CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING

~ AGENDA ~

REGULAR MEETING

312 South Mildred St
Ranson, WV 25438
www.ransonwv.gov

September 1, 2026 | 7:00 P.M. | Council Chamber

MEETING REGISTRATION:

https://ransonwv.gov/yourgovernment/agendas-and-minutes/

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/MOMENT OF SILENCE

I. CALL TO ORDER

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Minutes August 18, 2026
   Council Minutes 8182026.docx

III. CITIZEN'S PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS

IV. CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

VI. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

VII. COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Resolution 2026 - 23 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Ranson, West Virginia, Establishing the Ranson Youth Advisory Committee (RYAC)
   Resolution 2026-23 RYAC.docx
2. Discussion of a Formal Request to WVDOH for Additional Crosswalks and Pedestrian Safety Improvements on Mildred Street
   Crosswalks.pdf
3. Consideration of Drafting a Proposed Amendment to Chapter 15 of the Ranson Codified Code Establishing a Personnel Committee
   Personnel Committee.docx

4. Discussion to Clarify and Formally Establish the Term of the Planning Commission, Administrative Department Seat
   Planning Commisson .pdf
5. Legal Update in reference to Huntwell WV, LLC v. City of Ranson et.al., (Possible executive session)
6. Legal update reference to Fairfax Crossing Real Estate v. City of Ranson et. al., (Possible executive session.)

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

IX. INFORMATION ONLY

1. Resignation from the Ranson Building Commission
   Amanda Stroud Resignation .pdf
2. Notice of Cancellation of the West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding
   The WV First Memorandum of Understanding .pdf

AGENDA ITEM II.1

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

SUBJECT: Minutes August 18, 2026

ATTACHMENTS:

Council Minutes 8182026.docx

CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING
August 18, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	**Present**
Andy Colandrea	**Present**
Wesley Wildrick	**Present**
Jaden Bound	**Present**
Stephanie Fagan	**Present**
Christopher Tarvin	**Present**
Daniel Strickland	**Present**

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Ranson City Council Minutes - July 21, 2026

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	**Abstain**
Andy Colandrea	**Yes**
Wesley Wildrick	**Yes**
Jaden Bound	**Yes**
Stephanie Fagan	**Yes**
Christopher Tarvin	**Yes**
Daniel Strickland	**Yes**

2. Ranson City Council Special Meeting August 3, 2026 Minutes

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	**Abstain**
Andy Colandrea	**Yes**
Wesley Wildrick	**Yes**
Jaden Bound	**Yes**
Stephanie Fagan	**Yes**
Christopher Tarvin	**Yes**
Daniel Strickland	**Yes**

III. CITIZEN'S PRESENTATIONS/PETITIONS

Jacob Light, on behalf of the Jefferson County Foundation, Spoke to the Mayor and Council of his concerns on the Strategic Plan and would like all meetings to be made open and transparent.

Amanda Stroud spoke to the Mayor and City Council regarding the Ranson Lost History Program. The program includes historical signs throughout Ranson that highlight the city's history and important locations. Ms. Stroud also discussed several city-owned properties, including the Ranson Community Garden located behind the Ranson Civic Center. She noted that the office building at 42 Trifecta Place has been considered for various uses, but no plans have been finalized. Ms. Stroud also identified a vacant lot on Park Avenue and suggested that it could be used for a Habitat for Humanity home. Additionally, she suggested that the cold storage property located at Preston and Beltline could potentially be developed as affordable housing.

Lou Ann Kramer spoke to the council and Mayor about her concerns on 221 N Fairfax. Ms. Kramer stated that she and her husband have had to replace two tires due to the curbing in the area.

IV. CITY MANAGER/STAFF REPORTS

1. Chief Of Police Status Report

   The Police Chief reported to the Mayor and City Council that all Jefferson County teachers have completed training in preparation for the upcoming school year. He also reported that a new officer was hired as a result of the most recent testing process. Additionally, the Police Chief reported that the traffic trailer is expected to arrive within the next two weeks.

2. Public Works Status Report – July
   No Action at this time

3. Finance Department Status Report - July
   No Action at this time

4. Parks and Recreation Status Report - July
   No Action at this time

5. Community Development Status Report - July
   No Action at this time

6. City Manager Report

City Manager Todd Wilt thanked everyone for attending the Municipal League conference in Charleston, West Virginia. He informed the Mayor and City Council that $5,000 in school supplies was raised through the kickball tournament in which the City of Ranson participated. Mr. Wilt also reported that a community engagement table drop of the flyer for Hunter Muse Park was distributed and advertised.

Mr. Wilt presented information regarding a special activity for Voting Rights Day scheduled for October 24, 2026. More than 200 people are expected to attend. The activity will take place along the sidewalk, beginning on 5th Avenue and continuing to the Ranson Civic Center. Mr. Wilt stated that, if there were no objections from the Mayor and City Council, the special activity permit would be approved. If there were any objections, the matter would be placed on September 1, 2026, agenda for further consideration.

Mr. Wilt also provided an update on the proposed new Police Department building on Mildred Street. The City has been working on a general contract, which has been awarded to Manns Woodward Studios, Inc. (MWS), an engineering firm based in Maryland that specializes in public safety facilities. The process will continue to involve the Mayor and City Council as the project moves forward.

Finally, Mr. Wilt reminded all Council members to ensure that their required paperwork has been submitted to the Finance Department.

V. COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE MAYOR

1. A Proclamation Honoring the Distinguished Career of Patricia Kelican

Mayor Ken Suits read the Proclamation aloud and honored Patricia Kelican for her sixty (60) years of service.

VI. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Stephanie Fagan reported that she attended the Backpack Event and stated that it had a great turnout. She said that she enjoyed spending time with the community and thanked everyone who attended, as well as the city staff for their hard work organizing the event.

Councilor Wesley Wildrick informed the Mayor and City Council that, while attending the Municipal League conference, he learned about a Youth Advisory Board program. He requested that the Council discuss the possibility of forming a committee to establish a similar program in Ranson at the next Council meeting.

VII. COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. Consideration - Two Board of Parks and Recreation Commission openings
   There were four candidates who submitted an application for the Parks and Recreation, Herbie McDaniel, David Gigillant, Cara Wildrick, Amanda Stroud and Dylan Kenney.

   Herbie McDaniel: Full Term on the Park and Recreation

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Motion
Jaden Bound	Second
Wesley Wildrick	Recused
Stephanie Fagan	No
Chris Tarvin	No

Daniel Strickland	No

David Gigillant – Full Term

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Motion
Jaden Bound	No
Wesley Wildrick	Recused
Stephanie Fagan	No
Chris Tarvin	No
Daniel Strickland	No

Amanda Stroud – Partial Term ending December 31, 2028

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Yes
Jaden Bound	Motion
Wesley Wildrick	Recused
Stephanie Fagan	Yes
Chris Tarvin	Second
Daniel Strickland	Yes

Dylan Kenney – Full Term July 2026-June 30, 2032

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Motion
Jaden Bound	Second
Wesley Wildrick	Recused
Stephanie Fagan	Yes
Chris Tarvin	Yes
Daniel Strickland	Yes

2. Consideration of Two (2) appointments to Board of Zoning Appeals

Council Member Andy Colandrea made a motion to move the matter forward for advertisement and bring it back before the Mayor and City Council for consideration at the October 20, 2026, Council meeting.

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Motion
Jaden Bound	Yes
Wesley Wildrick	Recused
Stephanie Fagan	Second
Chris Tarvin	Yes
Daniel Strickland	Yes

3. Consideration of Three (3) appointments to Board of Building Code Appeals Board.
   Motion was made by Chris Tarvin and second by Stephanie Fagan to move the matter forward for advertisement and bring it back before the Mayor and City Council for consideration at the October 20, 2026, Council meeting.

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Yes
Jaden Bound	Yes
Wesley Wildrick	Recused
Stephanie Fagan	Second
Chris Tarvin	Motion
Daniel Strickland	Yes

4. Consideration of Ordinance 2026- 04 Vacating, Abandoning, and Annulling Portions of the Fourth Avenue Right of Way and the Third Avenue Alley Right of Way.

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Motion
Jaden Bound	Yes
Wesley Wildrick	Yes
Stephanie Fagan	Yes
Chris Tarvin	Second
Daniel Strickland	Yes

5. Consideration of Resolution 2026-22 Establishing Police Shift Differential Pay

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Second
Jaden Bound	Yes
Wesley Wildrick	Yes
Stephanie Fagan	Yes
Chris Tarvin	Motion
Daniel Strickland	Yes

6. Consideration of Resolution 2026-21 Adopting Revisions to the City of Ranson Employee Handbook (Version 2026.01)

Kenneth Suits, Mayor	Abstain
Andy Colandrea	Yes
Jaden Bound	Motion
Wesley Wildrick	Yes
Stephanie Fagan	Yes
Chris Tarvin	Second
Daniel Strickland	Yes

7. City of Ranson Strategic Plan: Planning Process for 2027–2031

   Operational Director Rick Rinehart spoke to the Mayor and City Council regarding the development of a Strategic Plan for the City of Ranson. Mr. Rinehart explained that the process would require participation from the Council and proposed scheduling meetings one on one with Council members to discuss their goals and vision for the city. He established a timeline for August 27, 2026 to September 10, 2026, to meet the council. September 15, 2026 to present the information gathered from the meetings to the Mayor and City Council. Mr. Rinehart also proposed an off-site meeting for September 26, 2026, which is expected to last approximately four to five hours. The Strategic Plan is anticipated to be completed and presented for approval on October 20, 2026.

   Council member Daniel Strickland had some concerns about the Strategic Plans and made it clear that whatever he is putting together it is to be user-friendly for everyone.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 PM. The motion to adjourn was made by Councilmember Stephanie Fagan and seconded by Councilmember Wesley Wildrick the next Council meeting is scheduled for April 21, 2026, at 7:00 PM at the Ranson City Council Chambers, located at 312 S. Mildred Street, Ranson, WV 25438.

IX. INFORMATION ONLY

- Flyer For Hunter Muse Park
- Fourth Avenue Thank you letter to the Mayor from Kenneth Clohan, Jr. P.E. (Traffic Engineer - WV Division of Highway).
- Advertised Board of Oaths
- Special Activity Permit March and Rally in support of Voting Rights. 200 Participants.

_____
Kenneth Suits, Mayor

_____
Darla Armstrong, City Clerk

AGENDA ITEM VII.1

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SUBJECT: Resolution 2026 - 23 - A Resolution of the Council of the City of Ranson, West Virginia, Establishing the Ranson Youth Advisory Committee (RYAC)

This item comes to Council at the request of Councilor Wildrick, who has proposed establishing a Ranson Youth Advisory Committee, or RYAC. The concept draws from youth council frameworks already in use in other West Virginia municipalities, including Charleston and Morgantown, and is intended to give local teens a structured way to engage with municipal government, provide policy feedback, and gain civic leadership experience.

As proposed, the committee would include five to nine high school delegates from Grades 9 through 12 residing in Ranson, along with an adult co chair serving as City liaison, an education liaison from Jefferson County Schools, a community advisor, and two parent representatives.

Staff have prepared a resolution for Council's consideration that would formally establish the committee and its composition.

ATTACHMENTS:

Resolution 2026-23 RYAC.docx

Resolution: 2026-23

A Resolution of the Council of the City of Ranson, West Virginia, establishing the Ranson Youth Advisory Committee (RYAC)

WHEREAS, the City of Ranson recognizes the value of engaging local youth in municipal government and civic life; and

WHEREAS, several West Virginia municipalities, including Charleston and Morgantown, have successfully implemented youth advisory councils that provide teens with opportunities for policy feedback, community engagement, and civic leadership experience; and

WHEREAS, establishing a Ranson Youth Advisory Committee would create a formal advisory body to bridge the gap between local municipal government and Ranson's youth; and

WHEREAS, such a committee would provide meaningful opportunities for youth delegates to represent the interests of their peers, organize community initiatives, and draft policy recommendations for consideration by City Council;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Ranson, West Virginia, that the Ranson Youth Advisory Committee (RYAC) is hereby established as an official advisory body of the City.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the RYAC shall be composed as follows:

Youth Delegates. Five to nine high school students in Grades 9 through 12 residing in the City of Ranson. Youth Delegates shall represent youth interests, vote on committee initiatives, and draft policy recommendations for City Council.

Adult Co Chair (City Liaison). One appointed City Council member or City staff member, who shall act as municipal sponsor, facilitate reporting to Council, and ensure adherence to open meeting standards.

Adult Education Liaison. One Jefferson County Schools teacher, counselor, or administrator, who shall manage school level outreach, assist with academic and civic credit integration, and support student recruitment.

Adult Community Advisor. One local business owner, nonprofit director, or civic leader based in Jefferson County, who shall mentor delegates on community service, professional skills, and project management.

Parent Representatives. Two parents of Youth Delegates serving on the RYAC, who shall review all initiatives for student safety, oversee volunteer and mentorship conduct policies, monitor field trips and events, and ensure family communication and consent standards are upheld.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

Signed and approved this 1st day of September 2026

_____
Kenneth Suits, Mayor

_____
Darla Armstrong, City Clerk

AGENDA ITEM VII.2

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong, Administrative

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SUBJECT: Discussion of a Formal Request to WVDOH for Additional Crosswalks and Pedestrian Safety Improvements on Mildred Street

This item comes to Council at the request of Councilor Fagan, whose full write up, along with supporting images of comparable crosswalk installations, is included in your packet. The request asks Council to discuss directing staff to send a formal letter to the West Virginia Division of Highways advocating for additional crosswalks along Mildred Street, specifically at 5th Avenue near Dairy Queen, 7th Avenue near Domino's, and Beltline Avenue near Southern States, to support pedestrian safety and access as development continues along that corridor.

ATTACHMENTS:

Crosswalks.pdf

Crosswalks:

I would like Council to discuss requesting that City staff send a formal letter to the West Virginia Division of Highways (DOH) advocating for additional crosswalks and pedestrian safety improvements along Mildred Street. Specifically, I would like the City to request consideration of crosswalks at **5th Avenue near Dairy Queen, 7th Avenue near Domino's, and Beltline Avenue** to support pedestrian access associated with current and future development in the area. Examples of the kind of crosswalks we should request:

(Mildred & 12th)



(Mildred & Ambrose)



Mildred Street is an increasingly active corridor, with residents, families, businesses, and visitors regularly navigating the area on foot. As development continues, it is important that pedestrian infrastructure grows alongside it. These crosswalks would provide safer and more clearly designated locations for pedestrians to cross and would help connect neighborhoods, businesses, and new development. State law currently states that outside of marked crosswalks, pedestrians must yield to vehicular traffic:

§17C-10-2. Pedestrians' right-of-way in crosswalks.

(a) When traffic-control signals are not in place or not in operation the driver of a vehicle shall yield the right-of-way, slowing down or stopping if need be to so yield, to a pedestrian crossing the roadway within a crosswalk when the pedestrian is upon the half of the roadway upon which the vehicle is traveling, or when the pedestrian is approaching so closely from the opposite half of the roadway as to be in danger, but no pedestrian shall suddenly leave a curb or other place of safety and walk or run into the path of a vehicle which is so close that it is impossible for the driver to yield. This provision shall not apply under the conditions stated in section three paragraph (b) of this article.

(b) Whenever any vehicle is stopped at a marked crosswalk or at any unmarked crosswalk at an intersection to permit a pedestrian to cross the roadway, the driver of any other vehicle approaching from the rear shall not overtake and pass such stopped vehicle.

https://code.wvlegislature.gov/17C-10-2/

§17C-10-3. Crossing at other than crosswalks.

(a) Every pedestrian crossing a roadway at any point other than within a marked crosswalk or within an unmarked crosswalk at an intersection shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(b) Any pedestrian crossing a roadway at a point where a pedestrian tunnel or overhead pedestrian crossing has been provided shall yield the right-of-way to all vehicles upon the roadway.

(c) Between adjacent intersections at which traffic-control signals are in operation pedestrians shall not cross at any place except in a marked crosswalk.

https://code.wvlegislature.gov/17C-10-3/

This means pedestrians must wait for a clear moment to cross Mildred Street when between Lancaster Circle and 12th Avenue, which is over ½ a mile. Including the proposed crosswalks at key intersections with residential and commercial foot traffic (i.e., **5th Avenue near Dairy Queen, 7th Avenue near Domino's, and Beltline Avenue near Southern States**) will allow for safer crossing opportunities at these points for pedestrians since drivers will have to yield to those crossing within the intersection while minimizing impacts on traffic flow by forgoing traffic control signals, etc.

A formal letter from the City would demonstrate Council's support for these improvements and communicate to DOH that there is a recognized need for additional pedestrian infrastructure along this corridor.

AGENDA ITEM VII.3

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SUBJECT: Consideration of Drafting a Proposed Amendment to Chapter 15 of the Ranson Codified Code Establishing a Personnel Committee

This item comes to Council at the request of Councilor Fagan, who has proposed establishing a Personnel Board through an amendment to Chapter 15 of the City Code. As proposed, the board would consist of two Council members and one employee representative, selected through an internal nomination and election process, and would serve in an advisory capacity to Council and the City Manager on personnel policies, procedures, staffing, and employee concerns, along with additional proposed functions outlined in the draft. Staff is still evaluating the proposal and will be prepared to discuss it further at the meeting.

ATTACHMENTS:

Personnel Committee.docx

Personnel Committee:

Recommend amending Sec. 15 to establish and empower a Personnel Committee to advise the City Council on personnel matters with the following mission:

The Personnel Committee serves as a liaison between City Council, city administration, and employees on matters related to personnel policies, procedures, staffing, and employee concerns. The committee can review and make recommendations regarding personnel policies, organizational structure, employee benefits, job descriptions, and other employment-related matters, while maintaining appropriate confidentiality. Reinstating the committee would provide a consistent and organized process for addressing personnel matters and making recommendations to the full Council when Council action is needed.

The Personnel Committee will consist of 2 council members selected by the City Council, and 1 employee selected by staff election. Terms for all members will be 4 years unless the employee ends employment/council member resign or term ends.

Proposed Process for Selecting a Staff Representative to the Personnel Committee

To ensure the selection of the staff representative to the Personnel Committee is transparent, fair, and representative of the employees. Staff could hold an internal election to select their representative.

Under this process, interested staff members would have the opportunity to nominate themselves or be nominated by a fellow employee. Once nominations are closed, the names of all eligible candidates would be provided to staff.

A confidential vote could then be conducted among eligible City employees. This could be done through a paper ballot or another secure voting method to ensure that employees can vote privately and without pressure.

The candidate receiving the most votes would serve as the staff representative on the Personnel Committee for a defined term. The process could also establish a procedure for filling the position if the representative resigns, leaves employment, or is otherwise unable to complete the term.

This approach would give employees a direct voice in choosing who represents their interests on the Personnel Committee, while creating a clear and consistent process that does not rely solely on an appointment by management.

The goal would be to establish a process that is transparent, democratic, and consistent, while ensuring the staff representative has the confidence of the employees they are representing.

AGENDA ITEM VII.4

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SUBJECT: Discussion to Clarify and Formally Establish the Term of the Planning Commission, Administrative Department Seat

This item comes to Council at the request of Councilor Fagan, who raises the question of the term definition associated with the Planning Commission's administrative department seat. This matter was addressed at a prior Council meeting, and public comment has also been made at several meetings regarding this issue.

Ranson City Code Sec. 16-2 states that the administrative department seat's term runs concurrent with a three year term, consistent with the other appointed Planning Commission seats. However, state code, W. Va. Code § 8A-2-3(e), provides that the term of membership for the Council designated seat and the administrative department seat is the same as their term of office, meaning the term tied to the officeholder's own term rather than a fixed three year cycle.

Where a municipal ordinance conflicts with state law, state law controls. That principle is part of what supports reading the administrative seat's term as tied to the officeholder's term of office under state code, rather than the fixed three year term in the municipal code. While the City Manager position is not an elected office, it is clearly established as a municipal office under the City Charter and state law, and the person serving in that role is properly considered an officeholder for purposes of this analysis. The City Attorney has reviewed this analysis and concurs with reading the administrative seat's term as coextensive with the City Manager's own term of office consistent with the City Manager's employment contract, which currently operates on a year to year cycle running through June 30 of each year.

Under this interpretation, the current appointee's original term concluded June 30, 2026, and a new appointment for the current cycle has not yet been formally finalized, though the Commission's actions and the appointee's continued participation during this interim period remain valid.

Staff presents this history and analysis for Council's discussion and would recommend a motion directing the City Manager to bring back an appointment for the current term at the next Council meeting, along with a resolution formally establishing the term associated with the administrative department seat. Staff would also recommend Council direct staff to propose corrective language to Sec. 16-2 to bring the municipal code in line with state code on this point. Staff will be prepared to discuss this issue further.

ATTACHMENTS:

Planning Commisson .pdf

Planning Commission:

I would like to bring the issue of Planning Commission member Antoinette Ringold back before Council for discussion. This matter was previously addressed during a Council meeting, and public comment has also been made regarding the lack of a clearly established term for her appointment. I believe it is important for the Council to clarify and formally establish the term associated with this appointment. This would provide greater clarity and consistency regarding the appointment, ensure that the City's records accurately reflect the applicable term, and promote transparency regarding the structure and terms of service of all Planning Commission members. There are two pertinent bits of code, one from Ranson, one from the state:
Ranson City Code Sec. 16-2. - Regular membership, term of service, etc.

The planning commission shall consist of five individuals. The members of the planning commission must be: (1) residents of the municipality; and (2) qualified by knowledge and experience in matters pertaining to the development of the municipality. At least three-fifths of all of the members must have been residents of Ranson for at least three years prior to nomination or appointment and confirmation. The members of a municipal planning commission must fairly represent different areas of interest, knowledge and expertise, including, but not limited to, business, industry, labor, government and other relevant disciplines. One member must be a member of the city council or a designee, appointed by the city council, and one member must be an appointee of the city manager representing the administrative department of Ranson pursuant to W. Va. Code, § 8A-2-3(d). The term of membership for the council member shall be the same as the term of office. The remaining three members of the planning commission shall be nominated and confirmed by the city council. **Members, other than those sitting as council members, shall serve three-year terms.** Vacancies shall be filled for the shall be reimbursed for all reasonable and necessary expenses actually incurred in the performance of their official duties.

https://library.municode.com/wv/ranson/codes/code_of_ordinances?nodeId=PTIITHCO_CH16PLDE_ARTIPLCO_S16-2REMETESEET

Note: The reference in 16-2 above to § 8A-2-3(d) is potentially out of date as the pertinent section from state code is § 8A-2-3(e), reproduced below.

WVa State Code § 8A-2-3(e) The members of a municipal planning commission must fairly represent different areas of interest, knowledge, and expertise, including, but not limited to, business, industry, labor, government, and other relevant disciplines. **One member must be a member of the municipal governing body, or a designee and one member must be a member of the administrative department of the municipality or a designee. The term of membership for these two members is the same as their term of office.**

https://code.wvlegislature.gov/8A-2-3/

Option 1: Align directly with city code and establish a 3 year term.

Option 2: Align directly with state code and establish the term to be tied to the City Manager's employment term.

AGENDA ITEM VII.5

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SUBJECT: Legal Update in reference to Huntwell WV, LLC v. City of Ranson et.al., (Possible executive session)

This item is a legal update regarding Huntwell WV, LLC v. City of Ranson, et al. The suit was filed August 17 and the City was served August 19. Since being notified, staff has been working with the City Attorney and the City's insurance carrier: an insurance claim was filed August 19, preliminary notice of coverage was received August 26, litigation counsel was assigned by the carrier that same day, and the complaint was forwarded to counsel August 27.

Keith Gamble, litigation counsel assigned by the City's insurer, or the City Attorney, will be present to offer an update and analysis on the matter. Given the nature of this item, Council may wish to move into executive session for portions of this discussion involving legal strategy or matters otherwise appropriate for closed session under the Open Meetings Act.

ATTACHMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM VII.6

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **COUNCIL BUSINESS**

SUBJECT: Legal update reference to Fairfax Crossing Real Estate v. City of Ranson et. al., (Possible executive session.)

This item is a legal update regarding Fairfax Crossing Real Estate v. City of Ranson, et al., which was previously introduced to Council at the last meeting. This item has been placed on the agenda so that, given the Council will already be in executive session for the Huntwell matter, an update can be provided on this litigation as well if Council wishes. Given the nature of this item, Council may wish to move into executive session for portions of this discussion involving legal strategy or matters otherwise appropriate for closed session under the Open Meetings Act.

ATTACHMENTS:

AGENDA ITEM IX.1

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **INFORMATION ONLY**

SUBJECT: Resignation from the Ranson Building Commission

This item is for informational purposes only. Council has received notice from Amanda Stroud of her resignation from the Ranson Building Commission, pursuant to Sec. 20-4 of the City Code, effective Monday, August 24th at 6:00 PM. Staff presents this to Council for the record.

ATTACHMENTS:

Amanda Stroud Resignation .pdf

To: Todd Wilt <twilt@ransonwv.us>
Cc: Darla Armstrong <darmstrong@ransonwv.us>
Subject: Resignation

CAUTION: External Email

Good Morning. Pursuant to Ranson City Code section 20-4 I am hereby resigning from the Ranson Building Commission effective Monday, August 24th at 6:00pm (EDT).

If you have any questions regarding this matter please do not hesitate to contact me.

Amanda Stroud

AGENDA ITEM IX.2

City Council Regular Meeting Request for Action

TO:

FROM: Darla Armstrong, Administrative

ITEM TYPE: PRESENTATION

AGENDA SECTION: **INFORMATION ONLY**

SUBJECT: Notice of Cancellation of the West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding

This item is for informational purposes only. The City has received notice from the West Virginia Attorney General's Office that the State will exercise its right to cancel the West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding, effective September 17, 2026. The MOU previously established a framework for allocating and distributing certain opioid litigation recoveries between the State and participating local governments. The cancellation does not affect funds from opioid litigation already concluded under the Mass Litigation Panel's prior order, which will continue to be allocated and distributed as before. Going forward, the State and local governments, including Ranson, will pursue any claims related to Pharmacy Benefit Managers separately, with any recoveries obtained by the City belonging solely to the City. Staff presents this to Council for the record.

ATTACHMENTS:

The WV First Memorandum of Understanding .pdf

State of West Virginia
John B. McCuskey
Attorney General

Office of the Attorney General
State Capitol, Bldg. 1, Rm. E-26
1900 Kanawha Blvd., E.
Charleston, WV 25305

(304) 558-2021
Fax: (304) 558-0140
www.wvago.gov

August 18, 2026

City of Ranson
312 South Mildred Street
Ranson, WV 25438

Re: The West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding

Dear Mayor and Council:

You are receiving this letter because your Local Government is a signatory to the West Virginia First Memorandum of Understanding ("MOU"), which established a framework for allocating and distributing certain opioid-litigation recoveries among the State and participating Local Governments. If you are represented by counsel in connection with this matter, please share this letter with your attorney.

The MOU was developed while the State and dozens of Local Governments were pursuing claims against opioid manufacturers, distributors, and retail pharmacies. Those cases were before the West Virginia Mass Litigation Panel ("MLP") and have now been fully resolved. After that litigation concluded, the State and certain Local Governments filed new lawsuits alleging that certain Pharmacy Benefit Managers and related entities ("PBMs") played a significant role in the opioid crisis in West Virginia. The PBM actions involve different defendants, were not part of the prior litigation, and were never before the MLP.

Although the MOU does not apply to the new PBM lawsuits, the State and counsel for certain Local Governments attempted to negotiate an amendment to the MOU that would address this new litigation. The State's goal in seeking to amend the MOU was to increase **both** the State and Local Governments' share of any proceeds of the PBM litigation, while reducing the amount paid to third parties.

Unfortunately, those negotiations were unsuccessful. Accordingly, this letter provides notice that the State of West Virginia will exercise its right to cancel the MOU effective September 17, 2026. *See* W. Va. Code § 5A-3-62(a)(15). As of that date, the MOU will no longer govern the parties' rights and responsibilities with respect to future litigation and future recoveries.

This cancellation will **not** affect money from opioid litigation that has already concluded. It will not stop, reduce, delay, or change any payment or distribution arising from the claims heard by the MLP in Kanawha County Consolidated Civil Action No. 19-C-9000, *In re: Opioid Litigation*. Those funds will continue to be allocated, distributed, and paid under the MLP's January 4, 2023, Order, just as they are now.

To be clear, the State's decision to cancel the MOU does not reflect any view concerning the merits or value of any Local Government's claims. The State will continue to support West Virginia's Local Governments in this fight. The cancellation simply means that, going forward, the State and Local Governments will pursue their respective claims separately. All recoveries obtained by Local Governments will belong only to the Local Governments themselves, giving you the power to decide how it is spent.

The State appreciates its continued partnership with West Virginia's Local Governments and remains committed to working together to address the effects of the opioid crisis. If you have questions about this notice or what the cancellation means for your Local Government, please contact Assistant Attorney General Abby Cunningham at 304-558-8986 or 1-800-368-8808.

Sincerely,