

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

Post Office Box 327
Hurlock, Missouri 64643
410-943-4181
Fax: 410-943-8556
E-Mail: townofhurlock@townofhurlock.org

REV. CHARLES DICKERSON
Mayor
JOHN D. AVERY
Town Manager
ROBERT MURPHY
Councilman

CHARLES CUMMINGS
Councilman
BONNIE FRANK
Councilman
EARL H. MURPHY
Councilman
JOCK ORR
Councilman

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING August 8, 2022

6:00 PM Call to Order

Opening Prayer - Rev. Dickerson

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

Approval of Agenda - Motion Cummings, second R. Murphy, vote 4/0.

Approval of Minutes - Open Session June 27, 2022 Motion Orr, second E. Murphy, vote 4/0.

Mayor's Report - Mayor Cephas swore in Mr. Beverly Lake to the Ethics Commission. Mayor asked Eric Barnhart about the wastewater plant operations and needs. Response was the plant is running great, all upgrades have been done. Mr. Barnhart said his planned retirement is September 1st next year. Cephas said he talked to the owner of Chesapeake Waste. The cost for big totters for homes would be \$3 per month if put on the bill. Chesapeake asked about having a fuel surcharge to help with the increase in fuel costs. We met with Jeannie Ricco about parks and playgrounds. He also talked to DHCD about grants for home repairs. Also about natural gas and doing a community needs survey.

Fire Department - Chief Helmer gave a monthly report. Chief stated that they need to grow. They are starting to look at plans for a new station again. The Mayor asked the Chief to come up with a list of needs and costs. Chief Helmer said fuel costs on responses are way up.

Police Report - Chief Jones gave the June and July reports. National Night Out went very well despite the early rain. Officers are doing bike patrols.

Town Manager Report - Avery stated that the Board of Appeals approved the application to include 2 apartments for the construction plans for 102 Broad Street.

County Councilman Pfeffer – Pfeffer said that there is a real problem with the supply of power transformers. It is affecting development everywhere. He thanked Avery for going to the county work session. The county is in process of forming the state required Police Accountability Board. Pfeffer would like someone on the board from this area. Cephias said the acting County Manager should not be overlooked when the county solicits for a permanent manager. JC Collins stated that Hurlock needs to get out of the real estate business. Mayor Cephias said he is not in agreement with Koski's project being held up. Collins said the largest EMS usage is from assisted living senior complexes. EMS does not have enough staff for it.

County Councilman Pfeffer – The County Charter review committee came up with several ideas. Three of the Councilmembers voted against going forward with any of the suggested amendments. The Council (3 members) still does not like the police accountability board resolution. This was required to be adopted by July 1st. The Council allocated a large part of their ARPA funds to go to the Secretary wastewater plant. Hurlock's request for funding a SRO police vehicle was not approved. Mayor Cephias said we need the officer at the school. He said he will find a way to get the new library built.

Old Business – The Council approved a \$30 stipend per meeting for Hurlock commission members. E. Murphy introduced Ethics Ordinance 2022-5. Role call vote: R. Murphy Yea. Cummings Yea. E. Murphy Yea. Orr Nay.

Discussion of Charter Amendment Resolution moved to August 22.

Police Salaries – Cephias said law enforcement is the heart of a community. We can not afford to lose our officers to other jurisdictions. He is in favor of giving proper pay. R. Murphy said he wants to make sure the town can afford the raises without raising taxes. Cummings said loyalty is hard to find anywhere today. He is in complete favor of the proposed increases. E. Murphy said he was proud to vote for the budget. He thought the increases in the budget was sufficient, not now. Avery explained that there is only \$87,000 in contingency funds in the current budget. It is not enough to pay for the raises.

E. Murphy motion to accept the proposed police salaries, second Cummings, vote 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

Avery suggested a work session August 15. he will look into the budget to find some room prior to the work session.

Comments – Mr. Chris Adams said it is unfair that he has to pay a water bill for 100 Broad Street when he asked to have the water turned off. Avery explained that the town was unable to find the water valve and to shut the water off. Mr. Adams was aware of that and had a person living in the building anyhow. The tenant said he had been living there for 6 years and was paying rent. That is why Avery billed him for minimum water and sewer. The bill was then adjusted back to 1 year instead of 6 years. E. Murphy said if someone was living there they would have to have water. Mayor Cephias said it would be on the agenda for the next meeting.

JC Collins asked Pfeffer why is Dorchester County the only county in the state that is not in

compliance with police accountability requirement. Collins said Chief Jones has a good program and a very good department. He further added Avery has so many things going on and is doing a great job.

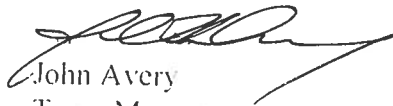
Monroe Quailes asked if the issue with Chris Adams was an ethics violation? Cephas said it will be on the next agenda

R. Murphy commented that there is a need for more volunteers.

E. Murphy said the next LESMA dinner will be August 18th in Vienna.

8:10 Motion to Adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted:


John Avery
Town Manager


Mayor Cephas:

Councilmembers:

