

CITY OF NANTICOKE



WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, January 22, 2025

Call to Order: President, William Brown

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

ROLL CALL:

The following were present: Council Members, William Brown, Joseph Nalepa, Joseph Dougherty, Kenneth James, Mark O'Connor, City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito, and Solicitor, Attorney Rachel Finnegan.

WORK SESSION: New Business: (action Items)

A Motion to approve Ordinance #2 of 2025, (Second Reading), an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke to place a question on the May 20, 2025 Municipal Primary Election Ballot to eliminate Section 2.10 of the City of Nanticoke Home Rule Charter which provides that City Council Members may not serve more than three (3) elected, consecutive terms.

A motion to approve Resolution # 4 of 2025, a Resolution of the City Council for the City of Nanticoke confirming the Appointments of Mayor Kevin Coughlin to various Boards, Authorities and Commissions of the City of Nanticoke.

Motion to approve the 2025 City Engineering Rates from Pennoni & Associates, Inc.

A Motion to approve the 2025 – 2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Unionized Police Officers (January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027) between the City of Nanticoke and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 36, City of Nanticoke Police Officers Association.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:

Mayor Kevin Coughlin has submitted the December 2024 Department Reports for Council's review and Jennifer Polito has posted them on the City's website at www.nanticokecity.com.

Mayor Kevin Coughlin executed the following Executive Orders pursuant to Article VII, Section 7.01 of the City of Nanticoke Home Rule Charter:

- a. **Executive Order # 5 of 2025,** appointing Chris Sedorchak to the Nanticoke Planning Commission for a 3-year term.
- b. **Executive Order # 6 of 2025,** appointing David Spencer to the Nanticoke Zoning Board for a 5-year term.

City Manager, Donna Wall had the following updates for Council:

1. A final walk through of the Streetscape project was done with PennDot and there were a few findings that will be corrected in the Spring of 2025.

A Motion was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Nalepa to adjourn the work session.

Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

Mr. John Telencho asked what percentage did the engineering rates go up from 2024 to 2025? Finance Director, Jennifer Polito replied they do not have the percentage but on the average each rate increased by thirty dollars per hour and the Pennoni has not raised their rates since 2021.

Old Business

None

New Business

A Motion to approve the minutes from the January 8, 2025 Work Session/Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Dougherty seconded by Councilmember Nalepa. Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve the payment of the bills in the total amount of **\$536,535.69 [(Payrolls) \$156,492.76 (Accounts Payable) \$380,042.93]** was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried 4-0, Councilmember Dougherty abstained. A written memorandum for disclosing a conflict of interest is attached to these minutes.

A Motion to approve Ordinance #2 of 2025, (Second Reading), an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke to place a question on the May 20,2025 Municipal Primary Election Ballot to eliminate Section 2.10 of the City of Nanticoke Home Rule Charter which provides that City Council Memebbers may not serve more than three (3) elected, consecutive terms was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember O'Connor. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve Resolution # 4 of 2025, a Resolution of the City Council for the City of Nanticoke confirming the Appointments of Mayor Kevin Coughlin to various Boards, Authorities and Commissions of the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Dougherty. Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve the 2025 City Engineering Rates from Pennoni & Associates, Inc. was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember O'Connor. Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve the 2025 – 2027 Collective Bargaining Agreement for Unionized Police Officers (January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2027) between the City of Nanticoke and the Fraternal Order of Police Lodge No. 36, City of Nanticoke Police Officers Association was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Nalepa.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Linda Gullotto of 376 E. Ridge Street stated she has issues with house behind her home. Ms. Gullotto contacted the City Code Enforcement Officer and got no response back and she filed a complaint form with the Mayor and also got no response back from him. Ms. Gullotto stated to her belief most of the work being done at this home has no permits and the people working at this property are destroying her property, urinating on her property and running a generator six days a week. Ms. Gullotto called the Police Department and the Officer on duty gave her an attitude. Ms. Gullotto asked if there is a protocol to when a complaint form is filed because no one replied to hers. City Manager, Donna Wall replied the property has permits to perform renovations to the property and the City Engineer inspected the work and said everything is fine. Ms. Wall stated the Mayor will follow up with the noise of the generator. Ms. Gullotto feels everyone gave up on her and Donna reassured her that's no the case. Ms. Gullotto wants to know what she can do about the damage done to her property.

Correspondence-

Jennifer Polito will read a proclamation that the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, recognizes January 27, 2025, as International Holocaust Remembrance Day.

Announcements-

None

Councilmember Comments-

Vice President Nalepa thanked DPW foreman and his crew on the clean-up of the snow.

Councilmember James commended DPW foreman and his crew on the clean-up of the snow and stated every storm is different and road salt is ineffective when temps are below 20 degrees. Mr. James congratulated the Board appointments and hopes they do a good job.

Councilmember Dougherty congratulated the Board appointments.

Councilmember O'Connor commended DPW foreman and his crew on the clean-up of the snow and asked the residents to have patience with the DPW Department. Mr. O'Connor congratulated the Board appointments and hopes they do a good job.

President William Brown commended DPW foreman and his crew on the clean-up of the snow and congratulated the Board appointments and hopes they do a good job.

Meeting Adjournment-

Councilmember Dougherty made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember James, roll call.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:21 pm.

Next Meeting:

Work Session/Council Meeting Wednesday, Feb.5, 2025
@ 6:00 pm.

City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito