



## Town of Nutter Fort Minutes Council Meeting – November 12, 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, Recorder Natalie Haddix, Councilor Shawn Spurlock

**Department Heads** – Treasurer Leslie Cummings, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, PW Supervisor Travis Yost, EMS Supervisor Nathan Rohrbough (via phone), PT Code Enforcement Officer Robert Leonard

**Guests** – Cynthia Lafferty, Jennifer Robinson, Mark Hays, Shirley Sheets, Kathy Powell, Zach Dobbins, Mike Curran, Rick Miller, Kenneth Johnson

**Public Comment:**

- None

**Minutes:**

- *Approval of minutes:* Minutes for the 10/28/2025 Council Meeting were approved by unanimous vote after a motion was made by Charlene Louk to approve the minutes and seconded by Karen Phillips.

**Department Reports:**

- **Treasurer:**
  - Attended training with the State Auditor's Office on November 4, 2025, in which several policy items were discussed that municipalities need to have in place. Will be working on these policies and present for review in the next few months.
  - Working with PW to help attain CDL licensure.
- **Chief of Police:**
  - None
- **Fire Chief:**
  - Ultimate Bash went better than anticipated and was the first time selling out. Will be moving the next event to May 9, 2026, to prevent scheduling conflicts with WVU Football and other local events in September to November months.
  - The Annual Santa Run to collect canned goods and other non-perishable items will be held on December 7, 2025. Santa will be coming around town starting at 1:00pm.
- **EMS/Ambulance:**
  - Newest ambulance is getting the striping put on and then will be brought back in-house for stocking, equipment mounting, and subsequent state inspection. The new truck rotation should balance mileage and cut down on maintenance costs.
- **Public Works:**
  - Storz fittings are being placed on hydrants throughout the town. These fittings minimize hose connection time.
- **Engineering:**
  - None
- **Code Enforcement:**
  - Ronnie will be attending a seminar the first week of December in Flatwoods, WV, at a cost of \$200.

### **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 Karen Phillips.

### **Unfinished Business:**

- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Ordinance 2025-04 – 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* – Council had a work session last Friday to discuss the rate increases more in depth. – Rick Lafferty moved to adopt Ordinance 2025-04, 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 – Mover*
- *Councilor Karen Phillips – Yes*
- *Councilor Charlene Louk – Yes*
- *Councilor Sam Maxson – Second*
- *Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes*
- *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes*

Motion passed unanimously.

### **New Business:**

- *Review-Discuss-Consider – WesBanco Nutter Fort Closing* – Discussion was held on the announcement of the bank's closing of the Nutter Fort branch and a plan moving forward. Accounts will remain with WesBanco until further research can be done to determine next steps.

- No action by council necessary on this agenda item.

- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Bad Debt Collection Companies – EMS* - Discussion was held on the integration of debt collection companies for outstanding balances related to EMS. The current billing company was consulted for suggestions of companies used by other clients. Two companies were considered: Vandalia Health and Commercial Acceptance Company. Both companies were comparable in fee structure. Commercial Acceptance Company offers a user-friendly online format. – Charlene Louk moved to use Commercial Acceptance Company for Bad Debt Collection for EMS accounts, with a second by Karen Phillips. 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 – Second*
- *Councilor Charlene Louk – Mover*
- *Councilor Sam Maxson – Yes*
- *Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes*
- *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes*

Motion passed unanimously.

- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Ordinance 2025-05 – An Ordinance 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, Eliminating the Accumulation of Vacation, Eliminating Vacation Payouts, Allowing Advance Paid Time Off, Allowing Leave Donation – 1<sup>st</sup> Reading* Payment – Mayor Hudkins noted that some additional review needed performed on the Ordinance and suggested tabling the agenda item. A motion was made by Charlene Louk to table Ordinance 2025-05 until the next council meeting 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 – Mover
- Councilor Sam Maxson – Second
- Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes
- Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes

Motion passed unanimously.

- *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 meeting adjourned by acclamation at 6:57p.m.**

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Natalie K. Haddix, Recorder

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Rezin D. Hudkins, IV, Mayor