TOWN OF HURT 2025 MEETING MINUTES

WORK SESSION

Date:	January 21, 2025
Time:	6PM
Meeting called to order by:	MAYOR GARY HODNETT

IN ATTENDANCE

- Steve Worley, Paul Johnson, Jimmy Harding, Alice Bond, Bob Majure and Gary Poindexter, establishing a quorum.

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER

The town's work session on January 21 was called to order at 6:02 pm with a quorum present. A motion was made to move into a closed session, requiring legal counsel due to discussions on real estate, personnel matters, and prospective business. The closed session was authorized under sections 2.2, 3711 a 1, 3, and 5 of the Virginia Code 1950 FOIA law, covering personnel discussions, real estate, prospective business, and legal counsel consultations, respectively. The motion was seconded and approved by all members present.

MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Gary Hodnett requests a motion to move into a closed session.
Gary Poindexter made a motion to move into a closed session. Bob seconded the motion.
Gary Hodnett calls for a roll call vote to confirm the decision to enter the closed session.
All vote in favor of the closed session. The motion is passed, and the meeting moves into a closed session 6:04 pm.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED MEETING

- Mayor Hodnett asks for a motion to certify the closing meeting.

- Bob Majure makes a motion to certify the closed meeting held in accordance with the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- The motion is seconded by Paul and approved by all members: Gary, Bob, Alice, Jimmy, Paul, and Steve.

INVOCATION

Steve leads an invocation, thanking for the time to handle town business and asking for guidance.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

Lead by Mayor Hodnett

PLAZA GRANT UPDATE

- Gary Hodnett discusses the plaza grant and the potential involvement of the Industrial Development Authority (IDA) of Pittsylvania County.
- The project involves a developer who would design and run the project for 10 years, after which the town would take over.
- A request for proposal (RFP) will be issued to multiple groups for bids.
- The grant money received so far is insufficient, and a multi-million-dollar loan from the IDA would be necessary.

WATER TREATMENT PLANT UPDATE

- Gary Poindexter provides an update on the water treatment plant, mentioning House Bill 1600 and Senate Bill 800.
- The bills are moving through the state legislature, seeking an appropriation of $7 million.
- The funding would be used to operationalize the water treatment plant to serve the town and the SBMP.
- The engineering firm, Peed and Bortz, has provided rough estimates for the project.

BALLICO AGREEMENT AND COMMUNITY AID

- Gary Hodnett announces an updated letter of intent with Balico, encouraging a $2 per 1000-gallon surcharge on water sold to their facility.
- The surcharge would fund aid for people struggling to pay their utility bills within the town and surrounding communities.
- Balico is willing to proffer this agreement into their project with the county and invest in upgrades to the water treatment plant and water lines.
- The agreement is seen as a significant gesture from Balico as a good corporate citizen.

SVMP PARK UPDATE

- Gary Hodnett discusses the progress of the SVMP Park, mentioning the finalization of land purchases by the Hurt Partners.

- The park is expected to be designated as a mega site, attracting various industries.
- The town of Hurt will supply water to the SVMP Park.

THE PROCESS OF ANNEXING THE PARK INTO THE TOWN LIMITS WOULD REQUIRE AGREEMENT FROM THE COUNTY AND STATE APPROVAL.ACTIONS

- Finalize the loan/land purchases for the SBMP Park expansion.
- Explore the process for annexing or expanding the town's boundaries to include the additional SVMP Park land.

MEETING ADJOURNED:

- Gary Hodnett emphasizes the importance of Balico's involvement in the water treatment plant project for lowering water rates.
- The project is expected to take 12-18 months to complete, even with all approvals in place.
- The meeting concludes at 7:26 PM, with a brief discussion about the need for patience and the long-term benefits of the projects.

NEXT MEETING

March 4, 2025