

NANTICOKE CITY



WORK SESSION and COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 2, 2019

Nanticoke City Hall 7:00 PM

Call to Order: Vice President of Council, Kevin Coughlin

Pledge of Allegiance

Invocation: City Clerk, Jennifer Polito

The following were present: Councilors, Kevin Coughlin, Lesley Butczynski, John Pietrzyk, Interim City Manager, Donna Wall, Finance Director/City Clerk, Jennifer Polito, and Attorney Shannon Lapsansky via telephone.

The following were excused: Councilors, William Brown and Mike Marcella, Solicitor, Attorney William Finnegan.

WORK SESSION-

A motion to award the 2018 CDBG Street improvements to M&J Excavation Inc in the amount \$196,020.00 (Lowest Bidder)

Administrative Updates-

Donna Wall had the following update(s):

- ✚ Penn Dot will be opening Middle Rd. at the end of Prospect St. for the holiday travel from 7/3/19 through 7/8/19.

A Motion was made by Ms. Butczynski, second by Mr. Pietrzyk to adjourn the work session. Work session adjourned.

REGULAR MEETING Comments from the Public agenda items only.

None

Old Business

None

New Business

A Motion to approve the June 19, 2019 meeting minutes was made Mr. Pietrzyk, second Ms. Butczynski. Motion carried.

A Motion to approve payment of the bills in the amount of \$297,362.18 (Payroll \$100,860.04 and Payables \$196,501.74) was made by Ms. Butczynski, second by Mr. Pietrzyk. Motion carried.

A motion to award the 2018 CDBG Street improvements to M&J Excavation Inc in the amount \$196,020.00 (Lowest Bidder) was made Mr. Pietrzyk, second Ms. Butczynski. Motion carried.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC –

Ms. Nancy Burkland of 547 S. Walnut St. brought to Council's attention a problem she is having with the Code/Zoning office regarding her receiving a letter informing her that she needs permit and a zoning hearing that would cost approx. \$750.00 because she put up a portable car port. She says nowhere in the ordinance does it say portable car ports need a hearing and she stated she called the Code Office before installing the car port and asked that question and the women that answered said "No". Donna Wall stated the car port is not the issue, it's the rules and regulations of the ordinance that were not followed. Ms. Burkland stated it is ridiculous to pay that kind of money for a hearing on a car port. She has pictures to show it is not interfering with the neighboring properties and any of her neighbors will put in writing that the car port fine where it is. She said if she needs to spend over \$750.00 for a zoning hearing, they will take down the car port before paying that fee. Attorney Shannon Lapsansky suggested Council to refer this issue back to the Jack and Andy in Code Office to try to resolve the issue. Donna Wall said she would speak to Andy in the morning.

Mr. Hank Marks brought to Council's attention an article in the Times Leader stating Luzerne County has the highest number of financially distressed municipalities with Shickshinny being the most distressed. Mr. Marks asked that with the 2020 Budget process starting soon, to keep this in mind. He says the City cannot afford another huge tax hike and the City needs to cut costs not raise taxes. Mr. Marks stated we need to downsize personnel. We have 6 administrative personnel and Pittston and Hanover Twp. have 3. Mr. Marks stated if they can run their towns with less, then so should Nanticoke. Vice President Kevin Coughlin thanked Mr. Marks for his comments.

Mr. Joe John asked what the CDBG project was for that was just awarded and Donna Wall stated for the paving of Fairchild and State Street. Mr. Marks asked if CDBG Funds could be used on something else besides paving and Donna stated yes as long as we can prove it will benefit low to mod income.

Correspondence-

None

Announcements-

Vice President Coughlin announced: City Hall will be closed on Thursday July 4, 2019 in observance of the Independence Day Holiday. City Council wishes everyone a Happy 4th of July.

Meeting Adjournment

Ms. Butczynski made the motion to adjourn, second by Mr. Pietrzyk, roll call. Motion carried to adjourn the meeting.

Meeting adjourned at 7:16 PM.

Next Meeting, Wed, July 17, 2019 at 7:00 PM

Jennifer W. Polito
City Clerk