

## NANTICOKE CITY



### WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 4, 2019

Nanticoke City Hall 7:00 PM

Call to Order: President of Council, William Brown

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

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

Attorney Finnegan announced that he and the Councilors were in an executive session regarding a personnel matter prior to this meeting.

#### WORK SESSION-

**A Motion** to approve Resolution #14 of 2019, a Resolution authorizing Hanover Township to act as lead applicant to prepare and submit a Local Share Grant application in the amount of \$150,000 to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development on behalf of the Lower South Valley Council of Governments.

**A Motion** to approve the advertisement to fill the vacant seat on Council being vacated by Vice President, Kevin Coughlin due to him being sworn in as Mayor on January 6, 2020.

#### Administrative Updates-

**Donna Wall** updated the residents and Council on the following matters:

- The two sunken man hole covers on Main Street will be fixed tomorrow 12/6/19. Mr. Marks asked about the one on W. Main St. by Jerry's Market. Donna did not have an answer but stated she will make a phone call and find out by the next meeting. Mr. Marks also asked when the truck traffic will stop on Kosciuszko Street. Donna replied not until the South Valley Parkway opens and that will not be until Late January/February of 2020.
- The Sewer issues on Bliss Street are fixed and completed as of today.
- A Public Hearing for a Home Program will be held on Wednesday 12/11/2019 at 5:30 pm in the Council Chambers. Donna explained this program is to help First Home Buyers out with their down payments of a home here in town. Depending on their income levels, people could get as much as \$10,000. This does not apply to Landlords looking for rental properties in town.

Mr. Marks asked about the Grahowski property specifically the lot across the street with all the junk. Donna stated it is on a separate Deed than the house. He suggested the City buy it, clean it up and sell it to make money. He stated that would really clean up that area in town.

**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.

NONE

**Old Business**

The decrease in the 2020 Liquid Fuel's allocation was explained in the letter sent to the City stating what the City's allocation will be for the upcoming year. The letter states that a portion of the allocation is based on the State's Motor License Fund taxes to be collected. Fuel prices are down and people are using less fuel. This is why allocations vary from year to year. DCED says this is going to be the trend in the upcoming years.

**New Business**

**A Motion** to approve the November 20, 2019 minutes was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second Ms. Butczynski. Motion carried. President. William Brown abstained.

**A Motion** to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$276,379.87 (Payroll \$149,565.48 and Payables \$126,814.39) was made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Ms. Butczynski. Motion Carried.

**A Motion** to approve Resolution #14 of 2019, a Resolution authorizing Hanover Township to act as lead applicant to prepare and submit a Local Share Grant application in the amount of \$150,000 to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development on behalf of the Lower South Valley Council of Governments was made by Mr. Marcella, second by Mr. Coughlin.

**A Motion** to approve the advertisement to fill the vacant seat on Council being vacated by Vice President, Kevin Coughlin due to him being sworn in as Mayor on January 6, 2020 was made by Ms. Butczynski, second by Mr. Pietrzyk.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –**

**Mr. Marks** just wanted to state how he felt about the bizarre situation that happened with our police officers and the 20-year-old man who stole a police cruiser and allegedly kidnapped a 15-year-old girl from the GNA HS parking lot. He stated a 20-year old is dead and he is not placing any blame, he just wants justice. Mr. Marks is asking Council to have the City's Solicitor to file a petition with the Attorney General to make sure that the investigation that is being done is un-bias. Attorney Finnegan stated the investigation is underway and there are protocols that will be followed to make sure the investigation is not compromised.

**Mr. Telencho** stated that Donna answered the question he had on Espy Run but he would like to ask what we found about the advertising benches. He says there was an agreement with Mr. Alberola giving the City 7% of his advertising revenue for the benches sitting on City property. Attorney Finnegan said to his knowledge an agreement was discussed but never executed. President Brown stated he thought the City using his bucket truck when needed was in place of him using the City property for his advertising benches. Mr. Telencho feels the City should benefit from letting the benches on City's property and we should collect some money from Mr. Alberola. Mr. Stachowiak stated it was during Mayor Toole's terms that he removed Rosco and let Mr. Alberola in. President Brown thanked him for the timing and asked Donna to follow up on this matter and she said she would look through the minutes. Mr. Krieger stated we should have something that states what type of signs are allowed in the City and Donna replied, we do have an ordinance.

**Mr. Walter Pavelitz** stated when he retired, he was certified to deal with the Storm Water mandates and wanted to know if any one was certified after he left and Donna replied Frank, the Roadmaster was. Mr. Pavelitz stated there are 26 outfalls and asked who is keeping a file of the inspections and asked if he could see that file. Councilman John Pietrzyk confirmed that WVSA has performed the necessary inspections and an ongoing record is kept by the DPW department. President Brown told Mr. Pavelitz to come see Donna regarding the inspection list. Mr. Pavelitz stated he has noticed that there was hardly any hot patching done

in the City since he left and why is the DPW department using cold patch when it cost more and does not last. President Brown replied a lot of roads have been paved this year. Mr. Pavelitz replied but no maintenance is being done to preserve them. He stated maintenance is very important. President Brown replied that the Utility Companies are constantly opening up the roads to fix issues and Mr. Pavelitz asked if we are contacting them to come back and fix the road and Donna replied yes.

**Mr. Ronald Knapp** wished everyone Happy Holidays. He inquired about the truck traffic on Kosciuszko Street and asked if anyone contacted PENNDOT regarding a sign to be installed on the Cross Valley. Donna replied once the Parkway re-opens, she will contact PENNDOT. Mr. Knapp agreed with Wally stating that road maintenance is very important and he stresses the alley he and his Mom lives on was fixed this past Spring with cold patch and the DPW department did not come back with hot patch so the holes are re-opening. He worries about his Mom's safety and he stated it can't be good for the fire trucks that use that alley. DPW worker, Rob Rowles replied that road maintenance has been done and that is not the only thing that they have to do. Rob stated we are working on fixing storm drains that were never fixed properly. Mr. Knapp also asked why there is 2 flat tires behind the Fire Company. Captain Mark Boncal said they are used for training purposes and once the training is over, they will be properly disposed of.

#### **Correspondence-**

None

#### **Announcements-**

The Nanticoke Annual Christmas Parade is being held on Sunday, December 15, 2019. The Parade is leaving the GNA High School at approx. 3:00 pm and will be ending at the Park on Green Street. There will be Horse & Carriage Rides, Hot Chocolate & Cookies, Pictures with Santa and the Christmas Tree Lighting. Please come join us for a fun afternoon.

#### **Meeting Adjournment-**

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

**Meeting adjourned at 7:29 PM.**

**Next Meeting, Wed, Dec 18, 2019 at 7:00 PM**

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**Jennifer W. Polito**  
**City Clerk**