The Regular Monthly Meeting of the Council of the Borough of Dupont was called to order on November 9, 2021 at 7:00pm by President of Council, Stanley Knick Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Moment of Silence for former Tax Collector William Elko.

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Knick – Present Mr. Kowalczyk, Excused

Mr. Karkut – Present Mr. Price – Present

Mr. Jones – Present Mayor Lello – Present

**MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 12, 2021 REGULAR MEETING AND PLACE ON FILE.**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CORRESPONDENCE PRESENTED.**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO PAY THE BILLS PRESENTED.**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO APPOINT THE PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS FROM NOVEMBER 9, 2021 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK:** Duane Saunders, Jennifer Polemitis, Christopher Fargione, Robert Avvisato, Jacob Palonis, Michael Kowanick, Michael Sniscak, Thomas Rushnak.

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

REPORTS:

Treasurer’s Report: Submitted by Albert B. Melone Company, Business Consultants

General Fund – 62,985.28

Payroll Fund – 7,160.99

ARPA FNCB Cash – 140,432.21

Admin Debit Card – 280.02

Police 2121 Debit Card – 39.81

Community Development Fund – 5,255.18

Refuse Fund – 143,843.17

Sewer Maintenance Fund – 302,597.42

Liquid Fuels – 188,920.35

Police Pension Fund – 1,123,975.74

Town Clock – 87.19

Special Fund – 178,492.80

Tax Collector’s Report – Submitted by Susan Gregory, Tax Collector

Month of October received check in the amount of $1,104.90 deposited into General Fund. Balance Collectable end of Month is $17,721.04.

Police Report: Chief Doran read the statistical report for October 2021 as follows: traffic citations issued-58; appearances in county court-5; appearances n magisterial court-12; motor vehicle accidents-9; assist to EMS/fire-2; assist to other police depts.-5; alarms-3; thefts-2; vandalism-4; disorderly conduct-2; domestic reports-3; suspicious activity-6; assault/harassment-2; miscellaneous calls-26; building checks-92; Explorer – 60,704; Taurus-87,074; F-150 – 30,347. Magistrate Fines Collected $2,721.66.

Solicitor’s Report - Erik updated council on the status of the damage claim for the traffic signal at Bear Creek and Chestnut. He contacted the insurance company and has not heard back from them.

Engineer’s Report: (1) Culvert Project – Balance due to AR Popple is approximately $4500 to closeout that project. The subcontractors have all been paid. Waiting on final approval on the change order from Harrisburg with regard to stormwater project for that area from Elm to culvert as discussed. (2) Growing Greener Project for Almond and Everhart Holden is ready to go. His office is working on the exhibits for the easements for the Borough which will require the office and solicitor to execute for the properties affected (3) His office was asked to prepare a project overview report which Mike Fenick provided which explains the grants and other work his office is working on and their status. If anyone has any questions feel free to reach out to us. Good tool for coordination between our office and the Borough. (4) Suggested a meeting with Patty and Council prior to the zoom meeting with PennDOT on November 22nd 9:30 or so to discuss the multimodal projects one being borough street paving and the other the quail hill project. They will be asking questions about right of way and other issues relative to the projects. Stash will be available to participate.

Crime Watch Report - Bob Price noted it was a busy month for the crime watch and mentioned the October 23rd Trunk or Treat event and thanked Stan and Eastern Produce for the Pumpkin donation. He estimated 100 kids participated. Secondly Bob noted the cameras at the park are installed and recording as of this past Saturday. Third, the tree lighting event is being planned with details to follow. And last, the next meeting of Crime Watch is set for 7 pm on November 30th here at the chambers.

President’s Report: Stanley reported the following: 70.58 tons of trash to landfill; 6.22 tons of comingle and 11.35 tons of paper recycled. Mileage: C3500-75,471; F550-35,860; Packer-60,390; Recycler-33,971; Mack-3,851; Chevy-1,829. Recycler is down. Hunter Truck stopped by Friday it needs manifold, spar plugs and ERG cooler. Packer needs inspection. It also broke down Monday, and is at Cleveland Brothers for repair. The C3500 needs motor mounts and the gas gauge does not work. The 550 diesel tanks are leaking. All vehicles will be serviced before the winter weather and the new truck and packer are ordered.

Joe Karkut met with Jack and Paul from LLVSA. Joe explained he met with them at the pump station and after seeing the grant application they are submitting to help with the problems in Dupont and Avoca during heavy rain storms and properties getting backup, he wanted to approach LLVSA to see if there is anything to help Dupont do away with the pump station. They talked about the interceptor lines and LLVSA works with Quad Three who was also involved early on with the quail hill development project. LLVSA will reach out to them for information that would be helpful in reviewing the Borough’s request.

The pump station costs a lot of money and there are breakdowns. We haven’t seen recent problems with flushable wipes that are not flushable. But it never fails, it seems to have problems on holidays.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS PRESENTED.**Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, Excused; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO READ THE INSURANCE RENEWAL FROM JOYCE INSURANCE.**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

Patty read the email from Joyce Insurance lising the package premium at $27,192 and the workers compensation including Fire Dept. at $27,070. The total $54,262 is in line with last years’ total which was also $54,000.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE PROPOSAL FROM JOYCE INSURANCE**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION FOR SECOND READING OF THE PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET WITH PUBLIC INSPECTION FROM NOVEMBER 10 TO NOVEMBER 20.**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

Patty noted no changes were made from the first reading. There is no tax increase, no sewer fee increase and there is a reduction in the refuse fee billing by $15.00 across the board.

General Fund - $ 667,900.00; Refuse Fund - $149,700.00; Liquid Fuels Fund - $ 96,500.00; Sewer Fund - $56,730.00; ARPA Fund - $280,427.50; Special Fund - $178,465.78; for a total for all operating budgets for 2022 being $1,429,723.28. The budget is available for public inspection for ten days. Final reading and adoption is scheduled for the December meeting.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF THE PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET.**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION TO PARTNER WITH PITTSTON CITY ON A REGIONAL APPLICATION TO DCED UNDER CARES ACT FUNDING FOR HOME REHABILITATION NEEDS**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR COMMERCE ROAD RAIL CROSSING UPGRADE GRANT APPLICATION THROUGH LUZ. CO. REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO PAY COMMUNITY NATIONAL BANK BY 11-19-21 PAYOFF AMOUNT OF $7,986.63 FOR 2017 FORD SUV POLICE INTERCPETOR 0996**

Motion: Mr. Karkut

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO APPROVE LETTER OF SUPPORT TO LLVSA GRANT APPLICATION FOR INTERCEPTOR AND CSO 0021 REPLACEMENT PROJECT**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION/MEMO OF UNDERSTANDING WITH REGARD TO ARPA FUNDING FOR PREMIUM PAY FOR ESSENTIAL WORKERS AS DISCUSSED PER ATTACHED SPREADSHEET FOR AUDIT REPORTING PURPOSES**

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

**MOTOIN TO HIRE TYLER SZUMSKI FOR THE DPW DEPARTMENT**

Motion: Mr. Price

Second: Mr. Karkut

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

Motion Carried 4/0.

Matters from Resident:

Alberta Warunek, 201 Penn Avenue - Questioned the leaf vac equipment not being used. Mr. Knick explained the reason includes the truck needed to haul the equipment and the worker shortage. He noted with the new grant for equipment and the new hire we hope to get the equipment in use. She has a problem which council is aware of on Penn Avenue and she hires guys to come clean the leaves.

Erik came in at this point. His report was included under reports section.

Pina Hansen, 11 Ivy Lane – Addressed council on the last day for collection of leaves. It is supposed to be this week but there are still leaves on the trees. Patty noted she has received several calls about that and is telling residents the end of the month, weather permitting. Once it snows there will be no more leaf collection. Second, Pina asked if the new hire has a cdl. Patty noted he is working on getting the cdl license.

Matters from Mayor and Council:

Mayor – Nothing

Mr. Jones – Nothing

Mr. Price – Nothing

Mr. Karkut – Wished everyone a Happy Thanksgiving and invited anyone who has time to help at the Food Drive each month to please do so.

Mr. Knick – Happy Thanksgiving and be safe. Please be patient with regard to services due to the vehicle breakdowns. Stan also noted we have a few part time workers available to help out when needed.

With no further business, meeting was adjourned by unanimous vote.

Respectfully submitted, Adopted and Approved

Patricia McDonald Stanley Knick Jr.

Secretary Council President