

MORGANTOWN TOWN COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING
HELD JULY 20, 2026

President, Joe Blevins opened the special council meeting on Monday, July 20th at 6:00 p.m.

Those council members attending the meeting were; Jewel Blevins, Stacie Baker, Jeremy Baker and President, Joe Blevins. Absent was council member, Courtney Allen. Also, attending the meeting were Town Marshal, Ryan Swank, DPW, Brad Cooper and Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh. Absent was Town Attorney, Lee Robbins.

The Drinking Water project is wrapping up and there will be contingency money left from this project. The council had several issues they wanted to address with the remaining funds from the project. The council had already approved to replace 65 more service lines to customers not included in the project.

Additionally to the 65 service lines the Town will add another 22 service lines to be replaced on Bloomington Pike and Marion Street. All the streets included in the service line replacement will be; Middle Street, Popular Street, Grant Street, Morton Street, Mulberry Street and Bloomington Pike. The Town is planning on having Reed & Sons continue with the service line replacement of all the service lines. This project will use a good deal of the contingency funds.

Another issue the Council wanted to address is to provide the Town and their customers with a new up to date water system portal to each customer's account. Where each customer could go into the portal and directly look at their account. This new project will be beneficial to not only the Utility Clerk but customers can check their account for leaks. They will also be able to view their water usage throughout the monthly billing cycle. Making this possible will be the purchase of a tower that will be installed on the top of the water tower. Meters will be able to be read by the Utility Clerk in Town Hall and no longer will have to be read by the DPW. There could be incidences that would require a manual meter read but the majority of meters should be able to be read from the office. The cost of the

tower is \$37,500.00 from Utility Supply Company and an addition of the portal for \$1,500.00. This system should improve each customer's experience. The Town requested 2 bids for the new system, one from Metron and the other which was accepted by the Town using Utility Supply. The Town has been with Utility Supply for well over 20 years. The customers could use the same meters or move up to the Sonic meters purchasing the meters from Utility Supply. The Town plans on purchasing several new meters and replaced the older meters. With changing to Metron the Town would have to buy everything new. There were not funds available using the contingency money to fund a completely new system with Metron. Other issues the Council was concerned about with Metron were; the meters were made out of the country, the meters were plastic, the company's main office was located out west with a 2-hour time difference. Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion to approve purchasing the tower from Utility Supply and getting it installed as soon as possible. Council member, Jeremy Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Also discussed, were the old and broken sidewalks throughout the Town. The Council feels it is very important to replace these sidewalks with new concrete. The Town applied for a Community Crossing grant. When you submit the streets, the town is planning on having paved and your application is accepted by INDOT sidewalk replacement may be included in the project.

A motion was made by Council member, Jeremy Baker to ratify the purchase of two new Dodge Chargers from Community Motors for \$67,002.50 which will be used by the Morgantown Police Department. The vehicles were paid directly out of the Public Safety Fund.

The Community Crossing paving which is being completed has put back Washington Street to Elm Street back into the project because of extra materials. The cost of the project is \$333,225.00. The Community Crossing Grant is for \$266,600.00 with the Town paying the match of \$66,625.00 out of MVH - Restrictive. Marion Street which runs by the Bank has new sidewalks and the hump was removed.

DPW said they did not need to rent a bulldozer for a project they would just dig up the area.

Council member, Jewel Blevins made a motion for Joe Blevins to sign the Quarterly Report which was due. Council member, Stacie Baker seconded the motion. All members voted in favor of the motion.

In the 2026 Town Budget \$217,856.00 for Town improvements. Another \$30,000.00 was set aside for the park to be used for the walking path but the Town did not receive the DNR grant. The council made a decision to purchase a shelter house for the park. The shelter house is a complete kit that will be installed sometime in September by Backyard Showcase. Total cost of the shelter house and installation is \$56,042.56. This will be paid out of the Town Improvement appropriation line. It was decided that the shelter house would be a natural stain and the roof would be red. The company requires 50% down on the project. The Council has also received bids for sidewalk improvements that are to be paid out of the Town Improvement appropriation line as well. The Town has gotten 3 bids for the sidewalk improvements and has accepted the bid of \$45,221.00 from Baker Concrete and Excavating. The Town may ask Caleb to bid on the shelter house pad, the bleachers pads at the park and removing the gravel at the basketball court and filling the space with concrete.

The DPW asked the Council for approval to purchase a tool to exercise values for \$4,100.00 to be paid out of contingency funds. A motion was made by Council member, Jewel Blevins to purchase the tool to exercise values. The motion was seconded by Council member, Stacie Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

The Council began work on the 2027 Budget first addressing the employees' cost of living raise. The following raises were approved for each individual.

Ryan Swank will receive a 3% raise from \$35.00 an hour to \$36.05. Motion made to approve by Council member, Jeremy Baker and seconded by Stacie Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Dustin White will receive a 3% raise from \$28.50 to \$29.36. Motion made to approve by Council member, Jewel Blevins and seconded by Stacie Baker. All members voted in favor of the motion.

Paul Henderson will receive a 3% raise from \$31.25 to \$32.19. Motion was made to approve by Council member, Jewel Blevins and seconded by Stacie Baker. All members voted to approve the motion.

David Simon will receive an increase from \$23.00 an hour to \$25.00 an hour. Motion made by Council member, Jewel Blevins and seconded by Stacie Baker. All members voted to approve the motion.

Caleb Slater will receive an increase from \$18.00 to \$23.00 an hour. Motion was made by Council member, Jewel Blevins and seconded by Council member, Stacie Baker.

Becky Smith will receive an increase from \$21.50 an hour to \$22.15 an hour. Motion was made by Council member, Jewel Blevins and seconded by Stacie Baker.

Sharon McIntosh will receive a 3% increase on Utility Billing from \$225.00 a week to \$231.75 a week.

Brad Cooper asked for an increase from \$28.00 an hour to \$31.00 an hour. Motion was made by Council member, Jeremy Baker and seconded by Council member, Jewel Blevins.

Continuing with the 2027 Budget Brad Cooper asked that \$10,000.00 be set aside for tools for the new DPW Building.

Brad would like to trade in the 2018 Truck to purchase a 1-ton, single cab truck with a regular bed to be able to pull the dump trailer. The truck costs somewhere around \$60,000.00 minus the trade in on the 2018 truck.

Ryan said he was fine with his budget amount from 2026.

President, Joe Blevins spoke to the Council about the Audits for 2024 and Federal Audit for 2025 that was just completed by the auditor of the SBOA. Joe and the

Clerk Treasurer, Sharon McIntosh met with the auditors and went over the findings from the audit. Joe reported the Town received a good report from the auditors. Joe also explained the auditors said that Becky and Sharon worked hard to find them all the documents they needed to do their testing for the audit. The auditors had provided a date when they would be finished with the audit and there was concern about the cost. Because Becky and Sharon worked hard at finding the documents the audit cost was cut in half. It was reported that about \$24,000.00 alone was saved for the Federal Audit. Rough estimate of total cost for 2025 is \$22,250.00. The cost for the 2024 Audit was not as expensive due to the daily cost was \$498.00 a day compared to the Federal Audit was \$985.00 a day.

At the close of the meeting the Council spoke of wanting to be able to do more concrete work to replace sidewalks. The Council spoke about looking forward to 2027 and the improvements that are planned to be made downtown on the main street.

The meeting was adjourned by the Council President, Joe Blevins.

Special Meeting Minutes of July 20, 2026, signed August 10, 2026

ATTEST:

Sharon McIntosh

CLERK TREASURER, SHARON MCINTOSH

8/10/26

Dated

Joe Blevins

TOWN COUNCIL PRESIDENT, JOE BLEVINS