

Regular Meeting of Summersville City
Council held on September 14, 2026

PRESENT: David Harper, Mayor
Gary Withee, Recorder
Wayne Halstead, Councilman Ward I
Stevie LeRose, Councilman Ward I
Jim Epling, Councilman Ward II
Brandon Waters, Councilman Ward III
Eugene Underwood, Councilman Ward IV
Chuck Shaw, Councilman Ward IV

ABSENT: BJ Smith, Councilman Ward III

VISITORS: Ray Corbin, The Nicholas Chronicle
Julie Wingard, SCTV
Amy Grose
Cody Turner, Thrasher Engineering
Rodney LeRose II
Jeremy Nicholas
Aaron Beam
Scott Arthur
Mark Sankoff
Cassie Lawson, Region 4 PDC
Brad Reed

Mayor Dave Harper called the meeting to order at 6:00pm.

A motion was made to waive the reading and approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of City Council held on August 24, 2026. Moved by Wayne Halstead.

Seconded by Stevie LeRose.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor noted no one signed up for public comment.

The Mayor presented the approval of Draw Request # 8 for the City of Summersville CDBG-MIT Stormwater Project. Cassie Lawson with Region 4 Planning and Development Council came forward. She said this is payment #5 to Open Range Resources for \$33,603.79. She said the project is 70% complete and should be completed by the end of November. She said everything is on track and in budget. A motion was made to approve Draw Request # 8 for the City of Summersville CDBG-MIT Stormwater Project. Moved by Stevie LeRose.

Seconded by Chuck Shaw.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the various upcoming water project agreements. The Mayor presented the approval of the engineering agreement with Thrasher. Cody Turner with Thrasher came forward. He said this is Amendment #1 for the Webster Road water project. He said this project starts on Webster Road and goes down to the heart of the City and includes the tank link between the Rosewood and the Junior High Tank, which they want to replace (Bright Mountain Tank). He discussed how smaller lines make it harder to move water to the Bright Mountain Tank. They will remove the cast iron line and replace the 4" line with an 8" line. This Amendment is for the addition of Preliminary Design, Final Design, Bidding and Negotiating, Construction Phase, Resident Project Representative, Post Construction and Additional Services. Additional services to be included are Aerial Mapping, Environmental Permitting, Engineering and Topographic Surveys, System Hydraulic Analysis, Geotechnical Engineering, Land and Rights-of-Ways Survey, and the Asset Management Plan. The cost for Amendment #1 is \$850,000. A motion was made to approve the engineering agreement with Thrasher. Moved by Stevie LeRose.

Seconded by Gary Withee.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

Cassie Lawson added the WV Infrastructure Jobs and Development Council review the professional fees for engineering firms, and if they are in excess of their standard curve, there has to be justification for that excess to be paid through those agencies. There are safeguards in place to make sure those charges are reasonable.

The Mayor presented the approval of the Bond Counsel Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Cassie Lawson from Region 4 Planning and Development Council came forward to present the next 4 items. She said attorneys were solicited for quotes and proposals for this project and Steptoe & Johnson was selected. It is a lump sum amount of \$22,750.00. A motion was made to approve the Bond Counsel Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Moved by Stevie LeRose.

Seconded by Gary Withee.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes

Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.
BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the approval of the PSC Legal Services Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Cassie Lawson said attorneys were solicited and selected again, and Steptoe & Johnson was selected. This agreement is for a lump sum of \$6,000. A motion was made to approve the PSC Legal Services Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Moved by Stevie LeRose.

Seconded by Brandon Waters.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.
BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the approval of the Local Legal Services Agreement with Central WV Legal Partners. Cassie Lawson said this is for title work, easements, and review of contracts. The amount is not to exceed \$40,000. It is billed on an hourly basis. A motion was made to approve the Local Legal Services Agreement with Central WV Legal Partners. Moved by Stevie LeRose.

Seconded by Brandon Waters.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.
BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the approval of the Administration Agreement with Region 4 Planning and Development Council. Cassie Lawson said they will help with leverage funding, reporting, and financial management. The amount is not to exceed \$40,000 and will be billed on an hourly basis. A motion was made to approve the Administration Agreement with Region 4 Planning and Development Council. Moved by Jim Epling.

Seconded by Wayne Halstead.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes

Chuck Shaw Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor then presented the various agreements for the upcoming sewer project.

The Mayor presented the approval of the Engineering Agreement with Potesta. Mark Sankoff with Potesta came forward. He said this agreement will cover the preliminary report and facility plan. They will put in interceptors to the treatment plant. There will be telemetry upgrades, and they will evaluate the 15 lift stations not being replaced. The cost is \$95,000 for the PDR and another \$55,000 if it's taken to the design phase. The Mayor asked for an approximate time frame. Mark Sankoff said it would take approximately 6 months to do the preliminary engineering report and 3-4 years to do the \$14,000,000 project. A motion was made to approve the Engineering Agreement with Potesta. Moved by Wayne Halstead.

Seconded by Brandon Waters.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the approval of the Bond Counsel Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Cassie Lawson from Region 4 Planning and Development came forward for the next 4 items. She said these agreements for the wastewater are the same exact services as with the water, . It is a lump sum amount of \$27,000. A motion was made to approve the Bond Counsel Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Moved by Wayne Halstead.

Seconded by Jim Epling.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the approval of the PSC Legal Services Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Cassie Lawson said it is a lump sum amount of \$6,000. A motion was made to approve the PSC Legal Services Agreement with Steptoe & Johnson. Moved by Stevie LeRose.

Seconded by Gary Withee.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes

Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.
BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the Local Legal Services Agreement with Central WV Legal Partners. Cassie Lawson said the agreement amount is not to exceed \$100,000. She said it's higher because it's a \$14,000,000 project with lots of easements and title work. It is hourly based. A motion was made to approve the Local Legal Services Agreement with Central WV Legal Partners. Moved by Wayne Halstead.

Seconded by Stevie LeRose.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.
BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the approval of the Administration Agreement with Region 4 Planning and Development Council. She said the agreement amount is hourly and not to exceed \$175,000. Moved by Eugene Underwood.

Seconded by Wayne Halstead.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.
BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the 2026-2027 General Fund Budget Revision #2. Scott Arthur, Finance Director, came forward and presented the revision. In Revenue, there is an increase in: 299 Unassigned Fund Balance of \$1,415,792 for the final revision to the fund balance, and 365 Federal Government Grants of \$837,330 for appropriation for the Trails Grant for a Change in Revenue of \$2,253,122. In Budget Expenditure, there is an increase in: 414 Finance Contracted Services of \$7,500 for financial statement preparation; 699 Contingencies of \$367,962 for additional funds for unexpected expenditures; 706 Fire Contracted Services of \$66,000 for additional operational needs; 706 Fire Capital Outlay of \$70,000 for extraction tools and SCBA units; 900 Parks & Recreation Personal Services of \$58,000 for funding park manager wages and benefits half year; 900 Parks & Recreation Capital Outlay of \$1,683,660 for appropriation for Trails Grant, 50% match, and dog park. There is a Change in Expense of \$2,253,122. Stevie LeRose asked where the \$837,330 came from to match the grant. Scott Arthur said it came from the carryforward. A motion was made to approve the 2026-2027 General Fund Budget Revision #2. Moved by Wayne Halstead.

Seconded by Stevie LeRose.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.

The Mayor presented the Mayor's Report. The Mayor thanked everyone who helped with the Nicholas County Potato Festival and spoke about how successful it was.

During Council Reports, Stevie LeRose thanked Aaron Beam for all his work as the City's former finance director, since this was his last meeting.

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting at 6:28pm. Moved by Wayne Halstead.

Seconded by Stevie LeRose.

The vote was as follows:

Gary Withee	Yes
Wayne Halstead	Yes
Stevie LeRose	Yes
Jim Epling	Yes
Brandon Waters	Yes
Eugene Underwood	Yes
Chuck Shaw	Yes

The motion carried by unanimous vote of all members present.

BJ Smith was absent for the meeting.