Welcome
The Morgantown City Council and City Clerk welcomes and thanks you for attending a Morgantown City Council meeting.

This brochure provides a general summary of the order of business during a City Council meeting and, perhaps most importantly, serves as your guide on how to participate in a meeting.

Public Participation
PUBLIC PORTION: The public portion shall be limited to thirty minutes. Council cannot address questions at this time, but may respond during Council Report. This portion of the agenda allows the public to address the City Council on any items on the agenda.

PUBLIC HEARINGS FOR ORDINANCES: Please address statements to the Council as a body and not to any specific member. No person, other than the chair and the person speaking is permitted to enter into any discussion, without recognition by the chair.

PROCESS FOR SPEAKING: To address Council, please write your name on the sign-in sheet. Upon recognition by the Mayor, please proceed to the floor and give your name and address. Subject matter may include anything that is pertinent to the speaker. Four minutes will be allowed for individual presentations and five minutes for testimony on behalf of a group. Speakers shall refrain from using profane language or personal, impertinent or slanderous remarks which disturbs the meeting, or risk being removed.

City Structure
The City of Morgantown has a Council-Manager form of government. The Council serves as the Legislative Branch, electing one of its own members as Mayor during the first regular meeting in July each year. The Council has the authority to initiate hearings for the purpose of gathering information for ordinance making, airing public problems and supervising the spending of its appropriations. Council is comprised of seven members who are nominated by their respective wards by petition containing no less than 75 signatures of registered voters, and are elected at large.

The City Manager serves as the city administrator and is responsible for carrying out policy enacted by the Council.

Accommodations
If you are in need of assistance or other accommodations please contact the City Clerk's office either in person or by telephone at 304-284-7439 no later than 10:00 a.m. on the day preceding the scheduled meeting.
City Council Meetings

City Council Regular meetings are held at Morgantown City Hall, Council Chambers, 389 Spruce Street at 7:00 p.m. on the first and third Tuesdays of the month. Committee of the Whole meetings, or work sessions, are held at 7:00 p.m. on the last Tuesday of the month. No formal actions are taken at these meetings.

Agendas

Agendas are available the Thursday prior to the meeting. Agendas are available for the public at the City Clerk’s office and Morgantown Public Library. It can also be viewed on the city webpage at www.morgantownwv.gov. The purpose of the agenda is to provide the public advanced notice about items under consideration.

Digital Meeting Access


CABLE BROADCAST: Council meetings are recorded and aired “live” on Comcast Channel 15. Meeting replay’s can be seen Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.; Friday at 7:00 p.m. and on Saturday at 10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

E-SUBSCRIPTION: Sign up via the city’s website to receive email and text notifications when Council meeting agendas are published. You can also sign up to received city news, and more.

Order of Business

The City Council follows a regular order of business at each meeting.

- CORRESPONDENCE/PROCLAMATIONS: Council members will report on correspondence they have received from the public. The mayor presents resolutions/proclamations commemorating specific events, awards, or recognizing individuals or groups.

- PUBLIC HEARINGS: This portion of the agenda is designed to allow the public to provide input on a specific matter. After receiving comments, the Mayor will close the public hearing and Council will discuss and take action on the matter.

- PUBLIC PORTION: This provides an opportunity for individuals to address City Council on any subject matter that is pertinent to that speaker. Comments are limited to four (4) minutes for individual presentations and five (5) minutes for testimony on behalf of a group. Council cannot address questions at this time, but may respond during Council Report.

- CITY MANAGER'S REPORT: The City Manager provides updates to Council on City projects and other pertinent information.

- COUNCIL REPORT: City Council can respond to any public comments as well as provide information on any other topic of interest.

Types of Council Actions

When a motion is made and seconded, and state by the Mayor, it shall be deemed before Council. It can be discussed or withdrawn before a final vote, by consent of Council. Voting shall be done by roll call and recorded in the journal. The presiding officer shall preserve order and decorum in Council and conduct its meetings in accordance with Robert’s Rules of Order.

- RESOLUTIONS: Resolutions are laws of permanent nature, until rescinded. It is a formal expression of the opinion or will of City Council adopted by a vote.

- ORDINANCE: Ordinances are laws, which are adopted after two readings and a public hearing. The effective date is noted in the ordinance.

- MOTION: A formal proposal put to a legislative body or committee.