



Town of Nutter Fort Minutes Council Meeting – July 22, 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 Karen Phillips (via phone), Councilor Charlene Louk (via phone), Recorder Natalie Haddix, Councilor Shawn Spurlock, Councilor Sam Maxson

Department Heads – Police Chief Ron Godwin, Fire Chief Jeremy Haddix, EMS Supervisor Nathan Rohrbough, PW Supervisor Travis Yost, PT Code Enforcement Officer Robert Leonard

Guests – Jennifer Robinson, Mark Hays, Shirley Sheets, Kathy Powell, Cynthia Lafferty, Kenneth Johnson, Lindsey Fonseca, Dennis Dutchess, Rick Miller, Tom Rohrbough

Minutes:

- *Approval of minutes:* Minutes for the 7/8/2025 Council Meeting were approved by unanimous vote after a motion was made by Sam Maxson to approve the minutes and seconded by Shawn Spurlock.

Treasurer's Report:

- Sewer system improvements extension Chub run requisition number seven approved for \$72,678 during a sanitary board meeting.
- Zoning Board of Appeals meeting on June 25 noted deficiencies in zoning ordinances, particularly in business zones, needing legal review and potential ordinance changes.
- Halloween fall festival meeting scheduled for July 31 at 2pm in council chambers.
- Letters sent to occupants of the unknowns for lead and copper surveys on July 9th; West Virginia Rural Water Association to complete unknowns the week of August 11th for the EPA.
- Public Works requested action on commercial businesses disposing of tires in dumpsters; a letter will be sent after the mayor's approval.
- The town will participate in a new national opioid settlement with multiple companies, with advice from the West Virginia Attorney General's office. This will mean more funds for police protection, possibly EMS.
- Supplemental insurance issues corrected with Morgan White, who will reimburse the town for any prescriptions paid for by the town for employees.
- P Card expenditures in Public Works have decreased significantly in the past month.

Approval of Accounts Payable:

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

Unfinished Business:

- None

New Business:

- *Review-Discuss-Consider* – FY 2025-2026 General Budget Revision #1 – Discussion was held regarding the budget revision and there were no questions. The 2025-2026 General Budget Revision #1 passed unanimously after Natalie Haddix made the motion, 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 - Yes
 - Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes

- *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes*
- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Appointment to Harrison County Development Board – The Appointment request was made for an open seat on the Harrison County Development Board. Councilor Sam Maxson has served on the Board in the past. Councilor Sam Maxson was appointed to the Harrison County Development Board after Natalie Haddix made the motion, which was seconded by Rick Lafferty. 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 – n/a*
 - *Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes*
 - *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes*
- *Review-Discuss-Consider – Fall Festival 2025 – The Fall Festival for 2025 is scheduled for October 18, 2025, from 11:00am to 8:00pm. The activities will be like last year but will include new additions as well. 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 – Yes*
 - *Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes*
 - *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes*
- *Review-Discuss-Consider – 3rd Party Audit – Best practice is to go back 10 years from the research that has been done. Two firms have been contacted thus far for quote. Request was made to table discussion until more details could be obtained from the state auditor's office and the city attorney. A motion was made by Charlene Louk to table this agenda item until such time that more information was obtained, with a second by Karen Phillips, and the motion carried unanimously. A roll call was performed for each council member's action on the motion. The results were as follows:*
 - *Councilor Rick Lafferty – Yes*
 - *Councilor Charlene Louk – Yes*
 - *Recorder Natalie Haddix – Yes*
 - *Councilor Karen Phillips – Yes*
 - *Councilor Shawn Spurlock – Yes*
- *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 disclosing 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. – Not Applicable*

Committee Reports:

- **Chief of Police Report:**
 - Continuing to update policies, aiming for completion by next meeting.
 - One vehicle has been ordered from Jenkins Ford with an estimated 2-2 ½ month wait on arrival, additional 2-3 months for equipment installation.
 - Ammo was purchased at a good price.
 - Working with Civil Service Commission to hire. Considering a couple of candidates for part-time work.
- **Fire Chief Report:**
 - November 1, 2025, will be our Ultimate Giveaway, which will feature all cash prizes on the ticket. Instead of early bird prizes, there will be special prizes that day of the event for some lucky winners. Only 1,000 tickets available at \$100 each.
- **EMS/Ambulance Report:**
 - Call volume remains steady.

- New ambulance on track, going for striping on Thursday.
- Box ambulance had a substantial bill for repairs recently.
- Public Works Supervisor Report:
 - The PW Department replaced a hydrant from the 1960s with a new one.
 - Preparing for water & sewer tap for a new dentist office behind GoMart.
 - Thanks to Charlene Louk for ensuring vaccination updates and Sam Maxson for fixing the lights at the basketball court. New coin box was installed 25 cents for 30 minutes of light.
- Engineer Report:
 - Ryan Holcomb at a conference and will be at next meeting.
- Code Enforcement Report:
 - Update provided on recent issues with code violations.

Public Comment:

- Resident Dennis Dutchess:
 - Requested timeline for completion on work requested.
 - Road fee – requested a report for what has been done since last July, what is currently in the fund, and what is the projected amount.
- Resident Lindsay Fonseca (owner of Taqueria Lou Lous):
 - Planning a back-to-school bash on 8/8/2025 in the restaurant parking lot. This will entail a backpack drive for the kids, and she is coordinating with the school board. The event will start at 6pm. The fire department will be lending tables/chairs, with the permission of council granted, to use at the event. The city is assisting with the trailer for the stage.
- It was requested that the crosswalk on Buckhannon Pike be revisited with the WV DOH, including contacting delegates was suggested. The WV DOH previously shot down the idea but there is interest in revisiting it due to increased business and pedestrian traffic.
- Councilor Maxson advised that he was re-elected as president of the Harrison County Development Board.

The meeting adjourned by acclamation at 7:06 p.m.

Natalie K. Haddix, Recorder

Rezin D. Hudkins, IV, Mayor