

Town of Hurt, Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
June 20, 2023

Hurt Town Council held its monthly business meeting Tuesday, June 20, 2023, at the Hurt Fire Department. The meeting opened at 7:00 PM by Mayor Gary Hodnett with a quorum present.

Roll Call

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

Members absent: Mrs. Kathy Keesee

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Mr. Poindexter

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mayor Hodnett

Welcome/Opening Remarks

Mayor Hodnett welcomed and thanked everyone for coming, glad to have you.

Additions to Agenda

Mayor Hodnett stated he wanted to add two things to the agenda. One is the resolution authorizing the public works mutual aid that I think was in your folders, and also the Peed & Bortz task order for phase two of our disinfection byproducts project.

Public Comment

Kathy Ward stated we are having a problem keeping people on our Council, we don't have enough police protection, and I want to know what they are doing about Mike Jones because he is never at the meetings. I feel if we are paying him a salary, he should at least make an effort to show up. Another concern is the shopping center and if that will affect us as citizens in our budgets that we have to do for taxes. That's all I had. Mayor Hodnett replied, Mike Jones position for the Town Council was unauthorized for the upcoming budget. He's with us till June 30. The plaza that is going to be used for economic development in the Town, and we will do some work on it, get it up to standards and start using that as soon as we can. We're short an officer, Jason's by himself. He's going to be taken over the duties that Jones had which is nuisance violations. He's going to be stretched even less. He is now Chief of Police so he has all the state filings that he asked to do. He is worn out extremely thin, and he will patrol as much as he can, but he has mandated work that he has to take care of. Mrs. Ward stated I saw that it was advertised for another police officer that's why I questioned if anybody eligible had applied? Mayor Hodnett replied it doesn't look real good. Mr. Knowles replied it is a lot of competition for law enforcement officers these days. Mayor Hodnett stated and people on Council I can only tell you what they tell me when they leave. They provide me with an exit statement as to why they leave with it being from them moving out of town, to it's going to take more time than they had originally thought that it would take, and anything past that you can pretty much speculate on it. Until anyone gives me the authority to discuss their personnel files. Mrs. Ward replied I am not worried about that. I'm concerned that we can't keep nobody, and you all want to go from 6 to 4. I don't think that is fair when you are

working on stuff that concerns everybody. That's the one issue that has bothered me, and that's why I wanted to bring that up. I also want to thank you all for your contribution to the kids beta club, they came home from the state with 11 awards. You all did some good work, and those questions I appreciate the answers.

Final Approval 2023/2024 Budget

Mayor Hodnett asked if the Council had any questions? Mr. Poindexter stated I provided a clean copy with their annotations, gray shades, and things removed from the previous work session which is a finalized version ready to publish on the website, the bulletin board, and for everybody to have and use. All the numbers are the same, it's just the finalized version that has a proper date. Mayor Hodnett asked do I hear any motions to move forward.

A motion was made to issue final approval for the proposed FY 2023-2024 operating budget as presented.

Motion: Mr. Poindexter

Second: Mr. Majure

Passage: Unanimous

HVAC Maintenance Contract

Mayor Hodnett stated this is the new HVAC system that is in Town Hall. You will see on the backside three different options, one year, two year, three year, we obviously need to have a maintenance program in place for this. It requires special filters for the HVAC and the ducts. The question is do we want to consider this and for how many years or if you don't want to consider it then we can move along. Mr. Poindexter stated obviously, the three years is the better price per year, I mean that's a no brainer. Beyond that, I guess my only question would be if we were to go with more than one year, would we have to pay it all upfront or a sum each year? Mayor Hodnett replied I am sure he would let us do what we wanted to with the sense of doing 3 years, they like to get their 3 years up front. Mr. Poindexter stated given the amount of money involved, the difference in \$200-\$500-to-me out of a million-dollar budget is not worth a great deal of debate on that. I would encourage going ahead with the three and it would be the most value for the money. Mr. Knowles stated there is also a discount included going with the three and it's not huge, but money saved is money saved. Mr. Majure stated if we are not going to be charged for after hours a weekend, that's when most things happen, and that would easily go over \$500 just that one visit after hours, so I'm fine with the three years.

A motion was made to move forward with Blackstock Heating & Air maintenance plan for three years.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Knowles

Passage: Unanimous

Resolution for Mutual Aid Agreement

Mayor Hodnett stated I am scratching the Economic Development from the agenda tonight. This resolution, and Joe you correct me if I'm wrong, it is for public works, if we have some infrastructure problems or system malfunction, what this would do would allow us to enter this network and request help from other local member localities in the network. Joe stated it can assist you with the manpower, equipment you may need, or any spare parts. Mayor Hodnett replied right, and of course you would be paying them for their services and their people's time when they come out. Mr. Knowles asked if there was any up-front fees? Joe replied no. Mr. Knowles asked if this is just an agreement between everybody? Joe replied yes. Mr. Knowles stated we will help each other. Joe replied right. Mr. Majure asked which localities are the closest to us that is a part of this agreement already? Joe replied Altavista and Gretna. Mr. Majure asked if Attorney Eller had a chance to read this over? Attorney Eller replied no I

haven't. Mr. Majure asked, "is this something that has to be passed today? Mayor Hodnett replied no we can pass it at the next meeting. Mr. Majure asked Council if they felt comfortable moving forward without John reading it? Mayor Hodnett replied it is the state, like the other thing we passed before. It is what they have, and all the others have signed it. Attorney Eller stated it is probably just fine. Mr. Majure stated I read it over and nothing stood out to me. Mr. Poindexter stated I didn't see anything concerning it. It looks pretty standard for that type of estimate. Attorney Eller replied if it has a provision that we can withdraw then we don't have anything to lose. Mr. Poindexter stated section 4.2 withdraw, any member may withdraw within 30 days written notice.

A motion was made to pass the resolution authorizing risks execution of Virginia water and wastewater agency response network mutual aid agreement as presented.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Richard

Passage: Unanimous

Peed & Bortz

Mayor Hodnett stated the task order that is already in existence. This is basically the scope of the work that they'll be providing for phase two. This is drawn up in association with the state, team Bernard Proctor, VDH and the girl in Richmond Tamara Anderson. Mr. Poindexter asked if VDH has reviewed it? Mayor Hodnett replied yes. Mr. Poindexter stated and 1.68 million is the total projected cost for phase 2 project? Mayor Hodnett replied yes, and I am sure you are aware with rising prices, parts and stuff like that we may have to adjust it if that's what the state is willing to put forward now as far as funding. Mr. Poindexter stated that is the total projected cost and then the state funded part of it is what percentage of that? Mayor Hodnett replied 75-25, I forget what the exact number is. Mr. Poindexter asked on the last page, the \$26,790 is Peed & Bortz fee for all of this, is that included in the total? Mayor Hodnett replied yes should be. Mrs. Ward asked what phase 2 was for? Mayor Hodnett replied it is the cleaning up of our water, they are putting aerators in the tank. Mr. Poindexter stated I assume we are still on track in addition to that to put a better service line into the SVMP from the area of the tank, has that changed? Mayor Hodnett replied that's correct, but that's one of the things we may be looking to see if we can pull out, because why do we want to spend that kind of money on the SVMP park when it looks like it ought to be Danville and Pittsylvania County as well. Mr. Poindexter stated or SRIFFA, that's a good point. Mayor Hodnett stated as it stands now, we are at 1.68 million. Mr. Majure stated the main points of this phase are creating a loop so that the water flows in tree and branch system. Loops recirculate water much better and provide better water quality. Joe replied it will do that and it will add more water pressure over to the park. It'll also have to provide another way in if something happens to the pipe by the bridge because that is the only way for that water to come down West Hurt, Family Dollar, English's, Town Hall, and the Plaza, so it will be another way in. Mr. Majure asked then we are going to do the aeration in the water tank and that's going to reduce the chloramines? Joe replied THM's, they want to put a aerator/ mixer combination with a vent on top. That will relieve some of the HAA. Mr. Knowles stated basically just agitate the water? Joe replied yeah because its sitting there still on top. Mr. Poindexter stated adding oxygen in there will attack those molecules. Mr. Majure stated I think one of the biggest parts of this and I don't know if any other Council members have seen it, but Joe took me to the pump station and our pump station is very old. It is in desperate need of retrofitting and upgrading. This is going to make our town much more resilient in the future. Joe replied we are going to get new pumps in there that are like a frequency drive where you can adjust the average amperage to slow it down where we can run the system just off the pumps without having to rent that tank and get a

regulator for when the system goes down. Mr. Majure stated when we clean the tank we're not going to have to do that off pressuring like we did last time so that will save us a lot of money in water costs from Altavista. The backflow prevention system, that is really good to see. The AMI meters, just better collection of data, and better accuracy in our billing. Joe replied all the larger meters had to be replaced in order to do that. That is what we are working on now, I think there is 9 of them. Mr. Majure replied very good, this looks like a very good project for the Town. It's going to make our water system prepared for the future and I am in favor with this. Joe stated the main part of it was bringing the line down across the street to the plant, tap into that line and go right into our pumps instead of going all the way over to Altavista. That will keep us away from Altavista, like vault, we have to take care of the vault on their grounds. Out here it will be fit directly so we won't have to mess with any of their pipes. Mayor Hodnett stated the vault part of phase 1 becomes null and void. That was a mandate that we had to put on, but now that will no longer be in use once we start this. Mr. Majure asked so water qualities, were not going to have anymore nasty letters go out? Joe replied, so far, we are in testing right now.

A motion was made to proceed with the Peed & Bortz LLC contract as proposed.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Poindexter

Passage: Unanimous

Office Update

Mayor Hodnett stated we are boxed up and ready to start moving stuff as soon as we can get squared away and determine within the next few days exactly where we'll be taking it, but we're in good shape there.

Plaza Update

Mayor Hodnett stated we're still moving forward, waiting to get some information back, so really nothing to report there. Mr. Majure asked if we had closed? Mayor Hodnett replied still haven't closed. Attorney Eller stated we are very close to closing but they need to put in the contract. It says that there was a resolution that all the partners have agreed to the deal. They have it and so I asked for the resolution and they sent this little dark piece of paper one sentence statement that said that this Laurie Jemison was one of the children of the founder has the authority to sell all assets of the partnership. Just a general statement three people signed but she didn't and two people when had never seen their names before. It wasn't dated so I sent it back stating that it was completely unacceptable and told them the things that they needed to do. The next thing they said was why don't you write it how you want it. It nails it down very tightly, all their names, and tells us how they got to be the owners and when they got to be. If they sign that and want out of it then they won't be able to come after us. If they want to fight about it up there in New York, they can do it, but we'll have them completely tied up. As soon as we get this, their lawyer in Chatham is working on the deed and we'll be able to close so it is right on track, but this is very important. The person that signed it has the authority from all the owners.

Family Dollar Sewer Pump Station

Joe stated the last few months we have been having problems at the pump station and what it is, is the floaters are stuck at the bottom of the shafts. The shafts are what hold the pumps in place. They are too low. You can't let them run by themselves so I manually turn them off and on. I've been searching and asking all the water associations, everybody in Lynchburg, I can't anybody who will go down in these wells because of the hydrogen sulfide problems. Everybody else apparently has the can stations, they have theirs built with a separate pump access where the pumps are out of the gas. It draws from inside

the tank, up to the pumps and into the line. I've asked Altavista several times, and Tom told me to see if I could get with Paul Hill to see if they can go down there and access it. What I got back from the contractors was they will put them in, but once the fluid goes in they won't touch it, they don't have the equipment. Mr. Majure asked can we ask Virginia Department of Health for recommendations? Joe replied that is my last and final move, I haven't done that. Mr. Knowles stated see if they have a contractor on site that would be capable of handling that. Joe replied Altavista said that they could do it, but you got to pay per hour, per man, per truck, per safety equipment, per meter, and I don't know what that will run. Also I got to put steel cables on, for some reason every pump station has a yellow nylon rope that has been sitting in the fluid. When you try to pull on it, it makes snapping noises and will break. That is 300 pounds trying to lift it 16 feet. Mayor Hodnett stated and that is every pump station we have so that's just a future problem we're going to have to deal with. Joe stated I don't want that rope breaking and slamming down into the bottom. It will wipe out all of the pipes and seals. Mr. Majure asked how often are you out there running the pumps? Joe replied I run them every 3 days, I alternate. It is only the Family Dollar pump, for now. Mayor Hodnett stated this is one of those things that we need to look at replacing that rope. When we start with the Family Dollar just do them all and be done with it. Joe stated I need to buy a coil, probably 3/8th steel cable and stainless steel clamps. I got to go down there and hook to the pumps and clamp them up. Mayor Hodnett stated the logical thing to do when we bring them in here to do Family Dollar, let's do all of them while we have them out here, but that's going to be fairly expensive. It will be far less expensive than those ropes breaking and doing damage. Mr. Majure stated if we can, lets get the other stainless steel at the same time when we find someone who can do it. Mayor Hodnett asked do we want to proceed as fast as we can on this and if we have to do Family Dollar first and wait a little while before we get to the others, do we want to get on that ASAP? Mr. Knowles stated if we can find somebody to do it, we go ahead and do it. Mayor Hodnett asked even if they can't get all three of them at one time? We do need to take care of the Family Dollar.

Mr. Mitchell stated you take care of your problem right now.

A motion was made to go ahead and fix the one at the Family Dollar.

Motion: Mr. Mitchell

Second: Mr. Knowles

Passage: Unanimous

It was briefly discussed about wanting to do all of them at once, if we could find somebody. Attorney Eller suggested getting quotes. Joe stated he has been searching for someone for about 5-6 months to even take a look at it. Altavista said if we couldn't get anybody they would do it for us. I am going to try Pittsylvania County first and see what they say. Mayor Hodnett stated if we can get three bids we will bring them back.

Radio's and Rifles

Mayor Hodnett stated I guess first everyone has agreed to the extra cost of \$217 for the cameras. We did a call around so we've got that taken care of. The railings everybody seemed to lean toward the aluminum, so that's a go. Chief Lovelace stated I sent out an email probably about a week ago regarding the radios. I just felt like it's important that you all know what we're up against moving forward, okay. We're still trying to get applications towards another officer coming in and in doing so, I feel like it's my job to let y'all know where we stand with the equipment. Especially when it comes to officer safety and protection of our community. Currently, we have three radios. Alright, those three radios, I'm not sure exactly when those radios was purchased. However, I found some documentation that appeared the radios came to us, somewhere probably around the 2014 mark. We're looking at radios that have already

or almost at the end of their life expectancy. In doing this, I've tried to reach out and make sure that we can make what we have last as long as what we can have, get the most use and the most bang for your buck. What I've been doing, I've tried to go in and purchase additional batteries, because eventually they're saying these batteries will probably no longer be made. That's going to be where it cuts out for us because radios are really durable. I think that's going to be our shortfall is when the batteries are no longer available to us. This past year I've went in and actually purchased a charging bank for the PD, that's something we didn't have in the past is extra batteries, two extra batteries. I need to purchase one more extra battery for it because we have three of the unity radios currently.

Then what we need to look at is, if we have another officer come in, we need to have a backup radio because I cannot tell you how long it will take if one gets damaged. What this does is just like anything, we can just cycle through when we start going down on the radio or radio goes down, we've already got one in place, and then we need to look at replacing that backup. This way we always have one in place. In a perfect world, sure, I like to have more than one, but I think an extra one will get us past where we need to be. We can keep one charged in the office, that way you can hear the radio running the whole time. If we need extra radio, battery goes down or radio goes down on the shift, then we can actually go in and pull that radio and then the officer can continue to work that shift. Let's just say somebody was working, they had a radio go down on, I'm not in town and they can't get a hold of another radio, then they're pretty much done for the shift. They can't work any longer because it's an officer safety thing. As far as the quotes, we've had a couple. You have a \$185, then you have a \$200. We have to go with Harris because that's what the county is using. That's what we actually have to use. We can't differ from Harris, that's what we have to have. The difference in those are UHF VHF. I'm not sure if we'll ever use that frequency or that feature. We may I don't know that, so that's something that I think if we just stay with the 700-800 series then we should be okay. That will probably help a little bit on the price. That's pretty much all I have for the radio. The reason why I'm telling you all this is because I don't know if y'all want to go with another radio or if y'all want to go with a radio right here at the end of the year. I tried to give you some numbers as well. Since we no longer have a full time, then we may can use that funding towards that. That is up to you all, you deal with the money and vote where it goes. It's just my job to bring it forward on what we're looking at moving forward.

The rifle we only have two rifles. Those rifles are probably maybe 2005ish, I don't have an exact date, but they've been in service for a long time. We have to have a third rifle no and's if's or but's, because if we have a third police officer, they have to have a rifle. That's something that we can work towards as far as updating our rifles. We work that into a rotation just like our radios. This year we need to look at upgrading our rifles, and we'll sell those rifles back to whoever we purchase a rifle from. It is a contract price, it's a law enforcement price. It should be the same across the board for all the vendors because Smith and Wesson, Glock, or whoever you use, say this is the blue price, this is what a price of a firearm is going to cost. The difference is this gun shop selling it, they are putting this sling on it and it may be a little different in costs for sling or optic. Maybe this dealer gives you a better price because you're buying a package and you get a little bit off on the sling and optic. Then you also have to have magazines and I'd like to purchase some additional parts to go with that. That way if you have a breakdown or when your servicing your weapon as well, we can actually have parts to service that weapon in case of spring breaking or any part like that, but that is a must. We have to have a rifle going forward with a

officer. Say we get it now, or get it when that person comes on board, but we still have to get it because there's just no way in the world I'm going to put somebody on the street and they don't have a rifle. If you all decide to let me go with a rifle, I would like to have a preference of who we go with. What I mean by that is what dealer, because we have used Town Police also the Officer Store. All the prices are going to be the same, but they might have a better price, maybe they're running a special this time of year, I don't know. I said that it could probably be \$3,000, you all have the email that I sent. I think that was from the Officer Store. There's other smaller costs involved, just to make sure that we take care of the equipment that we have. I can address any questions that you may have. Mike Jones asked Jason when does the proposed turnover go to the higher megahertz system, have you heard? Jason replied I do not know that. I know that Campbell County just got on board with the P25 system, but I couldn't tell you. Mike asked and we are not compatible with that correct? Jason replied we're running off of Pittsylvania Counties and that's a P25. I think that P25 is the 800. The radio does have the capability to be encrypted. I do know that because I reached out to the person that programs in the county. It has to have the part of the encryption which everything we priced does have that capability. I can't give you that answer, Unfortunately. Mike replied of course right now, there is no big system wide change over in the plans, correct? Jason replied no, the County has invested millions and millions of dollars into this Harris system. Our neighbors as well has Harris. I think Harris is probably going to be and I don't know this to be 100% sure, but they've invested billions of dollars into this. I think it's to stay for a good while. Mike asked are you satisfied with the interoperability between the state police, game wardens, Altavista police, ABC agents, and any federal agents or task force? Jason replied unfortunately, in the past one time when we was using the old Motorola systems, way back years ago, we had the capability of actually reaching out to Altavista across lines. When the county went over, you could no longer do that. However, Campbell County has now picked that up so we're going to have that capability to do it again. What they are doing is the State Police is running the P25 system in their cars so we can reach out using our radio system to them on the County's side of things. The Game Wardens also use that as well. Mike asked is that car to car traffic or can you reach out to State Police dispatch? Jason replied no, we cannot reach out to state police dispatch, that's only going to be car to car or either car through Pittsylvania County Dispatch, but its not going to be through State Police. Normally, when we reach out to state police, we have to contact them through their own phone line. I can't remember what the old system was where you had two radios in the cars. You know what I'm talking about Mike, and they've gone away from that and we just have that one radio. Mike stated and given the condition that you're working essentially alone and with the battery being the way it is, any radio purchase, by necessity is going to have to come with at least one or two batteries in the event you have a scenario one incident that exceeds multiple hours of the life of your current battery, correct? Jason replied that is correct, yes, we will have to have at least a minimum of one extra. That's kind of where I'm at now trying to get the radio system that the current handhelds are up to at least one. I'm trying to make what we have work and get it up to where we need to be, then moving forward, but yes, I'm on par with you 100%. Mike replied within Town limits, and within the areas of operational limits for mutual aid, how many dead spots if you will have you identified within the Town, where you are basically alone? Jason replied we know that we struggle, and the county also knows this so they tried to do some adjustments, but we know that we struggle at a Town Hall. We do know that we struggle here, and then there was a dead spot at the minute market. However, I think that's been fixed. I think they've adjusted some stuff and that's been fixed. Overall, the Town, for the most part, has pretty good coverage, even though we have some highs and lows. I think the bank going

up to the old industrial site, I think it gives us a problem. It may be better, I just don't know, but they may have fixed it better than where it was before. I know that we have a hard time keying up in the office. Mike asked and we don't have a repeater in the Town limits? Jason replied no, the old system, we had a repeater on the water tower for us. That was something that just because that system could not transmit that far we had a repeater. The Town actually had its own channel. I'd say this was probably 1520 years ago, the Hurt Police Department had their own channel, Gretna had their own, Chatham had their own channel. What would happen is, that's the channel that they would dispatch on. With their new system what they did was actually a really good thing, they put everybody on one channel, that way anybody working, and somebody is hollering for help, then that call for help can be identified by any agency that's working instead of having agencies on different channels. It just gives more ears to the radio. Mike asked would you agree or disagree with the fact that the chief of police you need the police staff to grow, and once it grows, would you agree that it needs to be essentially 100% coverage of the Town and the immediate environment, for not only off the officer safety sake, but also for the services to the citizens and the Town? Jason replied for sure. As we go grow, that's something that we all I think can agree on. That's something that we can do better for our community is serve our community a little bit better. Yes, I would agree with you. Mike stated do you know with eh Fire Department, do they have the same type of interoperability issues and repeater issues that we have, since they go outside of the Town more than we do? Jason replied I don't know if they have the same issues or not and the reason why I say that, it's been a long time since I've run a fire call. I couldn't tell you, but they're on the same systems that we're on. We actually have the capability of switching over to the fire channel, law enforcement talking to the fire channel. They can't switch over to us, but we can switch over to them. I would assume that it will probably be the same problem. If it's with law enforcement, then it is with Fire Rescue. Mike asked when you have to travel to Campbell County or to the jail in Chatham, do you have full radio coverage when you're traveling? Jason replied yes, we actually have really good coverage when traveling. I think our coverage actually for the most part reaches out to Bedford and covers a lot of Campbell County. I think it's just low spots and the lay of the land in Hurt. It just goes up and down. I

am not sure if the railroad affects it or not with all that steel. Mike stated my last question is as the department and Town grow, my assumption would be that there would be part of a continuing operational plan that will plan for future expansion for the radio and interoperability and perhaps boundary adjustments? Jason replied yeah, I think if we could set up a schedule as far as the operations, and I hope that I'm answering this question correctly, but I think that we need to set up like a life cycle of the tool as far as the radio goes or equipment to make sure that we were doing okay, example we have approximately this many years left on this matter, we need to look at rotating this out. Just like anything as far as your taser probes or new batteries for your tasers, anything like that. You want to make sure that you keep up to standards on what you're working with. Mike stated in essence, what you want to do is you want to have a plan. You want to plan for equipment to live out its natural life and you would like to see a budget that supports the natural replacement of equipment as its functional life complete. Jason stated that's right. You want to make sure that in the budget that we have enough money to allow for that. It's hard to build a budget right off the get go because you have so many things that has so many lifespans on them, like taser probes, radio batteries, firearms. When we talk about firearms and radios, the firearm is very important because that could be not only the life of that officer, but it could be a life-or-death situation for a member of our community, or possibly anybody sitting in that room or me on the

phone. We need to make sure that we understand that the purchase and the maintenance of our equipment is held to that standard.

Mr. Majure stated talking about the State Police and being able to reach them with the UHF and VHF allows us to speak with them? Mr. Knowles replied VHF possibly would. Currently at this time state police do not allow other entities onto their system that's not a state agency or a partner agency. Even then State Police, like Virginia forestry is on the same radio system as State Police, but they're not able to talk on the State Police talk channels. The other issue is current policy for the State Police is for their troopers to maintain their channel and not to deviate from that. It makes it a little difficult. As Jason says, they're moving away from the low band VHF, they're what they call service system. 39.5 megahertz channel, and the troopers would normally have a separate radio in the car, then deputies or other officers would have a radio. What we've seen in other locations is that the locality would provide the trooper with a portable radio to use while they're in that area. I would expect that we would need to. I would think the county would provide that. Jason stated that's right, the County provides the State Police with radios just for that purpose. Mr. Knowles replied we would be able to talk to them through that county radio on the same talker, or same channel that we're using now. Mr. Majure asked what is the benefit of the VHF? Mr. Knowles replied its interoperability. Previously, Campbell County was VHF but since they've moved over, they've moved over to 700- 800. It's no longer as much of a concern. I'm not sure, but I think Halifax may still be VHF. Pretty much everything nearby was 700-800 now. Also, just on the L3Harris quote, it's for two radios. Mr. Majure stated that seems much lower than the other ones comparatively. We're doing \$3600 for one with the NIT. When I reached out to them, this was a special that they're running. These are limited keypad radios. The radios that we currently have, have full keypads, so they have some buttons, and then they have the numbers. This radio here doesn't have the numbers. It makes it a little more complicated to access the features in the radio. In general use, it's not really necessary. Most of the time, officers will lock the keypad so they don't accidentally do something. Jason stated I'll tell you that on our keypads we lock them and don't use them. Mr. Majure stated the L3Harris that we just talked about with the two, the battery that is mentioned here, is that an extra battery? Or is that the battery that we use for that specific radio? Mr. Knowles replied I believe that is the battery that you would use. Mr. Majure asked we would still need to purchase an extra battery? Mr. Knowles replied I would recommend purchasing two extra now. There were only \$150 and you'll use them. Mr. Knowles replied they are actually already included in this quote, my apologies. Mr. Majure stated I am in favor of us having a more improved radio system. Mr. Poindexter stated I looked over and I've read Jason's emails and thought about. I looked at the finances and I think we are fortunate, though we're unfortunate to be down an officer we are fortunate in the context of this proposal to have a little over \$8,000 in unused PDHR money for the outgoing fiscal year that only has about 10 days left in it. I think we would be remiss not to use that money to do the things that need to be doing to be done here in a timely manner and get us across the finish line, because there's gonna be other things that need to be done in the new FY. Why just keep kicking things down the road when the Chiefs already alluded to, we've been behind on this for years, if not decades. My thoughts are that we should reallocate up to the approximately \$8,500 that he mentioned, for the radio and firearm equipment and also give the Chief the authorization, the discretionary power to choose suppliers and vendors if you will, given the wiggle room that he needs to have a mission accomplished pretty quickly. Mr. Knowles stated the other thing that I want to point out on these quotes, the new London technology quote for the XL 185P, the single bandit radio, it lists the feature for a single key AES encryption, which is fine, except for interoperability. If we were to use to load

the Campbell County or the Altavista channels into the radio, they have a separate encryption key and it would be a secondary or possibly even a third encryption key that would need to be loaded in the way this is set up that wouldn't be able to be done and have to be licensed for additional encryption keys. The Excel 200 for the New London has the encryption light feature in there that will take care of that. Mr. Majure stated so does the L3Harris. Mr. Knowles stated my understanding is the L3Harris is a fully loaded multiband. Everything they have in there, except for LTE, I believe. Mr. Majure stated the L3Harris quote looks good. Mr. Knowles stated to Jason, on the L3Harris, if you're looking at that one, it does come with a license for beyond for the radio itself. That would allow the radio to work on Wi Fi, if the Wi Fi is programmed into the radio. It may not be something that you need right now, but maybe something in the future. If you want to talk about it more, I can go more in depth into it. Jason replied I'll tell you what, I think since you brought that up, I think that's an excellent point. The reason being is, as Mike and myself discussed the problem with keying up the radio, we could actually run this radio and it would fix our problem in the office for communication with the radio in the office because we could just run it off our Wi Fi while we're at the office. Mr. Knowles stated when they program the radio, they need to make sure they enable the beyond feature and to set that up for the radio system. I know Pittsylvania County has the beyond feature or have the capability of it. Mayor Hodnett asked Jason if there was a preferred package that you would like to state at this point? Jason replied as far as the package goes, I would like to make sure that we purchase one radio for the PD and a rifle moving forward. Looking at one radio with a battery and a rifle and things to go with it. Mr. Majure stated with the quote you might as well go for two radios. Your radios now are currently 9 years old. I'd say you should upgrade at least two of them. It was a brief discussion about the radios being a belt radio and a radio in the car charging. It was also discussed if a radio was to get destroyed in a accident would we have a replacement policy, Jason stated it would be a good idea to have that. It was also discussed that if one of the police cars was totaled then the Crown Vic would be the replacement back up car. Jason stated we could also purchase the radios now and revisit the battery charging dock in the car later. Mr. Majure stated if we are getting a discount like we are now we need to purchase it all now. A motion was made to allocate \$4,750 for radios and to upgrade our police radio system.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Richard

Passage: Unanimous

Mr. Majure stated it would be about \$3,750 left for the rifle purchase. I believe having the rifle is also safe key to the safety of officers. We should definitely make sure our oncoming officers are prepared to defend the citizens of Hurt, and be able to perform their duties. I think a rifle is needed for that as Jason says, so we have \$3,750 of that budget remaining. Are we willing to use that for this rifle? Mr. Poindexter asked Jason how much of that do you foresee, what would be a ceiling on that, a comfortable margin for you? Jason replied I think that that \$3,000 that I said before. I think that will be comfortable. If I can come under on that, I'll be happy to come under. I think that will probably get us where we need to be. I think that will probably give us a little money leftover in the end. If I can make things work and save money you know I'll definitely do all of that to try and stretch your dollar up as tight as I can get it. I think that \$3,000 mark, will give us enough extra to have multiple magazines and soft cases to put a rifle in so we don't damage what we have. Mike asked are you accounting for the need to have more qualification with the rifle, since that is a much more powerful weapon? Also, one that accuracy is not as good with a pistol, for example, how many times each year would each officer have to qualify? How many rounds would you have for street use versus practice? Jason replied currently, what I've done is I've went in and

we need to build up our ammunition from where it is now. We have probably, I'd say two, maybe three different types of ammunition. What I tried to do is I'm trying to burn off some of that ammunition because I want it to be just one ammunition. That's just not acceptable, in my opinion, different types of ammunition because we have a use of force, it's going to be hard to tell who shot and where it come from so I'm trying to get that in line. As far as the qualifications, we go by what the DCJS says. Moving forward and I've already talked to Gary about this, but my vision is, is I would love to see us have a shooting range in doing so that will give us the capability of qualifying more for that, but that's a long term goal. Mike stated one thing I'd recommend is that we absolutely do not use any other calibers or types of bullets other than one for what you said identifying the round that was shot. Ammunition should be uniform, department wide. Jason stated that's right I agree with you 100% and that's what I'm trying to do. We had some different types and when we go practice qualify, I try and get rid of that. The cost the ammunition is so expensive. That way we can just practice with it, get rid of it, and we can get uniform on our ammunition. We currently have two rifles, my goal is to have a additional rifle to hang in the office in case of an emergency and I could not get to my rifle. I have had this happen before in the office where I could not get to it. It was discussed to use the \$3,750 and get what you can get with it. Mayor Hodnett asked would you be comfortable with the motion for \$3,750, and that way you can take that and go for two rifles and you can set them up the way that you want. Would you think that would work for you? Jason replied yeah, I think that will be fine. I can go and talk to them and say okay this is what I have. I want to set this up and that way we try to make it work. Yes, that's fine.

A motion was made to reallocate \$3,750 for the acquisition of rifles and give the Police Chief discretion as to suppliers and accessories and so forth.

Motion: Mr. Poindexter

Second: Mr. Knowles

Passage: Unanimous

Jason thanked all Council members for their help.

Report from Mayor

Mr. Poindexter stated our July meeting, do we want to do it later that week or do it the following week on a Thursday? Mayor Hodnett asked Council if the first Wednesday, July 5th would work for everyone? Mr. Poindexter stated he would prefer Thursday but he has some room. Mayor Hodnett stated so Wednesday the 5th would work for everyone. We are going to move forward with our resolution for the sewer for Public Works, we are going to sign the allied security system, and okayed the \$217, we will move forward with the Peed & Bortz task order, as well as the 3 year option on the HVAC system. Our railings we are going with aluminum and I think that is everything we have covered tonight.

Meeting adjourned at 8:24PM

Kelsie Anderson

Kelsie Anderson-Clerk

Gary Hodnett

Gary Hodnett-Mayor