



MINERAL COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

December 01, 2025 at 6:30 PM

312 Mineral Avenue Mineral Virginia 23117

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

A. CALL TO ORDER

B. ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Michelle Covert

Bernice Kube

Rebecca McGehee

David Hempstead

Pamela Harlowe

Afton Von Tye

Bob Spedden

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Mayor stated that there was not an agenda other than to discuss questions she had about budget concerns. A vote was not taken.

E. PUBLIC COMMENT

F. NEW BUSINESS

1. Budget Discussion FY26

Council Member McGehee stated the purpose of the sleigh in the lobby at Town Hall and asked council to donate suggested items needed.

The Mayor questioned the high monthly cost of the Google Suite, which the Town Manager explains is used for email and business operations, similar to Microsoft Office. There's also discussion about the transition from I Love PDF to Adobe for document management. The functionality and cost of the Ooma phone system is questioned. A Microsoft expense is questioned by the Mayor and explained by the Town Manager as being for the Microsoft Office Suite.

The Mayor questioned the fees for the attorney as being unnecessary and a waste of money. Specific concerns are charges for reviewing agendas, undeveloped property at 8th and 9th streets, attempts to remove Councilman Hempstead, correspondence about emails and voicemails, removal of a planning commission member, remote participation policy, Mr. Cameron's issue with trees, Tyler Cameron's sewage line repair, and a cemetery plot issue.

Vice Mayor called for a recess at 7:13pm.

Mayor put meeting back in session at 7:20pm.

Accusations were raised by the Mayor regarding the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation (DPOR) and the State Police as to whether they were town related or personal. The Town Manager asserts they were town related issues brought forth by Councilman Hempstead.

Councilman McGehee questioned the Mayor as to where the missing account is. Mayor stated more research was needed.

Mayor asked on behalf of the Mineral Volunteer Fire Department if the town would be interested in participating in their tree lighting. Town Manager explained there was already an event planned for December 12th and Dr. Covert had a tree donated from another locality for town use. Town Manager also stated there was no communication between the Fire Department and the Town.

Mayor stated the staff should not be treated to lunch on a monthly basis. Town Manager stated that lunch is not provided monthly.

Councilman Hempstead made a motion to terminate the town attorney. Vice Mayor Kube stated it should be moved to the next meeting.

Thomas Runnett, 216 Albemarle Ave, thanked the Town Treasurer for helping clarify his water bill. He also questioned the budgeted cost for special events and who is paying the utility bills for the old town hall building.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

No council comments.

G. ADJOURN

Motion made by Covert, Seconded by Spedden.

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

Mayor Pamela Harlowe - Vice Mayor Bernice Kube

Council Members: Michelle Covert, Bernice Kube, Bob Spedden, Rebecca McGehee, Afton Von Tye, Dave Hempstead

Nicole Washington, Town Manager, Teri Burns, Town Clerk, Kelly Singletary, Town Treasurer, Robert Sproul, 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.