

Town of Hurt, Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2023

Hurt Town Council held its monthly business meeting Tuesday, April 18, 2023, at Town Hall. The meeting opened at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Gary Hodnett with a quorum present.

Roll Call

Members present: Mr. Gary Poindexter, Mr. Bob Majure, Mr. Jeremiah Knowles, and Mr. Glenn Mitchell

Closed Session

A motion was made to enter closed session to discuss personnel, real estate, prospective business, contract negotiation and legal counsel as authorized by VA FOIA § 2.2-3711 A (1, 3, 5,).

Motion: Mr. Poindexter Second: Mr. Knowles Passage: Unanimous

Council entered closed session at 6:00 p.m. and exited closed session at approximately 7:10 p.m..

A motion was made to return to open session and to certify that only personnel, real estate, prospective, contracts, and legal business matters were discussed during closed session, as required by VA FOIA § 2.2-3712 (D).

Motion: Mr. Poindexter Second: Mr. Mitchell Passage: Unanimous

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance
Mr. Poindexter
by Mayor Hodnett

Invocation:
Pledge of Allegiance: led

Public Comment

No Comment

General Business

New Business- Mayor Hodnett stated that Paul Johnson has volunteered graciously to join our Board of Zoning Appeals. I think he would make a very valuable member of it, especially since we've got some stuff coming up here pretty soon. If any of you would like to ask Paul a question or Paul, if you'd like to say anything. Paul replied I am glad to be asked.

Paul Johnson was nominated to join the Board of Zoning Appeals.

Nominated by: Mr. Mitchell Second: Mr. Knowles Passage: Unanimous

Attorney Eller stated the judge has to appoint, has to ratify our appointment first. Once he signs the order, then Paul can go down to the Clerk at any time.

Mayor Hodnett stated I think we are going to go ahead and advertise for Christian Tyree's seat. Everyone's aware of her resignation last night, so we'll get that into paper as soon as possible. John, since you would like to get a little information gathered for the board of zoning appeals before we do that variance, any ideas on a calendar date for the public hearing? Attorney Eller stated it could be the week after we have our regular meeting, which would be the week of the 8th, so maybe the 10th, and you're going to need to have an organizational meeting, somebody has to be elected. Attorney Eller

stated if you had the meeting on the week of the Council Meeting then you wouldn't have to advertise for a hearing, it would just be a regular three day notice. Mayor Hodnett stated that will be the organizational meeting. Attorney Eller stated could have the meeting on Wednesday the 3rd and then the hearing on the 10th, got to get the order to the judge to sign. Mayor Hodnett stated so we will look at Wednesday the 3rd and then the public hearing on the 10th. Paul just so you know, Kenneth Cruz is on the Board of Zoning Appeals and Jeff Blaesing.

Old Business

Advertise from six-four Council Members- Mayor Hodnett we were talking about moving the Council members from six to four and based on Christian's resignation, it almost makes that look more like we need to do it. One of the things that I really think we need to talk about with that is since we're having the elections for three council members in November, is that something we could put on that ballot as a referendum for the town and the town vote on it, would that be possible John? Attorney Eller stated he will have to look that up. There are certain things that you do that you're allowed to have a referendum and some you're not. Mayor Hodnett replied I believe that's one of the things that I think they said we could do as a referendum, or a council vote. Mr. Poindexter stated I was under the impression that the council vote was to have a public hearing and then if that supports the change, then the council has to vote to send it to the GA to amend the charter. We can't just pass it without a charter amendment or a referendum. Did I understand that right? Attorney Eller replied yeah the referendum would be the same thing as the result of this hearing if the Council voted to send it to the General Assembly, or the referendum, if the people vote to send it to the general assembly. Either way it has to go to the General Assembly. That's the only way a charter gets amended. Mayor Hodnett asked so you want to go ahead with a public hearing? Mr. Majure stated I like the idea of a referendum if it is possible. Attorney Eller stated there is another way to do it and maybe we can do it. Mr. Majure stated it wouldn't cost us anything extra? Attorney Eller replied I don't know if the registrar charges by the election. Mayor Hodnett asked if we wanted to postpone it to our regular May meeting, to give John time to check on what we need to do. Mr. Poindexter stated that would be a good idea, and we can make a more informed decision. Attorney Eller stated well the AD will be in the paper tomorrow. We will cancel the AD for the hearing on the charter and proceed to get a referendum. Mayor Hodnett stated we will take up the Planning Commission appointments on May 2, 2023.

Meeting adjourned at 7:34pm.

Kelsie Anderson

Kelsie Anderson-Clerk

Gary Hodnett

Gary Hodnett-Mayor