The regular monthly meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:05pm on Tuesday evening, January 13, 2026 by President of Council Mark Kowalczyk.

Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL:

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

President Kowalczyk announced that an Executive Session was held at 5:30 this evening for Personnel Matters.

At this time Mr. Kowalczyk Introduced Shane Nichols and Shawn Cox, American Drug and Alcohol Diagnostics, LLC. Handouts were given to Council and the Mayor and both spoke about the programs and services they offer for testing employees, both CDL and non CDL. Questions were asked by Mr. Kowalczyk, Mr. Karkut and Mr. Price. Mr. Kowalczyk thanked both for taking time to come to the meeting this evening.

Questions: (1)Timeline for the test to be done for example if there is an accident with one of our vehicles – Sean stated within a half hour. (2) CDL drivers on a regular basis would be scheduled. – Sean explained they would call the supervisor and ask him when they want to schedule whether it be before the shift or after the shift. The employee is not told, the DER (designated employee representative) sets it up. (3) Mr. Karkut asked what kind of testing. Sean – noted it is urine tests. Federal requirement. He also explained the different testing, federal or non federal. Federal tests get sent out. They also write the policies as part of the program. Updates are done as needed to the policies. Shane also added comments with regard to the process. (4) Mr. Price asked about alcohol testing. Sean noted it is a breathalyzer test.

Motion to adopt the minutes of the December 11, 2025 regular meeting, December 22, 2025 special meeting, and January 5, 2026 reorganization 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 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 appoint the part time police officers from January 13, ,2026 to the next regular meeting of council with no guarantee of work: Bryan Besecker, Jennifer Kumpas, Christopher Fargione, Eric Danaher, Michael Sniscak, Joe Delaney. New Hire: Mitchell Rennick
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.

REPORTS:
Treasurer's Report:
General Fund- $34,256.81
Payroll Fund- $8.465.83
Refuse Fund- $190,639.09
Sewer Maintenance Fund- $328,893.61
Liquid Fuels Fund- $97,972.10
Police Pension Fund- $ 1,310,858.77
Special Fund- $25,307.43
Clock Fund- $102.08
Fire Victims Fund- $60.09

Tax Collector's Report: Submitted by Susan Gregory, Tax Collector
Check in the amount of $4,328.92 deposited into the General Fund. Balance collectable at the beginning of the month- $25,164.83. Face Amount of Collections- $3,933.84; Penalties – 394.80; Discount--.28. Total $4,328.92.

Patty also noted that the 2026 bills for county/municipal taxes will be mailed on February 20th. Discount ends April 21, 2026; Face ends June 23, 2026 and Penalty ends December 31st.

Mayor Report: None

Police report: Chief Doran read the report for December 2025 as follows: criminal arrests-3, traffic citations issued-77, appearances in county court-9, appearances in magisterial court-21, motor vehicle accidents-10, assist to ems/fire-7, assist to other police department-11, alarms-2, disorderly conduct-4, PFA violations-6, suspicious activity-4, DUI Arrest-2, miscellaneous calls-17, building checks-32, code enforcement/rental inspection-5. Vehicle Mileage: F-150 – 73,710; Charger – 58,702; Explorer-37,886. Magistrate Fines- $2,699.93.

Solicitor Report: None

Engineer's Report: Bob Naegele updated on the following: (1) DEP Growing Greener – DEP requested a meeting. The grant balance they are withholding is around $3000. They suggested a few dates in January. The report was done after the install. It is a little subjective. They are questioning the stability of the rock amour. How much money do you want to spend to chase $3000. There is no guarantee they will sign off on the remaining money. That would be up to council. (2) Quail Hill road restoration – Erik sent a letter to Astound that the work needs to be completed by Ma 1st. Erik also stated in the letter if it is not done by May 1st we will hire a contractor and send them the bill. (3) Pump Station – Have not heard back from the meeting Dupont had with Avoca officials. Erik is waiting to hear back from their attorney. (4) DPW

Garage and Police Security Entrance – Bob mentioned the meeting held today with the contractor. They marked the area and called for PA One calls markings to be done. They are ready to start.

Fire Department Report: Chief Don Hudzinski Jr. reported the following: December total incidents – 18; paid staff responses-8, volunteer responses – 10. Incident Type: motor vehicle accident-13, residential structure fire – 1, vehicle fire – 1, EMS assist – 3. Jurisdiction: Dupont Borough-9, Hughestown Borough – 6, Avoca Borough – 3. Chief Hudzinski also wanted to publically thank the public works employees for assisting at the fire with salt for the sidewalks and road way due to unsafe conditions from runoff.

EMA Report – Mr. Jones noted that the Resolution approving the updated Emergency Operations Plan will be presented at the February meeting for adoption and sent to the county and FEMA.

EMS Report – Brandon Collins from Hughestown reported 20 responses into the borough during December. On behalf of the ambulance as we move into 2026 we wish everybody a prosperous and safe new year for everybody. We are happy to announce the brand new 2025 ambulance has been received which brings our fleet back to three ambulances. We would like to thank the borough for once again allowing us to be the designated ems provider for the residents and if anybody has concerns they can see me after the meeting.

Code Enforcement- The rental inspection bills will be issued shortly. They are uploaded into IWORQ and they should go out by the end of the month. The price stayed at $75.00 per unit. Once the invoice is received, they come in and pay the Borough and then the inspection will get scheduled.

Crime Watch- Bob Price noted there was no meeting in December. The next meeting is January 27 at 7pm. Hope to see more people there.

Compost- Stan Knick reported to me that there was no new activity because of the holiday season. In the spring there will be more activity. Christmas Trees are being collected and stored up there and ready to be ground in the spring.

Council President Report – Mr. Kowalczyk reported 48.82 tons of trash, 2.33 tons comingle, and 7.91 tons of paper was collected in December. The Year End totals for 2025 were 839.31 tons of trash, 51.84 tons of comingle and 96.07 tons of paper collected. Vehicle Mileage: Packer- 10,953; Recycler-48,908; Mack – 5,815; 6500 – 5,974; green pickup – 12,272; Bucket Truck – 1,573. Mark added we are one week in to major repairs on the 3500 dump truck. There is extensive hydraulic damage to the truck. The estimate is right around $20,000. The shop Lowe's Truck said about two weeks, but don't hold them to it because they want to do it right.

Mark noted the following: (1) Himself and Patty are meeting with Ron Ralston, from Representative Haddock's office to discuss street paving and some funding options. He mentioned to me different funding options and we cannot get grant funds for all the streets, but we will prioritize. The estimate we have for the roads, there is no way we can be awarded that amount of grant funds. There are also some streets we are looking into using liquid fuels monies. We don't have to go into the ada ramps but we will be repairing the real bad areas of some of the streets. They will be milled out and paved. So be patient with us. (3) Special thank you from myself and all of Council and Mayor to Corporal MacRae who has moved on . He has given us years of excellent service as a cop. He was also the MCSAP officer. He would pull over trucks coming down Suscon Road. I believe Officer Tamburello will take over the MCSAP program. Officer Tamburello was Code Enforcement so we will now have to appoint someone to that

position so we can stay on top of both issues. (4) Met today with the engineer, Joe Karkut, the Chief and D & M Construction regarding the DPW garage and Police entrance projects. That project will need to be completed by the end of June according to the grant. (5) The other projects being scheduled and moving forward include Oak Street Memorial Project, Fire Alarm system for borough building, Collins Creek bank stabilization from Ash Street culver to the end and the Pump Station. The pump station is costing more and more that takes care of the Quail Hill development.

Motion to accept the reports.
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 Approve Resolution 1 of 2026 appointing Stanley Knick, Jr. to Compost Commission, Mark Kowalczyk as alternate.
Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Price
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Jones, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Knick, abstain.
Motion Carried 4/1.

Motion to Accept Resignation of Corporal Edward MacRae effective January 8, 2026.
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 Brian Morris to full time police officer with benefits.
Motion: Mr. Karkut
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 estimate for repairs to 3500 Dump Truck through Lowe's Sales and Service in amount $19,665.00 and submit claim to Insurance Company.
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 Christian Yacovelli as Code Enforcement Officer 8-10 hours a week to replace Officer Tamburello
Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Price
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Jones, abstain; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Knick, yes.
Motion Carried 4/1.

Matters from Residents. None

Matters from Council and Mayor:

Mr. Knick – None

Mr. Jones – Happy New Year. Great things to happen in 2026. Look forward to working with everybody. If you need anything let us know.

Mr. Karkut – Happy New Year. Construction will be starting behind the building. Be Careful. There will be heavy equipment back there. Thanked the road department for their work and mentioned the snow coming this Thursday and they will be out there early salting.

Mr. Price – Thanked the road crew and fire department and everybody working together. Wished everyone a Happy New Year. Hopefully for a warm up soon, get out and enjoy life again.

Mayor Lello – Reminder the food drive is January 22nd and the truck arrives about 8:30. Happy New Year and happy to see a great crowd in the audience tonight.

Mr. Kowalczyk announced the next regular meeting of Council is February 01th at 6:00pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Secretary

Adopted and Approve

Mark Kowalczyk
Council President