

**Council Meeting  
Town of Nutter Fort  
07/11/17**

Council was sworn in by Municipal Judge Jim Terango followed by a brief reception. Mayor Maxson invited attendees to join in prayer offered by Councilor Benincosa, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting was called to order in council chambers at 6:50 pm.

**Attendance:** Mayor Sam Maxson, Recorder Charlene Louk, Councilors William Benincosa, Bruce Kidd, Karen Phillips and Brenda Riley.

**Also present:** Acting Maintenance Supervisor Taylor Keith.

**Absent:** Councilor Natalie Haddix, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Treasurer Julia Foley, Maintenance Supervisor Jim Wolfe and Code Enforcer Keith Kesling.

**Guests:** Janet Conrad, Cynthia Lafferty, Rick Lafferty, Linda Blake, Charlotte Link, Jim Link, Dave Franke, Kandy Franke, Russell Carlomany, Rose Carlomany, Rose Mary Mihaliak, Jim Riley, Payton Riley, Lois Benincosa, Marilyn Kidd and Audrey Patterson.

**Minutes:** Minutes from the June 27th meeting were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by William Benincosa and second by Brenda Riley.

**Treasurer's Report:** None.

- Accounts payable were not available due to illness and absence of two clerical staff. This item was tabled until the next meeting.

**Unfinished business:** None

**New Business:**

- Rick and Cindy Lafferty of 506 Illinois Ave. were presented a certificate and gift by Mayor Maxson and Linda Blake for *Yard of the Month*.
- General Revenue Account Budget Revision #1 and Coal Severance Account Budget Revision #1 were passed after a motion by Bruce Kidd and second by Karen Phillips.
- Business license approval for Door to Door sales of educational systems was tabled until further research is done on the provider.
- License approval for *Out of the Way Pet Grooming* at 200 Rt. 98 and *K&R Family Flea Market* at 1623 Buckhannon Pike were approved after a motion by Bruce Kidd and second by Karen Phillips.
- Executive session to discuss Maintenance Supervisor wage and possible hiring of additional maintenance personnel tabled until all other business is completed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Police Dept:** Councilor Riley asked for Nutter Fort's policy on fireworks? Chief Godwin advised it is illegal to use fireworks that leave the ground, even though they are now legal to purchase in WV. Frequent fireworks use for several days before and after July 4<sup>th</sup> led to numerous complaints of noise, with subsequent police follow-up.

**Fire Dept:** No report

**Maintenance Dept:** Mayor Maxson introduced Taylor Keith as the new Maintenance Supervisor. He is replacing Jim Wolfe who is retiring on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Taylor thanked council

for this opportunity. He reported two water leaks were repaired last week. One occurred on Kentucky Ave. due to Dominion digging into a line. The second on Thomas Ave, which had been a deep leak that finally surfaced. The leak accounted for 50,000 gal per day, which is a good portion of our water loss never accounted for until the leak was found. Taylor just passed his certification for Waste Water Operator. He or someone should now get Water Distribution (WD). He believes there should be two persons certified for each of the required courses. He is working with Jim Johnson from WV Rural Water to adopt the required Standard Operating Procedures and Guidelines.

**Code Enforcement:** Mayor Maxson announced Keith Kesling is the new Code Enforcement Officer. He has been working closely with Keith and things are getting done. The house at 314 Burton Ave. is in foreclosure with a holding company in Atlanta, GA. Mayor Maxson has been working with them to try and get the retaining wall repaired. The abandoned cars on Burton Ave. reported at the last meeting have been moved.

**Public Comment:** Linda Blake reported progress on the Community Garden is slow. She asked if the banner could be angled to be more visible coming up the hill. Maintenance will adjust the sign. Linda would like to have a ribbon cutting ceremony. Date to be determined. Linda is looking for a few strong volunteers to help concrete posts into the ground for the fence. Bruce suggested asking a few of the firemen to assist. Taylor will talk to them about it. A grant was awarded for a \$1372.00. Part of the grant requirement is to provide a couple of higher boxes for handicap accessibility by 2018.

**Executive session:** Council voted to move into executive session after a motion by Bruce Kidd and second by Karen Phillips. Councilor Haddix joined the session via phone. Council and Taylor Keith convened to discuss:

- 1) Possible wage increase for Taylor Keith, as he has assumed most of the supervisor duties at this time. Mr. Keith shared needs, ideas and goals for the maintenance department going forward.
- 2) Hiring of additional staff in Maintenance Dept.
- 3) Council excused Mr. Keith during discussion of current rates of pay and the current budget. Mr. Keith returned following the conversation.
- 4) All the figures must be discussed with Treasurer Foley before a decision is made.

Council voted to conclude executive session after a motion by Bruce Kidd and second by Karen Phillips.

Having no further business, the meeting was adjourned by acclamation at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Charlene Louk, Recorder

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Sam Maxson, Mayor