



## Town of Nutter Fort Minutes January 10th, 2023

Charlene Louk led us in prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.  
Call to Order at 6:31 pm by Mayor Maxson.

Attendance: Sam Maxson, Natalie Haddix, Jim Link, Charlene Louk, Karen Phillips, Treasurer Leslie Cummings, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith, Code Enforcement Andy Grogg

Absent: Police Chief Ron Godwin, Rezin Hudkins, Logan Alastanos.

Guests: Zack Dobbins (Bennett and Dobbins), Shirley Sheets, Kathy Powell, Dennis Dutchess, Cynthia Lafferty, Rick Lafferty, Amy Glasow, Victoria Glasow

### Minutes

- Approval of minutes 12/13/2022 - Council Meeting - Charlene Louk moved to table the 12/13/22 minutes until the next meeting. Motion approved by unanimous vote after a second by Natalie Haddix.

Treasurer's Report - Leslie reported they recently had one incident with a counterfeit one-hundred-dollar bill in the office. It was similar to one of the "motion picture" bills the City of Bridgeport warned about.

Approval of Accounts Payable - were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Karen Phillips.

### New Business

1. Review-Discuss-Consider - Appointment of Jerry Jackson to Sanitary Board effective 1/1/2023 - 6/30/2024. - This is to fill a vacancy due to Jim Wolfe's resignation effective 12/31/22. Charlene Louk moved to accept Mr. Jackson's appointment. Passed by unanimous vote after a second by Karen Phillips.
2. Review-Discuss-Consider - Ordinance 2023-01 - An Ordinance of the Town of Nutter Fort, West Virginia, Amending the Schedule of Rates and Charges for the Services and Facilities Furnished for the Customers of the Water Distribution System of the Town of Nutter Fort by Increasing the Rates and Charges by the Establishment of New Rates and Charges - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading - Zack Dobbins, Accountant explained the increase and answered questions. Clarksburg is increasing water rates to their residential and resale customers. Total increase is 13.6% and Clarksburg is dividing it into two phases. If Ordinance 2023-01 is passed, the first increase will be effective for 3/2023 billing (Feb usage). The second will be effective in July. Clarksburg has set this up so that the first phase is slightly higher for re-sale customers. Then the second will be less on re-sale and higher on residential, so that it will balance out. New minimum bill for 2000 gallons will increase from \$25.22 to \$28.64. The average 3400 gallon bill will increase from \$41.71 to \$47.37. The July increase will be the close to the first phase. Zack has reviewed the required "class cost of service study" done by a third party and has no issues with it. The raise only covers Clarksburg's water operations and maintenance. No other costs are built into it. There is a slight shortfall from last year which the Town is absorbing. All municipalities that are re-sale customers will have to raise their rates to cover this increase. Studies to date on Clarksburg's lead and copper issues show these costs are not being passed onto resale customers, such as Nutter Fort. Zack also clarified this raise does not affect sewer costs. There will likely be a sewer increase by Clarksburg later. There was some discussion on this back in the fall, but Clarksburg has more work to do first. Natalie Haddix moved to approve Ordinance 2023-01 on the first reading. Approved by unanimous vote after a second by Charlene Louk.

Committee Reports:

- o Chief of Police Report - Sam reported we will have two part-time officers on board, hopefully next week. He thinks they will be working 2-3 days a week. Ethan Kesling passed his physical agility test and will now go to the academy for 16 weeks.
- o Fire Chief - Jeremy had nothing new to report
- o Public Works Supervisor Report - Taylor reported the sewer project on Maryland will be complete by the end of the week. The next part of Phase III will be on WV south and Lewis Dotson Ln, then onto Romano and a section of Thomas to finish Phase III. Taylor reminded everyone Clarksburg is now adding phosphate to the water. This is a perfectly safe additive to help keep lead out of the water. A handout is being hand delivered to residents starting tomorrow. Also expect a survey in the mail about your pipes, etc., because of Clarksburg's lead pipe issue. These need to get back as quickly as possible. They are required to be in compliance with the Bureau of Public Health and EPA. Responses can be done several ways. So please get the word out. Over the Christmas Holiday, and extreme cold, there were 11 water and 3 sewer callouts.
- o Code Enforcement Report - Andy reported there were 3 permits and 2 occupancies. He's been in contact with an engineering firm about the change-out of tanks at Speedway in May. They've been made aware of taking precautions to avoid contamination of 2 streams. Andy is getting all required parties involved, so this goes smoothly.
- o EMS/Ambulance - Nathan Rohrbough reported there have been 40 calls since the service began on 11/28/22. 33 were in Nutter Fort. Only 6 refused to go to the hospital. 75% of those transported had ALS care (paramedic), which is the highest level of care we can offer. 85% of patients were transported to local hospitals. He read a thank you card from one of the patients. We are waiting on a site visit from Medicare to finalize the billing process. This is perfectly normal due to the Holidays. We expect our call volume to go up and our area to expand. The second stretcher on the bills is a spare for a back-up. Nathan explained this came about because the original stretcher was delayed and couldn't get here in time for our start date. The new washer and dryer is necessary to wash linens and do disinfecting that cannot be done in the other set due to soot and potential carcinogens from fire gear. Natalie added they have all been doing everything possible to make this cost effective. Council thanked them for also offering a great service by teaching CPR to the community and companies.
- o Other Committee Reports - N/A

Public Comment - Mayor Maxson read a letter from Brenda Riley resigning her Council position as of Dec. 31<sup>st</sup>, 2022. Mr. Dutchess was given clarification on the Street Fee paving vs. the Sewer project paving. He also asked if he could walk on any city streets with a loaded weapon? There were various opinions. He was advised to call Chief Godwin in the morning to clarify. Shirley Sheets asked if there would be sewer rate increases with future sewer projects? Taylor and Zach explained there wouldn't be any increase due to the projects. Phase IV and V are all grant funded.

Adjournment @ 7:20 pm

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Rezin Davis Hudkins IV, Recorder

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Sam Maxson, Mayor