The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday evening, May 13, 2025 by President of Council Stanley Knick, Jr.

Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call:

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

Motion to adopt the minutes of the April 8, 2025 regular meeting and place them on file.
Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Motion to accept the Correspondence presented.
Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Motion to approve Bills for Payment
Motion: Mr. Karkut
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Motion to appoint the part time police officers from May 13, 2025 to the next regular meeting of Council with no guarantee of work: Bryan Besecker, Duane Saunders, Jennifer Polemitis, Christopher Fargione, Michael Sniscak, Brian Morris, Brian Jacobosky, Eric Danaher, Joseph Delaney.
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Jones
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

REPORTS:
Treasurer's Report:
General Fund- $44,867.70
Payroll Fund- $6,417.06
ARPA FNCB Cash- $.38
Admin 4249 Debit Card- $124.02
Police 2121 Debit Card- $25.35
Refuse Fund- $186,693.02
Sewer Maintenance Fund- $380,940.47
Liquid Fuels- $155,943.30
Police Pension Fund- $1,180,257.90
Special Fund- $43,469.15
Clock Fund- $776.26
Fire Victims Fund- $60.06

Tax Collector's Report:
April Report –
Balance Collectable Beginning of Month- $153,791.36
Less Face Collections for the Month- $109,017.16
Less Discounts- $2,166.64
Total submitted and deposited into General Fund- $ $106,850.52

Mayor's Report: None

Police Report:
Chief Doran read the April statistical report as follows: criminal arrests-1; traffic citations issued-102; non traffic citations issued-1; appearances in county court-4; appearances in magisterial court-16; motor vehicle accidents-10; assist to ems/fire-9; assist to other police dept.-22; alarms-3; thefts-4; vandalism-1; disorderly conduct-3; domestic reports-5; suspicious activity-8; DUI Arrest – 1; assault/harassment-4; miscellaneous calls-52; building checks-31; code enforcement/rental inspection-11; Car#1 F 150 – 67,004; Car #2 Explorer – 33,285; Car #3 Explorer – 31,903. Magistrate Fines Collected $4,751.27.

Solicitor's Report: None

Engineer's Report: Bob Naegele updated the following: (1) Astound – Meeting to be set to discuss repairs to roads in Quail Hill. Bob suggested Erik and a member of council attend the meeting. (2) Greenways Trails and Flood Mitigation Grants due May 31st. – Cost estimates Collins Creek $273,195 with a match of $40,979.25 and Hemlock Park Estimate $205,335.00 with a match of $30,800.25. Either way the work on bank stabilization without the grant would cost the borough money from the borough account, so by doing the grant more work can be done. Stash suggested putting in for the grants and if we need to come up with the match we can take out a bank loan to get these projects done, and maybe request a waiver on the match. Bob also noted if awarded the grant, and the funds are not available, you can reject the grant. (3) 249 Lidy

Demo Project – Bids will be advertised for June meeting agenda. Bob explained he has to run the specs by Mark Hurst from the county. Mark did say the asbestos removal can be included in the demo specs. (4) ADA Ramps – this project will also be ready for bid for the June meeting agenda. (5) Street lights for Quail Hill – PP&L is supposed to be on site Wednesday to meet with American Asphalt to coordinate the work. (6) Mutlimodal project with Pennsy Supply – They are ready to finish the base repair on Lidy. It was marked out. The borough is doing some catch basin repairs and as soon as that is done, Pennsy will come in and pave. Stan talked about adding a little more area which can be paid from liquid fuels or special fund. (7) Hemlock Street – basketball courts – waiting for pave to cure for thirty days before they can do the acrylic. Once acrylic is done they will come in and do topsoil and seed. There was some standing water there. I have to see it in a rain event. I believe we may need to put a curb along the driveway where water is coming down Hemlock and going in the area. (8) Hose Company project is on going. There was one small change order for about $730 to uniform all the air grates. They were all different sizes. That could affect the air flow, too much or not enough. I will get that in for council approval. (9) Walk Trail – American Asphalt was there and ran into a mine void. Bureau of Mines came out. The contractor was told to backfill. We will let it sit the rest of the week and with the rain coming we will monitor it. It was a good six feet down. Stash noted a truck just went over it and thankfully no one was hurt. They will work on the other end for now. Stash noted they put a pipe in for the driveway off Spruce. Bob added they added 7' plastic pipe to get a wide turning radius for their trucks. They said we can keep that seven feet. Once we see where we are financially we can talk about whether we want them to pave that entrance or whatever else. Stash talked about a barrier gate there also. Bob noted we can work with them with the stone that is there and rock line the upstream ditch line and downstream side of that pipe to protect it. If we run into other issues that obviously might chew into the budget. Stan wants to talk to them about the fill they are removing. He wants it piled and stored in case it is needed somewhere in town.

Fire Department Report: Chief Don Hudzinski reported the following: Total incidents-22; Paid staff responses-9; Volunteer responses-13; Incident Type: fire alarm-1; structure box – 1; motor vehicle accident-7; vehicle fire-1; aircraft incident-1; wires down – 2; brush fire-1; EMS assist – 4; Rental-4. Jurisdiction: Dupont Borough – 19; Hughestown Borough-2; Pittston Township-1;

EMS Report: Joey Jones reported Hughestown responded 22 times in Dupont. They staff 2 ambulances three days a week. They attended the DYBO opening day event, the Lions Easter Egg Hunt event. They held the first CPR class this month. He asked that I remind everyone of the subscription drive. They will be sending out reminder notices for those that didn't subscribe.

EMA Report: Joey attended the quarterly training last month. They did an updated damage assessment. They are lowering when a major event happens, making it easier to get money if a major weather disaster happened. They are cutting funding at the federal level. Also we will be testing the siren later this month.

Code Enforcement Report: Joey reported the following: 16 Notice of Violations issued, 9 rental inspections between himself and the paid drivers, and 8 citations to the magistrate.

Crime Watch Report: Bob Price was excused. No Report.

Council President's Report: Trash – 85.49 tons; Comingle 2.12 tons; 8.14 tons paper. Mileage: Packer-7,641; Recycler-46,524; C3500-18,891; Pickup Truck-10,203; Mack-5,390; Bucket Truck-1,335; 8,218 hrs. Backhoe.

Stan updated: (1) The F550 was at Key Ford. He understands it is back and is still not running great. We will need to look at bidding that out and getting a new truck whether through a grant or loan. (2) Packer was in for PM Service, inspection and recalls. (3) The annual creek inspection is coming up and we need to cut the vegetation and fix whatever problems are found. (4) Lidy Road drains are getting replaced and then Pennsy will be paving. (5) Pavilion rentals – no rentals due to no one to take care of it or clean it. (6) Anyone from town can use the outside pavilion and park. (7) Remind everyone weight limit on trash bags is 35 pounds. Same thing with yard waste and recycling. Also anyone not paying the fee, gets no pickups. (8) The Memorial Day parade services will be held at the VFW this year.

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, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Motion to approve Engineer and Solicitor work with Astound on repairs to roads in Quail Hill.
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Motion to advertise for bids for DPW Shed, Police Security Entrance, 249 Lidy Road Demo Project
Bob explained he met with the costars contractor and the bid for the garage was super high. He wants to discuss the quote with them before bringing it to council. He suggested giving the quote without prices to a private contractor for comparison. The police security entrance was close to a realistic number. It is still over the remaining grant balance. That is goes with the costars contractor, does not have to be bid out. The 249 Lidy and ADA ramp project will be ready for bids for June meeting. Discussion on the garage building continued and Bob will have a conversation with the contractor. Other options are going out for design build. Mark asked about a separate contractor for bathroom and concrete. Bob will get back to council after talking with contractor. Bob will forward the paperwork on the police entrance for review to see if something can be cut back to stay within budget. Patty believes the balance in the grant is $89,000.

The motion to bid out the 249 Lidy and ADA Ramps for June meeting.
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Karkut
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Motion to install stop sign on Second Street with Front Street intersection.
Motion: Mr. Jones
Second: Mr. Kowalczyk
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, Excused; Mr. Jones, yes. Motion Carried 4/0.

Stan talked about a request from Sacred Heart for crosswalk lines on Lackawanna and Walnut Street intersections near the church. Patty will get pricing and advise council next meeting.+

Matters from Residents:

Sharon Ziobro- (1) Astound complaints. Is it because of underground services. Mayor and Joe Karkut along with Stan have astound and have no complaints. (2) Pennsy is coming back to do work on Lidy Road, they still haven't tarred our driveway. Patty noted that is on the punch list. Bob noted their contract is not closed out yet and he will make sure it is taken care of. (3) With regards to the monthly police report, is there a way we can get a three month comparison report. Patty stated the minutes are on line and the reports are in the minutes. You can compare the reports there.

Matters from Council and Mayor:

Stan, Joey, Joe, Mark and Mayor reminded those attending to remember what the meaning of Memorial Day is. Remember those that gave the ultimate sacrifice.

Mark Kowalczyk asked for patience – the DPW workers began spring work, fixing alleys and drainage issues. They will prioritize but it will take time.

Mayor Lello – Food Drive May 22nd.

With no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:35 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Secretary

Adopted and Approved

Stanley Knick Jr.
Council President