

# The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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REV. CHARLES T. CEPHAS, SR.  
MAYOR  
JOHN H. AVERY  
TOWN MANAGER  
ROBERT MERRIKEN  
TOWN ATTORNEY

COUNCIL MEMBERS  
DAVID HIGGINS  
BONNIE FRANZ  
RUSSELL C. MURPHY, JR.  
JOCK ORR  
EARL H. MURPHY, JR.

## MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING May 8, 2023

6:00 PM Call to Order

Opening Prayer – Rev. Dickerson

Roll Call - Councilmembers present; E. Murphy, Higgins, Orr, Franz, R. Murphy, Mayor Cephass, Attorney Merriken and Manager Avery

Approval of Agenda - Motion Higgins, second E. Murphy, vote 5/0.

Approval of Minutes – None

Mayor's Report – Mayor Cephass introduced Principal Vaughn Evans. He was presented with a proclamation, and key to the city, recognizing his leadership and being a role model to the youth. A proclamation was presented to Pastor Brooks recognizing her dedication to the community and citizens of Hurlock. Hurlock Elementary Principle Bobby Helgason was presented a proclamation for his efforts to help shape the youth of North Dorchester.

Police Report – Chief Jones read the April Police Report. Orr asked if an accident was the result of speed? Would a reduced speed limit have made a difference? Chief answered not in this case. State Highway should consider a reduced speed limit in the area coming into town. Cephass said the blinking light intersection has been a concern for 20 years. Higgins asked are the accidents being documented? Answer is yes they all are.

Manager's Report – Avery said that the walking trail and Prospect Park grants have preliminary approval. The projects are to the board of public works for funding approval. Trees will be planted in the rear of the Memorial Park by 3<sup>rd</sup> graders from the elementary school. The trees are being supplied from a school program. Perennial plants are to be planted by the local 4-H Club in the front of the park. The town will purchase the plants.

County Council Lenny Pfeffer said a McDonalds franchise has been asked to look at Hurlock for a possible location. The County has asked SHA to put a roundabout on their priority list for the Dockins intersection. He has asked SHA to try to push the planned pedestrian walkway project along. It is almost definite that there will be a big property tax increase next year. Orr asked how is the property tax differential calculated?

Avery mentioned that he is looking into a grant to renovate the community center.

Avery said the budget is ready for a vote if there are no further questions. Franz motion to approve the Budget Ordinance, second Orr, Roll Call vote:

R. Murphy	Aye
Franz	Aye
Higgins	Aye
E. Murphy	Aye
Orr	Aye

Comments: Franz asked about June 17<sup>th</sup> for the Community Yard Sale. Higgins said it is great to see people at the meeting, "we are working for you".

Cephas mentioned the need for sewer capacity and growth. We need to do strategic planning.

May 22<sup>nd</sup> will be a work session.

7:24 Motion to Adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
 John Avery  
 Town Manager

  
 Mayor Cephas:

Councilmembers:

  
  
  
  
