



## Town of Nutter Fort Minutes Council Meeting – January 13, 2026 – 6:30 p.m.

### **Called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Mayor Rezin Hudkins, IV**

**Attendance** – Mayor Rezin Hudkins, IV, Councilor Rick Lafferty, Councilor Sam Maxson, Councilor Charlene Louk, Councilor Shawn Spurlock, Councilor Karen Phillips (via phone), Recorder Natalie Haddix (via phone)

**Department Heads** – PW Supervisor Travis Yost, Code Enforcement Robert Leonard

**Guests** – Dennis Dutchess, Robert Matheny, John Matheny, Jennifer Robinson, Mark Hays, Cynthia Lafferty, Adam Zahradnik, Shirley Sheets, Jamie Holt

### **Public Comment:**

- Resident Dennis Dutchess
  - Attended Clarksburg Water Board meeting and shared his thoughts. He shared that they discussed the funding of \$19 million, future rate increases, and where the lead lines were located. He would like to have someone with the Town look into the money. The mayor noted that the Governor's office had been contacted after a previous request into the same.

### **Minutes:**

- *Approval of minutes:* Minutes for the 12/9/2025 Council Meeting and 12/30/2025 Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting were approved by unanimous vote after a motion was made by Sam Maxson to approve the minutes and seconded by Charlene Louk.

### **Department Reports:**

- Treasurer:
  - None
- Chief of Police (via verbal report):
  - Officer Zahradnik advised that Chief Godwin is in the process of revamping the hiring procedures.
- Fire Chief (via written report):
  - Structure fire currently on Burton Avenue, that has been held to one room.
  - Cash bash date is 5/9/2026.
- EMS/Ambulance:
  - Unavailable due to being on a call. Will provide 2025 report at next meeting.
- Public Works:
  - East of Chicago is scheduled to open 1/26/2026.
  - Mon Power is in process of replacing the streetlights.
- Engineering:
  - None
- Code Enforcement:
  - Tomorrow is the final inspection for the new dentist's office behind Go Mart.

### **Approval of Accounts Payable:**

- Accounts payable items were reviewed and discussed. Items were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Charlene Louk, seconded by Rick Lafferty.

## **Unfinished Business:**

- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Bearing Advisors – Additional Information to be Presented from Robert Matheny* – Presentation to further elaborate on the previous information provided by Bobby & Sharon Monroe at the 10/28/2025 Council Meeting regarding a program that does not replace existing health benefits but fills in the gaps. Shawn Spurlock moved to move forward with the next steps to provide the town's employees with the option to have this extra benefit, which was seconded by Sam Maxson. A roll call was performed for each council member's action on the motion. The results were as follows:
  - *Councilor Rick Lafferty – Yes*
  - *Councilor Karen Phillips – Yes*
  - *Councilor Charlene Louk – Yes*
  - *Councilor Sam Maxson – Seconder*
  - *Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes*
  - *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Mover*

Motion passed unanimously.

## **New Business:**

- *Discussion – Police Chief Hiring Procedures* – Discussion was held on the hiring procedures for the upcoming police chief upon the retirement of the current police chief. The mayor has formed an outside committee to help with the hiring process, which includes the job description as well as narrowing down the applicants. He further noted that the job will likely be posted by the end of the month.
  - No action by council necessary on this agenda item.
- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Personnel Matter & Legal Matter*
  - *If Matters Arise: Enter into Executive Session to discuss matters relating to personnel matters, the sale, lease or purchase of real property, economic development issues to disclose competitive issues, to confer with legal counsel regarding matters that which, if made public, would be detrimental to the interest of the Town and for any other lawful purpose.*

The mayor noted that there will need to be a repeat of the 2<sup>nd</sup> reading of the rate increase at the next meeting due to a clerical error by the billing company. This is not a new rate increase.

**The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:04p.m.**

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Natalie K. Haddix, Recorder

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Rezin D. Hudkins, IV, Mayor