

# 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

COUNCIL MEMBERS  
DAVID HIGGINS  
BONNIE FRANZ  
RUSSELL C. MURPHY, JR.  
JOCK ORR  
EARL H. MURPHY, JR.

## MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING November 28, 2022

6:00 PM Call to Order

Opening Prayer – Earl Murphy

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

Approval of Agenda - Motion Orr, second E. Murphy, vote 5/0 with moving Council President under Old Business to New Business 12 (b).

Approval of Minutes – Open Session November 14, 2022 Motion E. Murphy, second Orr, vote 5/0.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Cephas spoke about the Frontier Girls Group saying they are wonderful young ladies. He is honored to recognize them. Councilman Higgins read the commendations. Mayor introduced Ms. Joslin Cain a 9<sup>th</sup> grader at NDHS. She has a 4.0 gpa and is an outstanding young lady.

Mayor Cephas spoke on he and Avery meeting with the library for discussion on the proposed new library. The mayor also went to a meeting at the elementary school for strategic planning for improvements in the upcoming year.

Agenda Requests – Ms. Linda Grahe spoke about the Woodsedge HOA and their regulations. They are asking that the town not approve building permit applications for homes in Woodsedge until their HOA has approved the plans. Attorney Merriken said it is not the towns job to enforce private covenants. Avery said that he has informed applicants in the past of the required HOA approval however that approval is not a criteria for issuing permits. Cephas said it is the towns responsibility to issue building permits not enforce HOA rules. After more discussion it was agreed that a line be added to building permit applications informing Woodsedge residents

of their required HOA review.

Police Report – Chief Jones said he and Avery met with SHA requesting a speed reduction on Rt. 392 in front of Dollar General. SHA said their reviews do not warrant a speed reduction. A suggestion was to revisit this in the future. Chief Jones reminded people to keep their vehicles locked.

Managers' Report – Avery asked about the annual holiday lighting contest. Councilmember Orr will take care of that. It will be for residents only. Avery asked about Santa letters? Councilman E. Murphy said they will be collected and answered as they have in the past. Avery mentioned the MDE hearing that will be conducted Dec. 1<sup>st</sup> at the town hall to take comments on the renewal of the town's spray discharge permit.

Lenny Pfeffer – Spoke on speed reduction on state roads and putting the request on the SHA priority list. The new County Council will be sworn in Dec. 6<sup>th</sup>. The two new members are Mike Detmer and Rob Krammer.

Chief Jones said that a press release is planned about the SRO at the Elementary School.

Old Business – Mayor Cephas asked to move forward with selecting Debra Camper and Saura Lake as members of two commissions. Ms. Camper introduced herself, she is an appeal attorney for the Maryland Dept. of Labor. Ms. Diane Miller introduced herself and said she is new to the area and loves the town. She will help in any capacity.

Motions for the following persons:

Chuck Cummings, Board of Appeals, E. Murphy/Higgins, 4/1  
Debra Camper, Ethics, E. Murphy/R. Murphy, 5/0  
Diane Miller, Planning & Zoning, E. Murphy/Orr, 5/0  
Saura Lake, Board of Appeals, E. Murphy/Orr, 5/0

**New Business – After some discussion motion to approve Resolution 2022-1, Open Meetings Act Designee, by E. Murphy, second Franz, vote 5 in favor, 0 opposed. The Resolution designating Cephas, E. Murphy, R. Murphy and Orr goes into effect immediately.**

**After Mayor Cephas' comments regarding the wording in the Charter about Council President, Orr motioned to select E. Murphy as Council President, second Higgins, vote 4/0, E. Murphy abstained.**

Comments – R. Murphy thanked the volunteers for their commitment. Franz wished good luck to all volunteers. Higgins said that tinsel town at the elementary school is open to all. E. Murphy said he is happy to be on the council with Mayor Cephas. He and his wife gave out over 40 thanksgiving dinners that had been donated. Councilman Orr said competition is stiff in Hurlock for the Christmas Lighting Contest.

Monroe Quailles said he is fighting pancreatic cancer. Please be patient with him on the Ethics Commission, he likes the job.

7:30 pm Motion to Adjourn.

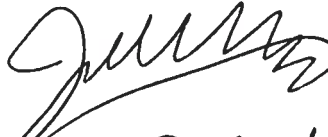



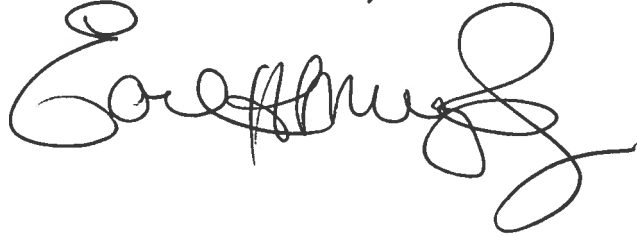
Respectfully Submitted:

  
John Avery  
Town Manager

Mayor Cephas:



Councilmembers:

**RESOLUTION NO. 2022-1**  
**OPEN MEETINGS ACT TRAINING DESIGNEES**

A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN OF HURLOCK DESIGNATING THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT TRAINEE THAT HAVE RECEIVED OR HAVE BEEN DESIGNATED TO RECEIVING TRAINING ON THE REQUIREMENTS OF THE MARYLAND OPEN MEETINGS ACT.

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of the Town of Hurlock desire to update the designees that have received or have been designated to receive training on the requirements of the Open Meetings Act as required by the Maryland Open Meetings Act.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF HURLOCK, A MUNICIPAL CORPORATION ORGANIZED IN THE STATE OF MARYLAND, AS FOLLOWS:

**Section 1.** That the Mayor and Council of the Town of Hurlock hereby designates the following individuals as having received or to receive training on the requirements of the Open Meetings Act as required by the Maryland Open Meetings Act:

Mayor Rev. Charles T. Cephas, Sr.  
Councilman Earl H. Murphy, Jr.  
Councilman Russell Murphy  
Councilman Jock Orr

**Section 2.** That this Resolution shall take effect upon its passage.

RESOLVED, this 28 day of November, 2022.

	Yea/Nay
David Higgins	<u>✓</u>
Bonnie Franz	<u>✓</u>
Earl H. Murphy, Jr.	<u>✓</u>
Russell Murphy	<u>✓</u>
Jock Orr	<u>✓</u>

I, Rev. Charles T. Cephas, Sr., Mayor of the Town of Hurlock, certify under the penalties of perjury that to the best of my knowledge, information, and belief that the foregoing Resolution is true in all material respects and was passed by the Council of the Town of Hurlock on the \_\_\_\_ day of November, 2022.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Rev. Charles T. Cephas, Sr.  
Mayor of the Town of Hurlock