

City of Duquesne
City Council Minutes
Tuesday, January 23, 2024
6:30 pm

Meeting being held in person and remotely using ZOOM:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5251078707?pwd=Z01uVXlMMlZaYm5BazJnYmR4MWs1QT09#success>

Meeting was called to order by Mayor Adams at 6:30 PM.

Mayor Adams called for a Moment of Silence followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Manager Sample called the roll.

Present: Councilperson Washington, Councilperson Adams, Councilperson Artim, Councilperson Brownfield, and Mayor Adams

Others Present: City Manager Douglas Sample, Engineer Laura Branthoover, and Solicitor Myron Sainovich

Absent: Councilperson Adams

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS

At this time, citizens may address the Council of Duquesne on any issue appearing on today's agenda. Only residents and taxpayers of the City of Duquesne will be permitted to address the Council. Comments on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of tonight's meeting. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before the Council who may speak for a maximum of 10 minutes. Speakers are asked to use the microphone at the speaker's stand, clearly state their name and address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point. Please spell your name for the record and sign in on the sign in sheet.

None

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes – December 5, 2023 and December 19, 2023 Council Meetings and January 2, 2024 Reorganization Meeting
- b. Bill List – January 23, 2024

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to approve the January 23, 2024 Consent Agenda.**

First: Councilperson Artim **Second:** Councilperson Washington

Motion carried 4-0

NEW BUSINESS

1. Public Safety – Report by Mayor Scott Adams

- a. Police Collective Bargaining Agreement for next Council meeting

MOTION: I move to approve the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Teamsters Local Union No. 205 representing the City of Duquesne Police Department and the City of Duquesne from January 1, 2024 through December 31, 2026.

Mayor Adams asked that this motion be moved to February 6, 2024 agenda, in order to clarify an issue with wording regarding purchase orders.

- b. Planning Commission Appointment

Mayor Adams stated he will be appointing Robert Yoder and Jake Zebelsky at the next meeting.

- c. Summer Schedule for Workshop and Council Meetings

Mayor Adams suggested that we cancel the July 23, 2024 and August 6, 2024 meetings due to summer vacations. No one objected.

- d. Departmental Goals (Years 2024 to 2025)

2. Public Works – Report by Councilperson Elaine Washington

- a. LSA Paving Grant – the City received \$40K from the Commonwealth for paving Grant Avenue (Rt 837 to 1st St), however that section will be paved by PA American Water due to their sewer line replacement project. Therefore, we have to choose other streets and rebid the project. The following streets have been proposed: Burke Alley (Savey to Kinsley), Wilmot St (Homestead to Grant), Wilmot St (Bach to Homestead), and Maple St (Union to Clark). Estimated cost to pave all the proposed streets is \$65K. It is my recommendation that we choose one (1) street to bid as the base and have the others bid as alternates.

Engineer Branthoover stated she is still in negotiations with PA American on the restoration and exploring options to maximize the paving. More to come.

- b. Departmental Goals (Years 2024 to 2025) for next Council meeting

- c. Councilperson Washington asked that the sidewalk parking and weight limit ordinance be recreated to ensure that our plow trucks can get through our streets. Solicitor Sainovich will draft this ordinance.

3. Water Dept. – Report by Councilperson Aaron Adams

- a. Departmental Goals (Years 2024 to 2025) for next Council meeting

4. Community & Economic Development – Report by Councilperson Denise Brownfield

- a. Polish Hill Park Usage Request – Duquesne Community Committee is requesting use of Polish Hill Park on Saturday, August 5th, 2024 from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM. The City will also be providing port-a-johns for the event.

Councilperson Brownfield asked for a motion **allow the Duquesne Community Committee free use of Polish Hill Park on Saturday, August 5th, 2024 for their 33rd Annual Duquesne Community Day Picnic.**

First: Mayor Adams **Second:** Councilperson Artim

Motion carried 4-0

- b. Letter of Support – RIDC Park will be applying for grant funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for funding through the Pennsylvania Strategic Investments to Enhance Sites (PA SITES) program for site improvements at the RIDC City Center of Duquesne, formerly a Duquesne Steel Works site. If funded, the project would allow for site improvements to develop a 150,000 square foot green/ clean manufacturing facility. Funding would cover the costs of site preparation, site utility and infrastructure needs, earthwork, and site amenities. The end user of the facility would be a clean manufacturing company who has the ability to create 700+ new clean manufacturing jobs within the Mon Valley.

Councilperson Brownfield asked for a motion **to authorize the City Manager to submit a letter of support for the proposed site improvements at RIDC City Center with the development of a 150,000 square foot green/ clean manufacturing facility.**

First: Councilperson Washington **Second:** Councilperson Artim

Motion carried 4-0

- c. Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) 2024 Grant Cycle
- d. Covid 19 ARPA Monies for Multi-Purpose Facilities
- e. Civic Plus Website Update
- f. Home Rule Charter – update at the February 6th, 2024 Council Meeting
- g. Touring Boys/Girls Club on Chestnut Street

h. Departmental Goals (Years 2024 to 2025) for next Council meeting

5. Accounts & Finances. – Report by Councilperson Artim

a. Departmental Goals (Years 2024 to 2025)

6. Treasurer Dept. – Report by Maureen Strahl

7. Solicitor – Report by Myron Sainovich

8. City Manager – Report by Douglas Sample

9. Police Dept. – Report by Chief Shaw (absent)

10. Fire Dept. – Report by Chief Frank Cobb (absent)

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. Upcoming Council Meeting – Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, citizens may address the Council of Duquesne on any issue. Only residents and taxpayers of the City of Duquesne will be permitted to address the Council. Comments on non-agenda items will be taken at the end of tonight's meeting. Speakers will be permitted to speak for a maximum of 5 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before the Council who may speak for a maximum of 10 minutes. Speakers are asked to use the microphone at the speaker's stand, clearly state their name and address for the record and keep comments brief and to the point. Please spell your name for the record and sign in on the sign in sheet.

Thomas Molanick – asked if the parking situation at Richford and Overland had been rectified. Solicitor Sainovich stated an ordinance is in process to address this. Mr. Molanick also asked if the budget was going to be opened. Mayor Adams said no.

ADJOURNMENT

Manager Sample asked for brief Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter. No action will be taken.

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:11 PM**

First: Councilperson Washington **Second:** Councilperson Artim

MOTION carried 4-0

R. Scott Adams

R. Scott Adams, Mayor

D. Sample

Douglas Sample, City Manager