

Town of Hurt, Virginia
Council Meeting Minutes
June 6, 2023

Hurt Town Council held its monthly business meeting Tuesday, June 6, 2023, at Town Hall. 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. Jeremiah Knowles, Mr. Glenn Mitchell, Mr. Pierre Richard, and Mrs. Kathy Keesee-via phone

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.

Consent Agenda

A motion was made to pass the May expenditures, May 2nd, 12th, 18th, and 26th meeting minutes as is.

Motion: Mr. Mitchell

Second: Mr. Knowles

Passage: Unanimous

Mayor Hodnett stated the only additions to the agenda was to consider Pivot Energy, but that will not be done tonight.

Public Comments

Gloria Worley stated she took a walk this morning around Town and noticed a lot of debris, I guess stuff from winter time. Broken limbs and twigs piled up, should we contact VDOT to clean that up on Prospect Road? Mayor Hodnett replied we can give them a call and tell them, I think they keep us on a maintenance schedule but the problem is its only every couple months. Mrs. Worley states it was two sections where I had to walk in the highway versus the sidewalk. We can clean it up, but I didn't know if that was the job of the homeowner. Mayor Hodnett replied the streets are VDOT. Mrs. Worley also states she appreciates Joe and all the monitoring and lawn mowing. Thanks so much, that's all.

Tommy Neal states I was going to ask some questions during the budget time, but anyways. On the salaries that you're proposing for the employees, what kind of percentage is that from last year? Mayor Hodnett replied 8%. Mr. Neal asked what is the population of the Town of Hurt? Mayor Hodnett replied 1,300. Mr. Neal replied the clerk, well the two clerks make \$49,056. In 2021 they made \$37,000, in 2022 it jumped to \$40,000, then went to \$45,000, and now \$49,000 almost \$50,000. If you add up all the benefits the Town pays for all the medical, I mean the insurance, and the VSRS? Mrs. Brumfield replied yes they pay the retirement portion, but we do contribute to that as well. We have to contribute a certain percentage in order to get that and that is set by the state. Mr. Neal stated but if you break that down with the benefits and salaries, we pay our clerks \$78,210 a piece once you break it down? Mayor Hodnett replied yeah that's right. Mr. Neal stated our Public Works, in 2021 the salary for them was \$28,000, then went up about \$500 in 2022, in 2023 it jumped to \$43,000, and now it is the same as the clerks, \$49,056. When you figure all of that his salary is \$79,732, for a little small community the Town

of Hurt with 1,300 people. The taxpayers have to pay all of that. Is that right, that is what you are proposing? Mayor Hodnett replied yes that is what Council has already voted on and is proposing, and they will vote on it tonight. Mr. Neal replied so the citizens don't have any say so whatsoever, after they have already voted on it, so I am assuming they will pass it tonight, or you have to wait seven days? Attorney Eller replied yeah, seven days. Mr. Neal stated that is going to be passed and that is what they are going to be making and that's what we are going to be paying them for the year? Mayor Hodnett replied they are going to be taking that up in a few minutes. Mr. Neal stated my opinion though, that's excessive for a small community like us. We don't have industries, we have a couple businesses, but that means the taxpayers have to pay all of this. You can't use any of the reserves that the Town's got because that has to stay in the water in case there is a big blow up. Each year its going to come up that taxes don't have to go up to balance out the budget, that's the way I look at it. Mr. Knowles asked do you think taxes are going up this year? Mr. Neal replied no I think from the discussion taxes are not going up this year. They were but after we came down here and talked, Gary changed his mind. Mr. Knowles replied, not just Gary. Mr. Neal stated well the Council, Gary made the recommendation. Mr. Knowles stated so what they are making this year is already covered in what you were paying taxes last year. Mr. Neal replied yeah, I guess you're right. Mr. Knowles stated let me ask you this, how much do you think a town this size in the state of Virginia, with the average pay of a clerk, treasurer, or their public works director is? Mr. Neal replied well you can look at it that way, but you would have to find one that is comparable to the Town of Hurt. You can't compare Hurt to Altavista, Gretna, or Chatham. They have different businesses and more taxes coming in. Mr. Knowles stated but I need to be able to compare that to those because these people can just leave here and go get a job in Altavista, Chatham, or Lynchburg. Mr. Neal stated that is true, anybody can do that, if that was the case yea. Mr. Knowles replied their pay is not on par with the average salary in the state. It's below the average salary. Mr. Neal stated but don't you think the way to do that you would have to compare it to the same size community. The Town of Hurt doesn't have anything really. They get their money from the taxpayers and the water bills. Mr. Knowles replied, correct, but how much do you think it is to replace one of these people, because they're making less than what the average is? If we need to hire somebody new because our public works director left for a better paying job. Mr. Neal replied it happens everyday. Mr. Knowles stated just because it happens doesn't mean we should try to promote that. Mr. Neal stated, so you figure the only way you can keep people working for the Town of Hurt is to keep increasing their salary 5,10,15 and 20,000 every year? Mr. Knowles replied well need to be able to increase their salary to maintain the rate at which they're getting paid. We're already losing police officers because they're going to other places for better pay. Mr. Neal stated every Police Department in the state of Virginia is loosing them, because they are either quitting or going somewhere else to make more money. Most of them are better working conditions than this. Mr. Knowles stated that is the question, do we want to stay on par and keep the people we have, or do we want to bring in people who are going to work for less money and maybe not do as good of a job? Mr. Neal replied I guess that is something the Council is going to have to figure out. I'm not going to debate you on that. Mr. Knowles replied I'm not debating you. Mr. Neal replied I'm just saying everything is excessive for the size of the community we got here. We don't have the revenue to cover salaries like that. I don't know who got this started because it wasn't that way back when I was on Council. Mrs. Keesee replied It is a different time and things have changed. Mr. Neal replied it is a different time and I understand all of that too, who is that? Mayor Hodnett replied Kathy Keesee. They have to do the same work as Lynchburg and all the other clerks and treasurers. The state don't ask you how much industry you have when they assign workloads, you have

to do it, whether you have industry or not. They're below Chatham, and they're below Gretna. If you look at Chatham and Gretna, they have a clerk and clerk assistant and a treasurer and treasurer assistant. They have two people doing the same job where as we have one here. Mr. Neal replied they have a lot more of a job to do than they do in the Town of Hurt. Mayor Hodnett replied no they don't, that's what I am saying. We have to do the same reports as Gretna or Chatham does. Mr. Neal stated on a smaller basis, there is no way they do the same thing as the clerks in Lynchburg, Chatham, Danville, or Altavista. Mayor Hodnett replied the clerk's job has certain responsibilities that go with it, no matter where you're at, you have to do that work. Mr. Neal replied I know all of that, but I am just saying the size of our community and the industries we don't have or businesses really how you can compare the Town of Hurt with all these other places around here that's got businesses, industries, and all kinds of stuff. That's my problem, but you all have made up your mind, thank you. Mayor Hodnett stated that is everybody that has signed up, moving on.

New Business

Approve Operating Budget 2023/2024

Mayor Hodnett stated to Council this is up to your guys to talk about it, Gary we will start with you and go around the table. Mr. Poindexter stated while the conversation is going on, there's a few things that need to be said and you've already alluded to some of them. One, the fundamental core responsibilities are the same whether you are a small town of 1,300 or a large town of 13,000. The fundamental responsibilities are still there. They still have to be done. As Tommy said, the scale is smaller, but it's not as much smaller as it can look like from the outside. The amount of administrative work that has to be done has increased significantly. For years now we have uncovered things that should have been done years ago, and no one knew that they were not being done or being half done or whatever the case may be, but that's water under the bridge. The situation has been corrected. It's being taken care of like it should be now. Another thing to keep in mind is that there's a difference between having help in any department and having quality help, we're blessed to have quality help. If you need something done, all you have to do is ask and it will be done. It will be done correctly, it will be done on time and without any drama or negative attitudes, or sentiment being perpetuated against you in this community. Another thing to keep in mind is that even though the proposed salaries are in effect, an 8% increase over last year, the hourly rate equivalent is an 8% increase, it is technically closer to a 4% increase, because the raises do not take effect until the midpoint of the fiscal year. We budget in July to June, but evaluations and raises and things related to pay are effective the first of January. Since it takes effect halfway through, it is in a sense of closer to a 4% on the hourly rate. Some of this is a matter of how it's being calculated. The other thing just to reiterate the amount of stuff that has to be done, and the complexity of it has increased. Yet another important point there is that 10 years ago, or even seven years ago, we were not looking at an inflation rate of anywhere from five to 8%. The last two years we have been, we're not immune to that. That does not just hit individuals like all of us when we go shopping. It also hits municipalities, it hits businesses, and then there is no one that I am aware of that is immune to that. Our costs have increased more than they did prior to that. We can't sit here and say that we've got to stay where we were years ago, because inflation went up, we would go in the hole financially, if we do that. We have to stay somewhere and approximation to what the national and state trends and averages are. When you have two people doing what four is doing that says quite a bit. Joe has taken things to new levels, the ladies in the office have taken things to new levels. I would not want to have to shoulder really any of that at my age. If I were in Jason's shoes, I probably feel the same way, he has got to be spread thin. People are struggling everywhere to find a policeman, I mean that's just

something that doesn't have an answer. This is one of those difficult things that I comprehend from both sides. I think that if you're going to retain good people, then you've got to take care of them. You've got to provide not only a good compensation package, but professional development and growth opportunities. Speaking of that, I'm very proud of our two office folks who have recently completed some additional training in their respective fields and other locations. Kudos to both of you for the initiative that you've shown in that. That's something we haven't seen in a long time. Beyond that I'm not aware of anything particular. Further controversial about the budget, I think we've covered 90% of it two weeks ago during the work session. The big projects are still covered by federal ARPA funds and fall under the requirements that have to be met to go with that. We alleviated the two main tax increases and that's a conversation for next year. With that being said, I'm comfortable with the proposed budget as it is and so now defer to the next member.

Mr. Knowles stated he does not have any issues with the proposed budget at this time. Mr. Majure stated we have to stay competitive to keep our people and make sure that we're able to continue to hire good people if someone were to leave. we've actually have done research into similar sized municipalities, and they do pay these rates that we're proposing. I'm glad that we can get there without raising the real estate or personal property tax. I'm always in favor of, you got to pay people to hold them to high standards. If you pay people low, you can't hold them to high standards. That's why I'm very happy that we are able to do these raises. I do believe that we have a good budget here and I'm prepared to move forward with it. Mrs. Keesee stated I think the budget is excellent. I'm very glad that real estate and property taxes aren't going to be raised. I think that says something about the efforts of council members. I think we have one of the most professional office staff of our size than anybody in the state. I am extremely proud of the work they do, the initiatives that they put forward and just the general niceness in preparing and doing a very difficult job and I'm all in favor of the budget as it appears. Mr. Richard stated I would echo everyone in terms of the quality of our staff. I think like we have a really strong staff and we need to keep them happy so that's why I'm going to be voting for this budget. Mr. Mitchell stated I don't have a lot to say. I'm a man of few words, but I sat around this table down here for eight years, and what we had back there, you were down here with me (Tommy Neal) and you know what it was. It was a mess, most of the time. The eight years that I was here, it was a mess. They lost checks, they lost money, they didn't know where the checks were. They ended up behind the copier machine. These ladies in my opinion have excelled. They have the Town in better shape than it has ever been since I've been down here. As far as the budget I don't see why we cannot pass it. I appreciate the way that Gary puts in time down here all day long with the exception of a quick meal at lunch. We have never had that, we may have had it when I first came here with Lillian. Gary is here, he has been working for the Town to get some industry in here and I think he is doing a heck of a job for one man who's doing it all. The two ladies I think do exceptional job, I've got to vote to pass it. Mr. Poindexter stated I forgot to mention some of that last stuff that you mentioned. You have to keep in mind that you're talking about people who in the course of a year and a half or less collected something on the scale of \$100,000 that has been owed to the town for many years. If they didn't more than pay for themselves with that, that alone, much less anything else, then pray tell me what would. That is phenomenal and long overdue, so I'll leave it at that.

A motion was made to pass the budget as presented.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Knowles

Passage: Unanimous

Mr. Poindexter stated keep in mind this is a preliminary approach, still have to do a final one at the work session, two weeks from tonight. I will go ahead and go in and fix a clean copy to clean up the notes, the shading, and the heading information and all that. We'll be ready to publish that on the website, and I'll get that emailed to you within the next few days. Mayor Hodnett asked Attorney Eller when we needed to get it in the paper? Mr. Poindexter replied we have already done all of that.

Remodel

Mayor Hodnett stated all of you have the scope of work from A & M with the upstairs, any questions? Mr. Knowles stated quick question on item number 12, the electrical, three additional outlets per office? Mayor Hodnett replied yes. Mr. Knowles asked it's a minimum of three additional outlets, right, plus whatever codes are required? Mayor Hodnett replied yeah. Mr. Poindexter stated this one is the upper level, I assume you expect the lower half in the near future? Mayor Hodnett replied probably within the next 3 or 4 days. Mr. Poindexter stated so we will be ready to act on that at the work session? Mayor Hodnett replied absolutely. Mr. Knowles stated I see on here that the dumpster will be paid by the Town, any expectation of how much that will be? Mayor Hodnett replied we will have to call and get it, I don't have it. Chief Lovelace stated I'm assuming it would be a 20-30 yard dumpster, with the rental and haul off it would probably be about \$1,200.

A motion was made to accept the proposal of the upstairs portion of the building renovation that A & M Building and Design as presented us in the amount of \$68,000.

Motion: Mr. Poindexter

Second: Mr. Knowles

Passage: Unanimous

Mayor Hodnett stated the second part of the upstairs, you all had it in your packet, the hardening of Town Hall, the bulletproof material, that's manufacturing, delivery and installation. Mr. Poindexter asked question about that not an issue with it, but just asking for information. The company amulet is headquartered in Arizona, but do they have satellite offices across the country or are they going to be traveling here from Arizona? Mayor Hodnett replied they have people in Virginia that can do the install. You saw within your packet, the accolades that they have because of the quality and professionalism and professional install. Mr. Majure asked Attorney Eller if he had read over these documents? Attorney Eller replied the best I can understand, otherwise it looks fine. Mr. Majure responded he just wanted to make sure from a legal perspective.

A motion was made to pass the scope of work that amulet presented to us for \$105,074.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mrs. Keese

Passage: Unanimous

Fire Department

Mayor Hodnett stated Eric called and stated they have paid off the building loan from where we have been making the donation each year and they requested that we continue the donation because they're looking at purchasing a new fire truck. They're requesting for us to continue that donation and it'll go into a truck fund. Mr. Knowles asked do they know what type of truck they are looking at? Mayor Hodnett replied I am sure they do, but I don't. Chief Lovelace replied they are looking at an engine, and the engine is going to be \$750,000 and probably closer to a million after it is done. Mr. Knowles stated I that's what I figured. Chief Lovelace responded I think that is going to be a demo truck too. Mr. Poindexter stated I knew everything had gone up, but wow the price of a fire truck. Mr. Knowles replied and it takes about two years to be built. Mr. Poindexter stated that was going to be my next question what was the time scale. Chief Lovelace responded it is a demo truck, so it is already built. It just has to be outfitted. I'm not a expert on outfitting but I would say it would be \$100,000-\$200,000 to outfit the truck. Mr. Poindexter stated That's already built in the budget, and we just did a prelim approval on. I

don't see a real reason to back up and modify that. I would support it for this year. I guess my only other question would be since there's been no time to discuss that further. Perhaps leave it as it is this year and then if there is a question or an issue in mind, revisiting next year at budget time or even each year, as the case may be. Mr. Knowles stated he is okay with leaving it in there. Mr. Poindexter stated I don't see this kind of changing the rules in the middle of the game, I don't see a reason to change it for the current cycle of what was already in the budget. To remove it would not make a substantial difference in the budget, talking about \$5,000 out of a million-dollar budget. Mr. Richard stated I am in favor, this is already in our budget to help them out with this. Mr. Mitchell stated I am in favor. Mrs. Keesee stated it makes sense to me.

A motion was made that we continue our Hurt Volunteer Fire Department fire fund, earmark it specifically for the fire truck engine donation.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Richard

Passage: Unanimous

Resolution for Land Use Permit

Mayor Hodnett stated that's where we will be boring under the road at First Southern Baptist Church, if you have any questions I'll let Joe respond. That is a state form that you have to fill out, we really didn't write that, the state supplied it. Mr. Poindexter stated I saw a few things in there, verbiage wise and I thought that was repetitious, but other than that, if it is the way they do it and the way they want it, then it is what it is. Mayor Hodnett replied that is the way they want it and you're welcome to talk to them anytime. Mr. Poindexter replied I got bigger things to work on than that. Mr. Knowles asked are we okay with insurance on this. Joe replied we contacted Lisa at VERSA and she checked it out for us. We are liable for the job, we hired a subcontractor and any damage to the road the Town of Hurt is liable. Now, if he intentionally damages anything else, that is between the insurance companies, and they'll have their own charge. They want us to have this coverage so that we can get this resolution to them instead of having to go through this every time and pulling up \$2,500-\$3,000 to get a bore done. A motion was made to pass the resolution from VDOT as presented to us.

Motion: Mr. Majure

Second: Mr. Mitchell

Passage: Unanimous

Plaza

Mayor Hodnett stated all of you have the inspection report and had all weekend to go through it. I didn't hear anything from anybody, I'm assuming there wasn't anything in there that surprised you. Mr. Poindexter stated I went through all 62 pages of it yesterday and did not see really anything surprising for a building that age and neglected, it's experienced, and also really nothing out of the ordinary or alarming that should preclude us from moving forward with closing on that property. Mr. Knowles stated he was glad to see that there weren't any major structural issues and everything else in there that I saw is what I would expect from a building that had been neglected like this. I didn't see anything that scared me, just needs a lot of cleanup and there's a lot of work to be done, but it's all work that can be done. Mr. Majure stated it looks pretty straightforward. No issues with the foundations which I thought was a very great thing to hear. If possible, I would love to see the leases that are currently in action, their actual copies of them, but the inspection report looks great. I think we should proceed. Mr. Richard stated it is good to see that the place isn't a total dump and that we hadn't gotten into something too high. I am feeling good about that report. Mr. Mitchell stated it is a lot of small stuff there but it wouldn't take that much to fix those. I didn't see a lot of extremely high dollar stuff. Mr. Poindexter asked what do we need to, what does it need to say? Mayor Hodnett replied I got two years invested in this and if I have never made a motion, I want to make this one. Attorney Eller stated one other thing as

part of the due diligence, we have a survey of the whole property done, the building location, and measurements of the building, how far they are from the property lines and everything there looks good. There are not any encroachments going on around English's or anything like that. No setbacks so that's the other thing we have done and that looks good. The condition of the building, if Council is comfortable with that and it's about what they expected and it is 8.2 acres.

A motion was made to move forward with immediately closing on the Plaza.

Motion: Mayor Hodnett

Second: Mr. Poindexter

Passage: Unanimous

Attorney Eller stated well you might want to add this in the motion that we accept the property and we will go to closing within the 15 days that the contract calls for, and we have to pay an additional deposit of \$16,500.

A amended motion was made to address the issues that Attorney Eller brought forward that when we accept the property we will pay the additional deposit.

Motion: Mayor Hodnett

Second: Mr. Richard

Passage: Unanimous

Mayor Hodnett stated as you all know I will be meeting with the Brownfield people later this month talking about the grants available for remediation in the Winn Dixie building. Mr. Poindexter asked is there anything further that can be elaborated on that at this time? I mean, that's a very encouraging and hopeful grant for us to go a long way to getting that property and to where we can really get some revenue. Mayor Hodnett replied well the Brownfield Grant was put out for Gretna, Chatham, and Hurt specifically. There are other grants available out there for cleanup on the property that could be up to half a million dollars. Mr. Poindexter stated that would do much of the work that is in this report that needs to be done. Mayor Hodnett replied you have to realize that would only be specific to the Winn Dixie part of the building that has the black mold. That's what they are going to be specifically looking for, they aren't going to fix light fixtures and stuff like that. It's going to be mold and asbestos. Mr. Poindexter stated that is going to be the weighty stuff anyway, that will cost the most. Mr. Majure asked how about the roof? Mayor Hodnett replied no it won't cover the roof, they're just looking for hazardous stuff, but if we can get a grant, that will take care of a huge chunk of that. Mr. Knowles stated I think there's probably some additional grants out there for community beautification, etc. that we should be able to apply for. Mayor Hodnett stated the main street grants, I am meeting with the new Pittsylvania County Administrator, Wednesday of next week. We're having lunch and that's the topic of discussion about what kind of Main Street grants are in existence now to move forward when we have it in our possession. That will be another ongoing conversation.

Report from Legal Counsel – Attorney Eller

Attorney Eller reported that he will be carrying out the closing. We will notify the seller's attorney in the morning and tell him that we are ready to go into the final 15-day period. I am almost ready to file the writ of election to get all of our Councilman elected for term, and hopefully they won't resign after they get elected. Also, there is going to be the charter election. Mr. Knowles asked if we're currently going to have a special election for three seats on council. If the referendum goes through, and it's lowered to four, how will that be handled? Attorney Eller replied there's going to have to be an effective date on that charter change and we'll have to figure out how that's going to work. That is a good question. It's not going to happen for a year, because the legislature won't even look at it till next January. They might set it up for another year after that, so we won't have to do any figuring out on it right now. Nothing's going to change until the General Assembly Acts. Mr. Poindexter stated it will take at least a year or two

in the process to get that done, say if it passes. Attorney Eller stated if it passes in 2024, the General Assembly may very well make it effective January 2025. We are looking pretty far out.

Reports from Staff

Treasurer- Ellen Brumfield reported in the general fund we have \$457,805.45. We have \$139,217.19 of an ARPA balance that will be claimed in 2024. We have three small grants that we have collected. One is the LOLE/599 and it is in the amount of \$1,106. We have received that and that was to pay for the part time patrolman's, Tom. We've collected \$500 from VERSA to go toward the ADA compliance sidewalks and the ramp out front. In August we can apply for another \$500 so it will be \$1,000 toward this project out here with the ADA compliance. In August, we should also receive a litter grant that is a little bit over \$1,600. What we use the litter grant for is we purchased some more safety vests for the litter pickup and then signs and the stands. We should be getting that in August. Town Council members, you have all seen the month of May check listing and had the chance to review all of it, any questions on it? No comment. Alright, I'll be passing this around and I need everybody's signature so that we can put this in with our records. I'll be attending the Treasurer's Association Conference at the end of this month and that has 13 credits educational points that all pertain to that.

Clerk-Kelsie Anderson reported that May 14th-17th I attended the International Institute of Municipal Clerks with over 850 clerks. I got to meet a lot of people and gain a lot of information. I just wanted to thank Council for allowing me to go with that granted scholarship I received. I also want to thank everyone who came out and helped with the Memorial Day Celebration. We are a small staff so everyone's help made a huge difference, and any help with that is always appreciated. Lastly May was a busy meeting month so most of the month my time was spent on minutes as most of you probably know as well as sending out and collecting delinquent water bills.

Public Works-Joseph Smith reported I have been working with First Southern Church on hooking up their water connection. We have been back and forth with the engineers on the pricing of materials, and what it is going to cost to do the permit. I have had to call back and forth with VDOT, but I am getting ready to send the permit off. I've been working with a lot of the Town Administrative zoning, like floors and decks, trailers being pulled out of the trailer park, sheds, and garages, and then I have to deal with Pittsylvania County and send them an authorization form and let them know that I checked it out on our end and then they go through their billing codes. I'm getting ready to do water samples. I have been working with the meter company and trying to get new transmitters for some of the meters that were installed, but the batteries failed, and they are under a warranty where it is no cost to us. They have a 10-year warranty. I think I have six of those I'm going to replace. Tom and I are also dealing with the grant money for the \$250,000 for potholes because we heard back from them last week. They just needed us to answer three more questions and we did. They responded to us that the answers were adequate, so now we're just waiting on the steps to find out when we will be receiving it. Then the usual, just working with the billing and leak letters. We have a lot of people calling asking if I can come over and show them where the shut off valve is. Also I would like to thank Steve for allowing me to come over and get pictures of the house and the neighbors. Mayor Hodnett stated do you want to let everybody know that we have finished up with phase 1. Joe replied we are in the final phase of phase 1 at Altavista with the clave valve. When we move the pipe from the bottom of their clear well off of their pumps in our clear well. We're in a phase where we're testing and everything's looking decent right now. Also I have lead and copper going out in about 2 days. Mayor Hodnett replied and your also getting ready to start on phase 2. Joe stated I have had a couple meetings with a couple people who sell the

equipment which are mixtures, ventilators, and aerators. They've been going over what they can do for us so when it comes time for the RFPs they're going to put in for that and we'll pick the best price for the project and that's what we'll do. Mayor Hodnett stated we're also waiting on the RFP for the financials looking at the Town to provide us a bill of health and where we need to be over the next 8 to 10 years on water bills and maintenance and stuff like that. That had to be done as well as part of getting the money for phase two. Joe replied we put those RFPs out couple weeks ago and now we're waiting for their response. I think it's the 28th that we are supposed to get their response and then we will go over the RFP's.

Police Department- Chief Lovelace

May 2023 Police Report

Calls for Service-

Civil complaint- 2

Missing Person- 1

Public Service- 6

Vandalism/Destruction of Property- 1

Larceny- 0

Disabled Vehicle- 0

Noise Complaint- 0

Alarms- 0

Mutual Aide- 1

Paper Served- 0

Fraud- 1

Animal Case- 1

Simple Assault- 1

Drug Offense- 0

All other offenses- 1

Suspicious Person- 0

Other

Miles Driven- 439

Use of Force-0

Department/Officer Complaints-0

Department Updates-

Continue to work on the evidence room updates, installation of adequate lighting and ventilation has been installed along with receptacles. We had 13 traffic camera violations in the school zone, and 801 took training on medical preparedness & response for bombing incidents.

Public Safety- Mike Jones reported I just like to say two things. My time is limited tonight, as I'm having to go downtown Richmond to assist in the shootings of seven students on their graduation night. It's quite a tragedy, and there's at least one dead. Please keep those students who are just starting their life in your prayers. I want to thank all of those citizens from the Town of Hurt who have reached out to me by mail, email, and phone calls and that have given me an outpouring of support and good wishes for my time with Hurt. I'm so thankful for the citizens I've been able to help and able to help the Town. I am proud of what I've done and sorry that some people seem to think otherwise, but that's what I'd like to leave you with.

Report from Mayor- Gary Hodnett reported I don't really have anything. I think we're pretty well caught up and we got a lot of work to move forward. We need to continue to be very diligent in trying to get as many grants as we can get, we're going to be needing them coming up. I appreciate everybody that showed up at the forum the other night, thank you guys for coming. Mr. Poindexter stated one thing I remembered that we need to consider tonight or at the work session is that our July monthly business meeting happens to fall on Independence Day itself and we will be closed. We will need to set an alternative date for that meeting. I don't know how many people may be out of town, on vacation, or whatever the case may be. Do we want to do it later that week, the 6th or the following week, or what do we want to do in July, that is a month away. We might ought to be at least thinking about it. Mayor Hodnett stated everybody take a look at your schedule and be prepared to come up with a date at our work session, that gives you time to take a look at it. Thank you guys for coming. We always appreciate seeing you.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:00PM.

Kelsie Anderson
Kelsie Anderson-Clerk

Gary Hodnett
Gary Hodnett-Mayor