

The Mayor and Council of Hurlock

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

MINUTES OPEN SESSION MEETING May 14, 2018

6:00 PM Call to Order by Mayor Henry.

Pledge of Allegiance/Prayer – Chief Hutton gave the opening prayer.

Roll call, present: Councilmembers; E. Murphy, Cummings, R. Murphy, Franz and Rev. Cephas, Mayor Henry, Attorney Merriken and Administrator Avery

Approval of Agenda: Motion E. Murphy second Cummings, approved 5/0.

Approval of Minutes:

April 23, 2018 Open Session - E. Murphy/Franz, vote 5 for/0 opposed.

April 23, 2018 Closed Session – E. Murphy/Franz 5 for/0 opposed.

April 24, 2018 Work Session – R. Murphy/E. Murphy 5 for/0 opposed.

Mayors Report: Mayor Henry said that the Habitat build on May 5th went very well. It is a very good cause. LESMA dinner will be at Suicide Restaurant May 17th at 6 pm. The work has been completed on the Pavilion. The cleaning of the outside of the old library looks good.

Legislation for an exemption of the 300' from churches requirement for alcohol from has been passed by the state. (Research following the meeting found that the exemption is only for Class "B" licenses)

Agenda Request: Ms. Charlene Jones representing Youth Action Council came to the meeting to describe the up-coming drug and alcohol awareness walk to stop under age substance abuse and ask for approval from the Council to allow that in town. The walk will be the 3rd in town and has middle school and high school students involved. Councilman Cephas motion to approve, second by E. Murphy, vote 5 in favor/0 opposed.

Mr. Chris Hauge from Dorchester County Public Schools gave a power point presentation describing the construction progress of the new North Dorchester High School. It is on schedule with a move in time by fall of 2019. He thanked the Council for the support of the project. Councilman Cephias thanked him for a wonderful presentation and asked why there is not a football program in north county.

Public Works Report – Avery said the exterior of the old library has been cleaned and during that it was noted that the new library needs a new roof. Survey work will be done in town over the next couple of weeks. This work is being done by the state preliminary to parts of the rail line being turned over to Dorchester County. The part in town will still be operated by Maryland & Delaware RR. Water plant operator Eric Barnhart was presented an award at the Maryland Water Conference and was elected to the Board of Directors of Maryland Rural Water. Amick’s discharge permit has been renewed. Expansion plans include going to 7-day discharge at a lower volume per day. Avery commented on an apparent misconception that the town was planning on hiring a grant writer, there are no plans for that. The town will still use Valarie Mann as needed and there are no plans on expanding the office staff with the change to a Town Manager.

Police Report: Chief Hutton gave a brief report stating that the calls from April 24 until May 14 included an assault at Amick, a theft at the ball fields and other assorted violations.

Old Business: Councilman Cephias spoke on the request for speed bumps and a security camera in Woodsedge. He thought that if speed bumps were installed in Prospect they should be put in at Woodsedge as well.

E. Murphy motioned to approve Ordinance 2018-8 adopting the fiscal year 2019 budget, second by Cummings, roll call vote:

R. Murphy	Aye
Cummings	Aye
Franz	Aye
E. Murphy	Aye
Cephias	Nay

New Business: Councilman Cummings motion to recruit 5 kids from Hurlock Elementary School to sit with councilmembers for a day, second E. Murphy, 5 in favor/0 opposed.

Council Comments: Councilman Cephias said Social Services will be at the old library May 25th to be available to help citizens. He has fliers to be passed out. Citizens should be a part of prosperity. Councilperson Franz is working on a movie night, she thinks September would be best, when it won’t be so hot. Two town people passed away over the past weekend. R. Murphy called for citizens to get involved in the community. He described fliers that have put out for the fire department, 12 days of Christmas in July. E. Murphy said that the annual suicide walk will be September 3rd. They have a lot of great information. There was a lot of hard work that went into the budget, it was a hard decision to not go along with a tax cut. Cummings thanked people who support youth.

Public Comments: Paul Grahe thanked Councilmembers E. Murphy and Cephas for the concerns about Woodsedge. He requested a security camera. Gemcraft was required by the Town to have a HOA. Paul Bovanovich asked if there was any news on the proposed bakery. A resident asked that the rest of Mill Street by the railroad tracks be paved, there is also a need for more sidewalks in town, especially along Railroad Ave and Nealson Street.

Announcement that the next meeting will be June 29th due to Memorial Day on the 28th. There will be no meeting June 11th due to the MML Conference.

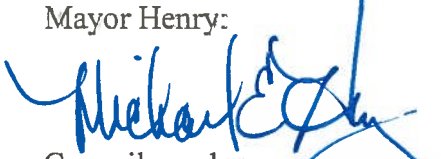
Motion to go to closed session, Attorney Merriken described divided reason for closed session: 1. Discussion of one employee's health insurance. 2. Discussion pertaining to the possible dismissal of an employee. E. Murphy motion, second Cummings, vote 5 for/0 opposed.

Announcement; the Council will not return to open session.

Adjourn 7:35 pm.

Respectfully Submitted:


John Avery
Town Administrator

Mayor Henry:

Councilmembers:
Rev. C. G. G.
