

Hurt, Virginia

July 16, 2019

Hurt Town Council held its monthly business meeting Tuesday, July 16, 2019 at Town Hall in Council Chambers. The meeting opened at 7:03 p.m. with a quorum present.

**Roll Call**

Members present: Doss, Johnson, Barksdale- Hill, Watson, Clay, and Adams

**Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance**

Invocation: Watson

Pledge of Allegiance: led by Mayor Poindexter

Mayor Poindexter thanked everyone for their continued work with the storm damage.

**Consent Agenda**

A motion was made to approve minutes from the June council meeting, committee meetings, and financial reports.

Motion: Clay Second: Watson Passage: unanimous

**Hearing of Citizens and Public Feed Back**

Ms. Debra Sirockman, owner of Virginia Found Goods is looking to purchase additional land for expansion of her business. She would like to start a co-op, yoga studio, and more parking. There is some acreage across from her business on Pocket Road that is owned by the Town, and she would like to purchase one to five acres.

Mr. Gary Hodnett of Darryl Lane asked if a study was done before entering the SRRIFA agreement and what the rate of return is.

**Office Report**

Mrs. Frazier updated Council of the current balance in the operating account as of July 16, 2019. The auditor will be at the office on August 28, and another delinquent tax account made the final payment today, bringing it current.

**Police Report**

There were 105 calls for service; 14% were traffic stops resulting in two summonses being issued. Chief Rowland reported on inoperable vehicles, requested quotes from two businesses on removing lettering from the old police cars, and two applications have been received for the open patrolman position. One is certified and one is not road certified.

**Public Works Report**

Mr. Hodges reported receipt of three quotes for a new roof on Town Hall and the gazebo at Roosevelt Mattox Park: (1) Walker Roofing, \$6,700; (2) Blackstock Const., \$7,075; and (3) BP Roofing, \$8,300.00. Mr. Hodges also advised that tree trimming work was needed at the water tower and along the exit road that enters Pocket Road from Faith Christian Academy and St. Victoria Catholic Church. Also, the best quote for a generator for the control system at the water tower is 925.00.

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A motion was made to accept the bid from Walker Roofing with the understanding that work would not begin until September, to proceed with obtaining quotes for the tree work, and to approve purchase of the generator.

Motion: Adams      Second: Clay      Passage: unanimous

There was much discussion about the status of an application for VDH grant funds for engineering work related to the water system. Several calls and emails to Mr. Bernard Proctor of VDH have not been answered or returned. Council advised Mr. Hodges and Mrs. Frazier to contact Ms. Susan Minor of VDH for further assistance.

### **Legal Report**

Attorney Eller shared that Mr. Scottie Wilkins of Utility Services advised the OSHA requirement on the water tank was in place before the corral was even built. It would cost \$9,900 and Mr. Adam Peltzer advised he could not make the decision on this. The legal department would have to handle it and the contact person is on vacation. This matter was continued. Mayor Poindexter asked Mr. Eller if all updates to ordinances have been completed because he is still waiting on PDF copies to put on the town's website. Attorney Eller suggested a master list for all rates and fees, as it would make changes/updates much easier. Everyone agreed the master list is a better course of action.

### **Council and Committee Reports**

Planning & Zoning Commission: None

Economic Development Committee: None

Administrative Committee: Mr. Johnson asked if there was a closing date for the open police position. Mayor Poindexter advised there was none. It is open until filled.

Finance Committee: Mr. Watson shared after the committee meeting last week, he felt this is the wrong time of year to move money to reserves and suggested waiting until fall. A motion was made to move \$9,848.48 from the former FNB water checking account to the current FNB operating account and closing the old water account out.

Motion: Watson      Second: Barksdale-Hill      Passage: unanimous

Public Works & Relations: Mr. Adams said a citizen had presented a proposal to help generate some extra funds for repairs and make water bills fair across the board, and this should really be looked at. He also spoke about the town ordinance regarding inoperable vehicles. This needs to be enforced to help with cleaning up the town. He presented a form that he drafted for the police department to use to report to council the status of citations issued.

A motion was made to adopt and use the form, effective immediately.

Motion: Adams      Second: Clay      Passage: unanimous

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Poindexter advised there is on going work on the water rate structure.

A motion was made to proceed with advertising for the part-time office assistant. Mayor Poindexter noted that the \$12,000 budgeted for this position was based on an estimated pay rate of \$10 per hour and a schedule of 24 hours per week for 50 weeks/year.

Motion: Clay      Second: Barksdale-Hill      Passage: unanimous

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The Town's IT managed services contract is coming up for renewal in September. Mr. Adams suggested getting other quotes: "If we don't, how do we know we our current charge is fair?"

Everyone was reminded of the Special Election in November. Mayor Poindexter shared the deadline to register is August 11, 2019 at 5:00 p.m.

Mayor Poindexter suggested moving the August council meeting to August 20 due to some scheduling conflicts. He also mentioned holding a called meeting or workshop to specifically address the water rates. Council agreed to continue this meeting to July 30, at 6:00 p.m. and move the date of the August council meeting to August 20 at 7:00 p.m.

Council revisited the idea of emailing council packets. Everyone agreed to do so, at least on a trial basis, except Mr. Adams. He needs a printed copy.

Mr. Watson asked how council feels about lettering the new police cars with "Police" and "911". There was much discussion on this, and everyone agreed to continue conversation to the next meeting.

There was a motion to enter closed session for Personnel, Prospective Business and Real Estate matters, as authorized by VA FOIA Secs. 2.2-3711 (1) (3) (5).  
Motion: Clay Second: Adams Passage: unanimous

Closed session began at 8:28 p.m. and concluded at 9:45 p.m.

There was a motion to certify that only personnel, prospective business and real estate matters were discussed in closed session, as required by VA FOIA Sec. 2.2-3712 (D).  
Motion: Watson Second: Johnson Passage: unanimous

Mayor Poindexter reported the outcome of the closed session was to approve an access easement agreement with Norfolk Southern Railroad. A motion was made to approve the agreement as presented.  
Motion: Watson Second: Johnson Passage: unanimous

An Administrative Committee meeting was scheduled for July 29 at 6:30 p.m.

There being no further business, the meeting was continued to July 30 at 6:00 p.m.

*Susan Frazier*  
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Susan Frazier, Clerk

*Gary Poindexter*  
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Gary Poindexter, Mayor