A REGULAR MEETING OF THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BECKLEY CONVENED AT 5:30 PM ON NOVEMBER 18, 2025, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIA WEB-X.

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

The Mayor led in the Pledge of Allegiance followed by prayer led by Deacon Harry Evans of St. Francis DeSales Catholic Church. 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 November 4, 2025, Regular Council Meeting, copies of which had been distributed to each member. Council unanimously approved the minutes as written on a motion by Councilman Buchanan seconded by Councilwoman Coots.

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 and for cameras to be placed on Larew Avenue to help with the issue of drivers speeding there. James Watkins, Garage Supervisor at Board of Public Works (BPW), City of Beckley employee asked for a $2./hr. pay raise for the employees at the BPW. Jenna Laudadio asked how the Beckley 7th Day Adventist Church could expand its outreach in the City to help the homeless.

Next were **Brief Comments from the Mayor, Council Members, and the City Manager.**

Councilman Buchanan said he wanted to recognize two great people from the community who recently passed. The first was Shirely "Moe" Ball and the second was Warren Ellison.

Councilman Buchanan also thanked the Department Heads.

Councilman Williams also thanked the Department Heads and said that he thinks the opioid money can be used to help various departments in the City. He said that Council members need to work closer with helping Department Heads to work in unity to get things moving at a faster pace. Councilwoman Shoemaker-Dingess wished everyone a happy Thanksgiving.

Councilwoman Coots said that 5 of her 8 top priorities are being worked on. She said that she thinks the BPW employees need a raise. Councilman Reedy said that they received a $2./hr. raise before the former Council members left office. The Mayor invited everyone to the Thanksgiving Day Run/Walk at the Soccer Complex at 8:00 a.m. He said the dedication today at Stratton Elementary was excellent. The Mayor said the Fall Leaf Pickup started today and asked Mike Bolen, BPW Director if he had any comments. Mike said that it is coming along faster than he expected. The Mayor said that 2 schools in WV (Mabscott and Stanaford Elementary) ranked very well in the subjects of Math and Reading. The Mayor asked City Events Coordinator Jill Moorefield to share upcoming events.

Councilman Reedy thanked Jill and Leslie for the upcoming holiday activities and events in the City. He said that he is looking forward to the holiday season.

City Manager Jarrell thanked the staff. He invited everyone to attend the Holiday Market uptown and thanked the BPW for hanging the Christmas lights.

ENACTMENT OF ORDINANCES: There were no ordinances.

ADOPTION OF RESOLUTIONS: There were no resolutions.

OLD BUSINESS: There was no old business.

NEW BUSINESS: Next was discussion regarding contributions requested from the City. Mr. Jarrell said that he wanted to make Council aware that there is a form that needs to be completed if an organization is requesting a contribution. He said there is a procedure in place for this. Anyone asking for a contribution must be a 501C-3 organization, registered with the State, and provide the City with the required documents.

Next was discussion to schedule a Workshop regarding opioid funds. Mr. Jarrell said that twenty-five applications have been received and he had previously shared them with Council members. He said that he will also share them with the Opioid Committee for their review. He would like to table scheduling a Workshop tonight as two Council members are not here to help decide a date for the Workshop. The Mayor asked City Attorney, Mr. File if this needed to be voted on. Mr. File said that the Mayor can simply announce that a Workshop date will be determined at the next Council meeting.

POTENTIAL EXECUTIVE SESSION: There was no executive session. With there being no further business to discuss, the Mayor adjourned at 5:53 p.m. on a motion by Councilman Buchanan seconded by Councilman Reedy.

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Mayor City Manager