



CITY OF NANTICOKE

**WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

February 4, 2026

**Call to Order:** President, Joseph A. Dougherty

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Invocation:** City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

**ROLL CALL:**

**The following were present:** Council Members, President, Joseph A. Dougherty, Vice President, John Telencho, Kenneth James, Mark O'Connor, Lesley Butczynski via telephone, City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito, and Solicitor, Attorney Rachel Finnegan.

**WORK SESSION: New Business: (action Items)**

**A Motion to approve Ordinance #1 of 2026, Second Reading,** An Ordinance of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, amending Ordinance No. 9 of 2024 relative to Refuse/Recycling Fee Due Dates.

**A motion to approve the 2026/2027 Telephone System Maintenance Contract with ET&T, Inc. in the amount of \$10,062.17.**

**ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:**

**City Manager, Donna Wall** has updates for Council.

1. Spreetail hired an acoustic engineer to study the noise issue once the weather is suitable.

**A Motion** was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember O'Connor to adjourn the work session.

Motion carried unanimously.

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

**None.**

**Old Business**

**None**

### **New Business**

**A Motion to approve the minutes from the January 21, 2026** Re-organizational Meeting and Work Session/Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Butczynski.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A Motion to approve** the payment of the bills in the total amount of **\$397,097.66** [(Payrolls) **\$141,943.90** (Accounts Payable) **\$255,153.76**] was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Telencho.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A Motion to approve Ordinance #1 of 2026, Second Reading,** An Ordinance of City Council of the City of Nanticoke, Luzerne County, Pennsylvania, amending Ordinance No. 9 of 2024 relative to Refuse/Recycling Fee Due Dates was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A motion to approve** the 2026/2027 Telephone System Maintenance Contract with ET&T, Inc. in the amount of \$10,062.17, was made by Councilmember Telencho seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –**

**Ms. Jennifer Libus** of 425 East Grove Street asked that the next time there is a plowable snow storm will the alleys be done. Jennifer stated she had to shovel the alley to get her car out. President Dougherty asked DPW Foreman, Rick Josefowicz if he had a comment and replied he had no comment. President Dougherty replied that the alleys must get cleared after the main roadways are cleared. City Manager Donna Wall explained that the main roads must get cleared first then the alley ways. DPW Foreman, Rick Josefowicz stated there is an ongoing issue on Field Street with a resident who does not want the alley plowed because he claims the DPW plow broke a water main 21 years ago. Councilmember James stated he worked for the city's DPW department before he retired and can not remember a storm to this magnitude with the large amount of snowfall in a short time followed by extreme sub-zero temperatures and Rick has a small crew and they did the best they could. Councilmember James stated we appreciate Jennifer's problem but it takes days to clean up after a storm of this size followed by the cold temperatures. Councilmember O'Connor suggested with storms like this the city should hire one of our private contractors to just concentrate on clearing the alleys.

**Mr. Larry Beck** of 225 East Green Street asked if Council voted on a noise ordinance yet and City Manager, Donna Wall replied no, we are still discussing the details of the ordinance. Larry thanked the DPW Department for the great job clearing the streets after the storm.

**Mr. John Kreiger** of 212 Hanover Street stated something needs to be done to control the speeders on Broad and Hanover Streets. Mr. Kreiger suggested having a police officer park their cars on these streets every day for a few hours to deter speeding. President Dougherty stated that the police are out especially in the School Zone and an officer is dedicated to

controlling the truck traffic from the warehouses that are in violation of the city's ordinance. Finance Director, Jennifer Polito stated that the monthly magistrate check to the city had approximately \$7,000.00 in fine from these trucking companies.

#### **Correspondence-**

None

#### **Announcements-**

City Hall will be closed on **Monday, February 16, 2026** in observance of Presidents Day.

City Hall no longer accepts payments for Refuse Bills. Payments must be mailed to Berkheimer or paid online through their payment portal. All this information can be found on your bill.

Due Dates:

3/4/2026 Payment in full (\$395.00) or 1<sup>st</sup> payment of 2 payments (\$207.50 each)

7/4/2026 2<sup>nd</sup> payment (\$207.50).

#### **Councilmember Comments-**

**Vice President Telencho** thanked Rick and his crew on a hell of a job with clearing the streets.

Vice President Telencho attended State Rep., Alec Rycavage's, online town meeting and here are some of the highlights he would like to share:

1. The property tax elimination for school districts passed in 2017 is a no go for now because they have not come up with a way to pay the schools' bills but has been possibly postponed until 2029.
2. Due to all the accidents on the Sans Souci, it will be taken down to 2 lanes to slow down traffic; no more 4 lanes.
3. The Nanticoke/W. Nanticoke Bridge will not be done in our lifetime. As of now, they have no idea of where it is going and ecology testing needs to be performed before any plans can be made to build the new bridge.
4. The elimination of Emissions testing on vehicles since the new vehicles meet all the federal regulations and possibly eliminate State inspection was discussed.
5. The topic of Data Centers was brought up and suggested that municipalities be proactive rather than reactive in not allowing them in their communities because these data centers are a burden on the community. They generate heat and they are water gobblers.

**Councilmember James** thanked Rick and the DPW Department and the First responders who were called out during the storm.

**Councilmember O'Connor** replied kudos to Rick and his crew; it was the storm of the century and keep killing it. Kudos to our Police and Fire departments and Chief Roke only has 2 officers on an 8-hour shift per shift.

**Councilmember Butczynski** had no further comments.

**President Dougherty** stated the DPW had a fight with this snow storm but got it done. President Dougherty stated we will work on the issues with the alleys, stay warm and enjoy the Superbowl.

**Meeting Adjournment-**

Councilmember O'Connor made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Telencho, roll call.

Motion carried unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 6:29 pm.**

**Next Meeting:**

Work Session/Council Meeting Monday February 18, 2026  
@ 6:00 pm.

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**City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito**