

NANTICOKE CITY



WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 17, 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, Mike Marcella, John Pietrzyk, Interim City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer Polito, and Solicitor, Attorney William Finnegan.

The following were excused: Councilor, Lesley Butczynski.

WORK SESSION-

A motion to approve Resolution #7 of 2019, A Resolution of the City Council of Nanticoke, authorizing an application for a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant in the amount of \$654,000.00, from the Commonwealth Financing Agency for the Main & Kosciuszko Street Project.

Attorney Finnegan explained to the residents and Council why these two restaurants needed a public hearing and that is because the City of Nanticoke it at the maximum number of Liquor Licenses per population.

Attorney Finnegan asked the owner of Leiby Brothers Enterprises, LLC to explain their intentions in respect to acquiring a Liquor License for their business. The business owner explained they added on a seating area with a bar to their restaurant that used to be take out only.

Attorney Finnegan asked the owner of Concrete Café/Glenn Jenkins to explain his intentions in respect to acquiring a Liquor License for his business. The business owner explained that when he purchased the restaurant, it came with a license but the old owner failed to pay her debts to the State and the State of Pennsylvania revoked the license. Glenn Jenkins replied he is simply trying to increase business for his restaurant.

President Brown asked the residents if anyone had any questions for the owners of Marty's Pizza/Leiby Brothers Enterprises, LLC or for the owner of Concrete City Café/Glenn Jenkins and no one had questions.

A motion to approve Resolution #8 of 2019, ACTING ON THE APPLICATION OF LEIBY BROTHERS ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR THE PROPOSED INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER R-15192 TO THE PREMISES AT 131 EAST BROAD STREET IN THE CITY OF NANTICOKE, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

A motion to approve Resolution #9 of 2019, ACTING ON THE APPLICATION OF GLEN JENKINS FOR THE PROPOSED INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER R-10496 TO THE PREMISES AT 15 WEST RIDGE STREET IN THE CITY OF NANTICOKE, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA.

A motion to approve the Operation and Maintenance Agreement between City of Nanticoke and New Lexington Associates II, LP.

A Motion to approve the purchase of a 2020 SUV (unmarked) Police Interceptor from Kovatch Ford in the amount of \$40,495.40 (Costars Pricing).

Administrative Updates-

Donna Wall had the following update(s):

- ✚ Delinquent Refuse letters have been filed with the District Court 11-3-02 for hearings for nonpayment of the 2019 Refuse Bills.
- ✚ WVSA sent out shut off notices to customers who are delinquent on their Sewer fees. Donna has made payment arrangements with numerous customers to prevent shut off.
- ✚ Milling will begin on State Street on Monday, 7/22/2019.

Mayor Nicole Colatosti-Mackiewicz has included the June 2019 Department reports in the Councilor's packets, they are posted in the chambers and Jennifer Polito will have them posted on the Website on Thurs., 7/18/2019.

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

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

Mr. Larry Beck asked about Field St. and what is the hold up on its completion. Donna Wall asked the DPW Roadmaster, Frank Marcinkowski to comment on Field Street. Frank replied with all the rain we have had earlier this summer, we had to wait for the ground to dry up and now we are running into vacation time for Hanover Township employees, so we are a few weeks behind on its completion. Mr. Beck asked if Kosciuszko St. was done with the paving. He stated the man whole covers are exposed and wanted to know if they were going to be fixed. Donna replied that was the PA American Water's project and she will email them with this issue.

Old Business

None

New Business

A Motion to table the July 2, 2019 meeting minutes due to a 2 -2 vote (Mr. Brown & Mr. Marcella had to abstain because they did not attend the July 2, 2019 meeting) was made by Mr. Coughlin, second Mr. Pietrzyk. Motion carried.

A Motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$374,858.48 (Payroll \$98,389.44 and Payables \$276,469.04) was made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Mr. Pietrzyk. Motion carried.

A motion to approve Resolution #7 of 2019, A Resolution of the City Council of Nanticoke, authorizing an application for a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant in the amount of \$654,000.00, from the Commonwealth Financing Agency for the Main & Kosciuszko Street Project was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second Mr. Marcella. Motion carried.

A motion to approve Resolution #8 of 2019, ACTING ON THE APPLICATION OF LEIBY BROTHERS ENTERPRISES, LLC FOR THE PROPOSED INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER R-15192 TO THE PREMISES AT 131 EAST BROAD STREET IN THE CITY OF NANTICOKE, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA was made by Mr. Coughlin, second Mr. Marcella and this

resolution needs to be amended to put “LLC” at the end of the business name per their Attorney. Motion carried.

Attorney Finnegan will send Jennifer Polito an amended Resolution on Thursday, July 18, 2019.

President Brown wished the owners good luck with their business.

A motion to approve Resolution #9 of 2019, ACTING ON THE APPLICATION OF GLEN JENKINS FOR THE PROPOSED INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF A PENNSYLVANIA LIQUOR CONTROL BOARD RESTAURANT LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER R-10496 TO THE PREMISES AT 15 WEST RIDGE STREET IN THE CITY OF NANTICOKE, LUZERNE COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second Mr. Marcella. Motion carried.

President Brown wished the owner good luck with his business.

A Motion to approve the purchase of a 2020 SUV (unmarked) Police Interceptor from Kovatch Ford in the amount of \$40,495.40 (Costars Pricing) was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second Mr. Coughlin. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Debbie Hillman of 187 E. Ridge St. inquired about how the revitalization of the downtown is progressing and President Brown stated the Nanticoke Municipal Authority is trying to move forward and the City’s Interim Manager, Donna Wall stated they are still trying to acquire some of the properties in the first phase of the project. Mr. Kenneth Hillman asked what can be done about the storm water that is rushing into their yard and into the foundation of their home. Attorney Finnegan asked President Brown to have the Code Official look into this matter for the Hillman’s.

Mr. Mike Reddy, Sr. has complaints against the City Code Officer, Jack Minsavage. Mr. Reddy referred to a friendly reminder on the website that states the property owner is responsible for keeping their properties clear of tall grass and weeds, garbage and other debris. He asked what is other debris considered to be and why is Jack not cracking down on these property owners. He states the City is a mess. Mr. Ronald Knapp agrees with Mr. Reddy and pointed out the old Kanjorski building that is now LCCC’s property. Donna Wall said that matter has been handled and an email was sent to the college to make a formal complaint. Ms. Mary Peterman of 173 E. Broad St., stated that Dr. Peter’s old home on 200 S. Walnut Street is the same, tall grass and weeds. She has called the Code Officer and nothing seems to be done about it. President Brown stated that Jack has just filed over 50 citations with the magistrates office and is waiting for hearings to be scheduled. President Brown asked that she give her phone number to Donna Wall. Donna will check with Jack to see if that property was one of the citations and Donna will call her back with some answers. Mr. Telencho said that sending out citations does not seem to be working. It is the same property owners repeatedly not keeping up their property. What can be done with these repeat offenders, Mr. Telencho asked Council. Attorney Finnegan stated that the last ordinance on this matter has a scale with fees going up for each offense. He said we are looking into restructuring the fees and making them higher and if they do not pay, we put liens on the property.

Mr. John Telencho stated Donna answered his question on Field St. but he wants an update on the new Welcome sign for Nanticoke. President Brown said the Mayor is handling that matter. Mr. Telencho asked why the Mayor is the only one putting sole input on the sign. He thinks the community should have involvement on what it looks like. He asked who is paying for it, her or the residents. President Brown stated the Mayor is not here to comment on the progress of the new sign and that he and Council have not seen any plans regarding what the sign will look like. President Brown said we will have her answer these questions at our next meeting. Donna Wall stated a private developer offered to pay for the sign. The residents are not paying for it she replied. Attorney Finnegan stated that Geisinger is very explicit on what the sign can look like and its size. President Brown stated we may look for a different location to put the sign if Geisinger will not let us use the property. Mr. Stachowiak suggested the “Price’s” lot but Donna said they no longer own that property. President Brown asked Donna to look into who does own that property. Mr. Telencho says he feels the residents should have a vote on the sign and President Brown says he agrees.

Mr. Mike Stachowiak said he filed a complaint with the ex-City Clerk, Betsy back in 2017 regarding a sidewalk at 214 S. River Street in Honey Pot that was destroyed by a resident excavating his property and it makes it very hard for a handicap person like himself to navigate down the street. The Code Officer says he cannot find the complaint and does not remember getting it from Betsy. Jack told him Andy would look into it, which was never done. He has talked to Donna about it at least five times and Donna said she will send Jack an email to go look at the sidewalk, which was not done either. He stated he should have received a written response within 10 days of the complaint, which was never done. He asks what he has to do to get this issue taken care of. President Brown said we will look into this and will get you a response soon. Mr. Stachowiak commented on Mr. Brown saying what a great, productive meeting we had a few meetings ago and now Mr. Brown is back to just reading the work session off of the agenda with no discussions. Mr. Stachowiak wants to know when the Council discusses these items. Mr. Brown stated we do not discuss the agenda amongst each other, we call Donna or Jennifer with any questions we may have individually. Jennifer explained that the agenda and its attachments are emailed to Council by noon on the Friday before the meetings. Council is instructed to review everything and call Donna or Jennifer with any questions prior to the meeting. Councilor John Pietrzyk said he always emails Jennifer with any questions and she or Donna get back to him within an hour. Jennifer said that also applies to the residents too, the agenda goes on the website the Friday before the meeting, send her an email, call her or come see her with any questions they may have. Her door is always open to the residents.

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

None

Meeting Adjournment

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:57 PM.

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

Jennifer W. Polito
City Clerk