HURT TOWN COUNCIL 2026
MEETING MINUTES

MONTHLY BUSINESS MEETING

Date: September 1, 2026	Location: TOWN HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS 533 POCKET RD. HURT, VA
Time: 6 PM	Adjournment:
Meeting called to order by:	MAYOR GARY HODNETT

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE ESTABLISHING A QUORUM

Vice Mayor Bob Majure
Alice Bond
Gary Poindexter
Jimmy Harding
Paul Johnson
Steve Worley

Council Members Absent:

None

TOWN STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Shannon Race, town clerk
Brian Sisk, treasurer
Paul Watlington, pw assistant
Bob Williamson, water works operator
John Eller, town attorney
Jason Lovelace, chief of police

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hodnett called meeting to order at 6:10 pm and presided.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Hodnett requests a motion to move into closed session.

- Councilman Poindexter moves that the council convene a closed session in accordance with Virginia Freedom of Information Act as amended. Siting Authorization: § 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel, (3) Real Estate, (5) Prospective Business, (8) Legal Counsel (as applicable).
- Vice Mayor Majure seconds the motion for the closed session.
- Clerk calls for individual votes on the motion with Hurt Town Council voting 6-0 in favor of the closed session.

- The motion is passed, and the Hurt Town Council moves into a closed session at 6:11pm.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

- Mayor Hodnett calls for motions to return and certify a closed session.
- Vice Mayor Majure makes a motion for the certification of the closed meeting, citing the Virginia Freedom of Information Act **(Requirement: VA FOIA § 2.2-3712 (D))**
- Mayor Hodnett calls for a second, which is given by Councilman Harding, council voted 6-0 in favor and approves the certification of the closed session.
- Councilman Worley leads the invocation.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. August Expenditures
2. August 4 & 18 Meeting & Workshop Minutes.
3. Additions to the Agenda

Review of August expenditures and budget status.

Questions on:

- Line of duty insurance over budget.
- Buildings & grounds maintenance over budget (storm damage at water treatment plant).
- Memberships & subscriptions (Womack Publishing, Virginia Municipal League, and newspaper subscriptions vs advertising coding).

Staff responses and coding clarification.

Consent Agenda – Minutes (August 4 & August 18)

Correction to August 18 work session minutes:

"mobile home replica permit" → should be "mobile restaurant permit."

Overall approval discussion.

MOTION

Councilman Poindexter made a motion to approve the consent agenda with the correction on page 5 of the August 18 minutes for the "mobile home replica" to "mobile restaurant," second by Vice Mayor Majure, and the Hurt Town Council voted in favor 6-0, and approved the September 1, 2026, consent agenda as presented with the correction to the minutes.

Joint Public Hearing – Special Use Permit (Connie Parker / His Company Products LLC)

- Planning Commission convenes.

- **Applicant presentation:** home-based business, proposal for small market stand (natural products, baked goods, flour, honor system, VDOT-approved entrance, parking, limited hours, signage/advertising).
- Q&A from Council on hours and advertising.

Public Comment on Special Use Permit (Connie Parker)

Opportunity for public comment; supportive remarks, no opposition.

Planning Commission steps out to deliberate.

General Public Comment (Non-Agenda Items)

- Dust / Dirt Road Complaint – East Spencer Road
    - Resident William David Moore requests paving or mitigation (dust, speeding, UPS/FedEx, maintenance history, taxes).

Discussion on:

Status of road as partial town street vs VDOT.

Whether VDOT could take it into the state system.

Town possibly paving the dirt section themselves.

Idea to get a paving quote and consider budget.

Art Exhibit Invitation

- Pierre Richard (Arthur Craven) invites council and public to an art show on September 11, 2026, at Bauer Art Center in Bedford.

Planning Commission Returns & Recommendation – Special Use Permit

- Planning Commission recommends approval of Connie Parker's special use permit.
- Council discussion in support of small business and local sourcing.

MOTION

Councilman Johnson made a motion that we move forward with approval of the special use permit for Connie Parker / His Company Products LLC, for the application that she turned in. Second by councilmember Bond, and council voted to approve special use permit for Connie Parker / His Company Products LLC, 6-0.

New Business

Water System Mandated Update & Water Treatment Plant Grant

Brief update: state-mandated water system update about to start; construction meeting scheduled Friday.

Plaza facade work expected to start in coming months.

Later in meeting:

Water treatment plant grant acceptance explained (paperwork, draw schedule, 10 months to start after first draw, 24 months to finish).

Town Website Transition – CivicPlus to Revize

Clerk's presentation of options, with focus on Revize:

- CivicPlus renewal cost and platform change.
- Revize template option: $3,000 implementation + $1,200 annual.
    - ADA compliance support, per-document help, training, and content migration timeline (4–6 weeks).
    - Compatibility with Municode and current payment system (external links).

Council discussion on:

User-friendliness for staff.

Example of Altavista's site using Revize + Municode.

4-year free redesign/upgrade.

MOTION

Vice Mayor Majure "I'll make a motion that we go with the Revize quote using the template format, which has a total project cost of $4,200, with that annually being $1,200." **Seconded by Councilman Poindexter** with the council voting 6-0 in favor.

Police Car Computers (In-Car CAD/Info Access)

Discussion on installing computers in patrol cars for officer safety and information access.

Chief explains:

Need to coordinate with sheriff's IT and CAD system.

Preference for Panasonic Toughbooks and Havis mounts.

Using a turnkey installer (Rocky Mount, NC), integrate with county software after install.

Later provides preliminary quote for four units: about $24,602.28 (computers + docks).

Council wants final quotes and details; no vote yet.

Police Gun Range Project Status

Chief reports talking with surveyor and Town Attorney (Eller) about property and right-of-way.

Discussion of cost, donations (dirt, work), and comparison to using Altavista's gun range (currently no cost when used with their personnel).

TOWN STAFF DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Treasurer – Brian Sisk

- Bank reconciliations for June & July are completed and matched, September already being Matched.
- LGIP account balances still being fine-tuned with Evelyn and Scott.
- Bills being paid on time.
- Presented check listings for signatures

Clerk- Shannon Race

- Work on website ADA compliance and Revize planning.
- Real estate tax bills printed (not yet folded/mailed); using September to clean up accounts before October 1 billing date.

Public Works- Paul Watlington

- Request for citizens to report issues (lights, damage).
- Grass cutting status and heat issues.
- Recent service line repairs and system flushing.
- Upcoming Riverside pump station project and safety planning (PPE, traffic control).

Police Department- Chief Lovelace

- SAM.gov renewal and training treasurer so town can keep receiving federal money.
- Cat issue with SPCA: coordination and planned start of trapping/assistance this month.
- Early staffing discussion for potential new officer in FY 27–28.
- Follow up on list of junk/inoperable vehicles and compliance (tags/covers).
- Intox (breathalyzer) school completed by Officer Markins.
- Community events:
  - Stew fundraiser (first Saturday in November).
  - Halloween safety programs at schools.
  - "Safety September" – increased traffic enforcement.
  - Trunk or Treat at Plaza, October 31, 6–8 p.m.; invitation for council to participate.

- **Code Enforcement Questions – Nuisance Yards & Sidewalk Obstructions**
  - Mayor asks about process for tall grass, overgrown yards, and limbs/vegetation over sidewalks.
  - Chief notes likely under nuisance/high-grass ordinances; will review code and handle complaints.

Legal - John Eller

- Work on His Company special use permit (ads, prep).
- Upcoming door-to-door vendor ordinance public hearing on September 15; ads going in paper tomorrow and following Wednesday; ordinance documents added online.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Hodnett adjourned this meeting at 8:19pm.