



Town of Nutter Fort Minutes Council Meeting – September 26th, 2023

Called to order at 6:32 pm by Mayor Sam Maxson.

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

Department Heads- Police Chief Ronnie Godwin, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Code Enforcement Officer Andy Grogg

Guests – Rezin Hudkins, Ryan Holcomb, Cynthia Lafferty, Kathy Powell, Shirley Sheets, Dave Garvin, Dennis Duchess, Kenneth G. Johnson

Absent – Treasurer Leslie Cummings, Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith, EMS Supervisor Nathan Rohrbough

Minutes:

- Approval of minutes 9/12/2023 - Council Meeting Minutes were approved by unanimous vote after a motion to approve the minutes as written was made by Charlene Louk and a second by Rick Lafferty.

Treasurer's Report:

- Nothing

Approval of Accounts Payable:

- Accounts payable items were presented via handout (attached) and were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Charlene Louk and a second by Karen Phillips, with Bryan Gonzalez abstaining from the vote.

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business

- Review-Discuss-Consider – Traffic Advisory Committee Meeting (9/20/2023) Recommendations – Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix reported on behalf of the Traffic Advisory Committee. The issue at hand was a complaint regarding the stop sign at the intersection of Michigan, Illinois, & Nutter. The committee's agreement, under Chief Godwin's advisement, was that the stop sign was going to stay there for now. No motion needed on behalf of council.
- Review-Discuss-Consider – Halloween Trick-or-Treat Day & Time – Mayor Maxson advised that surrounding areas were holding Trick-or-Treat from 6pm to 7:30pm. Discussion was held. It was decided to hold Trick-or-Treat in Nutter Fort from 6-7pm on Tuesday, October 31, 2023, with the Nutter Fort Fire Department to hold their annual pizza party from 7-8pm; Trick-or-Treat being held on October 31, 2023 from 6-7pm in the Town of Nutter Fort was approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Charlene Louk and a second by Bryan Gonzalez.

Committee Reports:

- Chief of Police Report: 400 calls in the past 55 days, as well as 16 arrests and 100 citations
- Fire Chief Report: October is Fire Prevention Month, so the NFFD will have members at the school 3 days/week through the month of October. Ultimate Giveaway is getting closer & tickets available.
- EMS/Ambulance Report: Written report provided from EMS Supervisor Nathan Rohrbough – 172 calls so far for September 2023. 20-25 more transports still scheduled for the rest of the week. Newest ambulance inspected yesterday and passed. Still utilizing rental truck as much as possible to allow for

maintenance to be done to the fleet and hopefully will be done by next week. Fire Chief and Nathan manned the third ambulance several days already and allowed NFEMS to take extra calls and transports to help generate funds. All in all, things going well within EMS. It has taken a year to build everything up, but it is starting to fall into place. Fire Chief Haddix noted that tomorrow will actually be the busiest day to date with the number of transports scheduled.

- Public Works Supervisor Report: none
- Engineer Report – Engineer Ryan Holcomb reported as follows:

Phase III Sewer

- Discussion of programmatic financing with WVDEP CWSRF
 - Remainder of Phase III shortfall - \$90,000 Debt Forgiveness
 - Phase IV - \$1,000,000 Debt Forgiveness
 - Phase V - \$1,000,000 Debt Forgiveness
 - Route 20 - \$1,000,000 Loan (0.25%, 40-yr) / \$2,000,000 Debt Forgiveness
- Discuss rate ordinance process that would need completed.

Phase IV Sewer

- PSC Waiver filed 7/24/2023 – on hold.
- 2 ROW – given to Taylor.
- Bidding will be determined by programmatic financing closing.
- Present updated engineering agreement – current with cost and funding change

Phase V Sewer

- On hold for the time being.

Route 20 Corridor

- Facility plan comments being addressed.
- Design process in full swing

- Code Enforcement Report: Code Enforcement Officer Grogg noted 1 permit, 6 door hangers for high grass and maintenance; 206 Burton Avenue was inspected, 508 Illinois Avenue had garage inspected – need to bring to code or be demoed, and 210 WV Avenue – homeowner was served via process server for issues with the foundation of the residence.

Public Comment:

- Resident Dennis Duchess asked about the “Treat in Place” article and editorial in the Exponent-Telegram that shows it is being endorsed by Highmark, PEIA, & Medicaid. He requested council to review and write a letter due to the potential of liability. Natalie Haddix spoke and advised that we would need time to review the actual documentation associated with this “Treat in Place” program and then would respond back at the next council meeting
- Jeremy Haddix spoke as a resident and requested that the public’s questions be placed on the agenda if there are questions being asked of department heads so that they have time to prepare their responses prior to the meeting, otherwise the response may have to wait until the next scheduled meeting due to the inability to review materials or look into the issue at the time of the question being asked with no advance notice
- Resident Dave Garvin asked that the 700 block of Pennsylvania Avenue be looked at for an issue with curbs. He had water in his house after the last significant rain. Mayor Maxson will be following up with Public Works and will get a response to Mr. Garvin no later than the end of the week.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:01 pm.

Natalie K. Haddix, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor