The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday, July 9, 2024 by President of Council 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 June 11, 2024 REGULAR MEETING AND PLACE ON FILE
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 ACCEPT CORRESPONDENCE PRESENTED.
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 BILLS FOR PAYMENT.
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 APPOINT PART TIME POLICE FROM JULY 9, 2024 TO THE NEXT REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL WITH NO GUARANTEE OF WORK: Bryan Besecker, Duane Saunders, Jennifer Polemitis, Christopher Fargione, Michael Sniscak, Brian Jacobosky, Brian Morris, Eric Danaher
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.

REPORTS:
Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Albert B. Melone Company
General Fund - $109,695.52
Payroll Fund - $9,687.64
ARPA FNCB Cash - $10,853.71
ADMIN 4249 DEBIT CARD - $93.72
POLICE 2121 DEBIT CARD - $57.70
Refuse Fund - $174,895.46
Sewer Maintenance Fund - $363,515.78
Liquid Fuels - $255,402.64

Police Pension Fund - $1,082,758
Special Fund - $83,768.17
Clock Fund - $6,250.00

Tax Collector's Report: Submitted by Susan Gregory, Tax Collector
Month of June 2024 - $8,687.80 deposited into the General Fund.
Balance collectable at the end of the month is $25,350.84.

Mayor's Report: Thanked everyone for well wishes.

Police Report: Chief Sean Doran read the following June report: criminal arrests-2, traffic citations issued-87, non traffic citations issued-5, appearances in county court-4, appearances in magisterial court-21, motor vehicle accidents-12, assist to ems/fire-7. Assist to other police dept.-14, alarms-16, thefts-4, disorderly conduct-6, PFA violations-2, domestic reports-10, suspicious activity-6, assault/harrassment-2, drug offense-2, miscellaneous calls-55, building checks-34, code enforcement/rental inspections-6. Car # 1 F150 – 58,066; Car # 2 Explorer – 27,002; Car #3 Explorer – 24,799.

Fire Dept. Report: Submitted by Chief Donald Hudzinski Jr.
Total incidents-17, Paid Staff Responses-4, Volunteer Responses-13, Incident Types- fire alarm-3, residential structure fire-1, commercial structure fire-1, motor vehicle accident-4, EMS assist-2, flooding-2, brush fire-1, rental inspection-3. Jurisdiction- Dupont Borough-10, Hughestown Borough-1, Avoca Borough-2, Laflin Borough-4.

Code Enforcement Report: Councilman Jones reported the following: Notice of Violations – 3; 3 Rental Inspections completed; 10 Citations filed with the Magistrate. No work permits issued.

Emergency Management Report: EMA Coordinator reported the following: This month there is a lot going on. By Friday, every resident will receive a letter. This is a mass mailing. It is the first time it is being done. It is to update the emergency operations plan. The purpose is to identify if there are any hearing impaired, visual impaired or non English speaking residents in the borough so this way we have ultimate way to notify them of an emergency disaster if it happens. There will also be the letter in Spanish on the back of the mailing. Another twist to this is in case the house or home is not where its listed by address, for instance if it is in the back or special notes for the property which will be forwarded to Luzerne County 911 Center. First responders will be notified of any special comments. Third, we will be testing the Borough Siren and Hose Company siren on July 27th at 6 pm. We will sound this one once and the fire department once. The Emergency Operations Plan was accepted by the County and sent to PEMA. They will be using our template and send it out to other Luzerne County municipalities.

Solicitor's Report: None

Engineer's Report: Bob Naegele updated on the following: (1) Army Corps annual flood inspection was done. On the surface all looked good. They were happy with the repairs made on the upper channel. The final report will be sent to the Borough. (2) The bids will be open tonight for the Multimodal Project Grant for paving through Penn DOT. (3) Hemlock Park Basketball project plans are here for one last review. The question is should we have a special meeting late July or wait til the August meeting of Council. (4) The Hose Company project is close. I need about a week on that, so that will be good to go for the August meeting. (5) Liquid Fuels paving project is underway and is about 35% complete. (6) Quail Hill shoulders were done. We are waiting on a work order for PP&L for street lighting. We will be

using the remaining grant funds for that work. (6) MS4 inspections are underway for the outfalls. So you may see people from his office in town doing those inspections.

Stan noted Holden Street is finished. Sunset is milled. Jackson and Serling are not done yet. Stan noted they did a good job. One resident had some issues but Stan met with the contractor and Mike from C-N-A and it is handled.

Crime Watch Report: There was not a meeting in June due to unforeseen circumstances. The next meeting is July 30th at 7pm. Come out and get involved.

Council President Report: Stan read the mileage as follows: Black Chevy- 7,961; Packer – 5,368; F550 – 52,168; Recycler – 43,839; Green pickup – 8,655; Bucket Truck – 1,165. Trash was 63.7 tons, Comingle was 5.94 tons and Paper was 8.04 tons. Stan stated there is still issues with the pump station. This bill is over $6000. They have been up there working a few times a week. Stan has a call into them to meet with council to discuss the issues and problems. We need to look into hooking into Avoca Borough lines and may have to look into court decision.

MOTION TO ACCEPT REPORTS PRESENTED.
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 OPEN, READ AND AWARD THE BID FOR THE MULTIMODAL PAVING PROJECT OF BOROUGH STREETS AS ADVERTISED
Motion: Mr. Karkut
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.

Four Bids Received:
Pennsy Supply – 1,012,064.25 Bid Bond Addendum.
American Asphalt – 1,178,325.00 Bid Bond Addendum
Kobalt – 1,267,431.00 Bid Bond Addendum no (used right form)
New Enterprise – 1,226,449.00 Bid Bond Addendum

Patty noted the streets included Hill, Gill, Highland, Walnut from Everhart to Suscon (Bob noting not including the section by the culvert and where gas line work was done by the other culvert) Liberty, Monroe, Bridge, 200 and 300 block of Center, Harding. Patty asked if we can change scope of work. Bob referred to solicitor asking is it possible to award the contract and eliminate roads and negotiate with the contractor. Erik responded yes. Bob noted before we do that you might want to talk to Pennsy to see if they are willing to do that. Option 2 is to throw out the bids, reduce the scope, eliminate a few roads based on prices. Erik asked about the timeline. Bob stated it can be done this year. PennDOT has deadlines. They won't go past Thanksgiving. Patty asked if it is broken down by street. It is not. Stan brought up about past projects and taking out a loan from PNC Bank. Patty mentioned the loan currently at FNCB bank for the quail hill multimodal project. Bob also brought up that the PennDOT multimodal grant requires the borough pay first and then provide cancelled checks and then get reimbursed. That cash would have to be extended at least 60 days.

MOTION TO AWARD THE BID TO PENNSY SUPPLY (LOW BIDDER) IF WILLING TO RENEGOTIATE WORK TO GET CLOSER TO GRANT FUNDING. The bids came in higher than the grant award.) Bob talked about base repair that may be adjusted. Also the measurement for leveling can change. Then if you eliminate a road, it may work out. Patty mentioned the cost estimate for center was 143,000 for 200 and 300 block, should we consider pulling that until we can pave the entire center street including 100 block.
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 GET PRICE ON PAVING THE SECTION OF LIDY ROAD AT THE HILL STREET INTERSECTION FROM PENNSY.
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 APPROVING HANDICAP SIGN FOR 301 SMITH STREET PER DOCUMENTS PROVIDED TO BE INSTALLED ON CURTAIN STREET SIDE
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.

Discussion bidding the Basketball project and the Hose Company project noting that more time is needed for the Hose Company project bid and the basketball project bid can be done as soon as July 29th. The next regular meeting is set for August 13th. All agreed to hold both bids for opening and award at the August 13th meeting rather than a special meeting.

MOTION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS FOR GRANT APPLICATIONS AS FOLLOWS:

- Compost Grant application for equipment parts and labor
- Paving Commerce Road
- Resubmit Paving of Borough Streets from Everhart to Hemlock
- DPW off road vehicle with plow and dump body for winter maintenance and creek maintenance as well as Shelving units for DPW Garage on Commerce

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 APPROVING ARPA FUNDS FOR DYBO DONATION FOR NEW WINDOWS IN THE CONCESSION STAND PER ESTIMATE FROM NE WINDOW IN THE AMOUNT OF $2070.
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 APPROVING ARPA FUNDS FOR THE PURCHASE OF SIX TASERS FOR THE POLICE DEPARTMENT
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 HIRE JOE CODDINGTON AS PART TIME FIRE APPARATUS DRIVER
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.

Mr. Karkut brought up the request by Sacred Heart Church regarding Belarski alley as it pertains to the picnic stands being set up for July 22nd until the picnic on August 3rd. No one had a problem with that since the alley is not frequently used.

Matters from Residents:

Alberta Warunek – My nephew knows the problem, Joey Jones knows the problem. I am too old to deal with this problem. Penn Avenue has too much water coming down. Chestnut Street has too much water. They all exit one way. The intersection of Penn and Chestnut floods. It backs up into my patio and into my house. Ongoing issues with the amount of water coming down Penn Avenue and on Chestnut Street causing damage to her property. Mark Kowalczyk spoke about the issues and both addressed the engineer on finding a solution to the problem. The last storm Alberta replaced the furnace in her rental unit. She talked about being the only property on Chestnut having a problem. She asked if a drain can be put on Penn down into Walnut Street in the hole where no properties would be affected. Bob Naegele talked about Penn DOT permission is needed to send into their system. Mark stated Penn DOT camera the lines. Penn DOT verified it that the size of the pipe coming down Chestnut is more than adequate to handle the water coming down the hill. The problem is there are not enough inlets for the water to be put into that pipe fast enough. We discussed it already to put a pipe in further up Penn Avenue and give her an access if she wanted to ever put a drainage system in her yard As it sits right now, her yard sits too low to pitch a pipe out to Penn Avenue to get it into that system. If we installed a drain, which he was hoping to do before the gas lines came through, put an extra drain there. It would be our drain because it is on our street. Bob asked if there is a drain on Penn that comes form Chestnut. Mark stated on corner of Penn. Bob stated they are in Penn DOT right of way. Mark stated once we have the additional drain up further on Penn we can run a six inch pipe out of that into her sidewalk so in the future to solve her water problem out of the yard, that would help. It is clay. The water sits in the yard. Alberta said that won't help. The water will all exit one way even out of my yard. Mark said the pipe is adequate, there are not enough inlets. The discussion continued and it was decided to put an additional drain on Penn Avenue. Bob stated the drains can only take so much water at one time. Bob stated the pipe under Chestnut Street can handle ten to twenty inlets of water. If there is only one drain there it cannot get in that drain fast enough. Alberta said eliminate the water coming down Penn Avenue. There is a Penn DOT process to connect inlets to their pipes. Stan referred to the Atwell project and there was no problem.

Matters from Council and the Mayor:
Joe Jones – Nothing

Bob Price – Thanked everyone for their support in his current condition, Council, Patty and whoever else came to help. He is back. Everyone said it is good to see you back. Glad to see you back.

Mark Kowalczyk – Nothing

Mr. Karkut – Nothing. Welcome back Bob, nice to see you.

Mayor Lello – Welcome back Bob. We were both out at the same time. They did a good job keeping town going. Elaine also welcomed Fred Lokuta, our new correspondent for the Progress. He will be the next Eddie Ackerman. Fred thanked the Mayor and responded that he enjoys writing the column. There is a lot of good happening in Dupont and he likes to write about it. Mayor Lello also addressed the Boy Scouts in the room. The scouts are here for a citizenship merit badge.

Motion to Adjourn. Unanimous.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Secretary

Adopted and Approved

Stanley Knick Jr.
Council President