



**NANTICOKE CITY  
WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES  
CITY HALL 7:00PM**

Wednesday, February 15, 2017

Call to Order: President, William Brown  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Invocation: City Clerk, Mary Cheshinski

The following were present: Councilors William Brown, Kevin Coughlin, Nicole, Lesley Butczynski, Mackiewicz, John Pietrzyk, City Clerk, Mary Cheshinski, Interim City Manager Donna Wall, Finance Director, Jennifer Polito, and Solicitor, William Finnegan

**WORK SESSION**

**Discussion of Council Meeting Action Items**

Motion to approve proposed Resolution #4 of 2017, a resolution approving the conflict waiver for our Solicitor relative to the storm water project forth coming. Solicitor Finnegan stated he also represents WWSA and with the upcoming regional project there may be a potential conflict. An independent will look at these agreements.

Motion to approve proposed Resolution #5, 2017, a resolution of the city of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, supporting the filing of a grant application with the Pennsylvania housing finance agency (PHFA) for the 2017 Pennsylvania Housing Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Fund (PHARE) program grant funds, for improvements in the City of Nanticoke consisting of the eastside apartments energy efficiency and preservation project

Motion to accept the one bid for grass cutting and clutter removal.

No Administrative Updates

Motion to adjourn the work session by Mrs. Mackiewicz, second by Mr. Pietrzyk, Motion carried.

**REGULAR MEETING**    Comments from the Public (agenda items only)

John Telencho questioned why the public works department is not cutting the grass. Donna replied it is instance where code issues become a concern. Mr. Telencho asked if landlords will be billed. Attorney Finnegan stated there will be a lien sent to the property owner.

**OLD BUSINESS** (none)

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A motion to approve the February 1, 2017 meeting minutes was made by Mr. Pietrzyk second by Mrs. Mackiewicz, motion carried.

Mr. Coughlin made a motion to pay bills in the amount of \$459,497.77 (Payables \$360,748.32) (Payroll \$97,749.45) second by, Ms. Butczynski, motion carried.

Mrs. Mackiewicz made the motion, second by Mr. Coughlin to approve **Resolution 4, 2017**, approving the conflict waiver for our Solicitor, relative to the storm water project. Motion Carried.

Mr. Coughlin made the motion, second by Ms. Butczynski to approve **Resolution 5, 2015**, a resolution supporting the grant application to the PHFA for 2017, consisting of consisting of construction related to East Side Apartments Energy Efficiency and Preservation Project. Motion carried.

Mr. Pietrzyk made the motion, second by Mrs. Mackiewicz to accept the grass cutting proposal from Country Tree Landscaping of Nanticoke. Motion carried.

## **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC**

Ryan Kasa, Noble Street, Nanticoke resident stated he received a parking ticket in Honey Pot. There is no off street parking and the street has high speeders and congestion. Parking on the sidewalk is necessary for that and security reasons. Camera placement so his vehicle can be seen in case of vandalism. Something has to be addressed about the tickets being given in Honey Pot. President Brown suggested all those who signed in to talk about Honey Pot parking tickets speak now so it could be discussed. Chief of Police Tom Wall addressed the residents and clarified he did not give an order to target Honey Pot. It was self-initiated and a discretion on the officers whom to ticket. Chief Wall added he himself would have refrained from the tickets in question. He would have hoped to rectify the parking situation without ticketing. He requested for Officer Vietz, in attendance to answer how ticketing in Honey Pot has been handled over the years. Officer Vietz stated, "If you have to give one ticket out, all get a ticket; if in violation."

Dan Wozniak stated he received a ticket, he will pay it. All should get a ticket but four other vehicles were not ticketed. Leonard Zabritski echoed the same statement. Why are parking tickets given at 4:00AM? No strollers, children on bikes at this hour. He has pictures. Where I park now after the ticket I am a nuisance. The Chief advised Mr. Wozniak to request a hearing and present his evidence. Donna Wall at this time stated a meeting will be scheduled. The Chief continued that at this special meeting, to be held soon, will be advertised for Honey Pot residents. You, that do live there, we will go over ideas and suggestions.

Gerald M. Shemanski, 212 Honey Pot St, added 911 should not be called for a parking ticket in Honey Pot as suggested by the Chief. Police have more important calls.

Gerald L. Shemanski, 219 Honey Pot Street stated he has lived in Honey Pot all his life and people got by. When the road was repaved in 1998 he suggested black top to the bushes line not sidewalks installed, but he was ignored. Chief Wall understands City

Engineers at the time, Pasonick Engineers, by specs for ADA compliance added the sidewalks.

Linda Prushinski stated now that cars are parked legally at the Minden Court Garfield area, cars can't get thru at this corner.

Mrs. Teresa Sowa wanted on record that after her daughter had cleaned snow from her home's sidewalks, a snow plow, "like a bat out of hell" pushed the snow back covering her sidewalks. The truck came near to the curb too fast causing this. If she had to pay and then re-pay for someone to shovel, it wouldn't be right. The City should have snow plowing one side and then the other side removal like in other towns. Brenda Sowa the daughter echoes the situation and the City to find a solution for plowing.

Donna Wall related she had numerous calls of praise for the last snow fall snow plowing. She added that Wally was sent to Mrs. Sowa's, on behalf of the Mayor. The issue was resolved of the snow the truck had deposited.

Mrs. Herring, Hanover Section stated mostly elderly and handicapped live on Pine Street. It would be impossible to expect the side of the street removing vehicles when they are old and can't walk to park, and where?

Mr. Henry Marks compared the Hanover Twp. 2017 budget to Nanticoke City 2017 budget giving several examples where we are much higher in departments, especially Fire and Police. They (Hanover Twp.) have a part time Fire Chief with a salary of \$6000.00. Our full time Fire Chief was given a Raise of \$200.00 and receives benefits. Ur sewer and refuse fees are higher than Hanover Twp. In conclusion Mr. Marks stated "We are spending more and we (tax payers) are getting less." President Brown thanked Mr. Marks for the information.

**Announcements**- none

The next Council meeting is Wednesday, March 1, 2017.

Mr. Coughlin made the motion to adjourn, second by Ms. Butczynski. Meeting adjourned at 7:49 PM.

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Mary Beth Cheshinski, City Clerk