

Hurt, Virginia

April 26, 2017

Attorney Eller was excused for the budget work session.

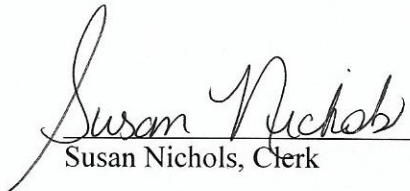
Mayor Poindexter presented a preliminary draft for the town's fiscal year 2017-18 operating budget, noting the draft includes some increases in costs and addition of a refuse collection fee to offset the increased cost of providing the service. It also includes the previous year's 1% increase for staff salaries and keeps the benefit package as is. Projected revenues from business licenses and fines are down, while projected expenses are up due to substantial increases in insurance/workers compensation, attorney fees, audit fees, and a new refuse collection contract. A few town streets will need resurfacing, the copy machine needs replacement, and the Fire Department will be requesting an additional \$5,000 for building renovations/upgrades.

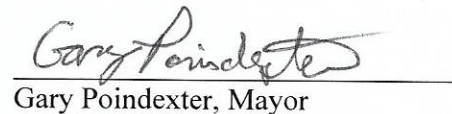
The auditor has suggested consolidating the two checking accounts (general and water) into one account called the "operating fund" letting the system separate funds on paper. Mayor Poindexter's proposal would start with \$60,000 in the new account, (\$30,000 each from the current accounts), with an adjustment as necessary for the KIP timber sale. Mr. Blackstock expressed the importance of collecting overdue taxes. He feels that potentially hiring a CPA to help collect on these accounts is the next step. He said collecting this money would offset the increase in the refuse collection and that implementing a new fee would not be well received. Instead of a charging refuse fee, he proposed increasing the base water rate from \$60 to \$70 per quarter.

Mayor Poindexter feels the accounting software needs to be left unchanged for now, stating the current situation needs to be cleaned up first to avoid transferring a mess of bad data into a new system. He also pointed out that we are now shopping around for the cheapest fuel in town to reduce annual fuel costs, that potential postage savings are being questioned, and that we should look at the possibly of outsourcing utility billing.

Mr. Blackstock questioned if Officer Harmon's hours are enough to keep him on with the town. He shared that he would like to have him on full time but the budget will not allow it. He asked to omit the garbage fee, add \$10/quarter to the current water and sewer rates, and reduce the audit fee to \$8,610, which would be a 5% increase from the 16-17 budget. It was agreed that the mayor would revise the draft to reflect the proposed changes and present it for consideration at the next meeting on May 2.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.

  
Susan Nichols, Clerk

  
Gary Poindexter, Mayor

Hurt, Virginia

April 26, 2017

Hurt Town Council held a called meeting Wednesday, April 26, 2017, at Town Hall to discuss business matters and a work session for the FY 2017-18 operating budget. The meeting opened at 4:30 p.m. and a quorum was present.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Johnson, Bivens, Blackstock, Clay, and Adams

Absent: Neal

A motion was made to enter closed session to discuss real estate acquisition. (VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3711(A) (3)).

Motion: Bivens      Second: Johnson      Passage: unanimous

Council entered closed session at 4:36 p.m. and returned at 4:53 p.m.

A motion was made to certify that only real estate matters were discussed during the closed session (Sec. 2.2-3712(D)).

Motion: Bivens      Second: Johnson      Passage: unanimous

A motion was made to accept the PD Mutual Aid Agreement (MAA) as presented.

Motion: Clay      Second: Johnson      Passage: unanimous

A motion was made to accept the resolution to support closure of the western side of the Shula Drive/Route 29 intersection as written.

Motion: Blackstock      Second: Clay      Passage: unanimous

Mrs. Nichols shared that a public hearing concerning the Shula Drive/29 intersection is scheduled for Tuesday, May 16, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. The hearing will be held at the Pittsylvania County Court House during the Board of Supervisors meeting.

Mayor Poindexter advised he had received a preliminary estimate of \$45,000 from the Town of Altavista for refuse collection. In addition to this amount would be between \$25,000 and \$35,000 to purchase new refuse containers due to the current containers belonging to our current contractor, County Waste.

A motion was made to accept a proposed new contract with County Waste, as presented.

Motion: Blackstock      Second: Johnson      Passage: unanimous

The revised Employee Handbook was presented for review, along with a directive to the Police Department involving calendar work periods, dispatch protocols, and the logging of mileage and fuel purchases. There was much discussion concerning the PD directive. A motion was made to approve the Employee Handbook as written, and the PD directive to include only item #3 (establishing a 14 calendar day work period to replace the 7-day one now in use). Items #1 (requiring a 10-minute window for signing on/off with county dispatch), and #2 (concerning fuel and mileage logs) were removed.

Motion: Johnson      Second: Blackstock      Passage: unanimous