



MINERAL COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES CONTINUATION OF JANUARY 12, 2026 MEETING

February 09, 2026 at 6:30 PM

312 Mineral Avenue Mineral Virginia 23117

Phone: 540-894-5100 | townclerk@townofmineral.net

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harlowe called the meeting to order at 6:35pm

B. OPEN MEETING POLICY

During the discussion of adopting the Open Meeting Policy there is a disagreement on whether the proposed policy is consistent with Virginia's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), particularly regarding reasons for remote participation and disclosure of location.

Motion to adopt the Open Meeting Policy by Hempstead, Seconded by Von Tye

Voting Yea: Kube, Von Tye, Hempstead

Voting Nay: Covert, McGehee

Motion Passed 3-2-0

C. ROLL CALL

Present:

Michelle Covert

Bernice Kube (Zoom - medical)

Afton Von Tye

Rebecca McGehee

David Hempstead

Bob Spedden

D. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance stood for the Pledge of Allegiance

E. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Motion to amend the agenda by Hempstead, Seconded by Covert

Voting Yea: Spedden, Hempstead, McGehee, Von Tye, Kube, Covert

Motion Passed 6-0-0

- Add public signs and zoning changes
- Add council comments
- Add Quincentennial

F. Public Comment

Rebecca Vigon, informed the council the Winter Markets will continue on the 1st and 3rd Saturdays until the end of April. April 25th is scheduled as Beautification Day, with Council Members Covert and McGehee assisting. The mayor was requested to schedule a large item pick up for residents on the same day. Ms. Vigon requested excess dirt from the cemetery be used to level dips by the train track for vendors. The Mineral Farmers Market Opening Day is May 2nd.

Debbie Moon, expresses a concern that Zoning Article V contains several unreviewed differences, including additions and deletions, between the version from the December meeting and the one presented in the current packet, and aims to ensure the Council is aware before proceeding.

Blair Nipper requested clarity and accountability from the Town Council regarding previously undisclosed bank account(s). Council is requested to provide a written timeline documenting the discovery of each account identification of why the accounts were not disclosed as required by Va. Code and confirmation of audits and financial reports were materially affected. Additionally requests the adoption of a formal, written transition and financial account verification policy. The issues presented are a matter of governance, statutory duty and the protection of public funds. The full statement is attached to the agenda packet.

Becky McGehee reports that her FOIA request concerning a missing account remains unfulfilled, placing the Mayor in violation. She also described a "set up" against the former Town Manager calling such actions unacceptable. She also asserts she has proof the former Town Manager did not fabricate a story about poisoning the town water supply.

G. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to amend the 12.1.2025 minutes

Add that the discussion included budgeted line items for the Town Attorney, DMV revenue and the county water expense.

Motion to table the 12.15.2026 minutes until the next meeting

Motion made by Covert, Seconded by McGehee

Voting Yea: Covert, Kube, Von Tye, McGehee, Hempstead, Spedden

Motion passed 6-0-0

H. ACCOUNTS PAID

Mayor stated accounts have already been paid.

I. Committee Reports

1. Streets – Dr. Covert suggested the streets committee be combined with the water/sewer committee stating to obtain the information needed for the streets she needs to know what is going on with the water/sewer. She feels like the public is being excluded from the committee meetings since they are not publicized.
2. Police/Legal – Council member McGehee stated that any time a committee meets, the public has a right to come to the meeting. She also presented several police reports to the council.

There is a disagreement between council members over the aggressive behavior of one council member. The Mayor called for the adjournment of the meeting.

Motion by Hempstead, Seconded by Covert
A vote was not taken.

The meeting ended at 7:42pm.

Mayor Pamela Harlowe - Vice Mayor Bernice Kube
Council Members: Michelle Covert, Bernice Kube, Bob Spedden, Rebecca McGehee, Afton Von Tye, Dave Hempstead
Vacant, Town Manager, Teri Burns, Town Clerk, Kelly Singletary, Town Treasurer, Vacant, Town Attorney

Town Council meets for its regular session on the second Monday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Persons wishing to be heard or having an item to be placed on the agenda should make their request to the Clerk of Council by the final Monday of the month preceding the meeting.