The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00PM on Tuesday evening, September 10, 2024 by Council President, Stanley Knick.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll 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 AUGUST 13 REGULAR MEETING AND THE AUGUST 26 SPECIAL MEETING OF COUNCIL AND PLACE ON FILE
Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CORRESPONDENCE.
Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE BILLS FOR PAYMENT.
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPOINT THE PART TIME POLICE FROM SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK: Bryan Besecker, Duane Saunders, Jennifer Polemitis, Christopher Fargione, Michael Sniscak, Brian Morris, Brian Jacobosky, Eric Danaher. New Hire: Daniel Dmitrovic
Motion: Mr. Price
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

REPORTS:

<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>
General Fund - $64,207.72
Payroll Fund - $4,183.73
ARPA FNCB Cash - $8,785.07

Admin 4249 Debit Card - $246.74
Police 2121 Debit Card - $282.52
Refuse Fund - $169,711.92
Sewer Maintenance Fund - $377,228.59
Liquid Fuels - $240,847.54
Police Pension Fund - $1,082,758.23
Special Fund - $83,860.43
Clock Fund - $760.00

Tax Collector's Report:
August 2024 – Received a check in the amount of $860.35
Balance Collectable End of Month - $ 23,092.27

Mayor's Report: No Report

Police Report: Chief Sean Doran read the following statistical report for month of August:
Traffic citations issued-68, non traffic citations issued-8, appearances in county court-4, appearances in magisterial court-19, motor vehicle accidents-9, assist to EMS/Fire-14, assist to other police dept.-10, alarms-2, thefts-6, vandalism-2, disorderly conduct-4, PFA violations-3, domestic reports-4, suspicious activity-9, assault/harassment-3, drug offense-1, miscellaneous calls-29, building checks-38, code enforcement/rental inspection-25. Vehicle Mileage: Car#1 – F150 60,118; Car#2 Explorer 28,464; Car#3 Explorer 26,397. Magistrate Fines Collected $1,150.63.

Fire Dept. Report: Total incidents-15, paid staff responses-3, volunteer responses-12; Incident Type: fire alarm-1, motor vehicle accident-8, fire dept. investigation-1, public assist-2, EMS assist-2, wires down-1; Jurisdiction: Dupont Borough-10, Hughestown-2, Avoca-3.

EMS Report - Status quo, no updates.

Solicitor's Report: No Report

Engineer's Report: Bob Naegele reported the following: (1) Hose Company bids to be opened tonight (2) Growing Greener – we were supposed to meet with DEP for final inspection, they did cancel the meeting. (3) Quail Hill – PP&L light pole locations were laid out and we will meet with PP&L and the contractor on Thursday to verify the exact scope of the trenching and then we can finalize that price. (4) Liquid Fuels project is complete. We did issue a punch list. We added drainage work. (5) Multimodal project started. Pennsy is in town and there have been a lot of questions about the ada ramps. We are basically working on a case by case basis with the residents to see what we can do to accommodate their desires and wishes. Obviously we are bound by the Disabilities Act law. If you pave a road you have to bring it into compliance. Once they marked out the ada corners, I believe the owners got nervous. The contractor was out there and we met with residents and worked it out. Bob asked Erik to prepare a release form to help us out in the case where in order to go on private property to remove cheek walls and grade the area, we need permission to go on their property. They would have to grant us access.

The contractor has already eliminated several cheek walls. Stan added if we don't put the ada ramps in we cannot pave. (6) The bump out by the church on Walnut and Lackawanna – Council approved the curb being straightened out. (7) Hemlock park is out for construction. They will be there next week.

Crime Watch Report – Bob noted they had a meeting in August and it was well attended and the conversation was on the current rodent issue. They also discussed the Trunk or Treat for October 26th at Sacred Heart Parking Lot. Stan will call to get the pumpkins. The next meeting is October 24th at 7pm.

Council President's Report: Stan reported the following: Trash – 67.28 tons, Comingle – 5.56 tons, Paper – 10.99 tons. Mileage: Packer – 6,105, Recycler – 44,409, 3500 – 13,355, 550 – 53,146, Bucket Truck – 1,210, Mack – 4,435, 6500 – 549.

Zoning hearing October 22, 2024 at the Courthouse 2nd Floor Jury Room, for the waste transfer station. Patty noted there is a petition on the table if anyone wants to sign it. Stan talked about the Avoca meeting he and other council members, and residents attended. Stan asked Mark to attend since he will be having surgery the 15th. Mark will attend. Stan also noted the September 3, zoning hearing approved the crematorium on Freeport Road.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS.
Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO OPEN, READ AND AWARD THE BID FOR THE DUPONT HOSE COMPANY AIR CONDITIONING AND ROOF PROJECT
Motion: Mr. Price
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

Scranton Electric:
Base Bid - $62,281.00
Add Alternate # 1 Existing Duct Work Inside - $ 9,930.00
Add Alternate # 2 Ductless Heat Pump - $ 10,225.00
Add Alternate #3 Roof - $$192,404.00

Robert Harrington:
Base Bid - $64,400.00
Add Alternate #1 - $24,000
Add Alternate #2 - $18,000.00
Add Alternate #3 – 49,000.00

Council discussed the bids, the project scope of work, and the grant amount, with the base bid, add alternate 1 and 2, there is enough grant money to complete that. The roof was discussed to be done at a later date, discussing the units and railing and other issues with the contractor.

MOTION TO AWARD THE BID TO SCRANTON ELECTRIC HEATING AND COOLING FOR BASE BID, ADD ALTERNATE #1, ADD ALTERNATE #2, INCLUDING RAILING AFTER ENGINEER VERIFIES THE RAILING, DOCUMENTS AND SCOPE OF WORK WITH CONTRACTOR
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Price
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 5 OF 2024 SUBMITTING LSA GRANT APPLICATION FOR OAK STREET MEMORIAL PARK PROJECT
Mark talked about the proposed project: This would be the area where Wyoming Avenue continued across the highways where there were two bridges and a shortcut to Commerce Road. Father Petro approached the Borough about beautifying the area. He wants to make the maintenance part of it simplified, mostly grass, with a monument honoring coal miners and dress factory workers that built this area. There will be a brick walkway, there is a flag pole, solar lighting to light up flag pole and monument and to block it off from turn around. It was his idea, but council has to approve submitting the grant application to get some money towards it, possibly a matching grant because they are looking into fundraising for the project. It is across from the cemetary.
Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 6 OF 2024 APPROVING APPLICATION FOR FUNDING UNDER LANDBANK MEMBERSHIP
Stan explained the Landbank applies for grants. Dupont belongs to the landbank and every town takes a turn applying for grant funds. Stan is on the board for Dupont and advised he would take it to the Council to approve it. The landbank recently purchased on lot on Coolidge Street and they have plans to clear the lot and put a home on it. Approval for Stan to sign the paperwork. Also it is not held against any other grants the Borough is applying for.
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPROVE AND ADOPT ORDINANCE 2 OF 2024 AS ADVERTISED AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF $780,000 PRINCIPAL AMOUNT GENERAL OBLIGATION NOTE FROM FNCB
Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Price
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 7 OF 2024 PURSUANT TO ACT 600 APPROVE TO ELIMINATE MEMBER CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE POLICE PENSION PLAN FOR YEARS 2024 AND 2025 (noting verbal observation that resolutions were not adopted for years 2021, 2022, and 2023)
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO PENNSY SUPPLY FOR THE LIQUID FUELS PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF $124,425.95
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION APPROVING INTERGOVERNMENTAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT AND MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE CITY OF PITTSTON AND THE GREATER PITTSTON REGIONAL COMPOST COMMISSION
Stan explained Dupont has been doing the paperwork and overseeing the Compost Facility. Stash was Chairman. Now, Pittston City will be Chairman and they will take on the paperwork. It will still be on Dupont property, Dupont will not be charged the yearly fee. Pittston will pay half the yearly fee since they will be overseeing it.
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

Matters from Residents:

Wendy Bigar, Harding Street - They came out to fix the alley, but it didn't work. It is still ponding after rains. Mark will go look at it next rain day and see what needs to be done to correct the issues. Mark believes the problem is down at the end and Wendy will take pictures.

Joe Cigan, Gill Street – Asked Erik his opinion on opposing the transfer station. Questions on the culm dump removal, the quarry, proper zoning, blasting permits, and special exception request. Mr. Cigan read a section from the County Zoning. Stan and Mark offered comments and Mr. Cigan also asked if Dupont would consider doing their own zoning or get a few other towns to join in. Joey asked Erik if that would mean each town would have their own zoning officer.

Erik talked about the October 22nd hearing and his opinion that they are hoping that one representative from each town attend rather than having 300 people attend. A designated speaker from each town that has all the knowledge together and say this is what the people of Dupont want.

Bob Naegele offered comments – allowed use, needs special exception – His advise of anyone opposing it is look at the criteria they need to be allowed the special exemption. They have the burden of proof to meet the criteria. Joe Cigan questioned permit from DEP before zoning hearing board. Bob said they may not need that to apply for special exception. They can put the condition on it that they approve the special exception based on the required permits from DEP, etc. Bob said look at the criteria list, poke as many holes in their case as you can. If they don't meet the criteria, the Board doesn't have grounds to approve it. If they do approve it, you can appeal.

Tina Stoshick, Chestnut Street – What criteria was used in appointing Hughestown as primary EMS. This was a lengthy discussion with several comments from council members and Mayor. Stan, Mark, Joey and Elaine responded. Danielle commented that as of Jan. 1, 2022 patients cannot be balanced billed in the State of Pennsylvania. Tina will look into this. Ellen asked Council if this can be revisited.

Matters from Council and the Mayor. Mayor Lello reminded residents of the food drive.

With no further business before Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:15pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Secretary

Adopted and Approved

Stanley Knick Jr.
Council President