



Town of Nutter Fort Minutes Council Meeting – January 9th, 2024

Called to order at 6:30 pm by Mayor Sam Maxson.

Attendance – Sam Maxson, Charlene Louk (via phone), Rick Lafferty, Bryan Gonzalez, Jim Link, Natalie Haddix, Karen Phillips

Department Heads – Code Enforcement Officer Andy Grogg

Guests – Shirley Sheets, Kathy Powell, Dennis Dutchess, Cynthia Lafferty, Rezin Hudkins, Jennifer Robinson, Mark Hayes, Steve Johnson

Absent – Treasurer Leslie Cummings, Police Chief Ronnie Godwin, Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, EMS Supervisor Nathan Rohrbough, Town Engineer Ryan Holcomb

Minutes:

- Approval of minutes 12/12/2023 - Council Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous vote after a motion to approve the minutes was made by Rick Lafferty and a second by Bryan Gonzalez.

Treasurer's Report:

- We have received our first check on the Opioid settlement. Total received so far is \$69,720.76. I will be researching the stipulations and guidelines on the monies uses so a discussion can be held at the next meeting.
- Billing conversion has come to a halt for a few weeks. There were some issues with billing codes completed by CUSI not calculating correctly. Hopefully, training can start back up next month and then the conversion will be completed for March/April 2024.
- The office will be closed 1/15/2024 in observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Trash services will be one day late the week of 1/15/2024 except for Friday.

**Treasurer's Report was provided by Leslie Cummings prior to the meeting due to a scheduling conflict and read by Charlene Louk.

Approval of Accounts Payable:

- Accounts payable items were presented via handout (attached) and were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Charlene Louk which was seconded by Karen Phillips.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business

- None

Committee Reports:

- Chief of Police Report: Absent & no report provided.
- Fire Chief Report: Absent & no report provided.
- EMS/Ambulance Report: Absent & no report provided.

- Public Works Supervisor Report: Absent & no report provided.
- Engineer Report: Absent & no report provided.
- Code Enforcement Report: 1619 Buckhannon Pike - where the building was torn down will have dirt brought in and the area will be filled once the weather breaks. 302 Norma Avenue - there was an issue with parking on street vs parking in driveway & this was addressed with the homeowner.

Public Comment:

- Resident & Former Councilor Rezin Hudkins noted the following:
 - The TONF lost another police officer and he would like to know the plan for another police officer to help create police coverage 24/7.
 - Mentioned that the Opioid Settlement is \$700K over 15 years and that Nutter Fort PD should consider hiring a police officer to get the DARE program in the schools.
 - Steve Johnson, a 31-year veteran of the police force, most recently Harrison County Sheriff's Department spoke up and stated that there are two reasons officers leave the police force from what he has seen: money and morale.
 - This lengthy discussion prompted a work session to be held prior to the next council meeting on 1/23/2024 at 5:30pm regarding police coverage.
- Resident & Former Councilor Rezin Hudkins also noted:
 - He had to input the order for bricks and would like council to help review the order for accuracy ASAP. Information was originally sent to Natalie Haddix and was subsequently forwarded to council, as Charlene Louk and Bryan Gonzalez advised that they would assist with this.
- Resident Jennifer Robinson inquired about water meter issues with her residence. Mayor Sam Maxson advised that she needs a different cover on her meter and would follow up with her.
- Resident Dennis Dutchess brought up the following:
 - Issue with the lack of a white line on Illinois Avenue and by Freedom Baptist Church. It is hard to see where the road ends. Mayor Sam Maxson was going to look into it.
 - His furnace has a calcium deposit issue this year. He was advised to contact PW Supervisor Taylor Keith regarding testing at his residence.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:26 pm.

Natalie K. Haddix, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor