

**Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
02/13/18**

Mayor Maxson invited attendees to join in prayer offered by William 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, Brenda Riley and Donald "Duck" Webster. Treasurer Julia Foley, Acting Police Chief Pat McCarty, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith and Code Enforcer Keith Kesling.

Absent: Police Chief Ron Godwin.

Guests: Raetta Allen, Jim and Charlotte Link.

Minutes: Minutes of the 1/23/18 Council meeting (attached) were approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Brenda Riley.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Foley reported we are again eligible for a generator grant. We applied in the past, but were denied. She has heard we are more likely to receive the grant if it benefits Police and Fire departments.

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

Unfinished Business:

- Council discussed the proposed property maintenance ordinance. Samples from Nitro and the City of Clarksburg (attached) were provided. Mr. Kesling has reviewed them in detail and made suggestions (attached) to make them more complete and meaningful. Council agreed to take his suggestions, combining parts of both samples into one document. The final product will be put in ordinance form and returned to council for acceptance.
- Deteriorating street conditions and ways to fund paving were discussed again. Streets have gotten much worse due to the severe winter weather. Mayor Maxson would like to schedule a work session to educate the citizens and brainstorm ideas. Funding in other municipalities such as Stonewood and Bridgeport was mentioned. The possibility of being eligible for *Home Rule* in the near future, would benefit the town. We would like to be proactive when this happens. Mayor Maxson will talk to Johnnie Brown, so we can act on this immediately, if it passes in legislature.
- Mayor Maxson updated everyone on vacant properties and potential new businesses. The owner has indicated he is now willing to sell the *Grandma's House* property. Rescare will be moving the end of this month. Papa Johns is also leaving. Mayor Maxson has made numerous contacts for new businesses. He continues to work on this. Chief Haddix has been contacted by representatives from a company

who plans to drill new gas wells on property along Rt 98. There's a good possibility at least one of the wells will be in city limits.

New Business:

- A business license for Auto Enhancements, LLC at 415 Buckhannon Pike was approved after a motion by Brenda Riley and second by Karen Phillips.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept: Acting Chief Pat McCarty announced he accepted a job with the State of WV. He will work out a notice before leaving and is willing to help the department in any way possible. The hours for his new job will be flexible, so he could help provide coverage if needed. Pat thanked Council for giving him the opportunity with the Police Department. He is hopeful Chief Godwin will be back soon.

Fire Dept: Chief Haddix reported ticket sales for the Ultimate Giveaway on April 21st are going well. Matthew Keith has been working hard to get sponsorships and extra prizes, which will help keep expenses down. Also, since heavy rain is expected the next few days, Chief Haddix wants to make us aware they will pump basements out, but not until the rain subsides. This issue has come up in the past.

Maintenance Dept : Taylor Keith reported they have been trying to catch up on problems stemming from sustained below freezing temperatures such as water breaks and frozen meters. There have been numerous complaints about road conditions. They will be using cold patch on some of the worst potholes as soon as weather permits. He knows this is not a permanent fix, but will help temporarily. Thrasher is on board for the sewer project. They are ready to do dye and smoke tests.

Code Enforcement: Mr. Kesling has nothing new to report, other than information above regarding the property maintenance ordinances.

Public Comment: None

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7: 20pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor