

Fayetteville Town Council met in Regular Session on August 21, 2025, at 6:00 p.m. at the Fayetteville Fire Department. (due to Town Hall being under construction on the floors)

Present were Sharon Cruikshank, Mayor, Council Members Stanley Boyd, Okey Skidmore, Zenda Vance, Gabe Peña and Lori Tabit. Also present were City Attorney, Carl Harris, Treasurer Kathy Williams, Town Manager Matt Diederich, and Police Chief Ty Hogan, (*Brian Good not present*)

Prayer was offered by Zenda Vance.

Sharon Cruikshank called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Sharon Cruikshank.

Proclamation Recognition: for The Hope Dealer Project (WV goes purple), Sharon read the proclamation, and a group picture was taken with the mayor, council, and city manager along with The Hope Dealer Project members in support of the cause.

Presentation: Michelle Holly, Fayette County Clerk presented the changes to the upcoming municipal elections. All terms should start July 1<sup>st</sup>. All candidate filing and financial reports would be submitted to the town recorder then the county clerk would request them from the town. All fees would be retained as the revenue of the town. The cost of conducting an election would be much less than the town having a separate election.....the town cost to be included with the county election would be a maximum of \$9,000, approximately \$2,175 per race (*Mayor, Recorder and Council*) expected cost would be an estimate of \$2,500, but can be as much as \$9,000. Fayetteville is part of three precincts; the voting would be at the Memorial Building for two of the precincts and the school for the other. The Town's election would be located at the end of the ballot. Since the town does not have a charter, the election will be much easier since town is ruled by ordinance. Attorney Carl Harris suggested no action be taken at this meeting due to the many details that need to be considered before deciding. A special meeting has been scheduled for 4 p.m. on Thursday, September 4, 2025.

### **Financial Report:**

Review and approve the mid-month invoices,

Motion made to approve by Lori Tabit and Seconded by Okey Skidmore, Motion carries 5-0

**Visitor Comments:** No one signed up to speak.

**General Comments & Reminders:** No updates

### **Unfinished Business:**

None

## New Business

1. Discuss and act on Cheryl Payne request to assist with up-keep of the St. Clair Cemetery. Cheryl Payne was not present at the meeting, Matt Diederich spoke regarding her wishes to have it cleaned up. Locating the owner of the property has been unsuccessful. Carl said the previous owner was James D. Boone, which is now deceased and finding family members could be difficult. The current Dodd & Payne Funeral Home was the previous home of the St. Clair family and the Paynes said all the bodies in the St. Clair Cemetery has been moved to Huse Cemetery, but the head stones are still there. Cheryl Payne asks what if a tree fell on her house. Carl responded that it is not a liability of the town and finding a family member that is still alive is rare. Carl also informed the council that before they consider taking the responsibility of the St. Clair Cemetery to bear in mind this would mean the town would have to maintain all cemeteries located in city limits. Visitor, Francis Sizemore suggested to Council and Cheryl Payne that prison inmate labor such as mowing etc. is a possibility since Cedar Grove Cemetery uses this option and they mow twice per year. No action taken.
2. Discuss and act on MOU with Bud's Recycling for partnership for roll off program and site use. Kris with Bud's Recycling was available by Zoom and explained their request. Sharon suggested to table the conversation and have a special meeting to discuss the details because of the extensive application required. No Action was taken.
3. Discuss and act on MOU with Bud's Recycling for location for glass crusher equipment. Kris with Bud's confirmed Eight Hundred square feet will be needed. Sharon mentioned that the address for our Recycle Center is incorrect on the MOU (*listed as Craig Street and it should be 200 Bears Drive*) Gabe said he is curious to explore options of using our Recycle department resources to have cleaner and better recycling for the residents. Kris said the MOU was a rough draft and they will correct the address, and she will email three slides to better explain the MOU. Item tabled and will be discussed during a special meeting for that partnership to be scheduled in the future. No action taken.
4. Discuss and act on first reading of updates to Employee Manual (August 2025), Sharon also mentioned in addition to these changes there is one more regarding Senate Bill 712, retirement addendum (*see separate page for details*), Senate Bill 712 changes need to be added to Employee handbook, Carl said it is a major change and this first reading does not apply to that addition. The retirement change first reading will be on September 4, 2025 and second reading September 18<sup>th</sup>'s agendas. At the September 4<sup>th</sup> meeting a second reading for the main document will occur. This motion will apply only to the presented main document submitted to council. Okey Skidmore moved to approve, and Gabe Peña seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0.

5. Discuss and act on next steps for Laurel Creek Property to be listed with Foxfire Realty. Matt said he discussed the details with the Realtor but has not heard back from him regarding the market analysis to arrive at list price. Item has been tabled until listing price is decided. Lori asks if they could move forward with listing the property without another meeting and Carl confirmed no, it must be on the agenda to approve.
6. Discuss and act on Town Planning workshop, to be as special meeting at a later date. Matt said this workshop was requested from previous meeting with Charlie Wendell. Stanley Boyd moved to approve, and Lori Tabit seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0.
7. Discuss and act on next steps for signage and wayfinding. Matt spoke with Digital Relativity and displayed on the screen the signs for Janutolo Park and Huse Cemetery. The sign for Janutolo is 96 x 32 and Lori feels it needs to be smaller, and discussions were made regarding Huse sign needs to be more of a historical look to blend with the rod iron fencing etc. Welcome signs can be made as well, but probably the cost will be greater. Lori Tabit moved to approve, and Gabe Peña seconded the motion. Motion carries 5-0.
8. Discuss and act on possible Municipal Election change to align with county elections for the Primary or General Election. This item is tabled and will be discussed in the upcoming special meeting. Once Council determines which it wants to do, they will reach back out to Michelle Holly, Fayette County Clerk.
9. Discuss and act on possible Municipal Election change:
  - a. Shorten terms by 18 months, Election 2026
  - b. Lengthen terms by 18 months, Election 2028
  - c. Remain the same terms, Election 2027

Carl suggested updating Brian Good on Election information, since he is not present. Carl then explained the Election dates and suggested to table this item until future special meeting. (also, see item #9).

10. Discuss and act on selection of Town Engineer. Carl said Terradon was selected by three points. It was also calculated by a percentage. Lori questions cost as well as Zenda said we need an approximate price. Sharon asks if we could request from the Engineer what a “normal retaining fee” would look like. Carl suggested calling the two selected and asking what their contract looks like in terms of pricing for a retainer fee and send sealed clarifications; then open sealed clarifications on Thursday, September 4, 2025, regular meeting in Executive Session to discuss details. Item is tabled until Thursday, September 4, 2025.
11. Sharon asked for Executive Session to discuss Police Department personnel issue. Entered at 7:21p.m. and ended at 7:38p.m. No decisions were rendered.

Zenda Vance moved to adjourn the meeting and Lori Tabit seconded it. Meeting adjourned at 7:39 PM.

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Sharon Cruikshank, Mayor

08/21/25

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Kathy Williams, (sitting in for Recorder)

08/21/25