Kerns, Snodgrass, Solomon, Steelhammer

NAYS: Annie, Burton, Cook, Faegre, Ferrell, Gardner, Gianola, Haas, Hoover, Jenkins, Jones, King, Moore, Overstreet, Pepper, Pharr, Robinson, Rubio, Salango, Taylor, Mayor Goodwin

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Ceperley

With members present recorded thereon as voting in the majority in the negative, with 5 Yeas and 20 Nays, Mayor Goodwin declared the motion to discharge Resolution No. 26-020 from Committee as not passed.

## **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. 26-021 be adopted.

Resolution No. 26-021 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to purchase yellow and white traffic marking paint from Allstate Coatings Company for the Traffic & Transportation and Parking Operations Departments, in the amount of \$47,267.55, pursuant to a competitively 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 traffic marking paint for the Traffic & Transportation and Parking Operations Departments from Allstate Coatings Company, in the amount of \$47,267.55, pursuant to a competitive bid process.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the resolution is for the annual purchase of traffic paint on City streets.

Councilmember Jenkins moved to approve the resolution. Councilmember Hoover seconded the motion. With members present recorded thereon as voting unanimously in the affirmative, the Mayor declared Resolution No. 26-021.

2. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 26-022 be adopted.

Resolution No. 26-022 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to purchase a total of three ambulances for the Charleston Fire Department from Atlantic Emergency Solutions in the amount of \$247,389.00 each, for a total price of \$742,167.00, to replace ambulances in the regular rotation schedule, where the price was determined pursuant to a competitively sourced Sourcewell 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 total of three ambulances for the Charleston Fire Department from Atlantic Emergency Solutions in the amount of \$247,389.00 each, for a total price of \$742,167.00, to replace ambulances in the regular rotation schedule, where the price was determined pursuant to a competitively sourced Sourcewell contract.

Councilmember Jenkins added that the purchase of three ambulance came in approximately \$200,000 under budget.

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. 26-022.

3. Your committee on Finance has had under consideration the following resolution, and reports the same to Council with the recommendation that Resolution No. 26-023 be adopted.

Resolution No. 26-023 - Authorizing the Mayor or City Manager to purchase a card access reader system from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$64,351.60 to replace the system throughout City Hall, where the price was determined pursuant to a competitively sourced Sourcewell contract. This was budgeted in FY2026 to replace the outdated system and will ensure CJIS compliance.

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

That the Mayor or City Manager is authorized to purchase a card access reader system from Motorola Solutions in the amount of \$64,351.60 to replace the system throughout City Hall, where the price was determined pursuant to a competitively sourced Sourcewell contract.

Councilmember Jenkins added that it is difficult to find replacement parts for the current system.

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. 26-023.

Councilmember Snodgrass motioned that Bill No. 8067 be discharged from the Ordinance and Rules Committee to the Floor. Councilmember Solomon seconded the motion.

Bill No. 8067 - An Ordinance amending the Charter of the City of Charleston Section 3 – Election and term of office of elective officers; salary of mayor; appointments by mayor; term of appointive officers; duties of mayor and city solicitor; salary of solicitor; fees, revising the election cycle for the City of Charleston elections.

WHEREAS, the Charter establishes the dates for City of Charleston municipal elections; and

WHEREAS, the Charter establishes the term of office for elective officers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Charleston values democracy, civic engagement, and the fair representation of its citizens in local government; and

WHEREAS, term limits for elected officials promote transparency, foster new leadership opportunities, and prevent the consolidation of power over extended periods; and

WHEREAS, it is essential to ensure regular turnover in elected offices to encourage fresh perspectives and ideas for addressing the evolving needs of our community; and

WHEREAS, more seasoned voices on City Council are critical for conveying institutional knowledge and sharing processes for steady city governance. Overlapping terms can help preserve institutional knowledge; and

WHEREAS, the 2026 city elections mark an appropriate starting point to implement term limits for members of Charleston WV's City Council.

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Charleston, West Virginia, has determined that it is necessary, convenient and expedient for the aforesaid reasons to amend Section 35 of the Charter of the City of Charleston, West Virginia, to enact term limits and change the election cycle of the City of Charleston; and

WHEREAS, after proper public notice, a public hearing was held in Council Chambers on \_\_\_\_\_, at 7:00 pm, wherein the citizens were given opportunity to file any written objections to the Charter amendments proposed herein; and

WHEREAS, written objections, if any, were withdrawn within the 10 days following the \_\_\_\_\_, hearing;

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

That the City of Charleston, West Virginia, beginning in 2030, the City shall transition to staggered City Council elections so that half of Council is elected every two years. To accomplish this transition, the terms of odd-numbered ward seats and three randomly selected at-large seats elected in 2030 shall be for a one time two-year term, with those seats next standing for election in 2032 but then every four years thereafter (2036, 2040, and so on). The remaining even-numbered ward seats and the three remaining at-large seats shall continue on the regular four-year cycle, standing for election in 2034 and every four years thereafter (2038, 2042, and so on).

Be it further Ordained: that Section 35 of the Charter of the City of Charleston, West Virginia, shall be amended to read as follows:

Sec. 35. - Election and term of office of elective officers; appointments by mayor; appointment of city clerk; appointments by manager; duties of mayor and city solicitor; fees; term limits.

The mayor, members of council, municipal judge and treasurer elected ~~on-in May 16~~November 3, 2015~~2026~~, shall serve a term beginning on the ~~third~~first Monday in ~~June~~January, 2015~~27~~, and ending in January ~~2019~~2031 when the term of their successors begins. Their successors shall be elected on the first Tuesday in November, ~~2018~~2030, in conjunction with the state and county election administered by the clerk of the county court of Kanawha County, West Virginia, and shall begin their term on the first Monday of January ~~2019~~2031, unless said Monday is a state holiday, in which case their term shall begin on the first Tuesday of January. Provided that, effective with the 2026 election, a three-term consecutive term limit shall be imposed on all Charleston, West Virginia members of city council.

Thereafter, beginning in 2030, the City shall transition to staggered City Council elections so that half of the members of council are elected every two years. To accomplish this transition, the terms of odd-numbered ward seats and three randomly selected at-large seats elected in 2030 shall be for a one-time two-year term, with those seats next standing for election in 2032 but then every four years thereafter (2036, 2040, and so on). The remaining even-numbered ward seats and the three remaining at-large seats shall continue on the regular four-year cycle, standing for election in 2034 and every four years thereafter (2038, 2042, and so on).

Implementation Timeline: The term limit policy shall apply starting in 2026. The term that runs from 2026-2030 will be considered the first term for counting three consecutive terms.

~~†~~The mayor, ~~members of council~~, municipal judge and treasurer shall be elected at intervals of four years in conjunction with the state and county election administered by the clerk of the county court of Kanawha County, West Virginia, and their term shall begin on the first Monday of January after their election, unless said Monday is a state holiday, in which case their term shall begin on the first Tuesday of January.

Public Notice: The city clerk shall provide public notice of this term limit policy through official city communications, the city website, and its media officers to ensure widespread awareness among residents and potential candidates.

Compliance and Enforcement: The city clerk shall monitor and ensure compliance with this term limit policy, including verifying candidate eligibility during election cycles.

The mayor shall appoint the city solicitor, an assistant city solicitor, the chief of police, humane officer or officers, building inspector, collector, city auditor, engineer, health commissioner, lockup keeper, municipal court clerk, and the chief of the fire department, and these appointments shall not require any confirmation by the council but shall be made at the discretion of the mayor, who shall, with like discretion, have the full and complete power of removal thereof. The mayor shall appoint the manager, by and with the advice and consent of the council. The council shall, either at a regular or special meeting called for that purpose, pass upon such nomination and either confirm or reject the same, and if such nomination is rejected, then the mayor shall submit to the council a further nomination of some other person or persons until the nomination is confirmed by council, for said office of manager, but it shall be the duty of the council to pass upon all nominations without unreasonable delay; and in any event within two weeks after the submission of the same, and the failure of members of the council to pass thereon within such time shall be cause for the removal from office of such members of the council as shall have refused to act thereon.

The council shall appoint a city clerk. The manager shall appoint or employ such persons as the ordinances of the city may require or the council may authorize by proper resolution.

It shall be the duty of the mayor to attend all meetings of the council and preside over that body.

It shall be the duty of the mayor to see that all of the laws and ordinances of the city are enforced and he shall have a general oversight over the peace, health and good order of the city.

The duties of the city solicitor or assistant city solicitor shall be to attend the sessions of council (and) to prosecute all suits on behalf of the city and defend all suits against the city, to advise the council and all of the departments of the city and in general to look after the interests of the city when it shall need legal services.

All fees of every kind collected by any officer or employee, including the municipal judge when acting as a justice, shall be paid to the city treasurer.

This Ordinance will become effective upon passage

Councilmember Snodgrass spoke in favor of the discharge as it impacts every Councilmember. There should be an opportunity for a robust discussion and possible amendments.

Councilmember Gardner stated that the bill was not advanced as there was confusion about the content, specifically the staggering of the elections, etc.

Councilmember Pharr stated that she would like to have this discussion during a meeting of the Select Committee on the Size and Election of Council.

Councilmember Annie spoke against the discharge.

Councilmember Solomon stated that the City has been wanting this bill to be discussed for some time. There was no assurance during the Ordinance and Rules Committee that there would be another meeting to further discuss the bill.

Councilmember Cook spoke against the discharge as the proper procedure was followed, adding that every bill impacts Councilmembers.

Councilmember Gianola confirmed that the motion to discharge would be for a single Committee. Therefore, another motion to discharge the bill from Finance would also be needed.

Councilmember Faegre spoke against the discharge, as she respects the work of the Committee.

Councilmember Hoover spoke against the discharge as she respects the work of the Committee. She added that there was basically a quorum of Council that attended the Ordinance and Rules meeting where everyone was given an opportunity to speak regardless of if they were on the Committee.

Councilmember Robinson spoke against the discharge, adding that every Councilmember present had an opportunity to speak.

A roll call was taken:

YEAS: Burka, Kerns, Snodgrass, Solomon, Steelhammer

NAYS: Annie, Burton, Cook, Faegre, Ferrell, Gardner, Gianola, Haas, Hoover, Jenkins, Jones, King, Moore, Overstreet, Pepper, Pharr, Robinson, Rubio, Salango, Taylor, Mayor Goodwin

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Ceperley

With members present recorded thereon as voting in the majority in the negative, with 5 Yeas and 20 Nays, Mayor Goodwin declared the motion to discharge Bill No. 8067 from Committee as not passed.

***REPORTS OF OFFICERS***

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1. Municipal Court Report to City Council Month Ending January 2026.

***NEW BILLS***

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Introduced by Councilmember Brent Burton

February 17, 2026:

Bill No. 8068– A Bill related to a 15 minute parking zone on Hunters Ridge Road by amending the location on Saddlehorn Road and amending the Traffic Control Map and Traffic Control File.

Refer to Planning, Streets and Traffic Committee, Please

***MISCELLANEOUS/UNFINISHED BUSINESS***

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None

***REMARKS BY MEMBERS***

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1. Mayor Goodwin stated that the upcoming CPD tests were March 28 and May 30.
2. Councilmember Gardner stated that he would host any Scout Troup that needed their Citizenship of the Community badge.
3. Councilmember Cook thanked Councilmembers who volunteered to pack food boxes.
4. Councilmember Faegre stated the importance of the warming centers. She added that there have been meetings about the United Dairy situation where West Side Councilmembers have not been invited to. She thanked Planning Director Dan Vriendt for updating Council about it.
5. Councilmember Snodgrass stated that there is a long-standing water/ice issue on Oakridge that is a safety issue. Councilmember Snodgrass stated that a bill is needed to shake up Committees and add term limits, adding that the work was not done in Committee.
6. Councilmember Pharr spoke about the Community Baby Shower, which will be a holistic approach to get resources to those that need it. She added that changing the size of Council or related topics should not be rushed.
7. Councilmember Kerns stated that February 28 will be the annual Dip Dinner.
8. Councilmember Moore led the room in a moment of silence for Roger Jefferson.
9. Councilmember Annie stated that this is Heart Disease Awareness Month.

10. Councilmember Solomon thanked the Mayor for troubleshooting some issues on the West Side. He thanked Councilmember Faegre for her marks on the warming centers and for Councilmember Steelhammer’s involvement.
  
11. Councilmember Overstreet stated that he is proud of President Obama’s response to racism.

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

YEAS: Annie, Burka, Burton, 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:

ABSTAIN:

ABSENT: Ceperley

At 8:23 p.m., by a motion from Councilmember Hoover, Council adjourned until Monday, March 2, 2026, 7:00 p.m., in Council Chambers at City Hall.

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Amy Shuler Goodwin, Honorable Mayor

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Miles C. Cary II, City Clerk