The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday evening, December 9, 2025 by Council President Stanley Knick Jr. Prior to calling the meeting to order, Mr. Knick announced there was an Executive Session as advertised prior to the regular meeting which began at 5:30 and concluded at 5:58 for legal matters and personnel matters.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

Mr. Knick – Present
Mr. Karkut – Present
Mr. Jones – Present
Mr. Kowalczyk – Present
Mr. Price – Present
Mayor Lello - Present

MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 11, 2025 BUDGET WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL AND PLACE ON FILE.
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 ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE.
Motion: Mr. Price
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 BILLS FOR PAYMENT.
Motion: Mr. Jones
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 OFFICERS FROM DECEMBER 9, 2025 TO THE REORGANIZATION MEETING WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK: Bryan Besecker, Jennifer Kumpas, Christopher Fargione, Michael Sniscak, Brian Morris, Bryan Jacobosky, Eric Danaher and Joseph Delaney.
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 RESIGNATION OF PART TIME OFFICER BRYAN JACOBOSKY.
Motion: Mr. Jones
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.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's report: Submitted by Albert B. Melone Company
General Fund - $ 33,152.16
Payroll Fund - $74,580.59
ARPA Fund - $.38
Admin Debit Card - $ 343.59
Police Debit Card - $3,093.34
Refuse Fund - $ 125,158.89
Sewer Maintenance Fund - $334,305.77
Liquid Fuels - $111,572.49
Police Pension Fund - $1,180,257.90
Special Fund - $25,304.44
Clock Memorial Fund - $102.08
Fire Victims Fund - $ 60.09

Tax Collector's Report: Submitted by Tax Collector Susan Gregory for November
Balance Collectable Beginning of Month - $25,754.09
Face Amounts Collections - $589.26
Penalties - $58.93
Total deposited into general fund - $648.19
Balance Collectable End of Month – 25,164.83

Mayor's Report: None

Police Report: Submitted by Chief Doran for month of Novmeber
Criminal arrests-5; traffic citations issued-76, non traffic citations issued-4, appearances in county court-7, appearances in magisterial court -19, motor vehicle accidents-7, assist to EMS/Fire – 6, assist to other police dept. – 13, alarms-5, thefts-4, disorderly conduct-6, pfa violations-2, domestic reports-3, suspicious activity-1, dui arrest-1, assault/harassment-4, drug offense-2, miscellaneous calls-32, building checks-31, code enforcement/rental inspection-14, Mileage: #1 F150 – 73,067, #2 -57,971, #3 Explorer – 37,331. Magistrate fines collected $2,544.42.

Fire Dept.: Submitted by Chief Don HJudzinski Jr.
Total incidents – 22; paid staff responses-9; volunteer responses-13; incident type: motor vehicle accident-4, public assist-4, gas leak-3, structure box/no. fire: 1; aircraft incident-1; EMS assist-8; Rental Inspection-1. Jurisdiction: Dupont-12, Hughestown-5, Avoca-2; Pittston Township-1; Laflin -1; PA Turnpike -1.

Solicitor's Report: None

Engineer's Report: (1) Reached out to Paul from Astound. Recommends they get a letter that they have not performed and we expect it to be done in the spring. Put them on notice.

MOTION TO SEND LETTER TO ASTOUND WITH REGARD TO ROAD RESTORATION ON THE QUAIL HILL ISSUES.
Motion: Mr. Price
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.

Engineer's Report Continued: (2) We did look at the pump station and gravity options. We attended a meeting with Avoca Borough and I did send an email to their engineer just to alert them to the idea and see if we can work together. (3) Spoke with the contractor D & M for the garage and police entrance projects. They were wrapping up end of the year stuff before the weather changed. (4) Letter came last month to the Mayor and copied to others regarding the Lidy creek project under Growing Greener near Everhart/Holden. The letter suggested they supplied a report. We called down there since no one had the report. They are not sure there is one. If we get the report we will share it with you. The amount is about $3300 which they are holding until we address the issues in the report.

EMA Report: Mr. Jones has the updated plan to be adopted next year. The proclamation page gets adopted every two years. He has made some changes which will be available for review and adoption in January.

EMS Report: Mr. Jones reported that Hughestown came into Dupont 27 times in November. Last month they also took delivery of a new 2025 Chevy 3500 Medix Ambulance which will replace Ambulance 2.

Code Enforcement: 6 Notice of Violations, 11 Citations, 1 Rental Inspection, 18 follow ups.

Crime Watch : November meeting included discussions from residents on issues in town. The tree lighting is Saturday December 13th at 6pm. Thank you to the fire department for bringing Santa over, and there will be something for the kids for the holidays. Also there will be no meeting in December due to the holiday.

Council President's Report:

Trash – 65.15 tons
Comingle – 5.24 tons
Paper – 9.69 tons

Mileage:
Packer – 10,684
Recycler - 48,536
Bucket Truck - 1,564
Mack - 5,523
Green Pickup - 11,557
6500 - 4,843

3500 is in the shop for the pump on the plow. Waiting to hear what the issue is and the cost estimate.

Stan announced the following:
(1) Special Meeting on December 22, Monday at 6 pm for the 2024 audit presentation.
(2) Reorganization Meeting January 5, 2026 at 6:30 and swearing in of newly elected officials.
(3) If weather is bad tomorrow, recycling will be pushed off to Thursday.
(4) 2026 refuse bills are available at the office and payments will be starting tomorrow
The bills remaining will be mailed out in January.

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 READ AND APPROVE INSURANCE PACKAGE FOR 2026 SUBMITTED BY JOYCE INSURANCE (RISK STRATEGIES)
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.

Patty read the insurance proposal:
Expiring Premium - $81,448.00
Renewal Quote - $ 91,648.00

MOTION TO READ THE 2026 PROPOSED BUDGET AND TAX ORDINANCE FOR ADOPTION.
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.

Patty read the Tax Ordinance and Budget summary as follows:
Tax Ordinance – Milage 2.125; Residential refuse fee - $150; Senior Citizen - $120; Commercial - $185.
Sewer Maintenance - $60 per edu.

Budget – General Fund Budget - $1,068,600.00
Refuse Fund Budget - $196,000.00
Sewer Maintenance Budget - $101,000.00
Liquid Fuels Budget - $103,100.00
Total for all Operating Budgets for 2026 is $1,468,700.00

MOTION TO ADOPT THE 2026 BUDGET AND TAX ORDINANCE
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, abstain to tax collector since related; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, yes.
Motion Carried 5/0.

MOTION TO APPROVE TO PAY ALL BILLS VERIFIED THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2025
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 ABSOLVE THE TAX COLLECTOR FOR THE 2025 DUPLICATE
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.

Tape recording ended at this point. Minutes continued from notes.

MOTION TO CLOSE ALL BOOKS AND RECORDS OF DUPONT BOROUGH FOR CALENDAR AND FISCAL YEAR 2025
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.

MOTION TO APPROVE PEOPLES SECURITY BANK AS DEPOSITORY FOR ALL BOROUGH ACCOUNTS FOR 2026
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 APPROVE COMPOST FACILITY ADMINISTRATION AND PNC BANK FOR DEPOSITORY FOR COMPOST ACCOUNT
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.

Matters from Audience:

George Jendrey – Happy Holidays. There is a meeting at Wilkes College December 18th at 6 pm for PP&L rate increase. He would encourage council to attend and oppose the rate increase.

Bruce Knick - Commercial Account Fee in budget is $185.00. He thought the borough did away with picking up trash and recycling at commercial accounts. Patty explained that small commercial accounts such as doctors offices, or small businesses without glass recycling are still serviced by the borough. Commercial accounts with large quantity of glass the borough cannot service due to overweight tonnage and costs.

Matters from Council and Mayor:

Bob Price - Tree Lighting is December 13th at 6 pm at the borough lawn. Happy Holidays.

Mayor Lello – Elaine began by saying her husband Dan and Stan began this journey together and plans were to leave together after 20 years of service. Dan had passed and I have filled his remaining term as

Mayor. So it is actually Dan leaving right now, and I will be starting my term this January. Best of luck to Stanley.

Joe Karkut – Happy Holidays. Thanked Stanley for years of service on Council.

Joseph Jones – Thank Stanley for his service. Stanley is the one that got him in politics.

Stanley Knick - This is my last meeting after 20 years on council, 18 years as council president. Who got me involved was Joe Timinski, Ed Kowalczyk, Ed Vogue, Billy Elko and Stanley Golembiewski. They have all passed away except for Stanley Golembiewski. Thanked this council and council before them for allowing me to be the president for the past 18 years. At this point, Stanley emotionally ended his comments and called on Mark Kowalczyk.

At this time, Mark asked Stanley to stand - Mark presented Stanley with the Key To Dupont plaque. He added that he was involved with the Borough alongside his father and people don't understand how much Stanley did behind the scenes before he was on council in the Borough. Mark attended a meeting recently with Stanley and it is unbelievable the respect he has from other town officials. That alone speaks for itself. Stanley will still be around and be involved in borough matters but he needs time to himself to enjoy himself and have fun. I have asked him to stay on because of his knowledge with the town. Here is the Key to the Town, but we need the keys back to the borough building. Everyone laughed.

Meeting adjourned with Stanley for the last time banging the gavel to adjourn.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Secretary

Adopted and Approved,

Stanley Knick Jr.
President of Council