

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 February 11, 2019

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Henry

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

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

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

Approval of Minutes: January 14, 2018 Open Session – E. Murphy/Cummings, approved 4/0
January 28, 2018 Work Session – Cephas/E. Murphy, approved 4/0

Mayors Report: Mayor Henry said ethics training will be held at the town office March 13th at 6:00pm. This training is being provided by MML. Mayor Henry presented Country Chics with a 1st place award for Christmas decorations in the commercial category. He recognized employees; Alan Plutcuk, 5 years, Eric Barnhart, 25 years, and Elmer Dyes, 30 years, for their service.

Earl Murphy and Rev. Cephas presented recognition to Mayor Henry and Town Manager Avery for their service to the town.

Agenda Requests:

a. Mr. Roy Geiser from the accounting firm TGM Group presented the findings of the 2018 Audit. He confirmed that the Town has the highest level of assurance that can be given. He went through some of the pages in detail to show where the account balances were. Generally at the close of Fiscal Year 2018 the total of fund balances was 3.3 million all of which is in cash. He said the Town has incurred no new debt and paid down a significant portion of existing debt. He explained the new requirement to use GASB 75 this year and the results of the Town's OPEB liability. The net liability for post-employment benefits is \$2.5 million. The general fund balance increased by over \$400,000. The Town is very healthy.

b. Mr. Chris Hauge from Dorchester County Schools presented a construction update on the new North

Dorchester High School. The construction of the new school is on schedule and under budget. The building is closed in and 86% complete. A lot of remaining work will be done after this school session and before the next school year starts. R. Murphy asked if there could be a tour of the old building before its demolition? That can be considered Mr. Hauge said. Cephas explained that the Town is trying to start a museum and some artifacts from the old school could be used.

Police Department Report: Chief Hutton stated that there had been 9695 calls last year compared with 48,000 in Cambridge. 2 assaults with arrests and 2 thefts since the last meeting

Fire Department Report: Chief Trego said there were 28 calls with at least 1 piece of apparatus and 69 EMS calls in January.

Public Works Report – None

Old Business: Introduction of Ordinance 2019-1 for the purchase of 100 S. Main Street by Councilman Cummings at the cost of \$5,000 plus outstanding taxes and closing costs.

Cummings asked the Council if they are in favor of going forward with the salary structure that he proposed for the Council and Mayor. Cephas motioned to go forward with drafting the changes, seconded by E. Murphy. Motion passed with 4 in favor and 0 opposed.

New Business: Cephas said he went to a political breakfast in Delmar and asked them to be a share holder in the idea of a community center. There will be a meeting with USDA and Rural Development February 12th at 5:00pm at his church to develop ideas and funding for a community center. He also wants to look into affordable housing, there are homeless in Hurlock.

Council Comments: R. Murphy thanked everyone that got an award. Cummings said Tri-City is looking for umpires for Little League. It would be a couple of hours an evening and paid. Tri-City will hold a opening day parade April 12th. There is also a challenger league for children with disabilities. E. Murphy congratulated Country Chics, their decorations are always beautiful inside and out. He said there were some great ideas at the workshop January 28th. He also spoke on the dedication ceremony for Voter Reform dedicating part of Rt 331.

Avery announced that Spring Cleanup will be April 13th.

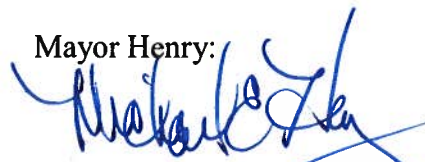
Adjourn 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:



John Avery
Town Manager

Mayor Henry:



Councilmembers:

Rev. Charles Cephas
