



## CITY OF NANTICOKE

### **WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

15 E. Ridge Street, Nanticoke, PA 18634

Work Session/Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Call to Order: President of Council, William Brown

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

The following were present: Council Members, William Brown, John Telencho, Lesley Butczynski via telephone, John Pietrzyk via telephone, Mike Marcella via telephone, Interim City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer Polito and Solicitor, and Attorney Finnegan.

#### **WORK SESSION-**

**A motion to approve** Ordinance #11 of 2020 (First Reading), an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Chapter 163 of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances to prohibit cattle, sheep, goats, llamas/alpacas, horses, fowl (including roosters and chickens), pot belly pigs, mules, asses or exotic animals in the City of Nanticoke.

**A Motion to approve** the 2020/2021 Snow Removal bids from contractors. (See attached bid sheet attached to these minutes).

#### **Administrative Updates-**

**Mayor Kevin Coughlin** read a letter of resignation from Police Officer, Kara Kroll that was accepted on September 29, 2020. The Mayor thanked Kara for her years of service as a Nanticoke Police Officer. Copy of the letter is filed with these minutes.

**Mayor Kevin Coughlin** read a letter of retirement from Assistant Fire Chief, Richard Bohan that was accepted on September 16, 2020. The Mayor congratulated him on his retirement and thanked Rich for his many years of service as a Fireman for the Nanticoke Fire Department. Copy of the letter is filed with these minutes.

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

- Completed paving projects include Apollo Circle, N. Market St. to Broadway, Spur St., and the ADA Ramps at the end of Spring Street. West Main Street paving project is complete but the contractors are waiting for the lines to be painted before opening up the road to traffic.
- October 18, 2020 at 8:00 am, Nanticoke Conservation Club is conducting a cleanup project on the property at Lower Broadway and J.P. Mascaro has donated a dumpster to assist with the cleanup.

- Asplundh is in town trimming trees that are too close to the power lines.
- Lights on Market Street and Main Street will be repaired with in the next few weeks.

**A Motion** was made by Councilmember Pietrzyk, seconded by Councilmember Telencho to adjourn the work session. Motion carried unanimously.

**REGULAR MEETING**    Comments from the Public agenda items only.

None

**Old Business**

The “Welcome Sign” on Main Street has been installed. President Brown stated the sign looks very nice and thanked the committee members for getting the project done. Vice President Telencho stated a stencil will be put on the back and it is going to say “Thank you for visiting and come back again”.

**New Business**

**A Motion** to approve the September 16, 2020 minutes was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember Marcella.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A Motion** to approve the payment of the bills in the amount of \$1,433,781.36 (Payroll(s) \$106,189.40 and Payables \$1,327,781.36) was made by Councilmember Pietrzyk, seconded by Councilmember Butczynski.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A motion** to approve Ordinance #11 of 2020 (First Reading), an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Chapter 163 of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances to prohibit cattle, sheep, goats, llamas/alpacas, horses, fowl (including roosters and chickens), pot belly pigs, mules, asses or exotic animals in the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember Marcella, seconded by Councilmember Telencho.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A Motion** to approve the 2020/2021 Snow Removal bids from contractors. (See attached bid sheet attached to these minutes) was made by Councilmember Butczynski, seconded by Councilmember Pietrzyk.

Motion carried unanimously.

**COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –**

**Mr. Lou Gianuzzi** asked for an update on Dave Alberola and the advertising benches. Mayor Coughlin stated he fixed the broken ones and trimmed the tall grass and weeds. Lou stated they are not all fixed, the one on Kosciuszko Street has nails sticking out of it and a broken plank. Mayor Coughlin stated the ones he checked were fixed. President Brown asked that the Code Officer, Jack Minsavage, check all 8 benches and report back to the Mayor with his findings.

**Mr. Hank Marks** opened by saying “Betrayal of the Taxpayers” and went on that he and some taxpayers were not happy in the contract negotiations between the City and the Fire Department. Hank asked why comments from Councilmember Telencho and Marcella were not taken into consideration when negotiating the contract. Mayor Coughlin commented that he disagrees with the

statement that Councilmember Marcella and Vice President Telencho were not part of the negotiations. President Browns stated it was a fair contract and their only request was a Salary increase and they accepted what the Mayor offered them. If we did not accept the contract, we would have been in arbitration President Brown replied. Hank Marks stated the City needs to start finding ways to cut back spending and they are not doing that, instead the City is offering Cadillac health insurance plans with very little employee contributions towards the plans. Mayor Kevin Coughlin responded we are trying to cut back on spending and we have been down two police officers with no replacements during the pandemic.

**Correspondence-**

-None

**Announcements-**

The Mayor is forming a Blight Committee and is looking for volunteers to join this committee. If anyone is interested in being a member, please call the Mayor at (570) 735-2800 ext. 221 or email Kevin at [kcoughlin@nanticokecity.com](mailto:kcoughlin@nanticokecity.com).

NANTICOKE HISTORICAL SOCIETY, an organization to participate in BOSCOV'S Oct. 14 & 15th Sale. Anyone can shop either day and when you check out tell them you want the Historical to get the 5% from your sale and you get 20% off your bill. You can shop at either of the 3 locations (Wilkes Barre, Scranton & Hazleton) Please tell all your friends & neighbors. You can also shop online.

A second Public Hearing for the CDBG 2020 Block Grant is scheduled for Wednesday, October 14, 2020 at 6:00 pm.

The City of Nanticoke will be closed on Monday, October 12, 2020 in observance of Columbus Day.

**Councilmember Comments-**

Councilmember Marcella Thanked Chief Roke and his officers for the drug bust on the 300 block of E. Noble Street. President Brown thanked Chief Roke for getting new signage for Interstate 81 and 29 to deter truck traffic from using Main Street to get to the warehouses. All other Councilmembers had no further comments.

**Meeting Adjournment-**

Councilmember Butczynski made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Pietrzyk, roll call. Motion carried unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:27 pm.**

**Next Meeting, Wed, Oct 21, 2020 @ 7:00 pm.**

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