The Regular Monthly Meeting of Dupont Borough Council was called to order at 6:00pm on Tuesday evening, November 12, 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

Introduce Harry Smith, City of Pittston. Harry explained the IWORQ Program and provided those in attendance with screenshots of parts of the program. He explained how it would be used for permits, code enforcement, rental inspections and can be used for billing for refuse and sewer accounts and amusement tax. If Dupont agreed to it there would be an intergovernmental agreement between Pittston City and Dupont. The cost of the program is $19,300, but by working with the City of Pittston, the fee would be about $2000. He further talked about the gis mapping and county updates for new ownership and other uses available using this program. It is a very simple software to use. You can click on the property, see if there are permits, if the fee is paid, the contact information, if the refuse is paid.

Mark asked what is included in the $2000 fee. Harry stated it would cover building permits, code enforcement. In Wyoming Borough they use the building permitting as their refuse collection, amusement devices. We can factor in permitting such as refuse and sewer. Is training included. Harry stated it is free. He explained it can be viewed on the phone or tablet for those wanting access to the program files. That would be available to council or whoever is assigned access. You can set parameters as a read only. It calculates the fees for permitting based on the fee schedule.

Joseph Jones added it will bring visibility for all aspects throughout the Borough. Officer Tamburello does code enforcement and our part time apparatus drivers do code enforcement. They will all have access to the data base to avoid overlapping. It will allow Patty to see whether there are building permits taken out. All the rental inspection reports will be uploaded. Mark is interested in read only so that if he receives a complaint or question he can log on and see the status of that property.

Harry talked about quarterly updates from the county. The list comes every month but it can be manually updated here. There is a $75.00 fee for download from county and that can be done every three or six months. Pittston uses it for work orders, pa one calls. You can be fined if you

do not respond to pa one calls. The public works department use this program. It shows the photos when they complete the mark outs for pa one call.

Stanley asked Harry to come tonight to speak to all council and mayor about the program. Harry researched a bunch of programs and this one was the easiest to use. It prints receipts, you can print monthly reports.

Stanley asked Harry what is needed from the Borough if we agree to go through with this for the beginning of the year. Harry stated the solicitor would prepare an Intergovernmental Agreement and send it to Dupont for the solicitor to review. It will be $2000 and there will be no additional charges.

MOTION TO MOVE FORWARD WITH INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH PITTSTON CITY USING THE IWORQ PROGRAM FOR REVIEW AND AGREEMENT APPROVAL AT THE DECEMBER MEETING OF COUNCIL
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.

Stanley thanked Harry for his time tonight.

MOTION TO ADOPT THE MINUTES OF THE OCTOBER 8TH REGULAR MEETING OF COUNCIL AND PLACE ON FILE.
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 CORRESPONDENCE PRESENTED.
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 THE BILLS FOR PAYMENT.
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 APPOINT THE PART TIME POLICE OFFICERS FROM NOVEMBER 12, 2024 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, Daniel Dmtrovic
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 THE RESIGNATION OF PART TIME OFFICER DANIEL DMTROVIC
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.

REPORTS:

Treasurer's Report: Submitted by Albert B. Melone Business Consultants
General Fund - $36,680.28
Payroll Fund - $20,915.56
ARPA Fund - $8,785.53
Admin Debit Card - $102.81
Police Debit Card - $ 131.33
Refuse Fund - $144,650.00
Sewer Maintenance Fund - $ 370,387.54
Liquid Fuels Fund - $ 110,817.71
Police Pension Fund - $1,208,904.84

Tax Collector's Report: Submitted by Susan Gregory, Tax Collector
Balance Collectable Beginning of Month - $ 21,748.83
Plus penalties - $ 115.23
Total Collected and Deposited into General Fund - $ $1,267.54
Balance Collectable End of Month - $ 20,596.52

Mayor's Report: None at this time.

Police Report: Chief Doran read the October statistical report as follows: criminal arrests-2; traffic citations issued-48; non traffic citations issued-5; appearances in county court-1; appearances in magisterial court-46; motor vehicle accidents-13; assist to ems/fire-17; assist to other police dept.-18; alarms-5; thefts-3; vandalism-2; disorderly conduct-8; domestic reports-4; suspicious activity-7; dui arrest-1; assault/harassment-10; miscellaneous calls-58; building checks-34; code enforcement/rental inspection-3. Mileage: F150-67,912; #2 Explorer-29,355; #3 Explorer-28,382. Magistrate Fines Collected-$2,979.56.

Fire Dept. Report: Fire Chief Donald Hudzinski Jr. reported the following: Total Incidents-22; Paid Staff Responses-5; Volunteer Responses-17. Motor Vehicle accident-9; EMS Assist-3; Fire Alarm-2; Structure Box-2; Fuel Spill-1; Wires Down-1; Vehicle Fire-1; Rental Inspection-2; Fire Police-1. Dupont Borough-13; Avoca Borough-2; Hughestown Borough-5; Laflin Borough-1; PA Turnpike-1.

Solicitor's Report: Excused

Engineer's Report: (1) Bob Naegele updated the following: Multimodal paving project is just about complete. They still have to finish the one block of Walnut for paving. The ada ramp has to be done. Stan asked about the section of Lidy Road. Bob passed out a spreadsheet with regard to the project costs from Pennsy Supply. The grant total amount was $763,218.00. The paving is $766,329.75. The change order for $1800.00 to test for the gas line locations. The drainage change order total was $63,125.00. The total cost of the project is $831,254.75. At this point there are still some quantities that are still in play as far as unknown. It is pretty close to where we are at. The overage for the drainage is being paid from a separate fund. Bob will get a price for the additional work on Lidy that Stan had mentioned. (2) Pennsy provided a cost estimate for the depression repair of the roadway on Navy Way Road. That was $49,000. Stan stated budget is tight this year, so we may have to look at that for next year using liquid fuels. Patty and Bob discussed the railroad crossing project and we need to coordinate with them because they could be sending more traffic through that way. If they are closing it, we can do our project the same time which will same money on traffic control. Patty stated the railroad work was mentioned to be scheduled for the weekend. Patty will contact Jim Brozena to see if they have a traffic plan. (3) Multimodal Project – Waiting on schedule from Pennsy to finish Walnut Street now that drainage is done. Mark noted the milling machine is on site and Moe noted the Ada ramp was poured. (4) Hemlock Park – We tweaked the layout for fence and basketball court once we had it laid out on the ground we moved things around slightly for safety purposes to make sure we had ten feet clear on the ends for the fence. We also met with the contractor to go over lighting and get a price. That price was $18,000 for the two lights. That did not include bases or running the conduit. I don't have that price yet. I am waiting for multiscape to give us that price. We can't authorize the change order without the price. My guess would be about $5000. There is also a question on location of the lights. It won't affect the price because there are still two lights. I recollect the meeting held on site to be different from what they propose. Here is another spreadsheet for that project. The grant is $339,000 total for both grants. The project total was $250,331.00. The change order for just the lights is $18,466.00. We moved the courts around and did some fence 10 feet cost $1000 paving $3000. In that we saved demo and grass restoration. We also decided not to demo out the old volleyball court to use for temporary parking. We roughed in an estimate for driveway at $8,000. All in the total is $276,797.00. We are missing some components. That would leave about $62,202.10. The light decision is critical to moving forward with the project. The driveway we can do in the spring. Stan stated it won't get finished this year as far as acrylic. But the fence and blacktop should get done this year. (5) Hose Company grant – we have been trading paperwork with the contractor. We still haven't received shop drawings yet. Bob asked council for permission to contact and begin pushing them. Bob stated they did not issue the

notice to proceed yet after Patty asked if there is anything in the contract or agreement documents. Without the shop drawing, Bob noted we are not at that point yet to issue notice to proceed.

Code Enforcement Report: Joseph Jones reported: Notice of Violations-3; Rental Inspections-3; Closed Cases-3; Citations Issued at Magistrate-7.

EMA Report: Joseph Jones reported: Once incident this month October 14, 2024 at 7:01 AM tractor trailer fire on Interstate 81 at mile marker 177.8. It turns out I was responding as a mutual aid department. It was a fully engulfed tractor trailer fire. The trailer was filled with 40,000 pounds of batteries so it turned into a hazardous material incident. EMA was notified as well as DEP and they conducted their own investigation. Incident was closed.

Crime Watch Report: Bob Price noted the Trunk or Treat was a success. Very well attended. Halloween night they did the safety station on Smith Street. The weather was great. A lot of people came out. The next meeting is November 26th at 7 pm. The Christmas Party is December 14, from 4 to 6 and Bob asked Council Members to participate as characters. Stan will be unable to attend.

Council President's Report: Trash-76.89 tons; Comingle 4.41 tons; Paper- 8.09 tons. Mileage: Packer-6,712; Recycler-44,995; 3500-15,548; Green Pickup-9,409; F550-53,702; Backhoe- 7,893 hours; Bucket Truck-1,222; Mack-4,865. The Xmark lawnmower was repaired. The 550 needs replacement auger. The 3500 and 6500 and pickup truck went for inspection. Stan noted the liquid fuels paving project is complete. Quail Hill lighting is planned for spring. Growing Greener is closed out due to no other contact from DEP. The LED sign is attached to the Borough Building and we are looking for someone to take the soffit down so the sign can be wired.

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE REPORTS.
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 FOR SECOND READING OF THE PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET
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.

Proposed 2025 Budget:
General Fund - $918,200.00
Refuse Fund - $167,650.00
Liquid Fuels Fund - $97,000.00
Total General Operations Budget - $ 1,182,850.00
Sewer Maintenance Fund - $71,730.00
Special Fund - $10,920.00
Total for all Operating Budgets for 2025 - $ 1,265,500.00
No tax, refuse or sewer increase noted in this budget reading

MOTION TO ACCEPT THE SECOND READING OF THE PROPOSED 2025 BUDGET
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 APPROVE TRANSFER OF $43,000 FROM SPECIAL FUND TO GENERAL/PAYROLL FUND. This amount represents the out of pocket expenses for the Quail Hill Project that were paid from the general fund causing a shortfall in that fund. There is a court approved agreement regarding out of pocket expenses for the quail hill project to be reimbursed. The borough needs to followup with this issue.
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.

Stanley explained the Borough received a letter from Avoca Ambulance advising that as of 11:59pm on Saturday November 16, 2024, the Avoca Ambulance Association will cease emergency medical services (EMS) operations. Therefore, Stanley noted Hughestown Ambulance was appointed for January 2025, but due to this change with Avoca Stan called for a motion to appoint Hughestown as of November 16th.

MOTION TO APPOINT HUGHESTOWN EMS EFFECTIVE NOVEMBER 16TH AT 11:59PM AS PRIMARY EMS RESPONDER FOR DUPONT BOROUGH
Motion: Mr. Kowalczyk
Second: Mr. Price
Roll Call Vote: Mr. Knick, yes; Mr. Kowalczyk, yes; Mr. Karkut, yes; Mr. Price, yes; Mr. Jones, Abstain.
Motion Carried: 4 yes/1 Abstention.

Matters from Residents:

Mr. Cigan – (1) Project on Gill Street went extremely well. It's a pleasure to drive down the street. (2) Scranton Beltway Project – Sound Barriers. Request Council send letters again with regard to sound barriers for the project on the east end. He gave examples and information noted in the public information binder. Talked about other areas in Clarks Summit, Dunmore and other areas. Patty sent letters along with petitions to Mike Carroll, Senator Flynn, Representative Haddock, Congressman Cartwright, Governor Shapiro. Joe suggested the Council make more noise with reference to sound barriers. The meeting tomorrow at the high school is 4:30. Stan will try to attend. Others from Council will be attending.

Tina Stoshick – With relation to EMS, Hughestown Ambulance, does Council have a service agreement or contract with this agency. If so, is it available. Stan stated he cannot say yes or no, he will look into it. Tina said is there a contract for them to come in. So basically that is still open. Council hasn't agreed to a three year contract. It is basically a hand shake. Stan stated it was done and is on the books. Tina responded its on the books but is there a service contract in place. Stan stated we did not have one with Avoca and I don't believe we have one with Hughestown either.

Lori Evanko – Legally is there supposed to be an agreement, a contract agreement. Stan is unaware. Our solicitor is not here tonight, but Stan does not believe thee was one with Avoca. Stan stated we will look into it.

Kim Warunek – On the subject of EMS is there a reason why you didn't entertain or have a conversation with other agencies like Pittston Township who has been coming in here for years. Stan stated yes because we already are working with Hughestown Fire and have paid drivers and we felt keeping everything together. Everything has been working out with Hughestown and we had no problems. They are 24-7 full time.

Lori Evanko – So Pittston Township had 39 calls that came into Avoca, I mean Dupont. How many has Hughestown had. Stan stated he does not know. Lori asked if anyone knows, I know Mr. Jones works for Hughestown or does something with Hughestown which doesn't seem appropriate. Stan noted Mr. Jones did not vote on the motion. Lori stated of course he didn't. Stan stated it is a conflict of interest, he cannot vote on anything. Patty suggested holding this conversation until the solicitor is present. Lori then stated you should hold saying anything about any type of agreement with Avoca too until your solicitor is here as well. Stan does not see anything wrong with it but will talk to the solicitor before we do anything.

Mayor Lello asked if this is personal. Stan believes so. Mayor stated it seems very personal because you have been doing this for the last three months. Tina stated right because when I bring back information I get asked to ask more. Like I stated before we have been servicing Dupont . Stan stated we have been up front and gave our reasoning. Mayor asked why this is so important to Pittston Township. It is important, I am a resident and a member of Pittston

Township. Mayor stated in my heart of hearts I don't believe this is going to finish until we give it to Township.

Matters from Council and Mayor:

Bob Price – Invited everyone to Christmas Party.

Joseph Jones – Happy Veterans Day and Thank You to our Veterans. Yesterday was a beautiful ceremony over at the VFW. There was a lot of people there. Happy Thanksgiving. Hope to see everyone at the Turnpike meeting tomorrow.

Mark Kowalczyk – Happy Thanksgiving.

Mayor Lello – VFW did a great ceremony yesterday. Mayor thanked Veterans and everyone because everyone in this room does a service to the community. Happy Thanksgiving. Hope all is fine and we all work together.

Joe Karkut – Happy Thanksgiving. See you December 14th. If you see Rudolph, be kind to me.

Stan Knick - Happy Thanksgiving.

Meeting adjourned by unanimous vote at 6:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Patricia McDonald
Borough Secretary

Adopted and Approved

Stanley Knick Jr.
Council President