

NANTICOKE CITY



WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

November 6, 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.

WORK SESSION-

Ordinance # 3 of 2019 (Second reading) - City of Nanticoke requiring reimbursement for Fire Department Expenses incurred in delivering emergency services. Attorney Finnegan explained this ordinance will work with the insurance companies.

Ordinance # 4 of 2019 (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke approving the 2020 Budget. **(Polito)**

Ordinance # 5 of 2019 (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke establishing the millage rate of taxation for 2020. **(Polito)**

Ordinance # 6 of 2019 (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending the Earned Income Tax rate for residents under Section 463-39(B) of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances from 2.0% to 2.25%. **(Polito)**

Ordinance # 7 of 2019 (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Ordinance #6 of 2015 decreasing the Sewer Rental and Maintenance fees for residential and non-residential properties from \$150.00 to \$125.00 per year. **(Polito)**

Ordinance # 8 of 2019 (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Ordinance #2 of 2013 which authorized, empowered and directed the proper City Officials of the City of Nanticoke to issue Refuse and Recycling bills for the City and which established a fee for bulk item pick-up, said amendment providing for an increase in said fees. **(Polito)**

Ordinance # 9 of 2019 (First Reading) - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke approving an agreement with the Township of Plymouth for the provision of Fire Protection Services. **(Finnegan)**

Resolution # 12 of 2019 - A Resolution authorizing the filing of an application for the 2019 Pennsylvania Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program Funds in the amount of \$298,504.00. **(Wall)**

Resolution # 13 of 2019 - A Resolution amending Resolution # 9 of 2019, correcting the applicant's name on the resolution to approve the transfer of a Liquor License from Glenn Jenkins to Concrete City Café Inc. **(Polito)**

Administrative Updates-

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

- The DPW Department distributed over 400 Recycling Bins to residents today. All are out of the K&M School. Some are here in chambers and some are in out Stickney Building.
- Gas Co Milled Churched St. and will pave in the next few days.

- Phase II of the PIB Project began in Honey Pot this week. Snyder St had some storm water issues to be resolved before paving.
- W. Main Street Sewer Project has begun and will finish up in the Spring of 2020.
- There is a box to collect items for the Domestic Violence Center.

Mayor Nicole Colatosti Mackiewicz has executed **Executive Order #7 of 2019**, re-appointing Mr. Jack Minsavage as the City's Section 504 Officer, preventing renters from discrimination within the City.

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.

Mr. Larry Beck brought to Council's attention that the man hole on Main Street is sinking again.

Mr. Marks just wanted it on the record that he is against raising taxes and fees, that we should take out loans and if end up back in Act 47 we will be under the State's supervision. He wanted to know why the budget increased by over \$200,000.00 and Jennifer answered mainly due to increase in salaries per contracts, increase in the MMO's and increase in the Health Insurance. Mr. Andy Gegarisk asked Mr. Marks if he complains at the GHA School Board meetings when they raise taxes and Mr. Marks replied yes.

Mr. Knapp asked if residents can get the number of workers compensation claims each year from the Safety Committee and Jennifer responded No, you would have to do a Right to Know for that information.

Old Business

Donna Wall called Stell Enterprises, they have contacted a survey company to survey the entire area. Once the survey is completed they will contact Donna and she will update everyone once the information is given to her.

New Business

A Motion to approve the October 16, 2019 minutes was made by Mr. Coughlin, second Ms. Butczynski. Motion carried.

A Motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$313,410.48 (Payroll \$95,644.25 and Payables \$217,766.23) was made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second by Ms. Butczynski. Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 3 of 2019 (Second Reading)** - City of Nanticoke requiring reimbursement for Fire Department Expenses incurred in delivering emergency services **was** made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Mr. Marcella. Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 4 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke approving the 2020 Budget **was** made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second by Ms. Butczynski. Mr. Marcella voted No. Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 5 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke establishing the millage rate of taxation for 2020 **was** made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Mr. Pietrzyk. Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 6 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending the Earned Income Tax rate for residents under Section 463-39(B) of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances from 2.0% to 2.25% **was** made by Ms. Butczynski, second by Mr. Pietrzyk. Mr. Brown and Mr. Marcella voted No.

Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 7 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Ordinance #6 of 2015 decreasing the Sewer Rental and Maintenance fees for residential and non-residential properties from \$150.00 to \$125.00 per year **was** made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Mr. Marcella.

Motion Carried.

A Motion to amend **Ordinance # 8 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Ordinance #2 of 2013 which authorized, empowered and directed the proper City Officials of the City of Nanticoke to issue Refuse and Recycling bills for the City and which established a fee for bulk item pick-up, said amendment providing for an increase in said fees and remove the proposed installment fees **was** made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Ms. Butczynski.

Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 8 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Ordinance #2 of 2013 which authorized, empowered and directed the proper City Officials of the City of Nanticoke to issue Refuse and Recycling bills for the City and which established a fee for bulk item pick-up, said amendment providing for an increase in said fees **was** made by Mr. Coughlin, second by Ms. Butczynski.

Motion Carried.

A Motion to approve **Ordinance # 9 of 2019 (First Reading)** - An Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke approving an agreement with the Township of Plymouth for the provision of Fire Protection Services **was** made by Mr. Marcella, second by Ms. Butczynski.

A Motion to approve **Resolution # 12 of 2019** - A Resolution authorizing the filing of an application for the 2019 Pennsylvania Community Development Block Grant Entitlement Program Funds in the amount of \$298,504.00 **was** made by Ms. Butczynski, second Mr. Pietrzyk.

A Motion to approve **Resolution # 13 of 2019** - A Resolution amending Resolution # 9 of 2019, correcting the applicant's name on the resolution to approve the transfer of a Liquor License from Glenn Jenkins to Concrete City Café Inc **was** made by Mr. Pietrzyk, second Ms. Butczynski.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Mr. Ronald Knapp said he noticed a change on the timing on the W. Nanticoke Bridge to reduce traffic from backing up Market Street. He asked is it working and he complimented the Fire Department for resolving the issue so promptly. Captain Mark Boncal stated there is no way to get a schedule from the train station as Mr. Knapp requested at the Oct 6, 2019 meeting. Trains do not follow a schedule; they leave at various times depending on when they need to make a delivery replied Mike Marcella. Mr. Marcella stated we did everything we could do to help resolve this issue. Mr. Joe John asked if the train station can let the fire department know when a train will be in the area and Mr. Brown said the Fire Department will look into that request. Mr. Marks stated was a truck stuck on one of the tracks and they called the train station and told them about it and they stopped the train immediately. President Brown asked Captain Boncal how the signal worked the prior night when the Fire Department had to respond to a call and Captain Boncal said it did work and it helps when traffic sees our lights and they pull over to let us around.

Mr. Hank Marks stated he will be notifying the public in the paper on who voted no and who voted yes to raise the earned income taxes. He stated he knew who would vote yes or no but was surprised to see who voted yes. President Brown said we did not raise real estate taxes to be considerate of the residents who are elderly or on fixed incomes. Mr. Marks did not care; he said he is against raising all taxes and fees. Finance Director, Jennifer Polito stated we did cut back, a clerical position was open and we chose not to hire a replacement and when a Chief is appointed from within the current Police Force, they will not be replacing that officer either.

Mr. Johnathan Lang of Lee Mine Street wanted to report how bad the Blight on his road has become and said it was reported to the code officer and nothing has been done. He said today one of the offenders actually intimidated him and tried to block his access to his home. He said the one home has generators going all night and there are a lot of out of state plates. Officer Williams is aware of issues and Jack, the code officer stated there is a new owner for the property and he has been given 30 days to clean the property up. Officer Williams said the next time the resident challenges you to please call 911 and the police will respond.

Mr. John Telencho was given his chance to speak and he withdrew his issue because he spoke to Attorney Finnegan before the meeting and he answered his questions.

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

The City of Nanticoke will be closed on Monday, November 11, 2019 in observance of Veteran's Day.

Meeting Adjournment-

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

Meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.

Next Meeting, Wed, Nov 20, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Jennifer W. Polito
City Clerk