



CITY OF WASHINGTON
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
WASHINGTON CITY COUNCIL
APRIL 3, 2025 6:00 P.M.



JoJo Burgess, Mayor

City Council

Ken Westcott, Councilman
Joe Pintola, Councilman
Andrew Callan, Councilman
Joseph DeThomas, Councilman

ROLL CALL:

Councilman Joseph DeThomas	PRESENT
Councilman Andrew Callan	PRESENT
Councilman Joe Pintola	ABSENT
Councilman Ken Westcott	PRESENT
Mayor JoJo Burgess	PRESENT
Solicitor: Sam Dalfonso	PRESENT

MOMENT OF SILENCE: IN MEMORY OF ATTORNEY SCOTT FERGUS, FORMER CITY COUNCILMAN

PLEDGE OF ALLIEGENCE:

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION: Individuals or group representatives who have signed in prior to the meeting will have 5 minutes of microphone time to address Council during the public participation portion of the meeting. We prefer if there is a group, a representative be chosen to speak. Audience comments will not be permitted following the public participation portion of the meeting; therefore, we ask that you please review the agenda for any item(s) you may wish to discuss. We have, in the past, had individuals' direct comments to the Mayor and Council that were not correct or could not be documented. For that reason, we ask that your information be to the point and factual. Although we may not be able to answer your question at this meeting, we will refer your request or recommendation to the proper department for any necessary action.

Kelly Jones 75 West Hallam (Veteran Banners): Showed council a sample that is displayed in front of Pretzels Plus. Hopes to have Banners up by Memorial Day.

Fern Sibert: Gave an award to Councilman DeThomas and Councilman Westcott for helping with Clean Up Day and for helping with the bottle caps.

Bob Griffin: Shared that Scott Fergus gave so much to this county and community. He was a former commissioner, a good man with a good sense of humor. Condolences to his family.

Rory Croft 125 Pine Street: Gave Council a printout of designs for a Skate Park at the 7th Ward Playground. Provided signatures of those in favor of a skate park. Stated that they would like access to a restroom at the park.

Mayor Burgess shared that there are reasons that there are no restrooms there because of vandalism.

Donn Henderson stated that we have our insurance company looking into the liability issues.

Civil Service Chairman, Richard Beck, presented the Fire Department Engineer Promotional List to Council.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to accept the Fire Department Engineer Promotional List.

Motion made by Councilman Callen, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to promote Dustin Danley to the position of Engineer effective April 3, 2025, and adjust the Salary Resolution accordingly.

**SWEARING IN OF NEWLY PROMOTED FIRE DEPARTMENT ENGINEER DUSTIN DANLEY
SWEARING IN OF FIREFIGHTER WILLIAM KOKER
SWEARING IN OF POLICE OFFICER LT. MICHAEL CAIN**

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to accept the March 6, 2025 Regular Agenda Meeting Minutes.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the following payments (A-T) in the amount of \$76,304.22.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to approve the one-year agreement with Gateway Rehabilitation Center (Productivity Partners) retroactive to March 10, 2025.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to extend healthcare coverage to Donn Henderson through 6/30/2025 for consulting services.

Motion made by Councilman Callan, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to reject all bids for the Stone Pavilion Floor Rehabilitation Project.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to offer a letter of support to the application to DCNR for a feasibility study and extension of the Claysville Trail west to Wheeling and east to Washington being submitted by the National Trail Council.

Motion made by Councilman Wescott, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to enter into a Special Warranty Deed and Access Easement agreement with the Washington School District for parcels being transferred to the City in the Park.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to accept the retirement of Police Captain Von Lacock effective April 1, 2025 at 4 p.m., and amend the salary resolution. (Captain Lacock has 23+ years in the Department.)

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to issue the following discipline to Washington Fire Department Employee/Badge No. 97/40: 2 weeks unpaid suspension and 60-day period of overtime ineligibility effective April 4, 2025.

ROLL CALL:

Councilman DeThomas	YES
Councilman Callan	YES
Councilman Westcott	YES
Mayor Burgess	YES

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to demote Fire Department Employee/Badge No. 98/41 from rank of Captain and amend the salary resolution accordingly effective April 4, 2025.

ROLL CALL:

Councilman DeThomas	YES
Councilman Callan	YES
Councilman Westcott	YES
Mayor Burgess	YES

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to terminate the employment of Washington Fire Department Employee/Badge No. 98/41, and amend the salary resolution accordingly effective April 4, 2025.

ROLL CALL:

Councilman DeThomas	YES
Councilman Callan	YES
Councilman Westcott	YES
Mayor Burgess	YES

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to terminate the employment of Washington Fire Department Employee/Badge No. 105/47, and amend the salary resolution accordingly, effective April 4, 2025.

ROLL CALL:

Councilman DeThomas	YES
Councilman Callan	YES
Councilman Westcott	YES
Mayor Burgess	YES

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to approve the execution of an offer to purchase oil and gas rights for 217.4 net acres located in the City of Washington by Three Rivers Royalty IV LLC.

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to direct the City Administrator and Solicitor to proceed with the development of a Return-to-Work policy.

RESOLUTIONS

Motion made by Councilman DeThomas, seconded by Councilman Westcott, and carried unanimously to adopt **RESOLUTION 6 of 2025** to approve the 2025 Whiskey Rebellion Banners to be erected June 9, 2025 through July 14, 2025.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman Callan, and carried unanimously to adopt **RESOLUTION 7 of 2025** to approve adding 1 handicap parking space at 1260 Bruce Street.

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried Unanimously to adopt **RESOLUTION 8 of 2025**, amending the City of Washington Police Civil Service Rules Section 4.1, Subparagraphs B-2 and B-4 reducing or eliminating the requirement for continuous prior service for the position of Police Sergeant and Police Captain; Amending Section 4.11 providing for the removal from an eligibility list for the refusal of promotion and removal of salary/promotion provision; Amending Section 4.12 establishing the procedure for returning probationary employee to their previous rank and pay.

COMMENT: Civil Service Chairman Richard Beck stated that the Civil Service Board unanimously approved also.

DISCUSSION:

Councilman Joseph DeThomas –Thanked the Civil Service for their time and hard work. Said that Scott Fergus will be missed. He thanked Donn Henderson for all that he has done as the City Administrator and wished him well.

Councilman Andrew Callan- Went over the activities coming up at the park. The Adult Easter Egg Hunt is sold out. Said they are working on the Comprehensive Plan. They removed the old playground equipment by the Stone Pavilion and have replaced with new equipment. The pool has repairs that will take some time to repair. Hope to have the basketball hoops back up within a couple of weeks. Thanked Donn Henderson and wished him well.

Councilman Joe Pintola - ABSENT

Councilman Ken Westcott – Thanked Donn Henderson and the Civil Service. Shared that Scott Fergus served on Council and was a passionate man.

Mayor JoJo Burgess- The Mayor thanked Donn for his guidance in helping him transition into his role as Mayor. Shared that there will be an upcoming local Job Fair. And that the City is working with Redevelopment on helping with housing for veterans.

Solicitor Sam Dalfonso- Thanked Donn for working with his office and said that it was a pleasure to work with him.

Donn Henderson: Thanked Mayor, Council and City Clerk Michelle Sperl for working with him over the past couple of years. Said that it was a pleasure.

The next Agenda Meeting will be held on Monday, April 28, 2025 at 6:00 P.M. and the next Regular Council Meeting will be held on Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 6:00 P.M.

EVENTS:

City Clean Up Day	April 5, 2025	9:00 AM – 2:00 PM
GLASS RECYCLING DAY	April 5, 2025	
Spread the Ewes Mixer:	April 10, 2025	
Lark in the Park:	April 12, 2025	
Kite Day:	April 26, 2025	
First Friday with the OR:	May 2, 2025	
Running of the Wools:	May 3, 2025	
Downtown Blessing Service:	May 4, 2025	

Motion made by Councilman Westcott, seconded by Councilman DeThomas, and carried unanimously to adjourn.