

City of Kanawha
City Council Proceedings
February 10, 2026

The Council first met at 5:30 p.m. at 220 N. Main Street for a tour of the facility, then reconvened at Council Chambers.

The Kanawha City Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 10, 2026. The following council members were present: Dana Kraft, Tim Lodin, Jessica Fowles, Chad Lang, and Phyllis Jordanger. Also present were Aubree White and family, Mayor Randy Yeakel, City Clerk Barb Baker, Superintendent of Public Works Ryan Oleson, and Fire Chief Nat Hill. Mayor Yeakel called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Fowles moved approval of the agenda. The motion was seconded by Lodin. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Lodin moved approval of the minutes, clerk's report, and payment of the following bills:

Alliant Energy	\$4,697.97
Amazon	\$282.58
Column Software	\$393.61
Comm 1	\$608.79
Delta Dental	\$517.20
Fort & Schlegel	\$4,310.00
Gold Eagle	\$1,965.44
Hancock Co Secondary Roads	\$1,996.34
Hancock Co Sheriff	\$10,000.00
Hawkins	\$778.94
Iowa One Call	\$23.40
KC Nielsen	\$1,081.76
MCI	\$76.99
Office Depot	\$104.88
Auditor of State	\$175.00
Peter's Service	\$1,947.31
Pitney Bowes	\$132.60
Principal	\$80.12
Riteway	\$573.30
Ryan Oleson	\$36.93
Swenson's	\$57.77
Trulson's	\$305.27
USA Blue Book	\$152.33
US Cellular	\$96.02
VISA	\$864.08
Visual Edge	\$14.95
Wellmark	\$3,334.47

The motion was seconded by Lang. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Aubree White read her “If I Were Mayor” essay to the Council and was presented a certificate of recognition.

Review of insurance was tabled until next month due to Ryan Eekhoff being unable to attend the meeting.

During Public Input, the Clerk spoke about conducting a Farmers Market survey assessing interest in bringing the market back to town.

The Mayor’s report included, but was not limited to, the following: the Mayor reported he is looking into sharing services with Britt, including possible street sweeper sharing.

The following is a summarized report from the Superintendent of Public Works: updating EPA unknown service line list (39 remaining); mower and payloader serviced at KC Nielsen; plow cutting edge replaced; anticipated conversion to liquid chlorine next month; one water service line break repaired; Water Treatment Grade II classes begin in April in Cedar Falls. Lodin moved approval of the report. The motion was seconded by Kraft. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Fowles moved approval of the Sheriff’s report. The motion was seconded by Kraft. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Lodin made a motion approving the 2024–2025 audit report. The motion was seconded by Jordanger. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Approval of the FY 2026–2027 proposed budget was tabled until the March 3 special meeting.

Jordanger made a motion to set the date and time of the proposed property tax hearing for March 26 at 6:00 p.m. The motion was seconded by Kraft. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Fowles gave the first reading of proposed Ordinance No. 2026-4, amending Section 3-3-5 of the Code of Ordinances regarding authority of police and fire department officials.

ORDINANCE NO. 2026-4

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF KANAWHA, IOWA, BY AMENDING SECTION 3-3-5, AUTHORITY OF POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS

BE IT ENACTED by the City Council of the City of Kanawha, Iowa:

SECTION 1.

That Section 3-3-5 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Kanawha, Iowa, is amended to read as follows (new language underlined):

3-3-5 AUTHORITY OF POLICE AND FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS.

Provisions of this chapter and the Iowa law relating to motor vehicles and the law of the road shall be enforced by the officers of the police department. The officers of the police department are hereby authorized to direct all traffic by voice, hand, or signal in conformance with traffic laws. In the event of a fire or other emergency, officers of the police department may direct traffic as conditions require, notwithstanding the provisions of the traffic laws. Officers of the fire department may direct or assist the police in directing traffic threat or in the immediate vicinity.

In the event the City has no active police officers and law enforcement services are not being provided by another agency pursuant to a Chapter 28E agreement, the Mayor, Mayor Pro Tem, or City Clerk is hereby authorized to issue civil citations for violations of City parking ordinances only. Such authority shall be strictly limited to the enforcement of municipal parking regulations and shall not include the authority to enforce state traffic laws, moving violations, conduct traffic stops, or exercise general law enforcement or arrest powers.

(Code of Iowa, Sec. 321.229)

SECTION 2. REPEALER CLAUSE.

Any ordinance provision, or part thereof, which is inconsistent with this ordinance is hereby repealed to the extent of such inconsistency.

SECTION 3. SEVERABILITY.

If any section, provision, or part of this ordinance is adjudged invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such adjudication shall not affect the validity of the ordinance as a whole or any section, provision, or part thereof not adjudged invalid or unconstitutional.

SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This ordinance shall be in effect from and after its final passage, approval, posting, and publication as required by law.

Lodin moved to waive the second and third readings and approve Ordinance No. 2026-4. The motion was seconded by Jordanger.

Roll call vote:

Lodin — Aye

Fowles — Aye

Lang — Aye

Kraft — Aye

Jordanger — Aye

Motion carried.

The Mayor announced new council assignments as follows:

Kraft — Water, Sewer, Lagoon, Storm Water

Lodin — Streets, Sidewalks, Rolling Stock

Jordanger — City Hall, Garbage, Parks

Lang — Weed Control, Insect Control, Economic Development, NIACOG
Fowles — Website, City Logo

Fowles moved to approve the Water Main Shut-Off Valve Exercising Policy. The motion was seconded by Lang. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Jordanger moved approval of the appointment of Jonathan Schreur to the Kanawha Fire Department under probationary status. The motion was seconded by Fowles. All were in favor. Motion carried.

The change back from the payment policy was approved.

The Yealink phone system estimate was tabled until a new estimate including the Fire Station is received.

Discussion about a city cell phone was tabled until further information can be obtained.

The Mayor and Clerk will work together to draft a Peddlers, Solicitors, and Transient Merchants ordinance to present to Council.

A final decision on whether the City will accept the First Citizens building as a donation was tabled pending additional information.

The Police Chief position remains open and will be re-advertised.

A committee will begin marking diseased trees and creating a removal schedule beginning this spring/summer.

The City will seek community input on creating a city logo.

With no further business, Fowles moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Lodin. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Barb Baker, City Clerk

Randy Yeakel, Mayor