

# 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 WORK SESSION January 23, 2023

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Cephas

Pledge/Prayer by E. Murphy

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

Agenda – Motion to Approve R. Murphy, second Franz, vote 5 in favor, 0 opposed.

Charter Amendment Considerations – Mayor Cephas spoke on the need to clarify when the council president is chosen. He said it should be done at the first meeting after an election not anytime you want. E. Murphy asked what is different now than when Cephas was chosen as council president. Cephas said he just wants a prescribed process that is clear. Orr said he is concerned over the possibility of a vacancy of the mayor and council president at the same time. Avery recommended that the council forward wording suggestions to him, he will consolidate and send to attorney to draft an amendment if desired.

Mayor Cephas expressed concerns over filling council vacancies. There had been discrepancies in the past, there was an opportunity to do it wrong. R. Murphy said the public should vote, there should be a time limit. Orr said why not do it the same as a vacancy of the mayor. E. Murphy said we have to follow the rules. Make the process right. The council is to forward suggestions to Avery.

Banner Project – E. Murphy said his boss has volunteered to fund part or all of the project. Cephas asked will there be a limit on where the service members are from, Hurlock or N. Dorchester? Cephas said Ms. Budd should come back in to an open session to discuss the questions. It will change the landscape; we need to be good stewards.

E. Murphy said he will contact her. Avery said he did not want he and Murphy doing the same thing.

Mayor Cephas said as a working council we are drawing the attention of a lot of other people. Broadband is coming to North Dorchester.

Adjourn 7:15 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

  
John Avery  
Town Manager

  
Mayor Cephas.

Councilmembers:

  
  
  
  
