

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA, COUNTY OF MARSHALL, CITY OF BENWOOD, CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING JULY 8, 2025

City Council of the City of Benwood met in Regular Session on Tuesday, July 8, 2025, at the City Building in the Council Chambers. Mayor Walter W. Yates called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. The following council members were present: Ankrom, Fehr, Ferrera, Givens, Kazemka, Lunsford & Mele. Excused Absence Councilperson Longwell. Others present: Dave McLaughlin Director of Operations, Tiffany Ankrom City Clerk & Eric Gordon City Attorney.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Walter W. Yates led the pledge of allegiance to the flag.

MINUTES

Councilperson Ferrera moved to approve the Regular Meeting Minutes for June 24, 2025 & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BENWOOD; WEST VIRGINIA CONFIRMING THE EXTENSION OF ITS EMS AGREEMENT WITH THE MCMECHEN VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT AND THE MARSHALL COUNTY COMMISSION

Council would like to move forward with the continuation of the McMechen EMS service for an additional year. There will be no changes to the original agreement.

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to move forward with the agreement & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Mayor Yates called for a roll call; vote was taken & motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BENWOOD, WEST VIRGINIA PROVIDING FOR AN INCREASE IN PAY FOR EMPLOYEES SEAN LAKE & MIKE MAMULA (FIRST READING) (APPROVED BY FINANCE COMMITTEE FOR FISCAL YEAR 2025-2026 BUDGET)

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve the ordinance on the first reading & Councilperson Givens seconded the motion. Mayor Yates called for a roll call; vote was taken & motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS ON A NEW STREET SWEEPER

The city purchased the used 2007 Street Sweeper in 2015. Due to the continuous repairs & issues Dave McLaughlin asked council for their approval to advertise for bids to purchase a new sweeper.

**BENWOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 8, 2025
PAGE 2**

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to move forward with advertising & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF DONATION TO 2025 MARSHALL COUNTY FAIR QUEEN'S PAGEANT

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve of \$100.00 donation & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF INVOICES RELATING TO CONSTRUCTION & OTHER SERVICES FOR THE PROPOSED COMBINED SEWER SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS PHASE II PROJECT DRAW 12

Ohio-WV Excavating invoice totaling \$303,862.50 (\$12,405.59 from CWSRF-L, \$108,049.31 from IJDC & \$183,407.60 from City of Benwood)

Councilperson Ferrera made the motion to approve the resolution & Councilperson Mele seconded the motion. Mayor Yates called for a roll call; vote was taken & motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT REPORT

FINANCE & TAXATION

An ordinance entitled: "An ordinance to pay a claim against the city for work and other claims." Be it ordained by the Council of the City of Benwood, that the sum of \$204,845.36 be appropriated out of the funds belonging to the city, to pay a claim against the city, and that an order signed by the Mayor and Recorder be drawn upon the Treasurer for the above amount and that this ordinance takes effect from and after its passage. (See Copies of Supporting Accounts Payable Registers Attached)

Councilperson Ferrera moved to adopt the above ordinance on first reading, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for a roll call vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Councilperson Ferrera moved to adopt the above ordinance on second reading, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for roll call vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

BENWOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 8, 2025
PAGE 3

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE CHECK REGISTER REPORTS

Councilperson Ferrera moved to receive and file accounts payable check register reports totaling \$204,845.36 seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for a roll call, vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

Revenue/Expense Report and Financial Report as of July 2, 2025:

Cash Operating Report: General Fund \$2,378,191.83; Coal Severance Fund \$82,566.30; Garbage Fund \$712.15, Fire Fund \$6,172.91; Water Fund \$286,010.90 & Sewer Fund \$433,910.83. Total operating cash \$3,187,564.92.

Councilperson Ferrera moved to receive and file the Cash Operating Report and Financial Reports, seconded by Councilperson Mele. Mayor Yates called for a roll call; vote was taken and motion passed unanimously.

WATER & SEWAGE PLANT OPERATION

CSO Phase III Project moving along

A test system for the PFAS/PFOO Water Project was installed directly to the water source inside the water plant. This will allow the engineers to design a new system that will remove PFAS, Iron & Manganese from the city's water.

STREETS, ALLEYS AND GRADES

Fire hydrant will be replaced in front of the church hall on Main Street as well as on Second St. in North Benwood due to leaking.

Hydrants were flushed on Monday July 7, during that time hydrant on McMechen St. broke & will need to be fixed.

Hydrant on the North end of Main Street will be moved, due to it being too close to the corner & the pole on the corner is being hit by semi-trucks.

Grass cutting is behind due to the heat & rain.

CODE ENFORCEMENT

Boggs Environmental is working on a cost proposal to conduct pre-demolition asbestos inspections for the eleven residential structures in Benwood.

BENWOOD COUNCIL MINUTES
JULY 8, 2025
PAGE 4

CITY OFFICE, PROPERTY, FIRE & POLICE

Electric has been disconnected from the 4th Street Park building. Dave McLaughlin will work on getting a bid to tear the building down when the removal of the dilapidated building project starts.

Council agreed to offer a military discount at the pool. Veterans get in free with a military Id and \$50 off family pool pass.

Cason Aiken first year lifeguard saved a 2-year-old from drowning at the Benwood Pool.

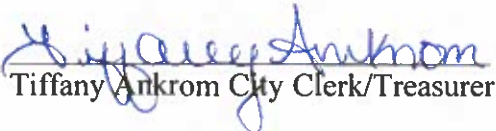
WV Corp annual policy for buildings/property increased \$3,200


ADJOURNMENT

Councilperson Ferrera moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Councilperson Ankrom. Motion carried.

Meeting adjourned at 5:30 p.m.

Minutes Respectfully Submitted by,


Tiffany Ankrom City Clerk/Treasurer


Mayor Walter W. Yates