

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 May 9, 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 – Councilmember Earl Murphy

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

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

Approval of Minutes – Open Session April 25, 2022 Motion E. Murphy, second Cummings, vote 4/0.

Mayor’s Report – Mayor Cephas and Chief Jones recognized Jonathan Ishamel as the Outstanding Officer of the Year and Dawn Betton as the Police Employee of the Year. Officers Bayliss and Howard were promoted to Corporal. Public Works employee Brandon Hughes was recognized for 5 years of service to the town. Mayor Cephas displayed a plaque that was presented to the town by the fire department. He thanked Chief Jones for all his service to the town. There will be a meeting at town hall May 19th regarding the potential new library. He has high hopes for a new business for the old hardware store property.

Fire Department Report – None

Police Report – Chief Jones gave his monthly report.

Town Manager Report – Avery reported that MDE has scheduled a hearing regarding the towns spray discharge permit. It has been requested by Nanticoke River Keepers; it is about the waste the town has been receiving from Valley Proteins. It will be June 16th. The new submersible well pump should be installed in the next week. The replacement of the second one will follow that.

Avery said the ad has been in the paper about the hardware store property, to date there has been no response. E. Murphy motion to sell the property, second by Franz, vote 4 in favor, 0 opposed. Motion to appoint Mike Henry to the Planning Commission E. Murphy, Second Cummings, 4 in favor.

Avery presented a current Treasurers Report. The Town’s application to the MACo OPEB Trust is due to be voted on June 3rd. Dollar General submittals are complete, ground breaking should be within a few weeks.

County Councilman Pfeffer –Thanked Avery with the help with Valley Proteins to keep them in business. A lot of industry depends on them.

Old Business – Merriken described Commercial Signage Ordinance 2022-4. It is up for a vote. **Motion made by E. Murphy, second by Cummings. Vote 4 in favor, 0 opposed.**

New Business – Merriken described the proposed changes to the Ethics Ordinance requested by Cephas and Quales. They are suggesting changes to allow for the discharge of commission members and a 3-year statute of limitations. The proposal must first go to the state for approval then be approved by the town. Cephas said it should be looked into strongly who is on these boards. Merriken will work on draft changes and bring it back for discussion.

Comments – R. Murphy said it was a real honor to attend the fire department dinner. Franz mentioned the community yard sale is June 25th. Pfeffer said the County Charter needs to be evaluated every 10 years. He recommended Susan Dukes from Secretary. Cederic Turner has filed as candidate for Board of Ed Seat 4.

A Thompson Street resident again questioned the Goose Creek sign blocking the view of traffic. Chief Jones said the sign is in compliance.

Cephas said Delmarva Power is positive on the walking trail along part of Railroad Ave.

7:08 Adjourn

Respectfully Submitted:

Mayor Cephas: *Absent*


John Avery
Town Manager

Councilmembers:

