

A meeting of the Mayor's Veterans Council was convened at 3:00 PM/1500 at City Hall in Room 208, and was noticed to the public on February 26, 2026

The meeting was called to order at 3:00 PM/1500

In attendance: Chairman Lewis Chipola; John York; Steve Ordway; Doug Contrau; Mayor Donchess

Also in attendance: Emily Vassar-Rivas, Mayor's Staff

Chair Lou Chipola started the meeting with a request for an update on flagpoles identified as missing from two ball fields: Amherst Street ES and Lincoln Park; the Amherst Street field is a school property, so the Superintendent's Office will need to be engaged; the Lincoln Park property is a City parcel, and DPW Director Lisa Fauteux will be notified.

The next agenda item was the Memorial Day parade: everything is in order with the Parade Committee, and there was a general consensus that the Police horses will be a big hit again, especially with the kids.

Fourth of July events at Holman Stadium are slated to run as usual. E. Vassar will get an up-to-date run of show from Parks & Recreation. There was an inquiry about possible 250th Anniversary events; E. Vassar will follow up on that with K. Palmer, Events Planner in the Mayor's Office, as well as Parks & Rec. Veterans are very interested in collaborating on any slated events for the Anniversary.

The July 4 flag ceremony will take place on the Plaza as usual. The Mayor's Office will hold on to the "Betsy Ross flag" and coordinate with Facilities on the flag, and Risk will need the Plaza application.

Veteran parking signage at the VFW Post causes confusion, with one sign reading "Veteran Parking Only" and the other on the same pole reading "Two Hour Parking." Veterans are seeking clarity, and if the time limit does not apply to veterans, they are requesting that the signs be separated.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:10 PM/1510

The next meeting is scheduled for May 11 at 3:00 PM/1500 in Room 208 of City Hall