

Council Meeting  
Town of Nutter Fort  
11/28/17

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, Code Enforcer (CE) Keith Kesling, acting Police Chief Pat McCarty, and Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith.

**Absent:** Police Chief Ron Godwin.

**Guests:** Jim and Charlotte Link, Linda Blake, Janet Conrad, Rezin D. Hudkins IV.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the November 14th, 2017 Council meeting (attached) were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Karen Phillips and second by Brenda Riley.

**Treasurer’s Report:** None

- Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday, accounts payable were provided to Council at the meeting. After review, Karen Phillips moved to accept accounts payable (attached). Motion passed after a second by Brenda Riley.

**Unfinished business:** At 6 pm this evening, the State Champion Robert C. Byrd Flying Eagles Girls’ Soccer Team was honored with a reception. Mayor Maxson read a Proclamation and presented it to the team.

- Mayor Maxson and Linda Blake presented a Certificate and gift to Rezin Hudkins. The Hudkins family was selected for the October *Yard of the Month*.

**New Business:**

- The Sanitary Board recommends using Thrasher Engineering Services for the Town’s upcoming sewer project. Four firms responded with interest in the project. Their representatives met with the Sanitary Board and the Region VI representative. The Board used a point scoring system provided by Region VI, with Thrasher scoring the highest. Donald “Duck” Webster moved in favor of using Thrasher Engineering for the project. Motion passed after a second by Karen Phillips.
- The 2017/2018 General Revenue Account Budget Revision #2 was presented for consideration. It is an increase of \$34,400.00 over the original budget. Revision passed after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Brenda Riley.
- A vacancy was created on the Sanitary Board due to the resignation of Tom Ruziska. James Wolfe was appointed as a member of the Nutter Fort Sanitary Board after a motion by William Benincosa and second by Karen Phillips.
- A business license request for *Our Finds Your Treasure* at 1625 Buckhannon Pike was approved after a motion by Brenda Riley and second by Karen Phillips.
- Mayor Maxson has contacted 27 potential new businesses. Other ideas are welcome and he will contact them. He has developed a packet about the town for distribution

to potential businesses. Chief Haddix asked about enforcing the fines on vacant buildings? Mayor Maxson said these can be enforced immediately. Mrs. Foley cited the list of fines from the 2013 ordinance. Fines depend on the amount of time businesses have been vacant. There were questions about the possibility of daily or monthly fines? There were also questions about carrying insurance and utilities on vacant businesses? Chief Haddix will look into the questions on insurance and utilities.

**Committee Reports:**

**Police Dept:** Lt. Pat McCarty reported Officer McManus' cruiser sustained minor damage to the rear quarter panel during a vehicle pursuit on Nov. 21<sup>st</sup>. The pursuit was justifiable. Reports and paperwork are being completed. 2) They have responded to numerous calls on a residence in the 800 block of Ohio Ave. regarding possible drug activity. Officers were there yesterday and two children were removed from the residence by Child Protective Services. More warrants for this gentleman are expected. 3) The suspect from the recent Speedway robbery was located fairly quickly, once the video was shared via internet.

**Fire Dept:** 1) Chief Haddix reminded everyone of the Christmas Dinner on Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> and the Santa Run on Dec. 10<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Maxson thanked Chief Haddix for his help with the reception this evening and for the use of the Fire Department space.

**Maintenance Dept:** No report.

**Code Enforcement:** 1) Jim Link asked if there was a potential business going into the old Subway location? Mr. Kesling confirmed he has been working with a contractor for a hair salon at that location. 2) Mr. Gricewich (owner of vacant RG Motors building) appeared before Police Judge Jim Terango this evening and signed a personal bond. A trial date is not set. Mr. Kesling then met with Mr. Gricewich to discuss his plan to remove the unsightly vehicles from the property. He is hoping to sell these vehicles. All but 12 have been moved inside the building. He said he would need 6 months to get all the vehicles removed, and has some different ideas regarding the definition of a "building". Mr. Kesling told him this was not a reasonable amount of time, and he would discuss the options he proposed with Mayor Maxson. 3) Everyone thanked Mr. Kesling for his work and the progress being made. He noted it has been a joint effort with all departments working together. Mrs. Foley added that two more violations Mr. Kesling has been working on were sent out today.

4) 314 Burton Ave was sold. Weather permitting; the retaining wall should be repaired soon.

**Public Comment:** None

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:05 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

---

Charlene Louk, Recorder

---

Sam Maxson, Mayor