



CITY OF NANTICOKE

WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

August 20, 2025

Call to Order: President, William Brown

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

ROLL CALL:

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

Attorney Finnegan announced that Council was late for starting meeting due to being in an Executive Session held prior to the Council meeting. The Executive Session was held to discuss the bids received to demo 759 South Prospect Street that will be discussed in the Work Session of this meeting and the potential litigation if it should arise and how to handle the potential litigation.

WORK SESSION: New Business: (action Items)

A Motion to approve Resolution #18 of 2025, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke approving the Luzerne County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update.

A Motion to accept Recommendation of Engineer to award demolition of 759 South Prospect Street structure to lowest responsible bidder, Brdaric Excavation, in the amount of \$42,000.

A motion to approve the Sales Authorization Agreement between the **City of Nanticoke** and **Signal 5 Fire Apparatus** pertaining to the sale of the 1999 Pierce Ladder 2000/500/105'.

A motion to approve the Sales Authorization Agreement between the **City of Nanticoke** and **Signal 5 Fire Apparatus** pertaining to the sale of the 2001 Pierce Engine 1500/500.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:

Mayor Kevin Coughlin has submitted the July 2025 Department Reports for Council's review and Jennifer Polito has posted them on the City's website at www.nanticokecity.com.

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

1. Donna informed Council that the city received the 811 notice that the building on the Auto Zone Property is scheduled to be demolished.
2. The milling and paving on Market Street will begin on Monday, 8/25/2025.
3. The emergency repair to the sink hole near 1588 S. Hanover Street has been repaired by Ed Krasavage.

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

Motion carried unanimously.

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

Mr. Mike Marcella asked if Signal 5 Fire Apparatus was buying the fire trucks or are they a broker and Attorney Finnegan replied they are a broker that identifies potential buyers and if the fire truck sells, they get a percentage of the sale and if it does not sell, they get nothing.

Mr. Marcella asked if the \$42,000 demo award is for the Renco property and will it be re-imbursed by the Landbank and President Brown replied yes to both questions.

Old Business

None

New Business

A Motion to approve the minutes from the August 6, 2025 Work Session/Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve the payment of the bills in the total amount of **\$481,012.30**

[(Payrolls) \$139,416.83 (Accounts Payable) \$341,595.47] was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Nalepa.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Resolution #18 of 2025, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke approving the Luzerne County 2025 Hazard Mitigation Plan Update was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to accept Recommendation of Engineer to award demolition of 759 South Prospect Street structure to lowest responsible bidder, Brdaric Excavation, in the amount of \$42,000 was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Nalepa.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the Sales Authorization Agreement between the **City of Nanticoke** and **Signal 5 Fire Apparatus** pertaining to the sale of the 1999 Pierce Ladder 2000/500/105' was made by Councilmember Dougherty seconded by Councilmember James. Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the Sales Authorization Agreement between the **City of Nanticoke** and **Signal 5 Fire Apparatus** pertaining to the sale of the 2001 Pierce Engine 1500/500 was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Dougherty.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Donna Wolfe of 1122 S. Hanover Street asked if the demolition on Prospect Street is Renco's property and Councilmember Dougherty replied yes. Mrs. Wolfe asked if the taxes were paid on unattended properties like the repair shop on Main Street and City Manager replied that the owner just passed away and the taxes are paid. Mrs. Wolfe stated the Convent, Baker Boys and the Nanticoke Hospital are also a mess. Baker Boys was just sold and the Nanticoke Hospital was sold to someone from New York. President Brown asked Donna to look into the Convent and have the Code Officer go to the Church and Baker Boys and cite them.

Doreen & Bob Woolfolk of 1118 S. Hanover Street complained about properties with mold issues, broken glass, and overgrowth of grass weeds and shrubs. Mrs. Woolfolk stated Hanover Street is a mess with residents not taking care of their properties. Mrs. Woolfolk mentioned 3 homes 1115, 1119, and 1121 Hanover Street are a mess with Poison Sumac growing rapidly, the houses have broken pipes and mold issues and overgrowth of weeds. Mrs. Woolfolk stated due to her severe allergies to the Poison Sumac she is forced to keep her house closed up and air conditioning running even on nice days. Councilmember O'Connor stated Jonathan, City's Code Officer, was at these properties, has cited them and filed complaint with the magistrate. Mrs. Woolfolk stated they take care of their property but their neighbors who do not are making her life a living hell and she is thinking of moving out of Nanticoke. Mr. Woolfolk asked why Jonathan is now acting on this issue when it was brought to his attention back in May. City Manager Donna Wall stated she will talk to Jonathan and if they ever feel that Jonathan is not doing anything about their complaints to please call herself or the mayor.

Mr. John Telencho of Market Street asked how many vacant lots does the city own and does the city pay the rain tax on them? City Manager, Donna Wall stated she does not know how many but she has the list in her office. Attorney Finnegan replied no rain tax is paid on these properties if there is no pervious space. Mr. Telencho asked if the city has plans to sell them to get them back on the tax rolls and Donna replied yes.

Ms. Linda Litizi of 341 Railroad Street is concerned for herself and the seven other families that now have no place to park due to the man who purchase the property that they thought was owned by the city but they all always maintained. Attorney Finnegan explained that the city never owned the property and the adverse possession claim was never pursued so the property was purchased from Newport Aggregate by Mr. Tarnetski for \$500.00. Attorney Finnegan

stated there is a deed that was filed the same day of the sale that transfers ownership to Mr. Tarnetski, there was 30 days to appeal and there was no appeal, so the case is closed. President Brown asked Chief Roke if PennDOT will do a study to make Railroad Street one-way to allow for parking on one side. City Manager stated a study was done 4 years ago and Railroad Street did not warrant any changes. President Brown stated now that there is a parking issue maybe we should request a new study to be done. Donna Wall will contact PennDOT to see if they will do a new study.

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

The City of Nanticoke is now accepting Food and Craft Vendors for its Fall Festival that will be held at Patriot Park, Nanticoke on Saturday, October 11, 2025, 12 - 8 pm. A Vendor Application can be printed off our website at www.nanticokecity.com or picked up at City Hall at 15 E. Ridge Street, Nanticoke.

City Hall will be closed on Monday, September 1, 2025 in observance of Labor Day.

Councilmember Comments-

Vice President Nalepa had no addition comments this evening.

Councilmember James commented on the extreme rainfall that we had last week. He stated he worked on the city's DPW Department for many years and never saw so much rain come down in such a short amount of time. He stated the City's water system is old and it is not made to handle so much water all at once which caused the flooding in town and popped man hole covers. He said it had nothing to do with the DPW Department not cleaning out the storm drains and he is sick of all the negative comments against the city. Mr. James said Kudos to the Fire Department and Rick for responding to all the people in need of help with their homes flooding.

Councilmember Dougherty had no addition comments this evening.

Councilmember O'Connor stated school is starting next week so please be careful driving in town, especially near the school and good job to Rick and the DPW Department for re-painting the lines in front of the school.

President Brown had no addition comments this evening.

Meeting Adjournment-

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Next Meeting:

Work Session/Council Meeting Wednesday, Sept 3, 2025
@ 6:00 pm.

City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito