

CITY OF NANTICOKE



WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

January 21, 2026

Call to Order: President, Joseph A. Dougherty

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

ROLL CALL:

The following were present: Council Members, President, Joseph A. Dougherty, Vice President, John Telencho, Kenneth James, Mark O'Connor, Lesley Butczynski, City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito, and Solicitor, Attorney William Finnegan.

WORK SESSION: New Business: (action Items)

A Motion to approve Ordinance #1 of 2026, First Reading, An Ordinance of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, amending Ordinance No. 9 of 2024 relative to Refuse/Recycling Fee Due Dates.

A Motion to approve Resolution #4 of 2026, A Resolution of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, adopting a revision to the Act 537 Plan of the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania (hereinafter "the municipality").

A Motion to approve Resolution #5 of 2026, A Resolution of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, authorizing the disposition of City records in accordance with Act 428 of 1968. See Exhibit A.

A motion to approve the 2026 City's Engineering Rates from Pennoni Associates, Inc.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:

Mayor Kevin Coughlin executed **Executive Order #8 of 2026**, re- appointing Jonathan Lang as the 504 Officer for the City of Nanticoke. (For informational puposes only)

City Manager, Donna Wall has updates for Council.

1. The final walk through of the Market Street project is complete and most issues were corrected but some have to wait until the weather gets warmer.
2. The City's 2024 Pension Audit is complete and is issued with no findings.
3. The DPW Building is waiting to have gas lines run to the building then they can move in.

A Motion was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember O'Connor to adjourn the work session.

Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

None.

Old Business

None

New Business

A Motion to approve the minutes from the January 5, 2026 Re-organizational Meeting and Work Session/Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Butczynski.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve the payment of the bills in the total amount of **\$929,853.12 [(Payrolls) \$154,452.52 (Accounts Payable) \$775,400.60]** was made by Councilmember Telencho seconded by Councilmember O'Connor.

Motion carried 4-0. President Dougherty Abstained.

A Motion to approve Ordinance #1 of 2026, First Reading, An Ordinance of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, amending Ordinance No. 9 of 2024 relative to Refuse/Recycling Fee Due Dates was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Telencho.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Resolution #4 of 2026, A Resolution of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, adopting a revision to the Act 537 Plan of the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania (hereinafter "the municipality") was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember O'Connor. President Dougherty asked Attorney Finnegan to explain this resolution in further detail. City Manager Donna Wall stated as a member of the COG, the city was able to take advantage of an ARPA Grant to complete this project along with Newport and Hanover Townships.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Resolution #5 of 2026, A Resolution of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, authorizing the disposition of City records in accordance with Act 428 of 1968, See Exhibit A, was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Butczynski.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to table the 2026 City's Engineering Rates from Pennoni Associates, Inc. was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Telencho.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

None

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

None

Mayor Coughlin stated the City Officials and Administration are getting a lot of complaints regarding the city's Refuse Fee. Mayor Coughlin nominated Vice President Telencho to form a committee with prior election candidates and city residents to research better Refuse options for the upcoming years for when the contract with JP Mascaro ends at the end of this year. Mayor Coughlin stated that this all needs to be resolved for the 2027 Budget and Finance Director, Jennifer Polito stated the mayor is correct and that a solution with the cost would have to be submitted to her by the end of August in order to give Council a preliminary budget in September.

Councilmember Comments-

Vice President Telencho thanked the mayor for his confidence in nominating him to form a committee for the refuse issues. Vice President Telencho commented that the DPW Department should get ready for the snow storm this weekend.

Councilmember James thanked all of our essential services workers for their services and is hopeful in finding a better solution for the issue of the cost of the garbage collection.

Councilmember O'Connor is also hopeful that the committee will come up with a way to reduce the costs of our garbage collection and commented that the DPW Department did a great job with the last storm.

Councilmember Butczynski thanked Kevin for coming up with this great idea to tackle the cost of garbage collection. Ms. Butczynski stated we all pay the garbage fee and we may not like it but it has to be done.

President Dougherty commented that the DPW did a great job on the roads during the last storm. President Dougherty thanked the Nanticoke Ambulance for the annual report they submitted to Council and noticed they had less calls and this is due to more transports of more sick people out of the area so the turn around time is longer.

Mr. John Kreiger commented on the city's garbage collection issue and the need to find a solution to reduce costs.

Meeting Adjournment-

Councilmember Butczynski made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember O'Connor, roll call.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:28 pm.

Next Meeting:

Re-organizational Meeting/Work Session/Council Meeting
Monday February 4 2026 @ 6:00 pm.

City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito