

The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday evening, April 14, 2026 by President of Council Mark Kowalczyk.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Mr. Kowalczyk – Present

Mr. Jones – Present

Mr. Karkut – Present

Mr. Price – Present

Mr. Knick – Present

Mayor Lello – Present

Mr. Kowalczyk called for a short executive session over personnel and legal matters.

MOTION TO PROMOTE FULL TIME OFFICER TAMBURELLO TO CORPORAL

Motion: Mr. Karkut

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPOINT JENNIFER ANDERSON FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER EFFECTIVE MARCH 30, 2026 AND CHRISTOPHER FARGIONE FULL TIME POLICE OFFICER

Motion: Mr. Karkut

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

SWEARING IN CEREMONY FOR THREE OFFICERS

Mayor Lello called upon Chief Doran and called for Officers Jennifer Anderson and Christopher Fargione to step forward. Officer Fargione has been here ten years and Officer Anderson has been here two weeks. Mayor Lello thanked everyone attending tonight including family and friends of the officers being sworn in this evening. At this time, both officers were sworn in.

Mayor Lello called upon Officer John Tamburello to step forward to be sworn in as Corporal. Officer Tamburello has been here for three years and the code enforcement officer for two years. Chief Doran cited the significance of the promotion. It is the recognition of experience, judgement and the ability to guide others. Corporal Tamburello has consistently shown qualities -fairness and a strong sense of responsibility to the people of Dupont. Corporal Tamburello was sworn in. Corporal Tamburello's wife and children participated.

Photos were taken by Robert Price.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE MARCH 10, 2026 REGULAR MEETING AND PLACE ON FILE.

Motion: Mr. Karkut

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE CORRESPONDENCE.

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Price

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE BILLS FOR PAYMENT.

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Karkut

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ACCEPT RESIGNATION OF FULL TIME OFFICER ROBERT BARTOLEMEI EFFECTIVE 4-4-26 MARCH 15, 2026 (LAST WORK DAY)

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Karkut

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPOINT THE PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS FROM APRIL 14, 2026 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK: Bryan Besecker, Jennifer Kumpas, Robert Bartolemei, Michael Sniscak, Eric Danaher, Joseph Delaney, Mitchell Rennick.

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Knick

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF JASON KUNA AS FULL TIME DPW AS OF 3-27-26 AND APPOINT HIM AS PART TIME SEASONAL/AS NEEDED EMPLOYEE

Motion: Mr. Karkut

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPOINT FULL TIME DPW EMPLOYEE EDWARD MACRAE JR. AS OF 3-17-26

Motion: Mr. Price

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APOINT PART TIME DPW EMPLOYEE JOHN SAKULICH 8 HRS PER WEEK FOR GARBAGE COLLECTION

Motion: Mr. Karkut

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Albert B. Melone Business Consultants

General Fund - \$ 36,123.46
Payroll Fund - \$ 9,453.30
Police Debit Card - \$ 1,895.79
Admin Debit Card - \$ 74.24
Refuse Fund - \$ 158,052.93
Sewer Maintenance Fund - \$ 350,284.89
Liquid Fuels Fund - \$ 157,356.08
Police Pension Fund - \$ 1,180,257.90
Special Fund - \$ 25,314.03
Clock Memorial Fund - \$ 102.11
Fire Victims Fund - \$ 60.11

Tax Collector's Report: Submitted by Susan Gregory, Tax Collector

Month of March 2026

Balance Collectable Beginning of Month - \$ 300,872.04
Less Face Collections for the Month - \$ 97,244.80
Balance Collectable End of Month - \$ 203,627.24
Less Discounts - \$ 1,945.04
Total Collected and deposited into General Fund - \$ 95,299.76

Mayor's Report: None

Police Report: Chief Doran read the statistical report for March 2026.

Criminal arrests-2, traffic citations issued-35, appearances in county court-3, appearances in magisterial court-24, motor vehicle accidents-8, assist to ems/fire-9, assist to other police dept.-4, alarms-1, thefts-3, disorderly conduct-3, domestic reports-4, suspicious activity-3, dui arrest-1, assault/harassment-5, drug offense-2, miscellaneous calls-36, building checks-32. Mileage: F150 – 75,378; Charger- 60,724; Explorer- 39,212. Magistrate Fines Collected - \$ 1,839.32.

Solicitor's Report: None

Engineer's Report: Bob Naegele updated the following: (1) Received information from PP&L regarding three phase power for the pump station. PP&L stated to run power from McAlpine Street to the pump station cost estimate for the installation would be roughly \$124,000. That is where it was left off. Bob noted there is a grant for the pump station but not sure it would cover that. Bob questioned if there were any other conversations with Avoca. PP&L indicated it can be paid over five years (\$28,000/year). Stan Knick asked what would have to be changed if council goes that way. Bob stated the controls right now works off regular power to the three phase convertor, which converts it and so basically it would be gear switching and controls. I believe you may have to eliminate some of the hardware up there if going direct power. From what Bob knows about it is the service contract with ESC when called out there is power issues. Three phase is much more reliable power. There is some advantage there. Is it going to solve the problem. Maybe. The Avoca solution is better, but if that is not on the table, this is another option. Bob would like to talk to a service tech to see if this will solve the problems up there. (2)) Still waiting for DEP with regard to the solution for the Growing Greener Grant issues (3) The Inspection report for the flood channel was received. We are still working on the flood inundation mapping if

everything above us were to let loose, what would happen in town. If there was a catastrophic failure, how much water etc. Mr. Jones stated he will meet with Dupont again to go over it. Bob stated there may be comments which we will rectify. (4) Collins Creek project – survey is scheduled probably in the next week or two. That is above Ash Street. Flood Mitigation. We sent out documents to residents to acknowledge the project on private property. Bob will follow up with property owner permission paperwork. (5) Garage - His office forwarded to council for review the garage layout. If no questions, it is good to go and they can order materials. Police entrance is on the same path. We have to get a couple schematics together. (6) We received five bids for the liquid fuels paving project which will be open tonight.

Fire Department Report: Chief Hudzinski reported the following: Total incidents-14; paid responses-7, volunteer responses-7. Motor vehicle accidents-4, fire alarm-1, public assist-1, structure box-2, vehicle fire-1, ems assist-3, borough inspection -2. Jurisdiction: Dupont-7, Hughestown-1, Avoca-4, Laflin-2.

EMA Report - Mr. Jones will attend quarterly training end of April.

EMS Report: Brandon Collins began by congratulating the officers promoted and brought onto the force tonight. Brandon noted all of those officers help to keep us protected and allow us to do what we do. Also thank you to the Chief also. Hughestown responded 34 times into Dupont for the month of March. The fund drive mailer should have been received by the residents. Anyone who did not receive a fund drive letter for their subscription can stop by the borough office or reach out to the department. If anyone has any questions, he will be here a short time after the meeting to address concerns.

Code Enforcement Officer: Mr. Jones noted that our new code enforcement officer has been doing a great job. He has been doing a lot of rental inspections on Mondays and Wednesdays. He worked with Officer Tamburello this month and is getting into the groove of writing citations for a lot of properties and is finishing up the transition of the cases that Officer Tamburello started. If there are nay complaints, put them in the box. He is very good at getting back to people. His extension is 104.

Compost Report: Stan Knick noted the machine is up and running. Stan thanked Mark for moving the machine. He spoke with the workers and everything is going good. Mark also added he spoke with the workers and they said everything is good. A couple minor issues. Stan recommended ordering extra teeth if there is grant money available. Mark agreed. Stan will go over everything with the compost commission members at the next meeting.

Landbank Authority: Stan Knick noted the next meeting of the Landbank Authority is in June. Stan will be out of town. Bob Price will attend.

Crime Watch Report: The topic at the March crime watch meeting was planning an event for the 250th Anniversary of America. It is tentatively scheduled for July 19th over at the park. The next meeting is April 28th at 7pm here in the chambers.

Council President's Report: Mark reported the following: Trash 78.05 tons; Comingle – 3.99 tons; Paper – 7.78 tons. Mileage: Packer – 11,748, Recycler- 49,684, 6500- 6,967, 3500-25,012, Mack- 6,617, Green Pickup – 13,421, Bucket Truck- 1,584.

Mark updated the following: (1) There will be an additional motion on the floor tonight for storm drain repairs. He reviewed them with Mike Meholic, DPW, and there are several that our crew will be unable to handle. The project is too large. There are two on Lidy Road and one on Grant. We are starting to go through the infrastructure slowly but surely. I will be asking for a motion to go out for bids. Mark also addressed the engineer that he will review these with him or Mike. Mark wants to get this moving. The one on Grant is probably just the culvert and the two on Lidy are going to involve piping and blacktop. (2) Five bids tonight for patch pave work we talked about last month. We will hopefully get as much as that done as possible within our budget. (3) Moving forward with DCED grant which is due the end of July which is for the top sections of the streets that we applied for under PennDOT multimodal which include Penn, Wyoming, and Lackawanna, Everhart and Spruce.

MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS.

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Karkut

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO OPEN, READ, AND AWARD BIDS FOR STREET PAVING PATCH PROJECT USING LIQUID FUELS FUNDS.

Motion: Mr. Knick

Second: Mr. Price

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

BIDS RECEIVED:

**Wayko, Inc. – Waymart PA,- Base \$61,310.00; Addendum Acknowledged; Add Alternate #1 \$53,533.50
Total Bid \$114,843.50 Bid Bond Present**

**Filinger Group LLC – Shavertown - Base \$70,288.00; Addendum None; Add Alternate #1 \$73,280.50;
Total Bid \$143,568.50; Bid Bond Present**

**H & K Group - Base \$83,249.32; Addendum Acknowledged ; Add Alternate #1 \$92,284.36; Total Bid
\$175,533.68; Bid Bond Present**

**Pennsy Supply – Base \$80,745; Add Alternate#1 \$89,453.50; Total Bid \$170,198.50; Addendum
Acknowledged; Bid Bond Present**

**American Asphalt – Base \$70,460; Addendum Acknowledged; Add Alternate#1 \$71,190; Total Bid
\$141,650.00 Bid Bond Present**

Mark asked Bob to explain the base bid and Add Alternate. Bob explained the base bid includes center of Elm Street, it's the stretch between main and chestnut and hillside, first one hundred feet; and the first 200 feet of center street.

Mark noted based on what we have in Liquid Fuels to spend which is what was left over from last year, and he asks for council's opinion. Wayko falls within that budget for the base bid. We cannot go beyond that because we will go over our budget.

MOTION TO AWARD THE BASE BID \$61,310 TO WAYKO, WAYMART

Elaine asked Mark to repeat the numbers; Mark explained Wayko's base bid is \$61,320.00 which includes the center of the 200 block of Elm Street which includes from the Little League up to Ash Street; we have some repairs over here on Hillside in between the machine shop and the country fireplace and on the entrance to Hillside off Main Street past the bank entrance, and then the beginning of Center Street from Rygiel's to right around the curve where there is a drain and that street is falling apart. Mr. Karkut stated the other four bids, the add alternate is higher than the base. Wayko has \$61,310 and \$53,000 for add alternate. Mr. Knick stated Wayko is still cheaper on the base. Mark noted we don't have the monies to do additional. Bob clarified that his office carried an estimated number for base repair and leveling. Once they build those roads, we will know what is there and what we have to do. We may get a little more out of it. The chances are we may be a little lower. Mark also added that we have to do storm drain repair within those paving areas which we will pay out of sewer. Bob will look at those stating he is not sure where they go. When we get into this you may want DPW to pull those off so we can look inside. Whether it is concrete block, metal or whatever. The more the contractor has to do, the more they charge. If DPW pulls those grates, we can give a little better direction to the contractor.

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Knick

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH AWARDED THE FIRE ALARM PROJECT USING COSTARS VENDOR

Mr. Jones asked engineer if the vendor is the same as the one doing the garage. Bob Naegele stated he has no idea, he was not involved in this conversation. Mark noted Patty mentioned it to him but she was not sure what was to be installed. Ellen stated last she heard it was an apples and oranges thing to make sure it matches. That is all she knows. Mr. Jones asked who is the vendor? Mark noted if using costars you don't have to bid. **MOTION BY MR. JONES TO TABLE THIS MOTION; SECOND: MR. PRICE. FOR**

MORE INFORMATION ON THE VENDOR

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Price

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ISSUE THE FOLLOWING FROM TAX REVENUE GENERAL FUNDS (\$95,000 received)

- **Tax Collector Salary \$3500**
- **Sewer Maintenance loan \$20,000 (final pmt bldg.. remodeling)**
- **Sewer Maintenance \$25,000 (half of the tan note with remaining half next month)**

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Price

Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Jones, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Knick, abstain on tax collector salary, yes on the other two.

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO REVIEW FRANCHISE AGREEMENT RENEWAL WITH COMCAST PER LETTER DATED MARCH 12, 2026

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Knick

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

Mr. Kowalczyk called for Matters from the Audience.

- Mr. Edward Kozak, 254 Main Street - Requested a handicap sign in front of his building on Main Street for his mother-in-law. Mark confirmed she does have the handicap placard.

MOTION TO APPROVE INSTALLATION OF HANDICAP PARKING SIGN IN FRONT OF 254 MAIN STREET UPON PROPER PAPERWORK

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Price

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

At this time, Ellen addressed council with additional motion sheet. Council members did not have that in their meeting packets. Ellen provided it to the Council President.

MOTION TO APPROVE QUOTE FROM COMPUTER VISIONARIES FOR FIREWALL MAINTENANCE ON THE POLICE COMPUTERS \$1,975.00

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Price

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPROVE CINTAS 3 YEAR LEASE FOR AEDS, ONE PORTABLE FOR POLICE AND ONE WALL MOUNTED \$270 PER MONTH

Motion: Mr. Jones

Second: Mr. Price

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO ADVERTISE FOR BIDS FOR STORM DRAIN REPLACEMENTS 2 ON LIDY ROAD AT TOP OF THE AIRPORT ROAD BRIDGE, AND THE ONE ON THE CORNER OF SMITH AND GRANT STREET.

Bob Naegele addressed council that if we look at this as one project, and it is under the \$24,000 bid threshold, you may not have to advertise for bids. You still have to get three quotes. You can always advertise it. Mark noted the two on Lidy may be major.

Motion: Mr. Price pending engineer review

Second: Mr. Jones

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

Motion Carried 5/0.

Matters from Residents:

- Complaint form. Mr. Jones stated in the foyer and make sure to include phone number.

Bob Naegele, addressed Council that he was over the pocket park area today and the grass is still a little light where Multiscape did the project. With Council's permission he would like to send them a notice to go over and check out. They may have to throw down some more seed to get the grass to grow. Council agreed.

Matters from Council and Mayor:

Mr. Knick – Nothing

Mr. Jones – Lions Club Easter Egg Hunt was held Saturday before Easter. It was a very nice event. Thank you to Mark and his crew for cleaning the park. They did a great job.

Mr. Karkut – Nothing

Mr. Price – Nothing

Mayor Lello – Food Drive is April 23rd at 8 am and volunteers are needed to unload the truck and package bags.

Mr. Kowalczyk – The parks are still getting locked up at 9 pm across the street and the courts. That may change now that the days are getting longer we may include up to 01 pm. After that we can discuss that. Later hours you may be looking at chances for vandalism. For now it will stay at 9 pm.

Mark noted the next meeting will be Tuesday May 12th at 6 pm in the chambers. The following is Pennsylvania primary day, the 19th.

Motion to Adjourn 7pm. Motion: Mr. Jones, Second: Mr. Knick. Unanimous

Respectfully submitted,

Adopted and Approved,

Ellen Price, Meeting Attendance
Patricia McDonald, Secretary

Mark Kowalczyk
Council President