

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

POST OFFICE BOX 327
HURLOCK, MARYLAND 21643
410-943-4181

FAX 410-943-8556

E-MAIL: townofhurlock@townofhurlock.org

MICHAEL E. HENRY
MAYOR
JOHN H. AVERY
TOWN ADMINISTRATOR
ROBERT MERRIKEN
ATTORNEY

COUNCIL MEMBERS
CHARLES T. CEPHAS, SR.
CHARLES A. CUMMINGS
BONNIE FRANZ
EARL H. MURPHY
RUSSELL C. MURPHY, JR.

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING December 11, 2017

Mayor Henry called the Open Session Meeting of December 11, 2017 to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer

Roll call, present: Councilmembers; Franz, E. Murphy, Cummings and Rev. Cephas
Mayor Henry, Attorney Merriken and Deputy Clerk Era

Approval of Agenda: Was approved with discussion of Ordinances 2017-8 & 2017-9 postponed to January by motion of Councilman Cephas/second by E. Murphy. 4/0.

Approval of Minutes: November 27, 2017 – Cephas/Franz, vote 3for/0 opposed, Councilman Cummings abstained. Special Session, December 4, 2017, minutes approved by E. Murphy/Franz vote of 4 for/0 opposed.

Mayors Report; Mayor Henry spoke about the Christmas Parade being changed from Saturday to Sunday due to bad weather. The Parade turned out to be a great event, a good time was had by all.

Jeff Hubbard from the Dorchester Chamber of Commerce congratulated Mayor Henry and the Council. The Chamber is looking forward to supporting the Town and Mayor and Council. Mr. Hubbard introduced Ms. Lori Nagel who will be replacing him as Chairman of the Board. They said to let them know of anything the Town needs in promoting events.

Rob Duma from Davis, Bowen and Friedel, Town's Engineer, introduced himself and congratulated the new Mayor and Council. They are here for the Town. Councilman Cephas asked about the storm water system and said it needs upgrading. Mr. Duma said a storm water study was done for the drainage along Neelson St. Councilman Cephas stated that flooding

occurs by the Police Department and where the potato plant was. Mayor Henry asked if the study was isolated to one area. Mr. Duma said there was a priority list and an idea of what it would cost.

Department Reports: Chief Hutton reported there was a burglary at 100 Douglass Dr. and some thefts and shoplifting complaints that were handled. MADD recognized officers Howard and Mitton. The Chief stated that officer Howard had been involved in an accident and thanked the Mayor and Councilmember Cummings for checking on his wellbeing.

Councilman Earl Murphy thanked the Chief for officer Howard's quick response to his home fire alarm. Councilman Murphy said he called the duty phone and got an immediate response from officer Howard.

Mayor Henry said he talked to the department heads and Terri and Bobby Jo who all said that they are staying on board with the Town after the changing of the Mayor.

Old Business: Councilmember Cephas said he would wait on discussion on pending issues until the after the first of the year. Items to be discussed include; Ethics Ordinance, Classes for Councilmembers, Grass Ordinance, and changing the form of government to have a Town Manager. Other items he would like see worked on are attracting new businesses, job creation, fast food restaurant, housing, grocery store, programs for youth, and update the Charter and Employee Handbook.

Council Comments: Councilman E. Murphy thanked Mr. Earl Richmond (Grand Marshall) and Mr. Bobby Wright (Town Marshall) for participating in the Christmas Parade. Mr. Richmond served in the Navy during World War II and Mr. Wright started the Little League baseball program in Hurlock.

Mayor Henry spoke on starting Facebook pages for the Mayor and Council and the Police Department.

Bonnie Franz thanked everyone for the help with the coat drive, it was a success.

Councilman E. Murphy spoke about the Memorial Tree that was decorated by hand made ornaments made by children from Hurlock and the surrounding area. He also thanked everyone help plan the parade and wished everybody a Merry Christmas.

Councilman Cummings said he appreciated everyone coming out and for all the support.

Following a unanimous vote the Council cancelled the meeting scheduled for December 25th.

Public Comments: Jack Lewis congratulated the Mayor and Councilman Cummings. He asked if Councilmembers can meet with groups before town meetings so they can present their ideas and desires.

Monroe Quales said he is happy to see a working Council starting off the New Year in harmony.

Ms. Shirley Carter asked why the sweeper has not been around. Mayor Henry said he requested the streets be swept after the parade.

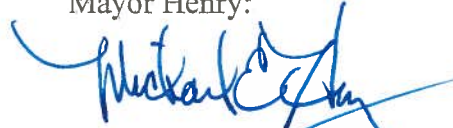
Motion to Adjourn: Cephas/E. Murphy

Respectfully Submitted:



John Avery
Town Administrator

Mayor Henry:



Councilmembers:

Rev. Ch. Cephas

