

Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
11/14/17

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

Mayor Maxson called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:30 pm.

Attendance: Mayor Sam Maxson, Recorder Charlene Louk, Councilors William Benincosa, Natalie Haddix, Karen Phillips and Brenda Riley and Donald "Duck" Webster.

Also present: Treasurer Julia Foley, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Acting Police Chief Pat McCarty, and Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith.

Absent: Code Enforcer (CE) Keith Kesling, Police Chief Ron Godwin.

Guests: Jim and Charlotte Link, Linda Blake, Janet Conrad, Art and Libby Rohrbough, Linda Griffith.

Minutes: Minutes from the October 24th, 2017 Council meeting (attached) were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Brenda Riley and Karen Phillips.

Treasurer's Report: 1) Mrs Foley reported she is finally satisfied with the Time Warner/Charter audit outcome. We will be getting a one-time settlement for approximately \$6500.00 in January. This will go into the General Revenue Fund. There will also be ongoing revenue from subscribers and the home shopping network. There were close to 400 addresses missing, which have now been added. We will be able to review this list periodically for accuracy. She is uncertain of the amount of ongoing revenue until the agreement is drawn up. Our attorney will review the agreement once received.

2) Mayor Maxon, Mrs. Foley, Taylor Keith and members of the Sanitary Board met with four engineering firms and a rep from Region VI to discuss our needs for a sewer project. This would upgrade/replace old pipes causing considerable money and workload to maintain their current condition. This is in the planning stage to determine needs, costs and timelines.

- Karen Phillips moved to accept accounts payable (attached). Motion passed after a second by Brenda Riley.

Unfinished business: Council continued discussion from the last meeting on the draft ordinance to increase employee incentive pay. Councilor Webster asked if it could be tabled to the next meeting? He would like more time to review the budget figures (distributed and attached). It was pointed out that Mr. Webster was instrumental in initiating this in 2002 as a way to thank employees. Pros and cons of changing the ordinance were discussed. Once an additional amount is given, it would be difficult to decrease (if needed) without hard feelings. Recorder Louk called other municipalities in the county to ask how they handle this issue. Councilor Phillips voiced concern over recent loss of prominent businesses with no firm leads on replacing them. Councilor Haddix asked if Mrs. Foley could provide current revenue and expenses for the general revenue account, and any new revenue sources for review. Mrs. Foley will provide this. Guest Jim Link asked what has changed since a few meetings ago when a municipal fee was proposed to raise funds for paving, etc? If a fee is needed, why is there money available to add to incentive pay? The Mayor and Treasurer Foley explained only certain funds can be used for paving. There are rules for how funds in every account can be used. Item tabled until next meeting to allow review of all figures and information.

New Business:

- Mayor Maxson and Council welcomed Donald “Duck” Webster to his first meeting since selected to fill the vacant Council seat.
- The resolution to recognize the Robert C. Byrd Girls’ Flying Eagles Soccer Championship was postponed to the Nov. 28th meeting due to a team conflict. Council decided to have the presentation at 6 pm in the Fire Dept. to better accommodate the group. There will be a small reception to follow.
- Mayor Maxson read the Proclamation in harmony with Christian Heritage Week (Nov. 19-25) in West Virginia. The Proclamation was accepted after a motion by William Benincosa and second by Karen Phillips. A copy of the Proclamation will be sent to the six churches in town.
- The October Yard of the Month presentation was postponed to the next meeting.
- The 1st reading on ordinances to coincide with the International Property Maintenance Code was postponed. The information is not yet available from our attorney.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept: Lt. Pat McCarty thanked the group for supporting him as acting police chief during Chief Godwin’s recent illness. Mayor Maxson thanked Pat for accepting the position.

Fire Dept: 1) Chief Haddix thanked Lt. McCarty for doing an awesome job. 2) The Halloween Party went well. He shared a touching story from a teacher at Nutter Fort Grade School about a girl in her class who won a bike at the party.

3) Invitations will be sent out for the Fire Dept. Christmas party on Dec. 9th. 4) The Santa run is Dec. 10th in Quiet Dell and Nutter Fort. Nonperishable food items will be collected and shared with local food banks. They are hoping to increase collections from last year, which was much less than in past years. 4) Chief Haddix asked if we were having a tree lighting event? It was decided it was too late to plan something. Linda Griffith asked why we no longer have a parade? Natalie and Jeremy Haddix both responded. Attendance became very poor and it was impossible to get band participation due to the timing with football schedules.

Maintenance Dept: Taylor Keith reported 1) about 75% of potholes have been filled. 2) they picked up the new truck last Tuesday and are getting it ready to be put in service. 3) towns of Lumberport, Stonewood, Anmoore and Nutter Fort contacted the Harrison County Commission about surplus vehicles. The Sheriff’s Dept. is donating a 2011 Ford Explorer to us. Code Enforcement will be able to use the vehicle. 4) the 4th fire hydrant was installed, which should take care of a leak on Cherry Tree Drive.

Code Enforcement: Everyone is very appreciative of what Mr. Kesling is getting done.

Public Comment: Art Rohrbough thanked the city for getting the tree removed from Burton Ave. near his property. The Mayor added: the cost of removal was shared between the city and William Mullooly, as it was partially on both properties.

- Councilor Riley thanked first responders for the support and professionalism shown to her granddaughter during a recent auto accident.
- Mayor Maxson and Council congratulated Linda Blake on receiving the *Guardian Angel Award* at the 10th annual Celebration of Life for cancer survivors.

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:32 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor

