

**Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
04/10/18**

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 6:31 pm.

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

Treasurer Julia Foley, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith and Code Enforcer Keith Kesling.

Absent: Police Chief Ron Godwin.

Guests: Raetta Allen, Linda Blake, Monica Godwin, Linda Griffith, Jim and Charlotte Link, Ron and Dianna Nuzum, Mike Curran and Bernie Fazzini.

Minutes: Minutes of the 3/27/18 Council meeting (attached) and Workshop (attached) were both approved after a motion by Brenda Riley and second by “Duck” Webster.

Treasurer’s Report: Mrs. Foley provided Council with a copy of the approval letter from the State Auditor’s office for the 2018/19 budget. Council will have a brief, open meeting on 4/17/18 at 9:30 am to “Lay the Levy”, as required by law. It will be held in City Hall.

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

Unfinished Business:

- There was continued discussion of the proposed municipal fee for paving. Mrs. Foley reported they have researched other cities and like the structure of Huntington’s ordinance. There is a set residential fee, and a commercial fee based on square footage of buildings. Huntington charges .0662 cents per square foot. We are considering .050 cents. This is approximately \$15.79 for a 30 x 40 foot building. Town owned businesses, including the library would be exempt.
 - >There was one public comment concerning the commercial fee. Also, Ms. Godwin asked for clarification of the fuel fee, and how the residential fee will be assessed?
 - >The Assessor’s office is getting square footage of commercial buildings for us.
 - >Mrs. Foley is still researching low interest loans to use for paving.
 - >Natalie Haddix moved adopt an ordinance to add a municipal fee for paving and road improvement only. Residential fee will be \$10.00 per month. Commercial property will be charged .050 cents per square foot of the building. Motion passed after a second by Brenda Riley. Possible exemptions such as Bi-County Nutrition were mentioned. These will be considered in details of the ordinance.

New Business:

- Mayor Maxson read a proclamation for Autism Awareness Day on 4/14/18. The proclamation was passed after a motion by Karen Phillips and second by “Duck” Webster. Linda Blake and the Beautification committee will decorate the island with an Autism theme.

Incidental Information: The Mayor asked Council to try and attend *Leadership Day* at Nutter Fort Primary on 4/27/18. Information with an RSVP request is attached. Jim Hunt is doing an Amazing Cities presentation on 4/13/18 at Bridgeport Conference Center. Any Council member may attend. There is a Mayor's Association meeting tomorrow evening. The Chiropractic Care Center had their ribbon cutting last Friday. A coffee/pastry shop with a drive-through is planned in the old *Hot Spot* site on Rt. 20.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept: Mayor Maxson read Chief Godwin's written report (attached): the Dept. received money from the GHS Program to enforce speed limits, DUI's, seatbelts and distracted driving for April, May and June. Chief Godwin has been catching up on paperwork for tickets written. He has contacted a couple of landlords about possible drug activity. The landlords have advised him they will start the eviction process on the renters. They are working on getting dead storage vehicles located and removed. Officers will be attending training before July 1 to keep certifications current. Some training may be held here. He is working on state bids needed to purchase new police vehicles in the future.

Fire Dept: Chief Haddix: ticket sales for the Ultimate Giveaway on 4/21 are going well. The Zoning Board met on 3/28/18. They addressed and authorized both variance requests.

Maintenance Dept : Taylor Keith reported Clarksburg Asphalt is starting up, so they will be patching as soon as the weather allows.

Code Enforcement: Mr. Kesling has been addressing some complaints. Building permits have increased with the better weather. A house on Maryland Ave. may be demolished with a possible new structure. Related variance requests may need to go before the zoning board.

Public Comment: Mr. Fazzini admired Council for moving forward to generate funding for streets. He knows it is difficult to impose taxes or fees on residents and businesses. He asked to stay after the meeting and campaign for re-election to the Harrison Co. Commission. Mrs. Link stated that none of the Nutter Fort vacant property is on the Harrison County Development Authority website. Mayor Maxson is aware and has tried to follow-up on this. Mr. Fazzini said the person to contact is Jackie Tennant. She took Jamie Metz' place. Mayor Maxson will contact her about this.

Ron Nuzum voiced a safety concern about the absence of pedestrian right-of-ways on Rt. 20. The Mayor and Chief Haddix said we addressed with the state in the past and were turned down. Mayor Maxson will request this again. It would be especially helpful near the park. Natalie Haddix asked this question for Dave Wine: can the Community Garden have fruit trees/bushes? He also asked if there was any interest to track history and progress of the town? It was suggested this request be added to the Nutter Fort Facebook page. Mayor Maxson mentioned that John White, a local contractor offered to do light maintenance for residents who can't otherwise afford it.

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7: 32pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor

