

**Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
1/09/18**

Mayor Maxson invited attendees to join in prayer offered by Charlotte Link, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Maxson called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:35 pm.

Attendance: Mayor Sam Maxson, Recorder Charlene Louk, Karen Phillips and Brenda Riley, Acting Police Chief Pat McCarty and Public Works (PW) Sup. Taylor Keith.

Absent: Councilors William Benincosa, Natalie Haddix, and Donald "Duck" Webster, Treasurer Julia Foley, Chief Godwin and Code Enforcer Keith Kesling.

Guests: Jim and Charlotte Link, and Raetta Alen.

Minutes: Minutes of the December 12th, 2017 Council meeting (attached) were approved after a motion by Karen Phillips and second by Brenda Riley.

Treasurer's Report: None

- Accounts payable (attached) were approved after a motion by Karen Phillips and second by Brenda Riley.

Unfinished Business: Brad Morris has agreed to split the total cost with the town for repair of his water drainage issue at 407 ½ Maryland Ave. Public Works will make the repair when weather and time allows.

- Review of the updated property maintenance ordinance(attached), and the section regarding unsafe structures (attached): Recorder Louk moved to table items until the next meeting for input from Code Enforcer Kesling. Motion carried after a second by Karen Phillips.
- Council discussed retaining a company specializing in municipal law to update town ordinances, which has not been done since 1994. Recorder Louk moved to go forward on getting bids to codify the town's ordinances. Motion passed after a second by Karen Phillips. Recorder Louk added council should update ordinances needing immediate attention and not wait for the professional review. For example, Mr. Kesling has made suggestions to add more specific wording/fees on some ordinances.
 - Raetta Allen asked how often property needs inspected in reference to her rental property? Mayor Maxson referred her to Mr. Kesling, who has already left her a business card. They have not yet been able to talk to each other.
 - Brenda Riley asked if Chief Haddix got an answer about insurance requirements on vacant properties? He left a message for the State Fire Marshall's office. He has not heard anything, probably due to the holidays.
 - Council again discussed vacant businesses, possible new businesses and pending loss of ResCare and Papa Johns. Mayor Maxson spoke to Dick Ritter, owner of ResCare about possible businesses to take over his space. Mr. Ritter is already working on this. Mayor Maxson plans to talk with Jim Lyons about seeking TIF funding to possibly develop his property along Rt. 98. Chief Haddix added from his perspective, the town should adopt the maximum fines for vacant buildings to encourage owners to rent or sell the property.

New Business:

- Mayor Maxson passed out a list of long term goals to start working on for 2018.
- He asked council to consider attending the State Auditor's budget workshop. He will email the dates. It is free to attend. Please contact Leslie Cummings to register.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept. Acting Chief McCarty reported things are going smoothly.

Fire Dept: Chief Haddix advised April 21st is the Ultimate Giveaway date. This year they have added a car and bigger cash prizes. Tickets are \$40 each or 3 for \$100. One day only, Jan. 20th, they will be 4 for \$100. They have been busy with all types of calls during this stretch of cold weather, including one for carbon monoxide with a positive outcome. He thanked PW Dept. for their assistance with that call.

Maintenance Dept : Mr. Keith reported PW has been very busy with salting/plowing, water breaks, and thawing frozen meters. The water break today was estimated at 60 gallons per minute. This should help decrease our water loss. They had the first meeting with Thrasher to discuss priorities and funding for the sewer project. We received the 2010 Escape from the Sheriff's Dept. It arrived with new tires and had been serviced. As soon as the title is received, it is ready to be used by Code Enforcement. Council thanked PW for keeping our streets clear of snow and ice.

Code Enforcement: No report

Public Comment: Raetta Allen advised she resides in Nutter Fort and has rental property here. She decided to attend council meetings for her own information. Council responded they are very glad to have her attend.

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor