

**Council Meeting
Town of Nutter Fort
03/12/19**

Mayor Maxson invited attendees to join in prayer offered by William Benincosa, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Maxson called the meeting to order in council chambers at 6:31 pm.

Attendance: Mayor Sam Maxson, Recorder Charlene Louk, Councilors William Benincosa, Natalie Haddix, Karen Phillips, Brenda Riley, Treasurer Julia Foley, Police Chief Ron Godwin, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, Public Works Supervisor Taylor Keith.

Absent: Donald "Duck" Webster and Code Enforcement Officer Keith Kesling.

Guests: Linda Blake, Jim and Charlotte Link and Brian Richards.

Minutes: Minutes of the February 26th, 2019 Council meeting (attached) were approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and Brenda Riley.

Treasurer's Report: Mrs. Foley will report as we discuss agenda items.

- Accounts payable (attached) were approved after a motion by Natalie Haddix and second by Karen Phillips.

Unfinished Business:

- The 2nd reading on the ordinance amending 145.04 (c) Sanitary Board Composition, which eliminates the requirement for an engineer was discussed. Recorder Louk suggested wording changes from "for the" to "*during a*", and from "construction of the system" to "*project*", to further clarify the ordinance. 2nd reading passed as edited by unanimous vote after a motion by Karen Phillips and second by Natalie Haddix.
- Adopting Home Rule was discussed. Mayor Maxson shared a list of advantages (attached). Following discussion, Recorder Louk moved to accept Home Rule. Motion passed by unanimous vote after a second by Karen Phillips.

New Business:

- The Excess Fire Levy is up for renewal this year. Natalie Haddix moved the Excess Fire Levy be added to the June 11th election ballot. Motion approved by unanimous vote after a second by Karen Phillips.
- By State Code, drawing for ballot position will be on April 2nd, and should be a time convenient to candidates. Council voted on 5 pm for ballot position selection after a motion by Karen Phillips and second by William Benincosa.
- Mrs. Foley explained there is an outstanding lien for a previous demolition done at 610 Illinois Ave. At that time, judgement was for \$10,934.00. When there is a judgement, you can attach the lien to any property they own. Andy McMunn was our lawyer at the time, and found they also owned property in Doddridge Co. The owners want the lien released. The total now with interest is \$15,570.00. Council has the option of asking for the total, or a lesser amount. Mrs. Foley and Mayor Maxson

mentioned possibly using these funds towards demolition of 302 WV Ave. William Benincosa moved to accept \$15,570.00 to release the lien. Motion passed by unanimous vote after a second by Brenda Riley.

- Mrs. Foley answered questions about the proposed FY19/20 Budget. She noted we have had a 13.5% increase in revenue to date for FY 18/19 and less than 1% of that is from Street Fee funds. The proposed new budget is also 0.5% less overall than the FY18/19 Budget. Following discussion, William Benincosa moved to accept FY19/20 Budget figures. Motion passed by unanimous vote after a second by Recorder Louk.
- A business license was approved for *Miracles Happen Hair* at 424 Buckhannon Pike after a motion by William Benincosa and second by Brenda Riley.
- Mayor Maxson advised *Speedway Appliance* and *In A Flash Heating and Cooling* will soon be renting space in the old *Grandma's House*. Mrs. Foley added the Mexican restaurant interested in the old Go Mart feel it is perfect for their needs. They are willing to sign a contract to start renovations in January 2020 (needs to wait because she is expecting a baby), if *Go Mart* doesn't get something else in there before that.

Committee Reports:

Police Dept: Chief Godwin reported new cruisers should be here Friday. It will be a few weeks before they are put in service due to installation of equipment.

Fire Dept: Chief Haddix reported air packs from the grant are in. MSA comes in Monday to do the training. Lock out/tag out has been done on the aerial device on the ladder truck. This was required by the insurance company to continue to insure the truck, which will now only be used as an engine.

Public Works (PW) Dept: Mr. Keith had nothing to report.

Code Enforcement: Mrs. Foley reported 302 WV Ave. has been turned over to our attorney due to the need for a title search. He will advise a potential buyer, that we will have a lien on the property if we demolish it. Mr. Kesling researched 302 WV Ave. at the Court House, but there wasn't a formal title search done.

Beautification: Linda Blake reported they are meeting on Thursday. They will be decorating for Easter. There are five boxes claimed and 5 empty boxes in the Community Garden. Julie has published this on Facebook for anyone interested.

Meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Charlene Louk, Recorder

Sam Maxson, Mayor

