The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday evening, January 14, 2025 by President of Council, Stanley Knick.

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 DECEMBER 10, 2024 REGULAR MEETING AND PLACE ON FILE.**
Motion: Mr. Karkut
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 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 BILLS FOR PAYMENT (INCLUDING END OF YEAR BILLS)**
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 APPOINT THE PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS FROM JANUARY 14, 2025 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK:** Bryan Besecker, Duane Saunders, Jennifer Polemitis, Christopher Fargione, Michael Sniscak, Bryan Morris, Eric Danaher, Brian 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:
<u>Treasurer's Report:</u>
General Fund – 20,484.44
Payroll Fund – 4,680.52
Refuse Fund – 190,820.60
Sewer Maintenance Fund – 365,784.24
Liquid Fuels Fund – 95,000.31
Police Pension Fund – 1,203,008.78
Special Fund – 43,454.95
Clock Fund – 415.09

Admin Debit Card – 147.87
Police Debit Card – 83.36

Tax Collectors' Report:
Check received and deposited into General Fund –$6,497.52
Balance Collectable Beginning of Month – $19,916.01
Less Face Collections – $5,913.54
Plus Penalties –$ 585.22
Less Discounts –$ 1.24
Balance Collectable End of Month – $14,002.47

Mayor's Report: None

Police Report: Chief Doran read the following report for December 2024:
Criminal arrests-1; citations issued-57; non traffic citations issued-3; appearances in county court-8; appearances in magisterial court-18; motor vehicle accidents-8; assist to ems/fire: 6; assist to other police dept. – 11; alarms-5; burglaries-1; thefts-3; vandalism-3; disorderly conduct-5; pfa violations-1; domestic reports-9; suspicious activity-10; assault/harassment-1; drug offense-1; miscellaneous calls-37; building checks-29; code enforcement/rental inspection-4; Vehicle Mileage: Car # 1 F150 – 63,841; Car # 2 Explorer – 30,721; Car #3 Explore – 29,794. Magistrate Fines Collected – 2,249.67.

Solicitor's Report: Nothing

Engineer's Report: Bob Naegele reported the following: (1) OCD ADA Ramps, Demolition of 249 Lidy – There is a new person in the position that Mark Hurst held. We are trying to reach out to her to make sure we are doing everything correctly. (2) Hemlock Park is on hold due to the temperatures. The light poles were delivered. We are still working with the contractor through the change order as far as general conditions, costs. (3) Roof project and HVAC at the Hose Company – The contractor is working with the consultant on the power requirements for the roof top. They are working through that. We still don't have a firm schedule. (4) Letter came out yesterday from DEP on the MS4 program citing deficiencies. We area working with Paul Grella to determine how to fix that. As the state progresses they are going to want to see more constructable items. We didn't get credit for the stream restoration yet. We have to keep moving forward and get grants.

Stan also noted the meeting this morning in Quail Hill with Astound. They want to install their services in the development. There are five or six crossings. Those roads were just paved. They will bullet underneath or direct drill. The pave ordinance states that you cannot cut the roads so many years after just being paved. They committed to the fact not to cut the road. Patty did receive a call to send them over the pave cut ordinance and application, they will pay for seven cuts. Stanley will not sign. The residents were calling once they saw the trucks up there.

Fire Department Report: Don Hudzinski Jr. read the December and Yearly reports for 2024.
December:
Total incidents-19; paid staff responses-7; volunteer responses-12; motor vehicle accidents-8; fire alarm-1; EMS assist-7; wires down-1; gas leak-1; public assist-1; Dupont Borough – 13; Hughestown Borough - 4; Avoca Borough-2.

Yearly Report:
Total incidents-218; paid staff responses-60; volunteer responses-158; Incident Type: motor vehicle accident-79; wires down-20; CO alarm-2; Public assist-5; Brush Fire-4; FD investigation-12; EMS assist-25; Aircraft incident-1; Vehicle Fire-7; Fuel spill-3; Fire alarm-23; Gas leak-2; Rental Inspection-14; Fire police callout-2; Open burn-1; Tree down-4; residential structure fire-6; commercial structure fire-2; structure box-4; flooding-2. Jurisdiction: Dupont Borough – 129; Hughestown Borough – 40; Avoca Borough – 28; Laflin Borough-11; Duryea Borough-2; Pennsylvania Turnpike – 7; Pittston Township-1.

EMS Report: Brandon Collins submitted the EMS December 2024 report: total responses by municipality: Dupont Borough-36; Duryea Borough-66; Exeter Borough-6; Exeter Township-2; Hughestown Borough-10; Jenkins Township-2; Laflin Borough-1; Old Forge Borough-1; Pittston City-7; Pittston Township-12; Taylor Borough-1; West Pittston Borough-6; Wyoming Borough-6; Other-6. Call Types: Event Stand By-1; Fire Department Assists-27; Medicals/Traumas-114; Motor Vehicle Incidents-7; Public Assists/Lift Assists-13.
Hospitals: Geisinger Community Medical Center-3; Geisinger Wyoming Valley – 77; Lehigh Valley Hospital Dickson City – 2; Regional Hospital Scranton -11; Wilkes-Barre General Hospital – 16.
Transports: EMS Transports-109; EMS Non-Transport-53. Additional Notes: We are continuing to staff two ambulances three days a week. Also, crews have been called in to staff a third ambulance during busing busy periods throughout the month.

EMA Report: No incidents to report this month. Joey will be going down to the emergency operation center on Friday doing a code red training. It is a mass notification system. Joey also noted he has the first year directive done. That was put out by the state. You have to have so many trainings done.

Code Enforcement Report: Joey reported for December 4 notices given out, 11 cases closed for compliance, 4 non traffic citations were issued at the magistrate office. I worked with Patty the past couple weeks and the letters are going out for the rental inspections this year. We have over one hundred properties with multiple units to be inspected this year.

Crime Watch Report: Bob Price noted no meeting in December due to the holiday party. Bob thanked the Congressman and the Council who participated. We had a good turnout. Thanked fire department. The next meeting is January 28th at 7 pm.

Council President's Report: Year end totals for trash – 843.14 tons; cardboard - 105.71; comingle - 54.49 tons. For 2025, there is no glass recycling. Reminder to watch the weight limit on the trash bags and no contractor bags. Mileage: bucket truck – 1,270 miles; 6500 Dump Truck – 680; Mack – 5,229; Recycler 45,609 and is at Hunter Truck for maintenance; Packer - 7331; backhoe -810 hours; F550 – 54,804, 3500 - 15,738, green pickup - 9,738. (1) Stan suggested looking into purchasing a small dump truck and getting rid of the 550. (2) Stan reported the canopy was installed over the ada ramp. (3) Waiting for grant approval under multimodal for paving borough streets including Everhart, Lackawanna, Wyoming, Penn, Hillside, Elm, Pine. (4) Waiting on grant approval for Oak Street Memorial, Borough Fire Alarms, Street paving Lackawanna, Wyoming and Spruce; and Pump Station Upgrades.

**MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS.**
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 ADOPTING RESOLUTION 1 OF 2025 APPOINTING STANLEY KNICK JR. AS REPRESENTATIVE TO COMPOST COMMISSION WITH JOSEPH JONES AS ALTERNATE**
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:

Sharon Ziobro - Did anyone in Dupont receive letters from Empire Cable. Apparently Lackawanna County got letters saying it is a new cable company coming in to provide services. Stan responded: not that he is aware of. He only knows of Astound coming into town. Mayor Lello stated Astound knocked on her door tonight. Stan met with Astound up at Quail Hill and told them that there are people that cannot get Astound and he is one of them on Main Street. They said they are working on it.

Matters from Mayor and Council:

Mayor Lello – Food Drive Thursday January 23rd. Also the Christmas lights were taken down Sunday, and thanked Borough and the Lions that go out there in the bitter cold to make the town look nice. We appreciate what the Lions and Council do.

Joe Karkut - Thank borough workers for working out in the cold weather. They are doing an excellent job. Mayor Lello added she cannot understand why people get on facebook to complain their garbage wasn't picked up in two days. Stan stated it most likely was because it started snowing and they had to stop to plow and salt the roads.

Joe Jones – Hope everyone had a nice holiday. Joey introduced Brandon Collins, Hughestown EMS. Brandon addressed Council and Mayor as Chief of EMS Operations in Hughestown Hose Company. He did come last month, but ended up getting an emergency call during the meeting. He will be attending the meetings regularly so that if any of the residents or Council or Mayor have any concerns about the ambulance he wants an open dialogue, whatever they need to do to provide the best service possible. He knows the crime watch or other organizations in town they may want to have an ambulance for a public or outdoor event just let them know and they will do their best to have someone there to represent them. There will be something going out in the spring to the residents that will have the information in it.

Mark Kowalczyk – Just something to keep in mind that he was notified of as a contractor, for next year road salt is going up in price dramatically. There was a major breakdown at the Cargill Salt Mine from what he was told. The pile is wiped out. Keep that in mind for next year for the budget or preorder.

Bob Price – Thanked everyone for coming out for the holidays and looks forward to warmer weather.

Stan Knick – Thanked everyone for working together for the betterment of the town. The door is always open, just stop in or call.

Motion to Adjourn. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Secretary

Adopted and Approved

Stanley Knick, Jr.
Council President