

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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JOYCE A. SPRATT
MAYOR
JOHN H. AVERY
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
ROBERT MERRIKEN
ATTORNEY

COUNCIL MEMBERS
CHARLES T. CEPHAS, SR.
BONNIE FRANZ
EARL H. MURPHY
RUSSELL C. MURPHY, JR.
JERRY L. RHUE, SR.

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING APRIL 10, 2017 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Spratt called the Open Session Meeting of April 10, 2017 to order at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held at the Hurlock Town Office on Charles Street in Hurlock, MD. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Councilmember Charles Cephas gave the opening prayer. The roll call was taken, and those in attendance were: Councilmembers Russell Murphy, Earl Murphy, Jerry Rhue, Bonnie Franz, Charles Cephas, Mayor Spratt, Town Attorney Robert Merriken and Town Administrator/Clerk John Avery.

Councilman Rhue made a Motion to approve the Agenda. The Motion was seconded by Councilman E. Murphy. With all in favor and no one opposed the Motion to approve the Agenda was passed and carried with a vote of 5-0.

Councilman E. Murphy made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the March 27, 2017 Open Session Meeting. Councilman Rhue seconded the Motion. With all in favor and no one opposed, the Motion to approve the Minutes was passed and carried with a vote of 4-0. Councilwoman Franz was not in attendance at the meeting on March 27, 2017 and therefore could not vote.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Spratt warned residents to beware of people going door to door claiming to be from Delmarva Power and Light.

The Mayor announced that on April 20, 2017 at 6:30 p.m. there will be a planning session at the Town Office for upcoming events. The meeting is open to everyone.

Mayor Spratt also spoke about a 6 year old child with cancer. She asked everyone to please send cards.

A fundraiser is being held for Councilman Russell Murphy and details are being finalized.

Agenda Requests -Beginning April 29th, Jim Chaney will be holding a car show on the 4th Saturday of every month through September. Mr. Chaney spoke on parking downtown. He stated he is not against people using the businesses, but he is asking for help. Perhaps placing signage on the streets would help the situation.

Department Reports –

Administrator Avery presented a public works department report. There was a discussion on closing Mill Street for the monthly car show.

Hurlock Police Chief Les Hutton reported the police department handled 968 calls last month. There were 2 thefts, one at Amick and one on B & G. Chief Hutton said the police currently carry Narcon for drug overdoses. He feels they should also carry Epi-pens for allergic reactions. The pens cost approximately \$110.00 per unit and each car must have 2, 1 for adults and 1 for children.

Councilman Rhue presented a report from the Hurlock Fire Department. He stated the fire department has had a lot of calls.

Old Business – Attorney Robert Merriken stated that Ordinance 2017-1 for the 2017-2018 Budget was introduced during the last meeting and is ready to be voted on. Mr. Merriken explained the tax rates of .8270/100 for real property and 1.40/100 for business personal property. Councilman Cephas made a Motion to Approve Ordinance 2017-1 adopting FY 2017/2018 budget. Councilman Russell Murphy seconded the Motion. A roll call was taken and with all in favor and no one opposed, the Motion was passed and carried with a vote of 5-0.

Administrator Avery explained the difficulties that have been encountered with the grant for demolition. Councilman Rhue made a Motion for the Town to proceed with the demolition project and the Town to pay the costs directly. Councilman Cephas seconded the Motion and stated the Council should do good tonight to go forward. This project will improve the downtown area. A roll call was taken. With all in favor and no one opposed, the Motion to move forward with the demolition, at the Town's expense, was passed and carried with a vote of 5-0.

New Business – A vote to accept a bid for infrastructure work for Habitat properties on Jackson Street was awarded to Shore Real Estate. Russell Murphy made a Motion to approve the bid. Councilman Rhue seconded the Motion. With all in favor and no one opposed, the Motion to approve the bid was passed and carried with a vote of 5-0.

Councilmember Comments – Councilman Cephas thanked everyone for coming to the meeting and hopes the council will attempt to do the right thing. Maintaining good ethics is good outside of the council.

Councilman Earl Murphy spoke regarding the 5 juveniles that threw eggs and how glad he was for the way the police department responded and assisted the parties involved. Councilman E. Murphy said he loved the idea of the Epi-pens.

Councilman Rhue suggested blocking Poplar Street as well if the Car Show idea goes as planned.

Councilman Russell Murphy praised the Department of Public Works on the Spring Clean-Up. He stated that Saturday was great for the opening day of youth baseball.

Public Comments - Mr. Monroe Quailes asked who is on the Ethics Commission. He also asked how the officers know the difference between Heroin and Marijuana. Chief Hutton responded that evidence is usually in plain sight. Mr. Quailes inquired about the bike trail. Councilman Cephas replied that the money is no longer available for the bike trail. It has been gone for a long time. He added that the issue is moot at this point.

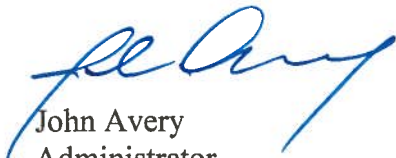
Reverend Bovankovich announced that May 4th is National Day of Prayer. He would like to make some arrangement for a prayer session. The information would be publicized.

Mr. Mike Henry had a question regarding the railroad. He also stated he is not running for Mayor, but he would run for District 1 council seat.

A Motion was made to move the meeting into Closed Session for discussion on the potential purchase of property. An announcement was made that Council would not be returning to Open Session following the Closed Session.

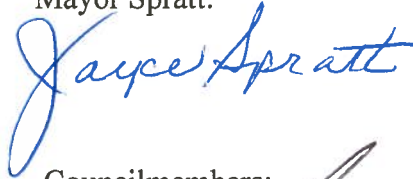
With no further business or discussion, the Open Session meeting of April 10, 2017 was adjourned.

Respectively submitted,

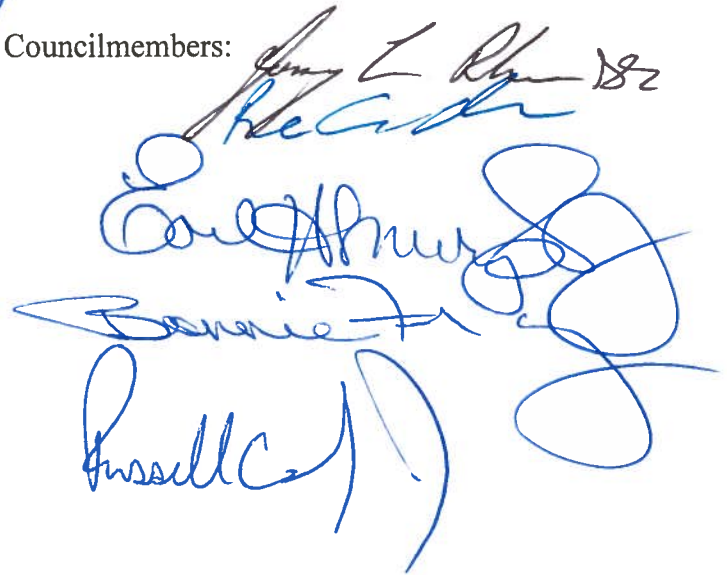


John Avery
Administrator
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: Mayor Spratt:



Councilmembers:



MINUTES
OPEN WORK SESSION MEETING
APRIL 10, 2017
5:30 P.M.

Mayor Spratt called the Open Work Session Meeting of April 10, 2017 to order at 5:30 p.m. The meeting was held at the Hurlock Town Office on Charles Street in Hurlock, MD. The roll call was taken, and those in attendance were: Councilmembers Russell Murphy, Earl Murphy, Jerry Rhue, Bonnie Franz, Mayor Spratt, Town Attorney Robert Merriken and Town Administrator/Clerk John Avery. Councilman Cephas was absent.

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the budget. Administrator Avery explained the addition of 5151, 5158, & 5159 Museum expenses and contingency funds reduced by \$19,000.00.

The Open Work Session Meeting of April 10, 2017 was adjourned at 5:37 p.m.

John Avery
Earl Murphy
Bonnie Franz
Russell Murphy
Jayce Spratt