TOWN OF HURT 2025 MEETING MINUTES

MONTHLY WORKSHOP MEETING

Date:	December 16, 2025
Time:	6PM
Meeting called to order by:	MAYOR GARY HODNETT

COUNCIL MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE ESTABLISHED QUORUM

Alice Bond, Vice Mayor Bob Majure, Gary Poindexter, Jimmy Harding, Paul Johnson, Steve Worley

MOTION FOR CLOSED SESSION

Mayor Hodnett calls meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Request a motion to move into closed session.

- Councilman Poindexter moves that the council convene a closed session in accordance with Code of Virginia, 1950 as amended. A. Personnel, Real Estate, Prospective Business (as necessary) (Authorization: § 2.2-3711 A (3) (5) (8) as applicable)
- Councilwoman Bond seconds the motion for the closed session.
- Clerk calls for individual votes on the motion, and all council members vote in favor of the closed session.
- The motion is passed, and the council moves into a closed session at 6:05 pm.

CERTIFICATION OF CLOSED SESSION AND INVOCATION

Mayor Hodnett requests a motion to return and certify a closed session.

- Gary P. makes a motion for the certification of the closed meeting, citing the Virginia Freedom of Information Act.
- Mayor Hodnett calls for a second, which is given by Jimmy, each council member approves.
- Steve leads the invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor welcomed Shannon from the Star Tribune.

State Mandate Construction Update

Gary Hodnett discusses the state mandate construction update, mentioning a meeting with subcontractors on January 5 or 6. The meeting will cover the consent order phase two and be at town hall.

Plaza update

Matthew's original quote will be scanned and sent to council by the mayor.

- Bob Majure suggests putting information about the project on the town's website for public access.
    - Basic information only
    - Renderings
    - Gary P. will work on getting something set up on the town's website
    - Gary Hodnett agrees and suggests getting public input on the renderings and other details.

Items Arising Subsequent to Notice

- The idea of restarting the newsletter in January is discussed, with Gary Poindexter offering to help with the content.

- New year will bring about website changes per Gary P.
    - Winter scenes from the town were requested

Report on Christmas Event

- Half participants
    - Bounce house was a hit
    - Hot chocolate was a big hit, do over next year

Plans for Next Year

Bob discussed contacting neighboring elementary schools (Alta Vista, Gretna, Faith Christian, etc.), begin outreach for participation in next year's tree lighting, and create an online volunteer/signup list for activities (hot chocolate, popcorn, volunteers)

- 1st Sunday in December to be scheduled day for all future events
- Bob thanked all the helpers including Santa
- Planning to start after Halloween in 2026

Town Clean up

Bob Majure proposes scheduling the town cleanup for the first Saturday of March, with the second Saturday as the rain date.

- Bob Majure mentions the potential involvement of Liberty University students for volunteer hours.
- The council discusses the need for flyers and other promotional materials to inform the community about the cleanup.

Citizen Concerns

Gary Poindexter brings up two citizen concerns:

1. The need for gravel on East Spencer Street
2. A broken streetlight on School Road.

- Public Works is tasked with assessing the gravel needs and notifying the appropriate power company about the broken streetlight.
    - Mayor assures the community that they will follow up on these issues, and the streetlight has already been reported to Dominion. It's in their hands.

Mayor Report

Gary Hodnett proposes bringing a Little Theater to the town, suggesting the use of the plaza for performances.

- The idea includes setting up a homemade stage, inviting food trucks, and creating a community event.
- Gary Poindexter supports the proposal, emphasizing the need for activities that engage the community, especially the youth.
- The council discusses the logistics and potential benefits of hosting such events.
- Alice suggested that Liberty Christian Academy in Lynchburg may have a drama team we could invite.

Mobile Restaurant Ordinance and Closing Remarks

John Eller brings up the mobile restaurant ordinance. The mobile truck license will bring some more income to the town.

Resolution

John notes that the resolution passed last meeting has been submitted to the delegate for inclusion in the code.

- The council expresses appreciation for John Eller's efforts.

Meeting adjourned:

The meeting is adjourned at 8:04 PM, with Mayor thanking everyone for their participation.