

NANTICOKE CITY



WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 7, 2019

Nanticoke City Hall 7:00 PM

Call to Order: President of Council, William Brown
Pledge of Allegiance
Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer Polito

The following were present: Councilors, William Brown, Kevin Coughlin, Lesley Butczynski, Mike Marcella, John Pietrzyk, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer Polito, and Solicitor, Attorney William Finnegan.
The following were excused: Interim City Manager, Donna Wall.

WORK SESSION-

A motion to award the West Main Street Sewer Project (Re-bid) to Mohawk Contracting and Development in the amount of \$313,738.00 (Lowest Bidder). Jennifer Polito explained that this project has been re-bid twice. The first bid had a bonding issue with the contractor and the second bid the City only received one bid so it went out for a third rebid and the City received 2 bids. Jennifer informed Council that the the City has a grant for \$200,000 and the balance will be paid out of the Sewer Fund. Attorney Finnegan informed Council that the City will be filing a lawsuit against the first company to try to recover the overage due to having to go out for re-bid.

Mayor Nicole Colatosti-Mackiewicz swore in David Wojciechowicz as a Nanticoke Career Firefighter. Council welcomed Dave to the City.

Administrative Updates-

Jennifer Polito had the following update(s):

- ✚ The City's website under the department tab, now has a link to the Lower South Valley COG. This will keep everyone informed of what the COG has accomplished and what they are currently working on in the municipalities. In Nanticoke, Field & S. Walnut Street paving is slated to begin on Tues., Aug, 13, 2019, weather permitting.
- ✚ The Nanticoke Municipal Authority meeting minutes for April & June have been posted to the website and Jennifer will send Council a copy for their review on Thursday, Aug. 8, 2019. There are no May minutes because there was no meeting held that month.

A Motion was made by Ms. Butczynski, second by Mr. Pietrzyk to adjourn the work session. Work session adjourned.

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

Mr. Stachowiak asked if anyone contacted "695 Realty LLC" to see if they were interested in selling some of the property that used to be the "Price's" lot to bring the new welcome sign closer to Nanticoke. Jennifer replied no. Mr. Stachowiak asked will anyone be calling and President Brown asked the Mayor to comment. Mayor Nicole Colatosti-Mackiewicz said no we are putting the new sign where the old one was. Mr.

Stachowiak asked the Mayor if the public is going to have any say on what the sign will look like since the residents will be paying for it. She replied no. He then asked who does have any say and she replied she does.

Mr. Ruchinski asked if Main Street was going to be ripped up again because of the Sewer project and President Brown responded the other end of town.

Old Business

A Motion to approve the July 2, 2019 minutes was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second Mr. Coughlin. Motion carried with a 3 - 2 vote. President Brown and Councilor Marcella abstained.

New Business

A Motion to approve the July 17, 2019 minutes was made by Mr. Coughlin, second Mr. Pietrzyk. Motion carried with a 4 - 1 vote. Councilor Butczynski abstained.

A Motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$452,741.14 (Payroll \$208,732.33 and Payables \$244,008.81) was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second by Ms. Butczynski. Motion carried.

A motion to award the West Main Street Sanitary Sewer Project (Re-bid) to Mohawk Contracting and Development in the amount of \$313,738.00 (Lowest Bidder) was made by Mr. Coughlin, second Mr. Marcella. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Mr. Ronald Knapp brought in a photo of the alley between Noble and Ridge Street. A Property owner has a Sumac tree that is overgrown into the alley and making it hard for cars to pass through the alley. Adjacent to his house, the property is 216-218 Ridge Street. Mr. Knapp has spoken with Jack about this property and he helped by getting the property owner to get rid of a mattress but nothing has been done with the overgrown Sumac tree. Jennifer stated she would talk with the DPW department to get this tree trimmed down. Mr. Knapp asked who is responsible for cleaning up the property down by the W. Nanticoke Bridge because it makes Nanticoke look like an abandoned town. President Brown replied we are trying to clean up as much of the town as possible. We would love some volunteers to help us like Chief Wall, he cleaned up some of the Main Street when you come into town, Pres. Brown replied. Rob, a City DPW worker, stated he tried cleaning up down by the bridge and a County worker stopped him and said they are taking work away from the County workers to stop immediately and let the County take care of the tall grass and weeds at the bridge. Councilor Lesley Butczynski said we will have Donna call the County regarding this issue. President Brown stated we are not the only town with a state road that is not being taken care of by PENNDOT.

Mrs. Linda Prushinski wanted to thank Mayor and Council for helping them out in their time of need by housing their fire truck this winter in their Stickney building. The truck did suffer some damage due to being in a fire house with no heat, the batteries are destroyed. Linda stated the Honey Pot Fire Department is looking for donations in any amount to repair the truck and get it back in service. She also stated the firefighters are holding an "All You Can Eat Breakfast" on September 15, 2019 at The Tilbury Fire Hall, 11 E. Poplar St. in Nanticoke from 8 am to 12 noon. The costs of the tickets are \$8.00 in advance and \$9.00 at the door. Jennifer will post the event on the City's website.

Mr. John Telencho asked for an update on the opening of the Dollar General and what is going on over there. He stated he does not see any progress in get closer to opening. President Brown said they are there working inside but that is all he knows and Jennifer stated she will check with Donna to see if they have an opening date. Mr. Telencho also asked if it was true that the City is paying rent to a warehouse to store excess recycling bins and Jennifer replied yes. Council commented "We Are?" and Jennifer said yes. President Brown said this is news to them and Council will look into this matter and asked Jennifer to put it on the website and maybe an article in the free part of the paper to let residents know the City has extra bins and to come in to City Hall and get another one. Mr. Telencho asked how Jack made out with the 50 citations he brought to the

magistrate. He asked if we collected any if the fine yet and did the Judge set any hearing dates. President Brown stated they are trying but the issue is these people are out of town property owners and we are having an issue locating their whereabouts.

Mr. Larry Beck wanted to bring to Council's attention the issue of the garbage men from Mascaro's are throwing the cans around, not emptying them all the way so garbage and debris are all over the streets. He has called Mascaro's two weeks in a row about the issue and again this week the cans are thrown and garbage is left on the streets. He asked if Council could please help with this issue and Jennifer stated she will have Patty, the Refuse Clerk call to speak to management on Thursday to try to resolve this issue.

Mr. Mike Stachowiak was at the meeting to again complain about the Code Officer's inability to go to Honey Pot and look at the sidewalk on his street that is not ADA compliant. He has made two written complaints going back to October 2017, spoken to Donna Wall many times in person and by email and nothing is being done to resolve the issue. He got a letter from the code office addressing the motor cycle parked on the sidewalk and read it to Council. His complaint is not about the motor cycle. He has not received a letter regarding his initial complaint about the City not being ADA compliant. Was that letter sent to retaliate against me for filing a complaint he asked. He said that is illegal. Again he is asking for a response about the broken curbing and the fact the City has done nothing to fix it to be ADA compliant. He thinks his only alternative is seeking legal counsel and litigation against the City. President Brown stated he will have Dona take care of this complaint with the code office. Chief Wall stated that back in March of 2017 a few officers were in Honey Pot and ticketed people for parking their cars on the sidewalk. Next thing we know there are many complaints about the officers and the residents do not think it is fair since they have no choice because the streets are too narrow in Honey Pot. Residents asked to be left alone and they will handle each other in the neighborhood. So the police do not tickets card on the sidewalks Chief Wall replied. President Brown said Main Street coming into town has the same issue. Mr. Stachowiak stated the City needs to hold these Utilities that cut into the City's pavement responsible for paving curb to curb like the ordinance says, not a patch job. Ultimately the City is responsible for making sure the streets are repaired correctly for the safety of the residents. Mr. Stachowiak would like to know why Main Street at Shea Street is sinking since it was paved. Jennifer said Rick from the DPW department said he was downtown today and the lines were look at with a camera and Geisinger had their lines looked at with a camera and nothing is out of place. Rick said further investigating is going to be needed to resolve the issue Jennifer stated. Rick said we may need to get PENNDOT involved Jennifer stated.

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

None

Meeting Adjournment

Ms. Butczynski made the motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Pietrzyk, roll call. Motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Next Meeting, Wed, Aug 21, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Jennifer W. Polito
City Clerk