

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

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING April 11, 2022

COUNCIL MEMBERS
CHARLES CUMMINGS, PRESIDENT
BONNIE FRANZ
EARL H. MURPHY
RUSSELL MURPHY
JOCK ORR

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Cephas

Opening Prayer – Rev. Dickerson

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

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

Approval of Minutes – Open Session March 28, 2022 Motion E. Murphy, second Franz, vote 5/0.
Work Session April 4, 2022 Motion E. Murphy, second Cummings, vote 5/0.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Cephas suggested Reginald Parker for the Ethics Commission, Council vote 5 in favor 0 opposed to appoint Reginald Parker. Mayor Cephas swore in Norman (Gene) Cheesman for the Planning Commission.

Police Report – Chief Jones gave the report for March. He added vehicles had been tampered with on Willow, Oak and Broad streets. He reminded people to keep their cars locked.

Town Manager Report – Avery reported that one of the wells had to be pulled out for service due to having developed a noise. The other well was scheduled for routine service but that had to be delayed. E. Murphy asked if funds had to be added to the budget for vehicles. Avery said not at this time.

County Councilman Pfeffer – Pfeffer said that the County is having the same problem finding vehicles. There are none available anywhere. There is nothing to report pertaining to north county.

Old Business – Avery described the changes that were done to the draft budget following the budget work session. All discussed changes were made. Orr suggested changing line item 5245 from ALS to Ambulance. Avery said that will be done.

Comments – E. Murphy said the next LESMA meeting will be in Ocean City at Seacrets. Cephas said he met with Recs and Parks staff; they got a lot done about north county. He has talked with Food Lion and hopes to meet with them in June. Hurlock needs new business; Hurlock is not okay the way it is. The Chinese restaurant

has closed, he doesn't know why.

Cummings met with the principal of North Dorchester High School to get more students involved in sports and other activities. Cummings would like to see them involved with the Council.

Cephas wants to have a meeting with the community. He wants to give them the opportunity to ask questions. He has heard a lot of negative comments and rumors. He said he will not fire anyone. He has asked for a grant writer. He suggested May 9th for the meeting. Avery said that is a Town Meeting night. May 16th was suggested.

R. Murphy thanked Gene Cheesman for volunteering to stay on the Planning Commission. It is hard to find volunteers nowadays.

A resident from Thompson Street said she has concerns about speeding there especially with children playing. Avery said signs would be placed there. There are concerns about the blinking light intersection and a sign at Goose Creek that blocks viability as well.

Jack Lewis said it would be nice to hear what the individual Councilmembers do.

Gene Cheesman said the stop signs at School and Charles Streets are run a lot.

Lenny Pfeffer urged completing the survey for the County. They are in the process of creating a police accountability board. It is mandated by the State. Chief Jones said it is hard to find volunteers.

Motion was made by Cummings to go to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the strategy of potential purchase of the old hardware store. Second by E. Murphy, 5 in favor/0 opposed. The Council will not return to open session.

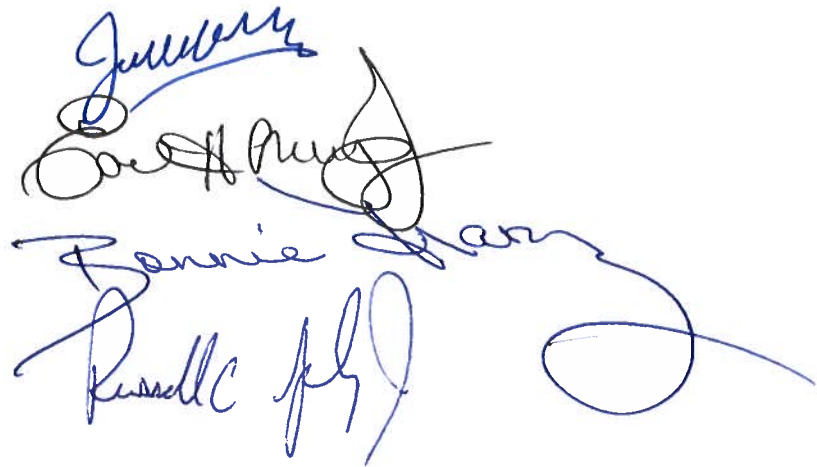
6:48 Adjourn to Closed Session.

Respectfully Submitted:

John Avery
Town Manager

Mayor Cephas:

Councilmembers:

Handwritten signatures in blue ink for the Councilmembers. The signatures are: John Avery (Mayor), Gene Cheesman, Lenny Pfeffer, and two other council members whose names are not clearly legible.