

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 July 24, 2023

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Cephas

Pledge/Prayer by R. Murphy

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

Agenda – Motion to Approve E. Murphy, second Orr, vote 4 in favor, 0 opposed.

Mayor Cephas introduced Ms. Jenny Budd and presented her with a proclamation for the work on her Patriotic Banner Project. Councilman Higgins read the Proclamation. She had planned on 72 banners being installed, it could be more.

Under discussion of definition of terms of councilmembers E. Murphy said there is a contradiction of wording in Sections 2, 3, and 4 of the current Council Salary Ordinance 2019-7. Sections 2 and 3 state beginning in the year of graduation and Section 4 states beginning after the next municipal election. Avery explained that Section 4 was in the Ordinance because the Charter states that no change can take place for council salaries until the next municipal election. There is a difference between the Ordinance and Charter Amendment defining council terms. After much discussion it was the consensus to follow the wording provided by the town attorney in "Option 4".

Avery explained his proposal to increase the size of the stormwater culverts under Jackson Street and Railroad Avenue to help control flooding like we have gotten in the last severe storm. Both would be increased to at least double the size. Council agreed to go forward with the work.

The consensus of the council is to require bids for projects over \$50,000.

Orr spoke on powers of the mayor and structure of government. Cephas explained why the structure changed. In the past power was abused a prior mayor.

E. Murphy commented on the possibility of converting one of the tennis courts to a basketball court. Avery said that had been discussed with Recs and Parks a few years ago. Murphy also said that prisoners could be used for some work in town.

R. Murphy said there should be a provision in the Charter requiring a special election in the case of a council vacancy. A suggestion would be; require a special election if the position is vacant in the first two years and then be appointed by the council if vacated with less than 2 years remaining.

Adjourn 7:19 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Mayor Cephas:


John Avery
Town Manager

Councilmembers:

