

## **TOWN OF MORGANTOWN COUNCIL MEETING HELD, MARCH 9, 2026**

The Morgantown Town Council meeting was opened by Council President, Joe Blevins with the Pledge of Allegiance being led by Joe Blevins.

### **Attendance**

The Clerk Treasurer, noted Council members, Jeremy Baker, Jewel Blevins and Joe Blevins were present. Absent were; Courtney Allen and Stacie Baker. Also present were; Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Brad Cooper, Town Attorney, Lee Robbins and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh.

### **Town Business**

The final invoice for the remodel of the property at 269 W Washington Street was presented for approval as Rose Construction has completed all the items on the close out list. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve payment of the Rose Construction invoice for \$15,581.78. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jewel Blevins. All members voted in favor of the motion.

President, Joe Blevins was able to talk to Rose Construction about the counter that was Becky's desk in the utility office. Rose Construction lowered the total amount due by \$1,000.00 as the whole counter needed to be redone to fix the issues. Joe asked the Council if it was Ok for him to get a price for a new counter from the cabinet company located in Trafalgar. All members present were in agreement to get an estimate for a new utility counter for Becky's desk.

Due to a vehicle accident that Kyle Rooks had before he left employment with the Town in which Kyle backed into someone, the Town received from the other party's insurance company, Safeco, a request for \$1,928.61 for repairs because Kyle was at fault. Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to pay the invoice to Safeco for \$1,928.61. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Joe Blevins asked permission from the Council to sell old snow plow blades. Everyone was in agreement to sell the blades.

A report on the status of the ongoing water project was submitted to the Council. New meters will be installed on the properties that have not received new meters after the service lines have been installed.

Permission to ratify the bid from Branham Brother Barns was brought before the Council. The new price is now \$43, 900.00 due to changes made to scope of work. The site of the barn was also moved due to unlevel ground. The barn will be built up on a small rise on the property. The garage doors have to be rearranged to accommodate these changes. The Town is applying for a \$50,000.00 loan from Peoples Bank which will need to be signed by President, Joe Blevins.

Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to apply for the \$50,000.00 loan with Peoples Bank and for Joe Blevins to sign the documents. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion. Joe mention that Peoples Bank said they would like some kind of security against the loan. There was discussion about what property to offer. The Town has put down \$5,000.00 for the pole barn taking \$2,500.00 each from water and wastewater. The 1<sup>st</sup> installment to the Branham's would be \$19,000.00 to purchase lumber and materials. A motion was made by Council member, Jewel Blevins to approve the payment of \$5,000.00 and \$19,000.00 to Branham Brothers's Barns. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The David Huff lawsuit against the Town for a section of the Sycamore Street property next to his house is being held in escrow at this time. When the Town does receive the Funds, the Town will deposit the money into the Park Fund.

The Town is ready to send out bids for the Community Crossing Grant. Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to approve payment up to \$4,500.00 for Fleis & Vandenbrink to complete the work. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

#### **Utility Adjustments**

Ron Key at 515 Everling Drive had a water leak in the crawl space. The amount requested is \$52.84 water, and \$ 82.61 waste water. Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to approve the total credit of \$132.55. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Brice Wiggins requested a credit of \$667.40 for a leak. Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to approve the credit. Council member, Jemery Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

#### **Town Business**

It was reported that Laura Elliott has met with Becky Smith and they together have made the necessary changes to the Town's Website and brought it up to date.

DPW wants to hire a 3<sup>rd</sup> person and his name is Bruce Barnett. Bruce has had a drug screen and completed all the paperwork. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve hiring Bruce Barnett at \$18.00. Council member, Jewel Blevins seconded the motion. All members in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to hire Hoosier Utility Solutions to prepare the CCR Report for the utilities at \$750.00 each. There are two reports. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Council agreed to look at prices for a TV. They would like at least one TV to use for presentations during public meetings if needed.

The storm drain on Elm Street has been replaced for a cost of \$700.00.

On Cross Street next to the DPW garage there is a pipe that is slumped 60% and has been full of gravel that the DPW has to have Hydrovac numerous times. This problem with the pipe began after Lykins installed the pipe. Lori Young with Fleis & Vandenbrink said to hold off before moving forward until she has a chance to look at the problem. It is going to cost somewhere around \$33,000.00 to repair.

IDEM would like for the Town to have mapping done. Council President, Joe Blevins is going to search for companies and the cost involved and report back to the Council.

Joe Blevins said he would like to have Cure Gutters to come look at the drainage issue at the new Town Hall. Joe will also get an estimate for the work and material to correct the drainage issue.

### **Town Financials**

Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to approve payment of Reed & Sons Pay Application #9 for \$85,593.05 which will be paid with SRF Funds. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve payment of the Fleis & Vandenbrink invoice for \$1,500.00 for work on the Community Crossing project. Council member, Jewel Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to approve the invoice #2250-5 for \$12,400.00 to be paid with OCRA Grant Funds. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion to approve the minute's dated February 9, 2026 was made by Council member, Jewel Blevins. The motion was seconded by Jeremy Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve payment of Claims dated March 9, 2026, totaling \$42,205.36. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jewel Blevins. All members voted in favor of the motion.

A motion to approve payroll for February 2026 was made by Council member, Jeremy Baker. Council member, Jewel Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Joe Blevins had asked the Town to reimburse him for 3 items he had purchased but there were not enough members there to vote with Joe voting and he did not want to vote on reimbursing his own expenses. This will be brought before the Council at the April 13, 2026 meeting.

Ordinance 2026-1 was delayed until next meeting as well because there were not enough members present to approve the Ordinance.

Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve Piercefield invoice #1868 for \$750.00 to Hydrovac valve box to access the gate valve. The motion was seconded by Council member, Jewel Blevins. All members voted in favor of the Ordinance.

A motion was made by Council member, Jewel Blevins to reimburse Brad Cooper for expense totaling \$45.00. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Council asked to raise Ray Rooks weekly pay from \$200.00 to \$325.00 as the Certified Waste Water Operator. This increase was effective March 1<sup>st</sup>. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to raise Ray Rooks weekly pay from \$200.00 to \$325.00. Council member, Jewel Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

#### **DPW**

DPW manager said he would like to stay with tablets and did not want to change to liquid chlorine.

Brad asked the Council if they would consider going back to paper time sheets when signing in and out each day. The Council agreed they could use paper.

Brad asked the Council for approval to purchase sand and #2 gravel. Council member, Jeremy Baker made a motion to approve this purchase and Council member, Jewel Blevins seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Brad said the pond could use more pumps to move the water out at the Lagoon.

There was a discussion about decorating the Town for the celebration of America's upcoming 250th year birthday.

#### **Park Report**

Melaine Goldman who owns GMG Motors will support another movie night this summer.

The Park Board would like to install lights on the play equipment.

Live Wire presented a bid for \$3,680.29 to install cameras at the park. The Park Board is looking at the cost to camera the basketball court as well. There are issues with sitting up a camera at the basketball court. There would need to be a server or partnering internet from one of the neighbors to support the camera at that location.

The Park Board has not heard back from the Grant that was applied for a Trail at the Whitaker Park.

**Public Comment**

Chad Butts asked the Clerk Treasurer about looking into a more up to date software to take payments for the utilities. Council member, Jewel Blevins thought this was a great idea. The Town is going to be looking into a new Cloud program that will show payments on the Town's side made within one minute of making a payment.

The meeting was adjourned by the President.

MARCH 9, 2026 MEETING MINUTES APPROVED & SIGNED ON APRIL 13, 2026

Sharon McIntosh

DATE 4/13/2026

ATTEST: CLERK TREASURER

SHARON MCINTOSH

Joe Blevins

TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JOE BLEVINS

Courtney Allen

COURTNEY ALLEN

Jeremy Baker

JEREMY BAKER

Stacie Baker

STACIE BAKER

Jewel Blevins

JEWEL BLEVINS