

Town of Hurt Meeting Minutes

June 16, 2020

Hurt, Virginia

The Town of Hurt council held a called meeting on Tuesday, June 16, 2020 at Hurt town Hall. The meeting opened at 6:02 PM with a quorum present.

Roll Call

Members present were Watson, Adams, Bowling, Clay, Barksdale-Hill, and Keesee.

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

Motion: Watson Second: Adams Passage: unanimous

Council entered closed session at 6:04 PM and concluded at 6:56 PM.

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

Motion: Watson Second: Clay Passage: unanimous

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Watson

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Interim Mayor Hodnett

Outcomes from Closed Session

Mayor Hodnett received a response from the County on the Cares Act funding related to COVID-19, that we will get \$43,000 of the \$107,000 that can be allotted to us. We will resubmit our request for more funding.

Watson questioned what the money can be used for? Mayor Hodnett stated that it can be for direct and indirect expenses, such as staff overtime, Feeding the Children program at the school, our time and effort there, computers, servers, personal protective equipment and supplies, police overtime, emergency preparedness needs, cell phones for the police, and probably the salary for Chief Mike Jones as Police Safety Director.

There are sympathy cards floating around for council members to sign. Susan stated that she needs permission to order more because that is all we have left.

Based on closed session there is nothing from closed coming out to be presented in open.

Consent Agenda

Mayor Hodnett suggested that we revisit the fiscal year 2020/2021 budget for approval by council. The budget was posted for two weeks for public comments, available for public hearing, and received no comments.

A motion was made to accept the fiscal year budget for 2020/2021 as presented.

Motion: Barksdale-Hill

Second: Keesee

Passage: unanimous

Public Works

Adams reported that he, ED Hodges, and Mayor Hodnett met with three engineering firms for the Town water project on Friday, (5/29). Wiley and Wilson came in first and they were good, then Engineering Concepts came in, they did not have the expertise for the project we need. Peed and Bortz came in and blew them away. Wiley and Wilson, and Peed and Bortz were close, but Peed and Bortz is the best choice of the three with grant funding experience, and knowledge of several different ways to fix our problems. They discussed in detail the steps in the project. We may have to fund the first part ourselves and wait to see how much the grant money will cover. They have a good working relationship with us already, and a good working relationship with Altavista. Adams recommended that we chose Peed and Bortz engineering firm for our water project. Watson asked if we needed to replace the Clearwell? Adams explained that all the inlets are on the Clearwell causing part of the problem and moving the water lines would help Altavista give us better water treatment, making a better product. Peed and Bortz also suggested a loop in waterline to supply the SVMP industrial site. Mayor Hodnett summarized that Altavista treatment process will be changed, we get off Clearwell, leave agitators on for better mixing, and this should clear up the water. Chris Adcock from PCSA will be working with us to help solve their water problem in Grit, and this will help get more Tobacco Grant money for the water project. We should pay approximately \$50,000 up front then the grants will start. Watson asked if this would solve the Grit water problem? Mayor Hodnett responded that it would probably be resolved by default when the Hurt problem is solved. By them joining with us we can take measures to be sure both problems are resolved. Hurt has high TTHM (Total Trihalomethanes) water results and Grit has an abnormal HAA5 (Haloacetic Acids) water results. Ed Hodges explained a few more details. Mayor Hodnett asked Ed Hodges when will our test results be back from our Clearwell? Ed stated he is expecting results Friday, (6/5). Adams reported that the old meters are not reading correctly, and the new radio read meters will be much better. Letters has 30 days to go out and fines are \$5000 per day. Barksdale-Hill asked about testing and follow up agreements. Altavista has started the testing and follow-up agreement will be discussed after engineers are chosen.

A motion was made to accept Adams recommendation to use Peed and Bortz for our water project.

Motion: Barksdale-Hill

Second: Keesee

Passage: unanimous

No other committee reports.

Hearing of Citizens/Public Comment

No comments.

Reports from Membership, Boards, and Commissions

Clay asked should we bring in a second officer for interview. Mayor Hodnett responded that she should discuss with the Admin Committee (Barksdale-Hill and Bowling) the need, then possible set up an interview if needed.

Ed Hodges stated that on June 26 and 27, he will start delivering new trash cans. Still some wheels missing, and 12 extra cans have not come in yet.

Adams asked John Eller about Walter McCormick's Arena site being filled with work equipment and follow-up on the zoning for his site. John Eller to follow up. Adams stated that if McCormick's property happens to come up as commercial property, and we send a letter. It was stated that we need to send a letter to Doug Dalton too. Mayor suggested we have him put up a fiberglass fence and the town pay to paint a mural on the fence.

Report from Legal Counsel

John Eller reported that this year if you do not have an ABC license or a truck stop that owners will pay \$1200 per machine per month for each gaming machine starting July 1, 2020.

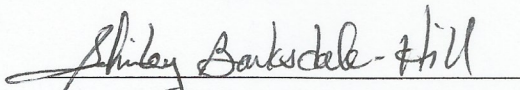
Mayors Report

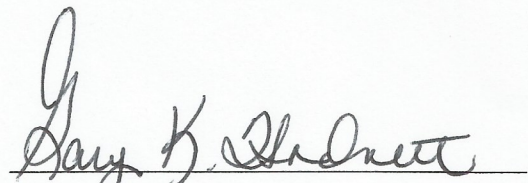
The Honorable Gary Hodnett suggested we setup a town initiative to have everyone participate together by walking or exercising and recognize with a gift card the most time put in. Using time not miles. Open seats were discussed by council. Only Adams and Keesee running for council in, and only Hodnett running for Mayor in November, still one seat open.

Report form Staff

Susan reported that citizens were questioning the due date on the water bill and the penalty being added on the same day as the due date. She was informed that no penalties will be applied until after the 15th as stated on the bill. Susan stated that penalties were removed that had been applied on the due date.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 PM.


Shirley Barksdale-Hill - Vice-Mayor


Gary Hodnett - Mayor