



CITY OF NANTICOKE

WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, March 3, 2021

Via Teleconference 1-800-201-3962 Code 349057

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 via telephone: Council Members, William Brown, John Telencho, Lesley Butczynski, Mike Marcella, Joseph Nalepa, Interim City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito and Solicitor, Attorney Finnegan.

Sarah Hailstone and Shannon Calluori of Hailstone Economics gave a 25-minute presentation on a possible Land Bank that the Lower South Valley Council of Governments is considering to form. They explained what a Land Bank is, the advantages of having a Land Bank and the powers that a Land Bank has to take over Bighted properties. They explained the Land Bank is made up of a Board of Directors that will work with the City and the City's Municipal Authority to acquire blighted properties at the Judicial and Upset sales. The main purpose of this presentation was to inform Council of this possible formation of a Land Bank by the COG and to get feedback from Council on their thoughts and needs for the City.

Vice President Telencho expressed his concerns about the three working together and asked who has the ultimate authority if they do not work together. Sara responded the Land Bank's Board of Directors will have the ultimate authority over situations. President Brown asked Sara if they had anything else to present and she said she was good. Councilmember Nalepa asked if the Land Bank is made up of the COG's municipalities and Sara replied yes. President Brown thanked Sara for her time and stated that Council will discuss this idea further amongst themselves and will have another meeting at a later date for discussion.

WORK SESSION-

Motion to approve Resolution #7 of 2021, a Resolution of the Governing Body of the Municipality of the City of Nanticoke, a Municipality of the County of Luzerne, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approving the 2021 Luzerne County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan.

Motion to approve Resolution #8 of 2021, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke, approving a Five-Year Lease with M&T Bank to purchase a 2021 Ford Expedition based on COSTARS pricing and to be funded by the Fire Department's annual state grant.

Motion to approve Ordinance #2 of 2021, First Reading, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Section 485-51 of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances to add an additional Fifteen-Minute Parking Zone at 187 East Ridge Street.

A motion to approve the purchase of upgrades to the Fire Department's Plymovent Pneumatic System from Air Cleaning Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$17,790.00.

A motion to approve the Marketing Agreement with Utility Service Partners Private Label, Inc. pertaining to the service warranties of the residents water and sewer lines upon Solicitor's final approval.

Administrative Updates-

The Mayor has executed **Executive Order # 11 of 2021**, to appoint John Gregorowicz to the Nanticoke City Police Civil Service Commission to replace the vacant seat left by Joseph Nalepa.

Donna Wall raised the question that she thought Council should have to approve this appointment and she apologized for the oversight that this was not added to the work session.

Donna Wall updated Council and residents on the following:

- Donna stated that she and Vice President Telencho spoke with the County regarding Resolution # 7 and all their questions regarding the plan have been answered.

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

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

Mr. Ron Knapp thanked President Brown and Council for listening to the Land Bank presentation. Mr. Knapp asked when will a meeting be held to discuss and ask questions. Mr. Knapp would like to know what Land Bank has been around the longest and do they have photos that show their successes. Mr. Knapp stated before we jump in on the idea, we need to make sure Land Banks are successful. Mr. Knapp brought up that there are two very large pot holes on Main Street by the Oplinger Towers and President Brown stated that we are discussing agenda items only now and to please wait until later in the meeting to discuss the pot holes.

Ms. Mary Ann Lang asked if the people from the Land Bank discussion are still on the line and Donna replied No. Ms. Lang stated she has questions regarding the idea of a Land Bank and she wants the next meeting regarding the Land Bank formation to be open to the public.

Old Business

A Motion to approve the 2021 engineering rates from Pennoni & Associates based the 2019 engineering rates was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember Marcella.

New Business

A Motion to approve the February 17, 2021 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 \$482,410.02 (Payroll(s) \$100,328.08 and Payables \$382,081.94) was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember Butczynski.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Resolution #7 of 2021, a Resolution of the Governing Body of the Municipality of the City of Nanticoke, a Municipality of the County of Luzerne, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania approving the 2021 Luzerne County Municipal Solid Waste Management Plan was made by Councilmember Telencho seconded by Councilmember Butczynski.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Resolution #8 of 2021, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke, approving a Five-Year Lease with M&T Bank to purchase a 2021 Ford Expedition based on COSTARS pricing and to be funded by the Fire Department's annual state grant was made by Councilmember Nalepa seconded by Councilmember Marcella.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion to approve Ordinance #2 of 2021, First Reading, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Section 485-51 of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances to add an additional Fifteen-Minute Parking Zone at 187 East Ridge Street was made by Councilmember Marcella seconded by Councilmember Nalepa.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the purchase of upgrades to the Fire Department's Plymovent Pneumatic System from Air Cleaning Systems, Inc. in the amount of \$17,790.00 was made by Councilmember Marcella seconded by Councilmember Telencho.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve the Marketing Agreement with Utility Service Partners Private Label, Inc. pertaining to the service warranties of the residents water and sewer lines upon Solicitor's final approval was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember Nalepa.

Motion carried unanimously.

A motion to approve Mayor Kevin Coughlin's appointment of John Gregorowicz to the Nanticoke Police Civil Service Commission was made by Councilmember Telencho seconded by Councilmember Marcella.

Motion carried unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Mr. Ron Knapp commented that obviously there is a learning curve. Mr. Knapp stated there are two very large pot holes that opened up. One is on Main Street near the Oplinger Towers and the other is West Main Street by Apollo Circle. Donna Wall stated that the DPW Foreman, Rick Josefowicz has put phone call in to the Utility Companies about these pot holes since it is their projects and their responsibility to fix them. Mr. Knapp wants to commend the DPW Department for getting out there immediately and fixing the pot holes in town.

Ms. Mary Ann Lang asked if the LEAP Grant program is the only grant the City is offering for small businesses and Donna Wall replied yes but the County may have more grants opening up soon. Donna stated if she has any further questions regarding grants to please call her and she will assist with getting answers.

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

None

Councilmember Comments-

Vice President John Telencho is good, no further comments.

Councilmember Butczynski is good, no further comments.

Councilmember Marcella asked if there will be a mass mailing on the Marketing Agreement and Donna replied yes.

Councilmember Nalep is good, no further comments.

President Brown is good, no further comments.

Meeting Adjournment-

Councilmember Butczynski made the motion to adjourn, seconded by Councilmember Marcella, roll call.

Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:51 pm.

Next Meeting, Wed, Mar. 17, 2021 @ 7:00 pm.

City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito