

**Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
3/27/18**

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 6:37 pm.

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

Treasurer Julia Foley, Chief Jeremy Haddix, Taylor Keith-PW Supervisor, Keith Kesling-Code Enforcement, Sergeant James Young,

Guests: Linda Blake, Janet Conrad, Jim and Charlotte Link, Lois Benincosa, Dianna Nuzum, Ronald Nuzum, Ronald Robinson, Monica Godwin, Dawn J. McClain, Kelly Stier, Raetta Allen and Bertis McCarty.

Minutes: There were two corrections to the 3/13/18 minutes: 1) Mrs. Foley advised Raetta Allen was not in attendance 2) Councilor Haddix asked for a change in wording of the motion to place \$40,000.00 from the budget into a separate account for paving. Natalie Haddix moved to accept the 3/13/18 minutes with corrections. Motion passed after a second by Karen Phillips.

Treasurer's Report:

- There will be a grand opening for *The Chiropractic Care Center*, 200 Rt. 98, Suite #105, on Friday, April 6th at 11 am. Council is invited to attend.
- There is a request for a business license, not listed on the agenda. It is for *Rustic Roots Beauty Bar* located at 1701A Buckhannon Pike.
- Mrs. Foley passed out a report showing account balances, major expenditures and purchases from 2013 to present. She clarified questions about the unencumbered balance, funds for paving, and verified the proposed Police Dept. budget reflects salaries for a fully funded department.
- Accounts payable (attached) were approved after a motion by "Duck" Webster and second Karen Phillips.

Unfinished Business:

- Council discussed a change from bimonthly meetings to monthly. A second meeting would be arranged if a subject requires immediate attention. Janet Conrad asked what council members are paid and about duties of council members, in addition to council meetings? Salary amounts and additional duties were shared with the guests. Recorder Louk moved to try meeting monthly, beginning the second Tuesday of April, and re-evaluate in six months. Motion passed by majority vote after a second by Brenda Riley, with "Duck" Webster voting in opposition.
- The possibility of initiating a municipal fee to raise funds for paving was discussed at length in the workshop prior to this Council meeting. Mayor Maxson reminded everyone all suggestions will be considered. Mrs. Foley will research low interest loans and available bonds. Ideas for a fee structure will be determined. Information will be presented at a council meeting as soon as available.

- Mrs. Foley advised that by law, Council must meet to *Lay the Levy* on the 3rd Tuesday in April. The meeting will be in City Hall at 9:30 am on April 17th.

New Business:

- Donald “Duck” Webster moved to approve a business license for *Rustic Roots Beauty Bar*, 1701A Buckhannon Pike. Motion passed after a second by Karen Phillips.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept: Sergeant Young reported things are going well. They are still watching a few houses in town for potential illegal activity.

Fire Dept: Chief Haddix updated the group on the recent fire that destroyed the press box at Frank Loria Field. The cause of the fire was deemed “undertermined” by the Fire Marshall, due to the severe amount of damage.

- They have been helping Clarksburg FD (with our boat) the last three days in a search for a body the West Fork River. The body was originally seen near the Adamston bridge.
- Sales are going well for the April 21st Ultimate Giveaway tickets.

Maintenance Dept : Tayor Keith reported they have been working with Thrasher group the last three weeks, in preparation for the upcoming sewer project.

Code Enforcement: Mr. Kesling reported things are going smoothly.

Public Comment: Linda Griffith reported a situation with huge amounts of trash, old furniture and bedding on the corner across from the Post Office. There are five apartments in the building, which appear to be unmaintained. The large amounts of trash are a regular occurrence. Mr. Keith added this is an ongoing problem from when a dumpster was there. It was removed some time ago when the property owner refused to pay for it. Code Enforcer Kesling said he has addressed this with the owner and still working on it. This is an area where we don’t have an ordinance to address the specific problem.

Monica Godwin asked if we had seen the ordinance adopted by Clarksburg regarding drug houses? Mayor Maxson said we have looked at it. The ordinance basically says landlords will be penalized if they do not evict tenants in a set amount of time, when there is evidence of drug activity. Sergeant Young added there has been discussion the ordinance may be unconstitutional.

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor