

TOWN OF HURT 2026

MEETING MINUTES

MONTHLY WORK SESSION MEETING

Date: April 21, 2026

Location: TOWN HALL 533 POCKET RD. HURT, VA

Time: 6pm

Meeting called to order by: MAYOR GARY HODNETT

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE AT ROLL CALL ESTABLISHING A QUORUM

Alice Bond

Gary Poindexter

Jimmy Harding

Paul Johnson

Steve Worley

Council Members Absent during Roll Call:

Vice Mayor Bob Majure later joined by phone at the end of closed session, due to family illness

TOWN STAFF IN ATTENDANCE:

Shannon Race, town clerk

John Eller, town attorney

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Hodnett called meeting to order at 6:03 pm and presided.

CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Hodnett requests a motion to move into closed session.

- Council Member Poindexter moves that the Hurt Town Council convene a closed session in accordance with Virginia Freedom of Information Act as amended. Siting Authorization: § 2.2-3711 A (1) Personnel, (3) Real Estate, (5) Prospective Business, (8) Legal Counsel (as applicable).
- Council Member Harding seconds the motion for the closed session.
- Clerk calls for individual votes on the motion with Hurt Town Council voting 5-0 in favor of the closed session.
- The motion is passed, and the Hurt Town Council moves into a closed session at 6:05 PM.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION, INVOCATION AND PLEDGE

- Mayor Hodnett calls for motion to return and certify a closed session.
- Council Member Poindexter makes a motion for the certification of the closed meeting, citing the Virginia Freedom of Information Act (**Requirement: VA FOIA § 2.2-3712 (D)**)
- Mayor Hodnett calls for a second, which is given by Council Member Bond, council voted 5-0 in favor and approves the certification of the closed session.

Council member Worley leads the invocation.

Welcome/Opening Remarks – Mayor Hodnett

NEW BUSINESS & ITEMS ARISING SUBSEQUENT TO NOTICE

1. State Water Mandate – By doing the release method recommended by bond counsel, Town hall can be put in the lease as a security for the loan made, there is a potential for avoiding the referendum.
 - The town has been given a model from another locality. There will be a lot of paperwork that will result in a lease.
 - The town will receive the money up front then each year make payments on it that will be considered rent payments.
 - It has been decided that the town will be doing all the recommended work and not be asking for any waivers.
 - The town will get a grant of 1.3 million dollars and finance the rest.
 - Waiting for the 2025 audit has kept us from finalizing. The 2025 audit was received today and John Eller forwarded it to the bond counsel.
 - Bond counsel will be sending it to VRA. We should hear from them soon.
 - The earlier loan we took out for \$180,000 is down to \$120,000
 - Bond counsel wants this loan to be paid in full.
 - Mayor Hodnett has placed enough money in the account to take care of the loan balance.
 - Once this is paid, we will only have the loan for the current mandate work.
 - We need to get the survey of the town hall lot done by Dewberry to submit it to bond counsel.
 - Council discussed what part of the land with town hall will be included in the survey.
2. Plaza update – Council wants to move on the repairs as fast as possible. They are going to use RRMM. We are going to match the tobacco grant of \$650,000. Our match to the grant will give us \$1.3 million to start on the plaza repairs.
 - we'll get Matt to come down, draw up a plan, and he'll be ready to start pretty much right away.

Council action taken:

- Mayor called for a motion that the town of Hurt matches the Tobacco Foundation grant in the amount of \$650,000. Motion was made by council member Bond and seconded by council member Poindexter. Council voted 6-0 in favor and approves the \$650,000 match for the Tobacco Foundation Grant.
3. WTP - Bob Williamson has been working with us here at Town Hall and he is extremely anxious to get going up there he's goes up there every day, he's cleaning it up and getting everything out of the way and getting ready to get started on it.
- Security has briefly been discussed
 - Fencing around the property needs to be considered
 - Security cameras, which will help us know who's on the property
 - The tank needs to be monitored
 - Possibility of grants was discussed
 - Getting quotes for security cameras was discussed.
 - Camera types were discussed
 - Issues with our current cameras were discussed
 - Quote is requested from people who did the cameras at town hall; however, the company that did the town hall cameras has sold to someone else. Jason has had issues with getting schedules arranged with new owner of the company.
 - Due to the notifications mayor has been receiving in regards to terrorist attacks on pump stations, water plants, and such we need the best of the best to guard our towns systems.
 - Dewberry is our engineer for the plant.
 - Council wants Dewberry to test the concrete structure strength.
 - Council member Bond recommends everyone go look at the plant now so they will understand the difference between before and after restoration.
4. Budget update – Council member Poindexter is at an impasse currently due to the lack of current information. Insurance quotes are now in. Tax revenue forecasting is pending county information.
- Water sales projection needs to be looked at
 - Escalators for
 - Cell phone tower lease
 - Garbage collection contract
 - Lease income for plaza
 - Tax data from county
 - May is expected to be budget planning start date
 - Public forum will most likely be in June

5. Floc Camera – Jason is still fighting to keep the Floc Camera system.
- Originally there was talk about data information, the systems being hacked, and vulnerabilities in that system.
 - Jason reached out to Travis, who is the town's IT guy
 - In an email, Travis states, "I do not see FLOC as a direct cybersecurity threat to the town's network."
 - Jason is happy to sit down and talk with Paul and Bob, to show them how the system works.
 - It's a good fight; that's the reason why Jason's still fighting for the cameras.
 - Jason's job is security and safety for the town citizens in the community
 - This is a valuable tool that PD needs.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mayor Hodnett adjourned this meeting at 7:25pm.

- Next Monthly work session May 19, 2026.