

# The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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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 July 10, 2017 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Spratt called the Open Session Meeting of July 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 Rev. Cephas gave the opening prayer. The roll call was taken, and those in attendance were: Councilmembers Russell Murphy, Earl Murphy, Bonnie Franz, Jerry Rhue, Rev. Cephas, Mayor Spratt, Town Attorney Robert Merriken and Town Administrator/Clerk John Avery.

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

Councilmember R. Murphy made a Motion to approve the Minutes of the June 12, 2017 Open Session Meeting. Councilmember Cephas 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 5-0.

**Mayor's Report** – Mayor Spratt read a letter from Dawn Betton thanking the Town for flowers. Following complaints about speaking out during meetings, public comments will be limited to 3 minutes and only during the public comment section. The Chamber of Commerce dinner on the 22<sup>nd</sup> was a huge success with a great turn out. The Mayor reminded the Council of the upcoming LESMA dinner. Fall cleanup will be on September 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> this year. The Mayor had called for volunteers to help with many of upcoming events, she was disappointed that only one person showed up for a Fall Fest meeting. There was a car show the last Saturday of the month. Jim Chaney donated \$160 for the Memorial Park from the proceeds.

**Department Reports** – Administrator Avery gave a short Public Works report. Chief Hutton stated that the police department responded to over 1000 calls during the last month. The fire department report had been dropped off by Asst. Chief Helmer and read by Jerry Rhue.

**Old Business** – Frank and Faye Fraley gave a report on the Memorial Park, Frank presented a proposed design for the park. He described a change in size due to it being placed on a much larger lot. He said the floor will red brick pavers with a white wall and blue cap blocks. The wall will have black granite panels, one for each branch of the service. Faye presented a \$2000 donation from the Veterans Recognition Fund. Councilmember Rhue thanked them and said they had done a good job.

**New Business** – Attorney Merriken described Ordinance 2017-2 which is a text amendment to the Zoning Ordinance to allow additional uses in the Light Industrial districts. This Ordinance was introduced by Councilmember Cephas. Ordinance 2017-3 was also described which is to allow the purchase, by the Town, of Lot 6 in the Industrial Park. This Ordinance was introduced by Councilmember Cephas. Councilmember Cephas stated that expanding the allowed use of property lets the Town offer a larger package to potential businesses. We should not let the Industrial Park go down.

Councilmember Cephas asked for a workshop to discuss Sections 403 & 404B of the Charter. The Mayor stated that we can have a work shop on August 14<sup>th</sup> prior to the regular Open Session. Cephas stated that specifically he wants to look at the salary of the Mayor and the process allowed for hiring and firing department heads. Cephas said that he would like sources of odors looked into, specifically from Amick and B&G processing peppers. He said he has talked to Chief Hutton about the possibility of regulating rendering trucks in town.

#### **Councilmembers –**

Councilman Russ Murphy spoke on installing a PA system for the meetings and using a lectern for people when they address the Council. He said it would help the flow of the meeting. He also said that he is excited about the Memorial Park. He announced the winners of the past month yard awards.

Councilmember Rhue thanked the Fraley's

Councilmember Franz hopes everyone has a nice cool summer.

Councilmember E. Murphy spoke on the Ordinances that were introduced saying that they will be good for drawing business. Each piece makes a difference.

Councilmember Cephas thanked the Fraley's for the wonderful presentation. He said he ran for office with MML and did not make it this time. He hopes to be successful next year. The Ethics workshop (offered by MML) is very beneficial. He hopes all Councilmembers will take it. He is surprised that only one person showed up for the Fall Fest meeting. We all have to work together.

**Public Comments –**

Monroe Quailes said he is glad to hear some Councilmembers went to the Ethics workshop, it is a good thing to have. Mayor Spratt said there is a misunderstanding regarding the position of president of the commission, she said the position is filled by the commission itself. Mr. Quailes contends that he was appointed by the Mayor.

Jack Lewis spoke about the use outside at Future Builders Supply.

Cederic Turner asked for permission to have a back to school function at Prospect Park as in previous years. He also asked to have a few concerns in the park looked at.

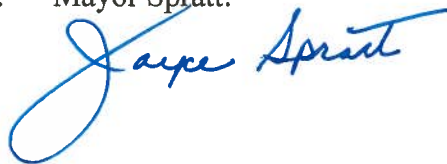
Motion to adjourn by Councilmember Rhue/second by Franz 7:20

Respectively submitted,



John Avery  
Administrator  
Clerk/Treasurer

Approved: Mayor Spratt:



Councilmembers:

