



CITY OF NANTICOKE
WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
Wednesday, July 16, 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.

WORK SESSION: New Business: (action Items)

A Motion to approve Resolution #17 of 2025, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke establishing a BYOB Facility Application and Permit Fee.

A Motion to approve Ordinance #11 of 2025, (First Reading), an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke repealing and replacing the current BYOB Ordinance to provide for definitions, permitting requirements, insurance requirements, rules and regulations and violations and penalties relative to BYOB facilities within the City of Nanticoke.

ADMINISTRATIVE UPDATES:

Mayor Kevin Coughlin has submitted the June 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's 2023-2024 Pension Audits are scheduled to begin this week.

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

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

None

Old Business

A Motion to untable Resolution #16 of 2025, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Resolution #14 of 2022 to include an amendment to miscellaneous residential and commercial permit fees in the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember Dougherty.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Resolution #16 of 2025, a resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Resolution #14 of 2022 to include an amendment to miscellaneous residential and commercial permit fees in the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember O'Connor.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to untable Ordinance #10 of 2025, an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke establishing a Food Truck, Food Cart and Food Stand Ordinance in the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Ordinance #10 of 2025, (First Reading), an ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke establishing a Food Truck, Food Cart and Food Stand Ordinance in the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember O'Connor seconded by Councilmember Dougherty.

Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

A Motion to approve the minutes from the July 2, 2025 Work Session/Regular Council Meeting was made by Councilmember James seconded by Councilmember Dougherty.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve the payment of the bills in the total amount of **\$432,401.23 [(Payrolls) \$131,561.19 (Accounts Payable) \$300,840.04]** was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember Dougherty.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Resolution #17 of 2025, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke establishing a BYOB Facility Application and Permit Fee was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember James.

Motion carried unanimously.

A Motion to approve Ordinance #11 of 2025, (First Reading), an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke repealing and replacing the current BYOB Ordinance to provide for definitions, permitting requirements, insurance requirements, rules and regulations and violations and penalties relative to BYOB facilities within the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember Dougherty.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Mr. John Zendarski requested a copy of the 2025 Budget and asked who he can speak to if he has any questions and Jennifer Polito replied she will have a copy ready for him to pick up on Thursday and he could speak to her or Donna Wall. Mr. Zendarski asked why Wilkes Barre residents pay their garbage by bag with a sticker for only \$3; that would be much better for him who only puts out one bag per week. President Brown stated Wilkes Barre residents pay a fee up front plus the \$3 per bag. Mr. Zendarski stated he knows someone that could get the city a good deal on garbage trucks so the city could collect their own refuse and President Brown stated it is not the cost of the trucks, its addition DPW personnel, landfill fees, insurance, maintenance on the trucks and other expenses that makes it very costly to collect refuse. President Brown stated we used to collect our own but it got too costly. Mr. Zendarski asked Council what is the city's crime rate with all this Fentanyl on the streets and President Brown replied Chief Roke is normally at the Council meeting but he is on vacation so we will have that answer for the next meeting. Vice President Nalepa replied the Fentanyl issue is a national epidemic not just an issue in this area. Mr. Zendarski commented that the city needs to do more to hold the absentee property owners liable for keeping up their properties and have proper numbering of the houses. President Brown replied Code enforcement is on this issue every day. Donna Wall stated all addresses are up to date with 911. Mr. Zendarski informed Council he switched his political part to Independent, therefor, he has until August 1, 2025 to file his paperwork with the Bureau of Elections.

Mr. John Telencho asked Council for a current update on the Nanticoke Hospital property. Chief Boncal replied a New York owner acquired the property for approximately \$200,000 on an online auction and tried to reopen the hospital as a cardiac care unit and nothing ever happened. Chief Boncal stated due to not paying the bills, all utilities have been shut off to the property and the building is completely vacant. Mr. Telencho asked what happens now, are we in a situation like the Bowlarama? Chief Boncal replied see if the owner is paying the taxes and if not, the city can try to get the property on a Tax Sale. Mr. Telencho asked if the rumor that the SPCA bought Dundee Gardens is true and Donna Wall replied yes.

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.

Councilmember Comments-

Vice President Nalepa had no further comments.

Councilmember James brought to Council's attention Dr. Len Olzinsky's old office property is overgrown by over a foot and Mayor Coughlin stated the Code Officer is taking care of this issue with the new owner. Mr. James also mentioned the tree lawn in front of the Washington Street property needs to be cut by our DPW. Mr. James stated we acquired the property and demolished the structure to clean up that block so we should now maintain it. Mr. James also mention two properties on Main Street that the Code Officer needs to speak to the owners about their properties not being maintained. Mayor Coughlin stated Jonathan is also addressing these properties and the Auto Zone Property.

Councilmember Dougherty had no further comments.

Councilmember O'Connor had no further comments.

President Brown had no further comments.

Meeting Adjournment-

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

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm.

Next Meeting:

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

City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito