A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY CONVENED AT 5:30 PM ON NOVEMBER 04, 2025, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIA WEB-X.

PRESENT: Mayor Ryan Neal, City Manager Phillip Jarrell, Mayor & City Manager's Executive Assistant Susan Miller, Recorder-Treasurer Evan Dewey, City Attorney Bill File. Council Members: Janine Bullock, Nancy Shoemaker-Dingess, Frank Williams, Natalie Coots, Kip Buchanan, Cody Reedy and Sherrie Hunter. The following City employees were present: IT Technician John Hopkins, IT Technician Matt Blake, BPD Chief Dean Bailey, Chief Ed Thompson of BFD, Director of Board of Public Works (BPW) Mike Bolen, Director of Parks & Recreation Leslie Baker, Lt. Morgan Bragg of BPD, and Beckley Events Coordinator Jill Moorefield.

The Mayor led in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer led by Frank Williams. The public had the option to join the meeting in person, listen by WEB-X from their computer, or listen by phone, using the weblink or phone number provided the day of the meeting on the City's webpage at Beckley.org or the City's Facebook page.

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m. The Mayor said that there was a quorum.

Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes from the October 21, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, copies of which had been distributed to each member. Council unanimously approved the minutes as written on a motion by Councilwoman Coots seconded by Councilman Williams.

Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes from the October 28, 2025, Workshop, copies of which had been distributed to each member. Council unanimously approved the minutes as written on a motion by Councilwoman Hunter seconded by Councilwoman Coots.

Council dispensed with the reading of the minutes from the October 28, 2025, Special Council Meeting, copies of which had been distributed to each member. Council unanimously approved the minutes as written on a motion by Councilwoman Bullock seconded by Councilman Buchanan.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: The Mayor announced that if calling by phone, dial *3 to raise your hand. If connected by computer, click the "hand icon" on your participant's panel.

The Mayor asked if anyone was online requesting to speak. There were no online speakers.

Mary West requested more speed humps/bumps on Larew Avenue and said speeding in the City is a problem. Danielle Stewart objected to the use of opioid funds to pay for cameras for the BPD. Tom Moseley said speeding is a problem in the City, not just on Hull Street and Larew Avenue.

He said sidewalks still need to be repaired and the people do not feel safe in the City. Next were **Brief Comments from the Mayor, Council Members, and the City Manager.**

Councilwoman Bullock asked if there is an update regarding the nursing home for veterans on the Pinecrest property. No one had an update. She asked if the deadline to request opioid funds had passed and how many applications have been submitted. City Manager Jarrell said the deadline has passed and approximately thirty applications have been received. He said the opioid committee is formed and he will forward those to Council soon. Councilwoman Bullock said S. Fayette and S. Kanawha Street's sidewalks still need to be repaired as do many other sidewalks in the City. She asked when the (LRA) Land Reuse Agency will be on an agenda. Mr. File said potential board members are being contacted to assess their interest and availability.

Councilman Buchanan said he has continued receiving complaints about drivers speeding on N. Vance Drive. He asked if the Land Reuse Agency (LRA) could be expedited, and the Opioid Funds Committee finalized. He said a workshop is needed regarding Black Knight. He thanked the BPD for their quick response to the incident regarding the drug they identified in Halloween candy and commended them for the way it was handled. He said a walkway with flashing lights is needed to make it safe for pedestrians walking from Wildwood. Councilman Williams said it was good to see that Ewart Avenue got paved. He thanked the Board of Public Works (BPW) and invited everyone to an event at Heart of God Ministries this weekend. Councilwoman Shoemaker-Dingess thanked BPD for their presence in the City on Halloween. Councilwoman Coots said that people need to be able to safely cross the streets in Beckley. She said there have been four fatalities in the City and it must be a safer City to walk. The Mayor invited everyone to support the soccer tournament starting at 10:00 a.m. tomorrow at the YMCA Soccer Complex. He said that it is good for the City and glad to see that the City supports it. The Mayor said that the Fall Leaf Pickup begins November 17th this year and the Veteran's Day Parade in on November 11th at 11:00 a.m. Councilwoman Hunter congratulated Kyle Peters for his accomplishments in placing as one of West Virginia's top runners and congratulated the Woodrow Wilson Track Team and Coach Barbera for being recognized as the Cross Country Coach of the Year. She also congratulated the Woodrow Wilson Volleyball team for winning the state championship. Councilman Reedy thanked Jill Moorefield, Director of Beckley Events, for the list she handed out of upcoming events. He thanked BPD, and BPW for their help. City Manager Jarrell thanked the staff and welcomed Evan Dewey as the new Recorder Treasurer. Evan thanked everyone for the warm welcome and said that he looks forward to helping make Beckley better and working with everyone.

ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES: City Attorney Mr. File had to leave the meeting early. City Manager Jarrell said that tonight is the 2nd reading of the ordinance titled, "Sec. 10-54. Sale or gift of tobacco products, including vapor products, to persons younger than 21 years of age; penalties for first and subsequent offenses; provision of non-criminal, non-monetary penalties. Mr. Jarrell read the entire ordinance. Mr. Jarrell opened the public meeting. There were no public comments during the meeting. Mr. Jarrell closed the public meeting. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the ordinance as presented. Councilman Reedy made the motion which was seconded by Councilwoman Hunter. The Mayor asked if any member of Council had any questions. Councilman Williams asked if this is effective immediately. Mr. Jarrell said yes. Councilwoman Bullock said that she appreciates Kelli Gunnoe's work in helping the City with this ordinance. Council unanimously approved the ordinance.

The ordinance is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS:

Next was the adoption of the Resolution For A One Time Pay Supplement For All Full-Time Employees. Mr. Jarrell explained that this is in the amount of $850 for all full-time employees and the City tries to do this each year, that it can but it is not mandatory. Council unanimously passed the resolution on a motion made by Councilman Reedy seconded by Councilwoman Coots. The resolution is hereby incorporated into these minutes.

OLD BUSINESS: Next was the approval of the amendment to the Contributions List. Mr. Jarrell said now that the County is also contributing $10K to Crime Stoppers, he recommends that the City decrease its contribution from $20K to $10K. He explained that Crime Stoppers will still receive the same amount of money, it's just coming from the City and the County rather than solely from the City. Council unanimously approved the amendment to the Contributions List on a motion made by Councilman Reedy seconded by Councilman Williams.

NEW BUSINESS: Next was the approval of panhandling signage. Mr. Jarrell showed Council a sign that the BPW made and thanked them for their work. Chief Dean Bailey can provide a list of the five intersections that are classified as dangerous intersections. Councilwoman Bullock asked for a list of where the signs will be placed. The Mayor said that Executive Director of the United Way, Trena Dacel, assured him that dollars that are donated stay at the local level, within the City and that when someone calls 211 to donate, live humans answer the calls. The calls are not answered by automation.

Next was approval of the purchase of cameras from the opioid fund for the BPD. Lt. Morgan Bragg and Chief Dean Bailey explained how cameras have played a crucial role in helping solve criminal cases in the City. Mr. Jarrell explained that seventy cameras costing $292K need to be purchased. $77K from interest will be used to help pay for the cameras. He said that he and Chief Bailey are discussing where the cameras will be placed. The Mayor asked for a motion to approve the purchase of the cameras from the opioid fund. Councilman Reedy made the motion seconded by Councilman Buchanan. The Mayor asked if any member of Council had any questions/comments. Councilman Williams said that he visited the BPD to look at the cameras and thinks they are much needed and will be very beneficial. He said cameras are needed around some of the abandoned houses due to squatters and drug activity. Mr. Jarrell said that the cameras come with a ten-year warranty. Council unanimously approved the purchase of 70 cameras from the opioid fund.

POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was no executive session.

With there being no further business to discuss, the Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:22 p.m. on a motion by Councilwoman Hunter seconded by Councilman Reedy.

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Mayor City Manager