

**Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
6/12/18**

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, Donald "Duck" Webster. Treasurer Julia Foley, Chief Jeremy Haddix, Taylor Keith-Public Works (PW) Sup., Keith Kesling-Code Enforcement.

Guests: Charlotte and Jim Link, Shirley Sheets, Kathy Powell, Linda Blake, Raetta Allen, Denver D. Atkinson, Ron Nuzum, Dianna Nuzum and Dave Nuzum.

Minutes of the May 8th meeting (attached) were approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Brenda Riley.

Treasurer's Report:

- Mrs. Foley looked into FDA funding. We may be eligible to get 15% off a cruiser purchase.
- The Sewer project will be discussed with Thrasher Engineering and our accountants at the Sanitary Sewer meeting June 14th at 9 am. Everyone is invited to attend.

Accounts payable (attached): approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by "Duck" Webster.

Unfinished Business:

- Donald "Duck" Webster moved to accept the 2nd reading on an ordinance implementing a municipal fee allocated for paving and street improvements, with a second by William Benincosa. Mrs. Sheets asked how will the fee be assessed on office space in her home? Mrs. Foley explained there would be a \$10.00 residential fee, plus the square footage of the office multiplied by .05 per sq. ft. This is defined in the ordinance. Mayor Maxson then asked for a vote. Motion passed by unanimous vote.
- William Benincosa moved to accept the 2nd reading on the 2% employee wage increase for FY2018/2019. Motion passed after a second by "Duck" Webster, with Councilor Haddix abstaining due to conflict of interest.
- Suggested revisions have been made after discussion at the May 8th meeting, to the ordinance creating a crime-free housing and rental housing registration program. Wording in the ordinance now requires filing *two written complaints* instead of *two verbal complaints*. Mrs. Sheets asked for assurance that landlords will be called initially, before the Police and Code Enforcement take action on said complaints. Mrs. Foley assured her, the Police always attempt to contact landlords first. Mayor Maxson will confirm this with Chief Godwin. Raetta Allen provided a website, AGO.WV.gov, containing laws for landlords. The 1st reading of the ordinance with edits, was passed after a motion by Brenda Riley and second by Charlene Louk. Karen Phillips, William Benincosa and "Duck" Webster abstained, as owners of rental property.

New Business:

- Barbara Gorby of 134 PA Ave. is the recipient of *Yard of the Month for June*. She was unable to attend this evening. The Mayor will hand deliver her certificate and gift.
- Mrs. Foley explained final budget revisions to for FY 2017/2018 General Revenue and Coal Severance budgets. The revisions show final increases in both revenues and expenditures from estimates previously approved. Both budget revisions approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Brenda Riley.
- A license for LoCastro Piano and Instrument Lessons, LLC at 100 Burton Ave. was approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Charlene Louk. The location is zoned as *business* & the WV State Tax Dept. has issued a WV Business Registration to this business at this address.
- An itinerate license approval for Smokin' Bear BBQ at 1304 Buckhannon Pike was approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Karen Phillips.
- An itinerate license approval for AB Codys Firework Sales @ 500 Buckhannon Pike, next to United Tile & Carpet was approved after a motion by "Duck" Webster and second by Brenda Riley.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept: Mrs. Haddix read a written report from Chief Godwin (attached). Highlights: New custom built rifles are on order > Bruce Kidd's stolen trailer and ATV, and Ronnie Phillips' tires and rims have been recovered. Charges are forthcoming > He and Mr. Kesling have been working to get the dead storage vehicles under control > The GHS has given them five new laptops. Vehicle mounts were purchased. We are learning a new computer program for tickets > During a traffic stop, Sgt. Shingleton made an arrest for possession of meth, and a felon in possession of a firearm. Arrests have been made for a variety of offenses as well as citations for speeding and cell phone use. Calls continue to rise > Taser training was held 6/3 and 6/6. We will have weapons training by the end of the month > Chief Godwin will be contacting Jenkins Ford by month's end regarding new vehicles.

Fire Dept: Chief Haddix is waiting for pricing to come back for a ladder truck.

Maintenance Dept: Taylor Keith will be submitting measurements to JF Allen to get quotes on our paving project for this year. Taylor and Mayor Maxson met with two separate DEP reps about seepage on upper Bagwell Ave. Mayor Maxson will follow-up with the rep for abandoned mines if he doesn't get the report in the next few days.

Code Enforcement: Mr. Kesling has been dealing with several grass complaints, and building permit applications. We are waiting on comments from Attorney Brown regarding 302 WV Ave., before we can take action. He will have something for us by the next meeting.

Public Comment: Denver Atkinson spoke to clarify terms for the Library board of trustees and the State and Library Commission Codes governing them. There are five voting members with staggering terms. Council members attending the board meetings will be a liaison to the Library in a non-voting capacity. Meetings are at 6 pm on the third Monday of the month. Natalie Haddix no longer has time to attend. Brenda Riley will try to attend as a council liaison.

Mr. and Mrs. Link ate at Smokin' Bear BBQ in Bridgeport and said it was wonderful. Staff told them they had been very busy at their Nutter Fort location.

Incidental information: There's no news on the crosswalk for Rt. 20. The need has grown with the park being busier, and people crossing Rt. 20 to businesses. It's also an issue every day when groups from the day care cross over to the park. Gino Colombo is working on this at the Mayor's request. Hopefully, he can talk to the right people to make this happen. Chief Haddix spoke to Chief Godwin about this after the last council meeting. A crosswalk was proposed in the past, but was denied by the state.

Mrs. Louk asked if there is a plan in place to be sure we don't go over budget for the Blackberry Festival. We have an obligation to the citizen's to not overspend the Town's funds. The Town provides Public Works assistance the week prior to the festival for set-up, and after, for tear down. There is also a \$2700.00 budgeted for Police and Public Works coverage during the Festival. Staff are offered comp time or paid overtime once they have worked their 40 hours that week. She asked if staff can be staggered, so they are not there at the same time. Mayor Maxson said they did not go over budget last year, and it shouldn't be a problem this year. Mr. Keith asked for guidance, so he is not put in the middle. It was suggested the Festival provide volunteers/workers, or pay costs over the budgeted amount. Mayor Maxson said it's impossible to get volunteers, and the Festival has no extra funds. He assured everyone they would not go over budget.

Mr. Webster asked about the new gas lines proposed for Ohio Ave. He is concerned new paving may be ruined when Dominion digs for new gas lines. Mr. Keith is aware of proposed areas for the new lines. He plans to avoid paving those streets at this time if at all possible.

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:26 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor