



## CITY OF NANTICOKE

### **WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Wednesday, October 21, 2020

15 E. Ridge Street, Nanticoke, PA 18634

Work Session/Council Meeting 7:00 pm

Call to Order: Vice President of Council, John Telencho

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer W. Polito

The following were present: Council Members, John Telencho, Lesley Butczynski, John Pietrzyk via telephone, Mike Marcella, Interim City Manager, Donna Wall via telephone, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer Polito and Solicitor, and Attorney Finnegan.  
Excused from meeting, President William Brown.

#### **WORK SESSION-**

**A motion** to approve Ordinance #11 of 2020 (2<sup>nd</sup> Reading) including an amendment, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Chapter 163 of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances to prohibit cattle, sheep, goats, llamas/alpacas, horses, fowl (including roosters and chickens; excluding egg laying chickens), pot belly pigs, mules, asses or exotic animals in the City of Nanticoke.

**A Motion** to approve Resolution #15 of 2020, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke adopting the Luzerne County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan.

**A Motion** to approve Resolution #16 of 2020, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke authorizing the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community Development for funding through the Community Development Block Grant 2020.

#### **Administrative Updates-**

**Mayor Kevin Coughlin** submitted the September 2020 Department reports to Council for their review and Jennifer Polito will have the reports posted on the website by Thurs., October 22, 2020.

**Mayor Kevin Coughlin** thanked the Nanticoke Conservation Club and everyone that participated in the cleanup on Lower Broadway on Sunday, October 18, 2020 and he thanked JP Mscaro for donating a dumpster to haul away the garbage.

**Donna Wall** updated Council and residents on the following: (Jennifer Polito read the updates.)

- Street sweeping by WWSA is being done all of this week.

- 8 Catch Basins were totally rebuilt by WWSA on the following streets: Gemini, E. Ridge & College, Green & Prospect, New St. W. Union, E. Main and Shea St., and off of River St. by the pumping station.
- The punch list of problems with the PIB work done by M&J Excavating began this week. M&J will be fixing all the jobs that the City and Residents were not satisfied with the work performed.

**A Motion** was made by Councilmember Butczynski, seconded by Councilmember Marcella to adjourn the work session. Motion carried unanimously.

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

Mr. Larry Beck asked that next time street sweeping is going to be done, the City should put up signs. Vice President Telencho stated that we just had that discussion and the City is also going to post it on the City's Facebook page and website. Councilmember Marcella said some signs were put up.

Mr. Ron Knapp asked for more information on Resolution # 15 of 2020, concerning the Luzerne County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan. Vice President Telencho stated he will be asking Council to make a motion to table this resolution so the Councilmembers have more time to review a documents that were just updated by the County and is over 400 pages. The original link provided to Council had not yet been updated from 2014 to 2020. Mr. Knapp agrees and was going to suggest tabling the resolution. Mr. Knapp also suggested a public hearing should be held so residents can ask any questions they may have.

**Old Business**

Vice President Telencho informed everyone that all 5 "Welcome" Signs are going to have a message on the backs thanking people for visiting and to come back soon.

**New Business**

**A Motion** to approve the October 7, 2020 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 \$368,331.96 (Payroll(s) \$100,379.06 and Payables \$267,952.90) was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember Marcella.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A motion** to approve the amendment to Ordinance #11 of 2020 (Second Reading), allowing residents to have upto (6) six egg laying Hens providing residents follow all the guidelines in the ordinance concerning the Cages and cleanup of the Hens, was made by Councilmember Butczynski seconded by Councilmember Marcella.

Motion carried unanimously.

**A motion** to approve Ordinance #11 of 2020 (Second Reading) with the above amendment, an Ordinance of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke amending Chapter 163 of the City of Nanticoke Code of Ordinances to prohibit cattle, sheep, goats, llamas/alpacas, horses, fowl (including roosters

and chickens; excluding egg laying chickens), pot belly pigs, mules, asses or exotic animals in the City of Nanticoke was made by Councilmember Marcella, seconded by Councilmember Pietrzyk.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**A Motion** to table Resolution #15 of 2020, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke adopting the Luzerne County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan, allowing for more time to review the documents was made by Councilmember Butczynski, seconded by Councilmember Marcella.  
Motion carried unanimously.

**A Motion** to approve Resolution #16 of 2020, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of Nanticoke authorizing the submission of an application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community Development for funding through the Community Development Block Grant 2020 was made by Councilmember Butczynski, seconded by Councilmember Marcella.  
Motion carried unanimously.

### **COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –**

**Mr. Ron Knapp** stated the Speed Recording Signs seem to be working by deterring people from speeding. Mr. Knapp would also like to suggest that the City use a Police Cruiser not in use, as a “Ghost Police Cruiser” and rotate its placement in areas that are having issues with speeders. Mr. Knapp stated it has proven to work in other municipalities. Vice President Telencho thanked Ron for the suggestion and Council will pass it onto the Police Chief, Mike Roke. Vice President Telencho asked Mr. Knapp if he had any other questions regarding the tabling of Resolution #15 of 2020 and Ron said no, just he was going to suggest Council to table it and possibly hold a public hearing before passing it.

**Mr. Larry Beck** wanted to thank the City’s DPW Department for taking down and removing a broken branch in the Alley by his house on E. Green St. Mr. Beck also wanted to report that he called JP Mascaro concerning the garbage men are throwing the cans when emptying them, leaving garbage in the street and not picking up yard waste. Mr. Beck said nothing has been done about it. Vice President Telencho responded by saying they will have the Refuse Clerk, Patty, call Mascaro in the morning.

**Mr. Hank Marks** opened by saying he wants to finish telling the rest of his story that he did not get to finish at the October 7, 2020 meeting because President Brown told him his time was up. Mr. Marks wanted to bring up that Councilmembers Telencho and Marcella had made suggestions for changes in the Firemen’s Contract and none of them were taken into consideration. Mr. Marks stated other comparable municipalities like Plymouth Borough operate their Fire Departments for much less than Nanticoke does. Mr. Marks asked the Mayor if he knew what 2 ½% of \$70,000 was and the Mayor responded yes. Mr. Marks asked the Mayor his thoughts on that amount and the Mayor stated he is arguing this topic again. Mr. Marks stated he his because he and his forum are not happy with the approval of the contract. Mr. Marks stated the residents cannot afford the increases in Salaries and benefits offered to the Firemen and that the City should provide the best Fire Department for what the residents can afford. Vice President Telencho thanked Mr. Marks and stated we are moving on with the meeting. Mr. Ron Knapp wanted to comment on the Fire and Police Departments for their help in cleaning up Lower Broadway. He thanked them and stated he is grateful for them helping the Mayor. Mr. Knapp stated the Blight committee formed by the Mayor is a good thing for the City.

### **Correspondence-**

-None

**Announcements-**

The 2021 City of Nanticoke Budgets will be posted on the website and posted on the back-bulletin board on Friday, October 30, 2020 at 9:00 am for Public Inspection.

The 2021 Budget Hearing will be held on Wednesday, November 18, 2020 at 6:30 pm (prior to the regular scheduled Council Meeting).

**Councilmember Comments-**

All Councilmembers present had no further comments.

**Meeting Adjournment-**

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

Motion carried unanimously.

**Meeting adjourned at 7:25 pm.**

**Next Meeting, Wed, Nov 4, 2020 @ 7:00 pm.**

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**Jennifer W. Polito**  
**City Clerk**