The Regular Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 7:10 pm on Tuesday, January 14, 2020 by President of Council Stanley Knick. The meeting followed a 6:30 pm executive session to discuss legal matters.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

FOLL CALL:

Mr. Knick - Present Mr. Kowalczyk – Present

Mr. Karkut - Present Mr. Price – Present

Mr. Jones - Present Mayor Lello- Present

**MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE DECEMBER 10, 2019 MEEITNG JANUARY 6, 2020 REORGANIZATION MEETING AND PLACE ON FILE.**

Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Karkut

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CORRESPONDENCE PRESENTED**.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Price

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS PRESENTED AS WELL AS APPROVE ALL BILLS PAID AFTER THE DECEMBER 10TH MEETING TO CLOSE OUT THE BOOKS.**

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO APPOINT THE PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS FROM JANUARY 14, 2020 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK**: Duane Saunders, Jennifer Polemitis, Thomas Sheehan, Thomas Rushnak, Christopher Fargione, Christopher Smith, Robert Avvisato, Donald MacRae, and new hire Michael Sniscak.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

REPORTS:

Treasurer’s Report:

General Fund - $12,049.21

Payroll Fund - $ 7,307.12

Admin 4249 Debit Card for Grants - $ 250.00

Police 2121 Debit Card - $ 150.00

Community Development Fund - $ 1.00

Refuse Fund - $ 60,045.63

Sewer Maintenance Fund - $ 434,948.68

Liquid Fuels - $ 116,843.03

Police Pension Fund - $ 921,762.00

Town Clock - $ 3,934.48

Special Fund - $ 75,725.51

Loan for School - $ 168,315.51

Tax Collector Report:

Submitted by Susan Gregory, Tax Collector:

Balance Collectable Beginning of Month - $ 22,765.30

Less Face Collections for the Month - $ 2,451.93

Balance Collectable End of Month - $ 20,313.37

Plus Penalties - $ 224.66

Less Discounts - $ 1.51

Total Collected and Deposited into General Fund - $ 20,313.37

Police Report: criminal arrests-3; traffic citations-3; non-traffic citations-1; appearances in magistrate court-15; appearances in county court-2; motor vehicle accidents-10; assist to fire and ems-2; assist to other police departments- 7; alarms-6; robberies-1; thefts-3; disorderly conduct -2; domestic reports-5;

suspicious activity-3; assaults and harassment-3; miscellaneous calls-15; building checks-167; Mileage: Explorer 36,401; Taurus-72,004; and F150 – 11,971. Magistrate Fines Collected - $ 2,008.31

Solicitor Report: Addressed Chief Doran on protocol for the body cams. He has no objections to it but has a couple questions: (1) There are certain rules and regulations for keeping the tapes and for accidents and crimes – where do those timings come from. The chief responded the Dept. of Pennsylvania District Attorney came up with guidelines on how long they have to be kept. (2) How and where is that stuff going to be kept, who watches it - The chief responded that falls on him. He will make sure it is not tampered with. Sixty day minimum for anything non evidentiary. Erik stated the police will need to advise people that it is in evidence for sixty days or it is gone. The chief stated from his knowledge he does not have explain that. Erik asked what is the timeline for officers to start using body cams. Chief stated whenever the protocol is approved and in place. Erik suggested everyone review and approve the protocol. The sooner the better. The Chief further explained that crimes or accidents that are evidentiary have to get burned to discs and kept in evidence. The others non evidentiary will be on external hard drive. Patty asked when officers come off shift they download the cameras onto external hard drive and the Chief keeps track of the timeline. Mr. Kowalczyk asked about the whole shift. The chief explained the body cams they activate themselves so when there is a traffic stop or incident they activate it. The chief can check the system and see there were three traffic stops and the cameras were not activated three times – you have to use it all the time or not at all. Erik suggested everyone gets a copy of the protocol and we will have a meeting. The chief has researched this and can answer any questions from council. Once its finalized council can approve it.

Engineer Report: (1) Two grants were submitted to DCED that were discussed last meeting. (2) One call notice came in for Navy Way Road storm and ditch work. Pennsy will be back in that area. Bob questioned the permit being closed out. Patty just received the notice late afternoon and did not contact the Conservation District to see if this is work that they did that has to be redone or new work. Patty stated she did receive a call that men were up on the airport property near the creek under the highway. Bob suggested we keep watch on it and when it is all done you will want to be with the Conservation District that all is satisfied because it will fall back on the Borough. (4) Extension for small water and sewer is on the agenda tonight. Previous approvals were for manhole remediations and the canopy and stone. We have to discuss what we are going to do with the remaining grant money and how to apply for extension. That is due the end of this month. There has been talk about generator and other options up there. We need a direction to apply for extension. Mr. Knick suggested roof, look into generator and money left over can go toward manhole. Patty stated there is $14,000 left after the canopy, the manholes are about $2500 each and we looked at five on the main street and the generator is 28,000 but that is only one estimate. Mr. Knick suggested we should just deal with the manholes.

Bob stated we can put the generator in the extension and we received verbal it is ok. We need to put it in writing and have time to decide. Bob stated at that number we would have to publicly bid it. (5) The pump station problem and discussions about a muffin monster which is a grinder for the wipes. Bob has used them in the penitentiary projects before. That is where they got their start in the prisons and correctional institutions. They are impressive and expensive between $30,000 to $60,000. That would solve the issue with the wipes but it is expensive. It will grind it up. (6) Building bids – Bob sent the advertisement over and the Chief noted the first ad is to go in January 17, second is January 24 and the preproposal meeting at 10 am on January 31st. Proposals are due on February 26. Patty stated they are due at 2:00pm and opened at 2:15. Bob explained you do not need a public meeting to open the bids unless solicitor says otherwise. Mr. Knick recommends a special meeting. Bob said the bids will take two weeks to digest. That is not discussed in the preproposal meeting. We will discuss as much as possible at the preproposal meeting but they will give you that until they hand in the seal bid. The price and what they are giving you for design build is different from full blown design drawings and they bid off standard specs and drawings. It doesn’t go to the low bidder. You look at the bids and make sure what is important to you is covered in that preproposal meeting.

Mr. Posly asked if this is a building being talked about. Bob explained it is this building right here. Mr. Posly asked why it needs renovations. Mr. Knick explained it is an old building, needs heat, windows,

there is plastic on the windows , rugs are worn. It has not been renovated in a long time. Bob added it is a grant. Mr. Posly asked about the generator. Mr. Knick stated for the pump station. Mr. Posly asked how many kilowatts is it. Your estimate is $28,000. Patty explained it is $19,000 for the generator and $9,000 for installation. Bob explained it is for concrete pad, three phase power. It is not straight forward. Mr. Posly asked if there is three phase up there now. Bob stated, we have a converter up there. Mr. Posly asked where it is at. Bob stated Quail Hill pump station. Mr. Posly asked where we are getting the money. Patty stated we are just looking into it right now. We may decide not to go with the generator. Mr. Knick stated we will look at grants first, if not, it will come from sewer fund. Mr. Posly asked if it is covered. Bob explained the $9,000 included pad, bringing power to it, connecting it up and also a cover over it. It was just an estimate given by a contractor and I don’t have specifics on it. It is just generator cost and install cost.

Mr. Knick asked Bob about Almond Street. Bob explained the pipe is part of the $326,000 grant Growing Greener. Mr. Knick asked if it was included from the state highway down. Bob stated we may be able to do some of that work separately. Mr. Posly asked where Almond Street is. Mr. Knick stated right across from Lidy Road. Mr. Posly asked how much is the project. Bob stated the grant is $326,000. Mr. Knick added that is for work along the creek also. Bob explained it is for flood and storm water. Mr. Posly stated that is a lot of money.

Code Enforcement – None

Crime Watch - Bob mentioned the tree lighting and party held in December which was well attended. Everyone had a good time. Santa came over on the old firetruck. The next meeting is January 28th at 7pm in the borough building. We will begin getting projects going for the new year. Bob welcomes everyone to attend and participate.

Council President - Mr. Knick reported the vehicle mileage: Packer – 57,461; C3500- 66,592; Recycler 24,353; Mack 2,742; F550 - 23,042. Mr. Knick talked about the pump station problems and the flushable wipes causing problems. Mr. Knick stated total recycling in 2019 was 246.86 tons comingle, Trash 729.73 tons.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS PRESENTED.**

Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Jones

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO APPROVE THE DRIVEWAY PERMIT AT 147 MAIN STREET (Lidy Street side) PER APPLICATION SUBMITTED FOR OFF STREET PARKING**

Mr. Kowalczyk asked if there were any issues with this. Mr. Knick noted the engineer did review

the plan, made recommendations as to one way in and out onto Lidy which were completed.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Jones

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO REQUEST EXTENSIONS FOR THE FLOOD MITIGATION AND SMALL WATER SEWER GRANTS THAT EXPIRE IN JUNE 2020**.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO ADVERTISE ORDINANCE PROHIBITING SUPPLY WELLS WITHIN THE BOROUGH**

Solicitor Dingle explained the ordinance and the reason behind it in detail.

DEP and other governmental agencies have required for some time gas stations to clean up their tanks. You have to dig up old tanks, take up the soil, take to controlled landfill, and then they test it before new ones go in. It is never quite cleaned up because beneath it all is mine water. We have a gas station here and they have done everything possible, but they don’t pass because there is mine water and fumes. The way this has been settled is if the municipality does not allow any water wells then there is no contamination. Throughout the valley ordinances are being passed for this reason. Erik prepared an ordinance that doesn’t allow water wells in Dupont. Mr. Knick stated everyone has public water.

Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0. Mr. Kowalczyk commented for how short the ordinance was, that was a very long explanation.

**MOTION TO APPROVE OR DISAPPROVE ACCT 51604 REQUEST FOR EXEMPTION FROM REFUSE FEE PER LETTER STATING MILITARY OUT OF STATE MOST OF THE YEAR**

Discussion: Mr. Karkut asked if house is vacant; Mr. Knick understands the man is hardly there only stops to check house. Mr. Kowalczyk stated technically no one lives there. Mr. Jones asked what happens when he does live there. Mr. Baran stated the motion be worded 2020. Mrs. Hansen stated that is opening a can of worms. People that go to Florida for four months want an exemption. Patty mentioned yard waste pickup or if someone is cutting his grass it cannot be picked up without fee.

Mr. Kowalczyk stated he needs more information because most of the year means 2/3 of the year.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk to disapprove based on needing more information on time schedule.
Second: Mr. Price

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION APPROVING BUILDING REMODELING ADVERTISEMENT AND BID OPENING SCHEDULE**

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO BORROW $40,000 FROM THE SEWER MAINTENANCE FUND AS A TAN NOTE FOR PAYROLL AND REPAY UPON RECEIPT OF TAXES**

Mr. Knick stated this is the first time we didn’t take a loan at the end of the year, we are in the new year.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk

Second: Mr. Jones

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO LOOK INTO A POSTAGE MACHINE FOR THE OFFICE.**

Mr. Kowalczyk verbally discussed this option with Patty. It may also include a scale.

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Karkut

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

**MOTION TO APPROVE VOLUNTEER WORK TO COMPLETE THE DPW GARAGE RESTROOM AND PURCHASE SUPPLIES NEEDED**

Keith Baran explained he is a union carpenter and talked about new project to complete two community support projects a year or get fined. This is to get carpenters out there to be know in the community. Since he worked on the restroom at the garage and did not finish it because he needed a second hand , he was looking to get approval to finish the work under this program with the help of another union carpenter. Mr. Kowalczyk thanked Keith for thinking of Dupont first.

Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk

Second: Mr. Jones

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones.

Motion Carried 5/0.

Mr. Posly asked if there is water in that bathroom. How do you keep it from freezing. Mr. Knick stated it is radiant heat. Mr. Posly asked the cost. Patty stated it is natural gas. Mr. Baran stated that is state of the art building up there. Mr. Knick stated the radiant heat helps keep the salt from freezing, so the trucks start in the winter, we can get out to plow the streets. That was done with a grant also.

Matters from Residents in Attendance:

Joan Posly – Asked if there are fiber optics in town. Mrs. Posly asked Mr. Knick to find out. Mr. Posly stated without fiber optics you cannot have internet unless you go through comcast. Mr. Posly suggested the town look into it. Mr. Lukasik stated you have comcast and Verizon utilities. Mr. Price said DSL on regular phone line. Mr. Lukasik stated the market is not there for it.

Keith Baran – Addressed code violations and non payment of refuse fee for a property in the 300 block of McLean Street. There are piles of garbage along the side of the building. Patty responded that property is under citation and the public works department told her earlier today of the number of non borough bags on the property filled with trash. It was reported to code enforcement officer. Mr. Baran stated that apartment has been rented quite a while. Patty explained one apartment complied the other did not. It is under citation.

Matters from Mayor and Council.

Mayor Lello welcomed Mr. Price and Mr. Jones to the council. Hope you have a great four years.

Mr. Jones thanked everyone for giving him the opportunity to sit up here and looks forward to working together to better the town.

Mr. Kowalczyk welcomed Mr. Price and Mr. Jones, also looking forward to working with them the next four years, well at least the next two years he is on Council.

Mr. Price thanked everyone for electing him to council and is looking forward to working together for the good of the town the next four years.

Mr. Karkut welcome aboard. Mr. Karkut then discussed the situation with the flushable wipes and the pump station. He had the opportunity of going to the pump being worked on. There were articles in the paper on flushable wipes. There was two feet of flushable wipes that are not flushable. They had to rake them out to get that pump moving. It is not only a problem at this pumping station, it is also a problem at LLVSA and WVSA. Then you have to take them in 55 gal drums to the landfill. It is a costly project. Mr. Posly asked where this is at. Mr. Karkut said Quail Hill. It is fenced in for obvious reasons. Mrs. Hansen asked if they figured out if it was from the power failure. The alarm went off. Mr. Knick stated it was overloaded because it couldn’t pump. Mr. Karkut stated it was two feet high with wipes. Mrs. Hansen stated it makes sense that if the electricity went off there and people are flushing and doing things, then the electric comes on and it can’t catch up. Mr. Karkut stated they had to call roto rooter to pump all this water out. They have to physically chain a guy up and suit him up and lower him down there. That is costly to clean that out. It has been in all the papers. Mrs. Hansen stated are they baby wipes. They are thick like washcloths and they are not flushable. Mr. Karkut stated they are fibrous and the pipe wont break them down. That is why a muffin grinder has stainless steel blades that cut that apart. Roto rooter said as long as they make these he has job security. Bob noted there is legislation saying they cannot call it flushable wipes. They are trying all the avenues. This is a disaster.

Mr. Knick welcomed Mr. Price and Mr. Jones and is looking forward to working together. He then thanked Mr. Baran for the past work he has done in town and for his current work to finish the restroom at the garage and thank whoever is working with you. You have always helped this town out.

Mr. Knick announced there are fifteen spots open for engraving on the clock.

Mr. Luckasavage congratulated Mr. Kowalczyk on the work so far as part of clock project.

With no further business before council, Motion to adjourn by Mr. Karkut and Mr. Jones at 7:52pm.

Respectfully submitted, Adopted and Approved,

Patricia McDonald Stanley Knick Jr.

Secretary Council President