



Town of Nutter Fort Minutes Council Meeting – November 25th, 2025- 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 Karen Phillips, Councilor Charlene Louk.

Absent- Recorder Natalie Haddix, Councilor Shawn Spurlock

Department Heads –PW Supervisor Travis Yost, EMS Supervisor Nathan Rohrbough, PT Code Enforcement Officer Robert Leonard

Guests – Cynthia Lafferty, Shirley Sheets, Kathy Powell, Dennis Dutchess, Lynn, Brea and Greg Newhouse, Deputy Chief Adam Zahradnik.

Public Comment:

- Resident Dennis Dutchess:
 - Clarksburg Water Board Rate Increase – Dennis attended the CWB meeting last week. He was not able to speak as public comment time was over when he arrived. His concerns are regarding CWB having a rate increase, yet the CWB receiving \$19 million. He plans to attend the water board meeting on 12/17/2025 at 6 pm and plans to invite local news media. He hopes council members can attend. He has asked CWB members for clarification, with no response. Mayor Hudkins has asked for a meeting with CWB, but they have yet to fulfill this request.

Minutes:

- Approval: Minutes for the 11/07/2025 Water Rate Increase Workshop were approved by unanimous vote after a motion was made by Charlene and seconded by Karen Phillips.
- Motion to table meeting minutes of 11/12/25 was made by Charlene with a second by Rick. Motion carried-all in favor.

Department Reports:

- Chief of Police Report: None
- Fire Chief Report: Nathan reported the annual Santa run will be Dec. 7th covering first due areas of Nutter Fort, Rosebud and Rt 20 to the Barbour Co. line.
- EMS/Ambulance Report: Nathan reported the new ambulance is at Scotts for striping. Upon return, it will be stocked. Then it must be inspected by the state before entering service. He believes getting it in service will significantly cut down on repair costs we are seeing from the older models.
- Public Works Supervisor Report: Travis reported we will now have electric on both sides of PA Ave. for future events. The gas company bored in these areas free of charge while making recent repairs and resurfacing spots on PA Ave.
- Engineer Report: None
- Code Enforcement Report: None

Approval of Accounts Payable:

- Accounts payable items were discussed. Items were approved by unanimous vote after a motion by Charlene Louk, seconded by Karen Phillips.

Unfinished Business:

- *Review-Discuss-Consider-Ordinance 2025-05:* Amending Article 157.03 of the Codified Ordinances of the Town of Nutter Fort Relating to Hiring of Employees; Amending Article 157.24 Relating to the Accrual of Vacation for Employees, Accumulation of Vacation, Vacation Payouts, Allowing Advanced Paid Time Off, Allowing Leave Donation – 1st reading. Full time employees will now accrue leave in place of receiving all their time upfront. Payouts for vacation not used by the end of the calendar year will cease after 2025. Employees may borrow up to 40 hours vacation leave and may now donate leave as specified. Vacation requests must be approved by the immediate supervisor. There was a great deal of brainstorming and research to develop these changes. Charlene noted in Article 157.30 -#3 on page three needs reviewed before the second reading. It will not change the content but isn't clear in its current form.
Charlene made a motion to accept Ordinance 2025-05 on the first reading, with possible change to #3 on the top of page three. Motion passed by unanimous vote after a second by Karen Phillips.

New Business:

- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Resolution 2025-04-* A Resolution of the Town of Nutter Fort Recognizing and Honoring Gregory Newhouse for Successfully Achieving Water Distribution Operator Licensing. Mayor Hudkins presented Greg with a Certificate of Recognition and congratulated him for this achievement and for being a great asset to Public Works since he came on board in May.
- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Ordinance 2025-06 – An Ordinance of the Town of Nutter Fort, West Virginia, Increasing Wages for the Nutter Fort Police Department- Patrolman, Sergeant, Lieutenant, Deputy Chief Wages.* Mayor Hudkins has done a lot of research on Police Officer pay in the county. We are currently 7th. To recruit and retain good officers, we must be competitive in their pay. This increase will move Nutter Fort to top three in the county. We have had 24 hour coverage in the past and we are working towards that again. Money saved from stopping vacation leave payouts will help fund these raises. It was noted our new officer is doing a phenomenal job.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 6:51 p.m.

Natalie K. Haddix, Recorder

Rezin D. Hudkins, IV, Mayor