

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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CHARLES T. CEPHAS, SR.
CHARLES A. CUMMINGS
BONNIE FRANZ
EARL H. MURPHY
RUSSELL C. MURPHY, JR.

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING April 22, 2019

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Henry

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer – Rev. Bovankovich gave the opening prayer.

Roll call, present: Councilmembers; R. Murphy, Cummings, Franz, and Rev. Cephas, Mayor Henry, Attorney Merriken and Manager Avery

Approval of Agenda: Motion Cephas, second R. Murphy, approved 4/0

Approval of Minutes: April 8, 2019 Open Session – Franz/Cummings, approved 4/0.

Mayors Report: Mayors Prayer Breakfast is may 2nd. Habitat is looking for volunteers for work crews for every Tuesday and 1st Saturday of the month. Earl Richmond passed away yesterday (Sunday April 21) He was a veteran of World War II, he served on PT Boats in the Pacific. He was the Grand Marshall for the Christmas Parade 2 years ago.

Public Works Report: Avery reported that the work on the train cars is progressing, grass cutting has started and the Park Fountain is being sand blasted and repainted.

Police Department Report: Chief Hutton gave the report for April.

Fire Department: Chief Trego gave a brief report with a list of upcoming events.

Old Business: Text amendment 2019-5 for the Hurlock Zoning Ordinances to amend existing 2 family dwellings was introduced. Rev. Cephas was the introducing Councilmember. The purpose of this amendment is to allow non-conforming two-family dwellings to be renovated after being idle for more than two years.

Ordinance 2019-4 was introduced April 8, 2019 by Councilman Cephas for the purchase of 206 S. Main St. Councilman Cephas motioned to approve Ordinance 2019-4, second by R. Murphy.

Roll Call Vote:	R. Murphy	Aye
	Cummings	Aye
	Franz	Aye
	E. Murphy	Absent
	Cephas	Aye

The motion passed with 4 in favor, 0 opposed and 1 absent.

Community developments: Rev. Cephas attended DHCD training this day in Crownsville. The discussions centered on the rehabilitation of buildings. DHCD will be touring the Town and access needs going forward.

Avery said he had met with Habitat to discuss their future developments in Hurlock. They said they need local volunteers for construction. The crews that are building houses in town now are coming from Cambridge and St. Michaels. Without local volunteers they will not be able to continue their work in Hurlock. Avery said that the Habitat program in town was started under former Mayor Spratt and it would be a shame to lose the program due to lack of community support. He also said that if the residents want the Town to foster and grow it will require resident's involvement. People need to support their town.

New Business: Avery asked for approval to adopt the constant yield property tax of .8237/100 and maintain the commercial tax rate of 1.40. Motion to accept the rates by Cephas, second by Franz. Motion passed 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

Budget Ordinance 2019-6 was introduced by Councilman Cephas.

Councilman Cephas spoke on Social Services Programs. He provided reports on bills in the state legislature. Information is just to track progress. He also spoke on an MML legislative request form.

Jessica Redding was introduced and gave a report from Dorchester County Social Services. Cephas said it is very important to get accurate information for the census and provide good coverage for the town.

Councilman Cummings introduced the idea of recognizing the Hurlock Elementary School Safety Patrol. He would like to honor 15 members with proclamations and keys to the town. Cummings did research on Cancer Awareness and would like the Town to name January as a lavender month for Cancer Awareness. Cephas said cancer is a horrendous disease and made a motion to name January as Cancer Awareness Month, second by Cummings. Vote 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

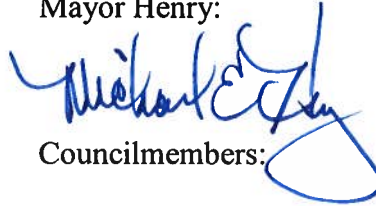
Comments: Cummings said the Little League parade was a success. He thanked the police and fire department. R. Murphy reminded people that it is grass cutting season and do not leave grass clippings in the street. Cephas hoped everyone had a wonderful Easter and mentioned the Citizens and Preachers Walk who walked and prayed together. He thanked the police for the assistance during the walk.

With no public comments the meeting adjourned at 6:48 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:


John Avery
Town Manager

Mayor Henry:


Councilmembers:

