

Hurt, Virginia

March 19, 2019

Council held a special called meeting Tuesday, March 19, 2019, at Town Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was present.

Roll Call

Members present were: Johnson, Saunders, Adams, Clay, and Watson.

Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: Mayor Poindexter

Pledge of allegiance: led by Mayor Poindexter

Closed Session

A motion was made to enter closed session to discuss personnel matters and conduct interviews, as authorized by VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3711(A)(1).

Motion: Johnson Second: Watson Passage: unanimous

Closed session began at 6:02 p.m. and concluded at 7:25 p.m.

A motion was made to certify that only personnel matters and interviews were discussed during closed session, as required by VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3712(D).

Motion: Clay Second: Saunders Passage: unanimous

Mayor Poindexter advised there was no action/outcome to report from closed session.

Updates from Mayor

A budget work session will need to be scheduled soon. Mayor Poindexter is still awaiting information for VMLIP. The good news is that we were notified there will be no rate increase on employee health insurance for the upcoming fiscal year.

After speaking with Mrs. Frazier, the June tax billing option previously mentioned is impractical at this time due to additional time and workload it would require.

Altavista has reported an increase in water and wastewater rates annually to the Town of Hurt for at least the next five years. There will be an eight percent increase in water and four percent increase in wastewater for the next two years, then a ten percent increase in water and a five percent increase in wastewater the next two years thereafter. After speaking with Mr. Hodges, to eliminate any legal issues, the town may need to look at doing a rate study. This may be something that VRWA can help us with. Attorney Eller advised getting a consultant would be a good idea. This would also help us get a program started and what grants are available to assist with repairs to the town's aging water system. Peed and Bortz were suggested as consultants.

An HRLP Committee meeting was scheduled for Wednesday, April 10, 2019, at 6 p.m., mainly to discuss annual staff evaluations and compensation.

Updates from Legal Counsel

Attorney Eller shared he had received a proposal from AT&T concerning the cell phone tower lease for the town water tank. The monthly rent was reduced from \$1,454.75 to \$1,000 with a ten percent increase every five years until 2048. Alternatively, the town was offered a lump sum payment of \$175,000 with a 99-year lease arrangement. Council agreed to continue discussion to see what other proposals are presented.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Susan Frazier

Susan Frazier, Clerk

Gary Poindexter

Gary Poindexter, Mayor