MINERAL COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

June 08, 2026 at 6:30 PM

312 Mineral Avenue Mineral Virginia 23117

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

DRAFT

A. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Harlowe called the meeting to order at 6:30pm.

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT
Mayor Harlowe
Vice Mayor Kube (Zoom)
Council Member Covert
Council Member Hempstead
Council Member McGehee
Council Member Spedden
Council Member Von Tye

OTHERS PRESENT
Town Clerk Teri Burns

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

All in attendance stood for the pledge of allegiance.

D. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

A motion was made to add FOIA, Bullying and Council Comments to the agenda.

Motion made by Council Member McGehee, seconded by Council Member Covert.
Voting Yea: Council Member Covert, Council Member McGehee, Council Member Spedden, Council Member Spedden
Voting Nay: Council Member Hempstead, Vice Mayor Kube
Motion Passed: 4-2-0

Mayor Harlowe read her response to recent facebook posts.

Council Member Covert responded to the Mayor's response.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

Blair Nipper asked for transparency, documentation and accountability from the Council.

McKenzie Brooks raised concerns about compensation, work environment, support and the desire to be heard.

Jessica Osborne spoke on the lack of communication, the hint of paychecks being cut and the procedures outlined in the employee handbook not being followed. In addition, she noted The Mineral DMV Select Office was ranked #3 in the state of Virginia.

Christopher Adams owner of Patriot Auto Tag & Title spoke on the financial partnership between his company and the town, stressing the importance of protecting the people and the operations that generate revenue are just as important as managing expenses.

Rena Adams introduced herself and informed the council that she needs for the DMV staff to be supported. Her business depends on the staff. She thanked the DMV staff.

Rebecca McGehee stated she had talked to Rusty McGuire and he was not investigating the DPOR complaint. She suggested the council offer their pay for the staff. She shared concerns that Kelly Singletary was instructed to share login credentials, user ids, and access to credit information. This is something that needs to be investigated.

Paul Snider asked the council as a business owner to set aside all differences and work together for the people of the town. Stating if the water rates are increased he will have to close the doors.

F. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve or amend minutes dated 5.11.2026

   A motion was made to approve the minutes dated 5.11.2026.

   Motion made by Council Member Von Tye, seconded by Council Member Spedden
   Voting Yea: Council Member Covert, Council Member Hempstead, Vice Mayor Kube, Council Member McGehee, Council Member Spedden, Council Member Von Tye.
   Motion Passed: 5-0-0

2. Approve or amend minutes dated 5.18.2026

   A motion was made to approve the minutes dated 5.18.2026

   Motion made by Council Member Von Tye, seconded by Council Member Hempstead.
   Voting Yea: Council Member Covert, Council Member Hempstead, Council Member Spedden, Council Member Von Tye.

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Abstained: Vice Mayor Kube, Council Member McGehee
Motion Passed: 4-0-2

G. ACCOUNTS PAID

1. Accounts Paid May 2026

   Council Members reviewed the accounts paid.

2. Invoices for approval June 2026

   Mayor Harlowe stated adjustments would be made to the invoice to the Louisa County Water Authority. The applicant at 203 W Eighth Street had withdrawn his application. The connection of the 14 homes was paid for and only eight have been connected. That bill could possibly be less.

   A motion was made to approve the invoices as amended.

   Motion made by Council Member Von Tye, seconded by Vice Mayor Kube.
   Voting Yea: Council Member Covert, Council Member Hempstead, Vice Mayor Kube, Council Member McGehee, Council Member Spedden, Council Member Von Tye.
   Motion Passed: 6-0-0

H. REPORTS

1. TOWN MANAGER REPORT

Interim Town Manager Harlowe verbally presented her report.

2. DMV REPORT

The DMV report was reviewed.

3. TREASURER REPORT

I. COMMITTEE REPORTS

1. BEAUTIFICATION & LITTER (MICHELLE COVERT)

Council Member Covert asked Robin from the Farmer's Market for ideas on what could be planted at the love sign and the town signs.

2. POLICE, LEGAL, FIRE & RESCUE (BECKY MCGEHEE & MICHELLE COVERT)

Council Member McGehee stated Rusty McGuire was not investigating the DPOR complaint.

3. STREETS (BERNICE KUBE & BOB SPEDDEN)

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No report.

4. PLANNING COMMISSION (COUNCIL LIAISON DAVE HEMPSTEAD)

No report.

5. CEMETERY (DAVE HEMPSTEAD & BERNICE KUBE)

Council Member Hempstead stated he was waiting on notification from the manufacturer on the Potts Columbarium.

6. PERSONNEL (BERNICE KUBE & AFTON VON TYE)

Vice Mayor Kube stated the committee would schedule a time next week to discuss the manager position.

7. WATER & SEWER (DAVE HEMPSTEAD & AFTON VON TYE)

The mayor stated she had signed a contract today to conduct a study to determine new well sites. Council Member Hempstead stated he is waiting on an estimate from Tri State.

8. BUDGET & FINANCE (DAVE HEMPSTEAD & AFTON VON TYE)

The Public Hearing for the budget is scheduled for June 18, 2026 at 6:30pm.

9. PARKS (BERNICE KUBE & BOB SPEDDEN)

No report.

10. COMMUNICATIONS (BERNICE KUBE & MCHELLE COVERT)

A discussion was held concerning the town electronic sign.

11. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (BERNICE KUBE & DAVE HEMPSTEAD)

The Mayor stated there was a new business coming into town but she did know if she could disclose it yet.

J. OLD BUSINESS

1. Public Hearing June 18,2026.

K. NEW BUSINESS

1. Food Truck Discussion

A discussion was held on the process of obtaining a business license.

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2. Discussion of 8th street between Forest Avenue & Chestnut Avenue

   The Mayor stated sometime ago a portion of Eighth Street was closed, one half was deeded to the land owner on one side, the other half was never deeded to the land owner on the other side. The land owner has to pay for the deed.

3. FOIA

   The Mayor stated that herself and FOIA officer, Teresa Newton, have been summoned to court this Thursday for FOIA related issues. Council Member McGehee stated she had submitted several FOIA requests that have been denied. McGehee has also been told she does not use the right language in making requests. The Mayor commented that council members do not have FOIA to obtain documents.

L. CALENDAR

Council Members reviewed the upcoming calendar events.

M. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Council Members shared their comments.

N. ADJOURN

A motion was made to adjourn at 7:40pm.

Motion made by Council Member Hempstead, seconded by Council Member Spedden.
Voting Yea: Council Member Covert, Council Member Hempstead, Vice Mayor Kube, Council Member McGehee, Council Member Spedden, Council Member Von Tye.
Motion Passed: 6-0-0

Mayor Pamela Harlowe - Vice Mayor Bernice Kube
Council Members: Michelle Covert, Bernice Kube, Bob Spedden, Rebecca McGehee, Afton Von Tye, Dave Hempstead

Pamela Harlowe - Interim Town Manager/Clerk of Council, Teri Burns - Town Clerk, Vacant - 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.

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