Ravenswood City Council Meeting Minutes August 19, 2025

Ravenswood Municipal Complex – 1 Wall St. Ravenswood, WV 26164 7:00pm

Mayor Miller led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Miller led Welcome and Roll Call. Present: Councilwoman Amanda Slaven, Mayor Josh Miller, Councilman Todd Ritchie, Councilwoman Dee Scritchfield, Councilman Jeff Koon, Councilman Eric Cullen. Absent: City Recorder/Deputy Mayor, Jared Bloxton (excused)

Mayor Miller declared a quorum at meeting started around 7:00pm.

Councilman Todd Ritchie moved to approve the prior meeting minutes from 8/5/25. 2nd by Councilwoman Amanda Slaven. All voting yes. None against. Motion approved.

Public Forum:

Patty Roush what the "Deputy Mayor" is and how long have we had one? Is it a paid position and did "he" have insurance? Do we have a limit for administrative leave with pay? When is the next election? Why did we stop the live streams?

Connie Dunlap provided a handout to City Council members regarding PEIA eligibility requirements. She stated she had worked as an HR Director and Benefits Coordinator. Ask how am I eligible for PEIA? She stated only elected officials and full-time employees are eligible for PEIA. State has laws about giving employees benefits and did city council vote to give the mayor benefits?

Bob Staats provided a handout to city council. Mr. Staats asked about the Welcome Center/Business Incubator after structure was tore down. Asked about the 1.5 million dollars in grant funds and asked if city council knew about the restaurant. He asked why

others weren't given an opportunity to be a lessee. Will city purchase flood insurance on the building? What would the coverage and premium be on that? He also asked if the museum has flood insurance?

Dana Skeens asked about monthly reports and why is there no financial reports provided from department heads and offered to the public.

George "Buddy" Jones said he filed or delivered questions about a corrective action plan and still hasn't heard anything about it regarding the FY23 audit. He stated former City Councilwoman Denise Toler resigned because she was under investigation and asked why Mayor Miller and Recorder/Deputy Mayor, Jared Bloxton hadn't resigned since they were under investigation. Mr. Jones also stated something about the city debts and walked away.

Public Forum closed.

Public Bid Opening - Welcome Center/Business Incubator

Two bids received. Low bid around \$2,700,000.00

Bids drastically exceed budget of grant allotment, council accepted bids as proposed, but no action at this time until further review and recommendations.

Reports to City Council Reviewed in One Drive Account. Exploring ways to make these available to the public during meetings. Attempting to utilize the website to do so instead of printing off hundreds of pages of pager.

Amended Ordinance – Attendance for City Council Members (Second Reading). City Councilwoman Dee Scritchfield moved to approve the ordinance as presents. 2nd by City Councilman Jeff Koon. All voting yes. None against. Motion approved. Ordinance considered passed and will be prepared for the ordinance book update and website update.

No drawdowns for Waterfront Projects EEGF Project Funds

GSI to begin work on emergency slip repair near the Silverhills Tank Site on or around September 8, 2025.

Phase I Sewer Project Specs have been approved by the WVDEP

Phase 2A Change Order No. 3 to purchase pump in the amount of \$36,034.10 was moved for approval by City Councilman Todd Ritchie and 2nd by City Councilwoman Amanda Slaven. All voting yes. None against. Motion approved.

Phase 2B Wastewater Treatment Plant Plans and Specification approved by WVDEP, next step is authorization to bid project, this step is imminent.

City Councilman Todd Ritchie moved to approve Draw Resolution No. 22 for Phase 2A Wastewater extension project in the amount of \$112,045.75. 2nd by City Councilman Jeff Koon. All voting yes. None against. Motion approved.

Next meeting date:

Special Meeting regarding Mcintosh Memorial Park Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 5:00pm

Regular Meeting Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 7:00pm

All hosted at 1 Wall St. Ravenswood Municipal Complex

Internal Investigation Statement by Chief Lance Morrison and Officer Colby Bush. Kanawha County Prosecuting Office approved statement. Officer Colby Bush and Jonathan Garrett investigating the PEIA matter and 15 individuals have been interviewed and a total of 360 hours have went towards the investigation regarding PEIA involving Mayor Josh Miller, City Recorder/Deputy Mayor Jared Bloxton, and City Clerk/Treasurer, Kimberly Benson. Kanawha County Prosecuting Attorney has all investigation materials from the Ravenswood Police Department.

City Councilwoman Amanda Slaven moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:05pm. 2nd by City Councilman Jeff Koon. All voting yes. None against. Motion approved. Adjourned.

Josh Miller

Mayor, City of Ravenswood

Jared Bloxton

City Recorder/Deputy Mayor