

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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MAYOR
JOHN H. AVERY
TOWN MANAGER
ROBERT MERRIKEN
ATTORNEY

COUNCIL MEMBERS
CHARLES T. CEPHAS, SR.
CHARLES A. CUMMINGS
BONNIE FRANZ
EARL H. MURPHY
AMBER N. TRUXON

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING April 12, 2021

This meeting was closed to the public due to COVID-19. The meeting was programed to be live streamed through Town Hall Streams. Notice of the meeting and streaming was posted on the town message board and the town website. The agenda for the meeting was posted on the town website by Friday April 9, 2021.

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Henry

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

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

Approval of Minutes – Open Session March 8, 2021 Motion Murphy/Cephas, approved 4/0.
Work Session March 22, 2021 Motion Cephas/Cummings, approved 4/0

Mayor's Report – Mayor Henry and Chief Jones recognized Sergeants Matthew Mitton and Jacob Garvey who were recently promoted from corporals.

Replacement of former District 3 Councilmember Amber Truxon - **Councilmember Cephas motioned to select former District 3 Councilmember Russell Murphy to fill the vacant District Councilmember position. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Earl Murphy, with no discussion a roll call vote was taken:**

Cephas	Aye
E. Murphy	Aye
Franz	Aye
Cummings	Aye

Following the required unanimous vote Russell Murphy was sworn in as Councilmember for

District 3 by Mayor Henry. Councilmember R. Murphy said he looks forward to working together again,

Fire Chief Billy Colbourn thanked the Council for their support and presented the Council with a plaque. He said they responded to 290 fire calls in 2020 and 840 ambulance calls. They have smoke detectors for residents at the fire house. They are looking into and planning on rehabbing the yellow engine. The siren by the fire house has not been working. They believe it may have been hit by lightning and may cost about \$8,000 to repair. Cephias said the repairs should be done by the County, they have funds for that. Chief said the Ennals Road siren is not working also. Cephias said the Town should write a letter of support to the County requesting that the County should be responsible for the repairs. Cephias said maybe the Town could help if the County fails.

Police Chief Jones gave his report. Maryland Criminal Justice Network will be on u tube April 21st.

Avery gave the Public Works report; smoke testing on part of the sewer system is scheduled to be done. Stripping on Poplar and Mill Streets is scheduled for April 20. Emptying of the recycling bins is now being done 3 times a week. Avery explained the need to up-grade the side mower for the John Deere tractor to the type on an hydraulic arm. **Motion to purchase by Cephias, second Cummings, vote 5/0. Avery said that the roof leaks in public works building are getting worse and it is time to repair that roof. Motion to have a new metal roof installed over the existing on at a cost of \$20,000 by Cephias, second E. Murphy, vote 5/0.** A budget workshop, Fallfest and further work on the employee policy are to be discussed during the work session April 26.

Old Business – **Attorney Merriken described Ordinance 2021-1, sale of 106 Maryland Ave., that had been introduced by Cephias March 8, 2021. Motion to approve Cephias, second E. Murphy, vote 5/0.** In consideration of Resolution 2021-2, amending employee vacation and holiday policy, a consensus was to make the language a little clearer and bring it back for discussion at the next work session.

New Business – Budget Ordinance 2021-3 was introduced by Councilman Cephias. The Ordinance establishes the tax rates for FY 2022.

Cephias said he would like to present a power point at the next meeting on affordable housing. He would like to look into having a full time grant writer again. He wants to look into water and sewer upgrades. Economic development will draw people into town. He asked if the Enterprise Zone is still good, Avery answered it has expired but renewal is on hold due to COVID-19. The State is not recognizing deadlines at this point. Police may need an electric vehicle.

Mayor Henry said Spring Cleanup is the week of April 19th and rolloffs will be by the police station Saturday April 24th.

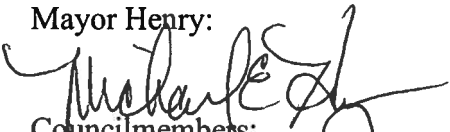
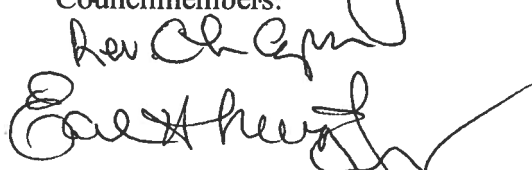

Comments – Cummings said he is glad Russ Murphy is back on the Council. R. Murphy said he

is glad to see Triangle Park playground has been completed. He would like to recognize property owners for their yards again. Franz welcomed Russ Murphy back on the Council as well. E. Murphy stated that the train cars have been moved, are they being worked on? Avery said maintenance work is being done on the brakes. He said the town has worked hard to move forward, he is proud to see the two officers promoted. Cephas thanked the fire department for recognizing the town. He hopes the Town of Hurlock can be a model.

7:35 Motion to Adjourn.

Respectfully Submitted:


John Avery
Town Manager

Mayor Henry:

Councilmembers:
Rev. Ch. Cephas

Charles Cephas

Russell Cephas