

NANTY GLO BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING DECEMBER 4, 2023

- Meeting opened at 6:00 PM by Council President Michaela Markovich at the Nanty Glo Borough municipal office.
- Pledge of Allegiance given, moment of silence observed
- Council members present: Michaela Markovich, Diane Holby, Bill Dunchuck, Chris Lytle, Lynne Stock. Mayor Bill Ray was also present
- Others present: Attorney Michael Carbonara, Joel Romagna, John Deskevich, Calem Illig, Richard Wargo, Melissa Weekes
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Holby to approve the November 6, 2023 meeting minutes. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Stock to accept the November 22, 2023 workshop notes. All ayes motion carried
- Public Comment:
- Mr. Deskevich informed council that his neighbor is burning items between their two houses. They tore down and burned a chicken coop and Mr. Deskevich is unsure what they are burning now but he feels it is a fire and smoke hazard to his property. He had made a complaint about this neighbor back in October 2020 and the minutes then stated that they could be fined. His neighbor is also now parking in front of his house. Council explained that since it is a public roadway, there are no assigned or reserved parking spaces. Unless they are blocking a driveway, there is nothing that can be done. Atty. Carbonara suggested that the council could tweak the burning ordinance to adjust what can and can not be burned. He asked if there was anything the borough could do about the neighbor parking in a space that he had cleared of snow for his use. The borough can not do anything about that either if it is on the public roadway.
- Atty. Carbonara gave the solicitor's report
- He recommended that the borough pass the updated traffic ordinance for the stop signs.
- Joel Romagna from Stiffler, McGraw and Associates commented that he had sent a letter requesting a change of scope on the Davis Run Dam project once DCED has approved the scope change. They have not heard anything about the flood mitigation grant application yet. It is still under consideration and they may have more information in January. A copy of the grant application that was submitted for paving Lincoln Avenue was presented.
- Mayor Ray gave his report:
- The Shop With a Cop program will be on December 14th. OIC Oyaski will be participating for Nanty Glo Borough.
- The Hot Chocolate Crawl will be on December 6th.
- There were 86 incidents last month including two animal complaints. Mayor Ray also followed up with the Ryan Mervine property and he is permitted to go onto his property.
- ATVs were discussed, during the parade and especially after during Trick or Treat. It is a danger to the kids in the trailer being hauled by the ATVs. He would like to discuss a solution for the issue during an open meeting. Enforcing the curfew again would help with some of the issues and authorizing overtime for the police to enforce it would help.
- The lack of police presence in the borough is because there is a lack of police available everywhere. If there is no objection from council, he will have the police enforce the curfew because of vandalism issues. Mayor Ray would also like to hold a town hall meeting for the businesses and asking them what their greatest concerns are. A draft letter will need prepared as well as a new list of the businesses in town.

- Markovich commented that the snow ordinance has been properly posted and the alternate side parking will need to be enforced. Mayor Ray agreed
- Wargo gave the manager's report
- Two letters were sent out. The council will need to reorganize on January 2nd. Wargo has the documents required and can do the swearing in of newly elected and reelected members.
- MOTION: Holby, 2nd Dunchuck to approve the treasurer's report. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Holby, 2nd Dunchuck to pay bills as presented. All ayes motion carried
- There is no updated on the community garden project right now.
- The sluice gate will be discussed in executive session later
- The Downtown events committee will be providing marshmallows etc. during the Hot Chocolate Crawl. Snowmen decorations have been put up. The borough crew was thanked for putting the decorations up.
- MOTION: Holby, 2nd Lytle to pass the updated traffic ordinance. All ayes motion carried
- There is nothing new from General Code. Ordinances are still being scanned to send
- Dunchuck gave an update on the streetlight replacements. Sixty sodium vapor lights have been replaced with LED lights so far. Forty-eight more replacements have been requested.
- Dunchuck asked for a review for the differences between amusement taxes and mercantile taxes. He stated that the ordinance required the borough secretary to collect the amusement tax. That is something to work towards during 2024.
- MOTION: Lytle, 2nd Dunchuck to pass the 2024 tax resolution. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Holby, 2nd Dunchuck to pass the 2024 general fund budget. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Lytle to pass the 2024 liquid fuels budget. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Stock to pass the 2024 Real Estate tax resolution. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Markovich, 2nd Dunchuck to maintain the police pension plan employee contribution the same as 2023. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Lytle to hold council meetings the first Monday of each month at 6:00 PM and to hold workshops the second and forth Wednesdays of each month at 2:00 PM at the municipal office. All ayes motion carried.
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Lytle to advertise the meeting and workshop dates. All ayes motion carried
- Correspondence: Information on the water authority's project was presented
- Bank statements were reviewed
- MOTION: Markovich, 2nd Dunchuck to give the employees a \$75.00 Walmart gift card for Christmas. All ayes motion carried.
- MOTION: Dunchuck, 2nd Lytle to enter executive session for legal and personnel reasons at 6:56 PM. All ayes motion carried
- MOTION: Lytle, 2nd Markovich to exit executive session at 7:21 PM. All ayes
- Meeting adjourned