Gathering as a body these last four years. Simply trying to serve you pleases you, even though we fall short.

Swear in of current and new members.

Ranolph: Thank you(

Caserta:

Clements: Happiest person on council (wk on Dist 5),

Bates: or on Christmas Eve

McClure: Alter. Method to amend

Bates: one obj would force to vote, move to second

Budget Revision: 33,025 for payout from contingency.

Jan 7, organiz meet to elect chair/v chair

COUNCIL MEETING

Huntington has sworn in its new and reelected members of city council. The official swearing in took place at the Monday, Dec. 24 meeting. Their ceremonial swearing in will occur with Mayor Elect Steve Williams, Jan. 3 at the Keith Albee Performing Arts Center.

Newly elected members sworn in included Pete Gillespie II, Tom McGuffin, Rick Simmons, David Ball, and Gary Bunn. Sworn in for new terms were Rebecca Thacker, Scott Caserta, Frances Jackson, Joyce Clark, Mark Bates, and Sandra Clements. Attending their last meeting as council members were Teresa Loudermilk, Kirk Gllenwater, and Nate Randolph. Jim Insco barred from running by term limits did not attend. He gave his farewell speech at the previous council meeting.

Brandi Jacobs-Jones, director of finance and administration, filled in for Mayor Kim Wolfe, who did not attend.

The body heard first reading of an ordinance that amends the city charter to add “Christmas Eve” to the listing of legal holidays, specifying that the meeting would be on Wednesday, Dec. 26.

Council voted unanimously to approve the lease/purchase of three pieces of paving equipment for the public works department, to keep the mayor and council’s salary fixed at present level for the next four years, and a budget revision to reflect a $30,000 payout.

Among members speaking during the Good and Welfare portion, vice chairperson Sandra Clements declared herself to be the happiest member on council. She thanked Mayor Wolfe , his administration and council for the demolition , removal of eyesores and keeping the A.D. Lewis Pool open.

Thacker referred to the departing members as almost “family” and expressed hope that their faces would be seen in the future attending council meetings.

Mayor Elect Williams, an ordained minister, offered the prayer in which he acknowledged that “Simply trying to serve you, pleases you, even though we fall short.”

Council holds an organizational special meeting Jan. 7 at 7:30 p.m. for the election of chairperson and vice chairperson.