

City of Duquesne
Council Agenda
Tuesday, March 5, 2024
6:30 pm

Meeting being held in person and remotely using ZOOM:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5251078707?pwd=Z01uVXlMMlZaYm5BazJnYmR4MWs1QT09#success>

CALL TO ORDER (PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONES)
MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
ROLL CALL

Councilperson Elaine Washington
Councilperson Aaron Adams
Councilperson Derek Artim
Councilperson Denise Brownfield
Mayor R. Scott 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.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes – none
- b. Bill List – none

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Public Safety – Report by Mayor Scott Adams**
 - a. Hiring of Police Officers

MOTION: move to hire Dante Martinez as a City of Duquesne Police Officer.

MOTION: move to hire Caleb Black as a City of Duquesne Police Officer.

- b. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-01 – No Parking on Overland Avenue between Clearview Avenue and Richford Street. The ordinance will be voted on at the April 2, 2024 meeting.**

c. Rental Registration and Inspection Ordinance 2019

- i. The 2024 Fee Schedule set the Occupancy Inspection Fees for \$75.00 for Residential and \$150.00 for Commercial. At the last meeting it was discussed to charge \$100.00 for single family, \$135.00 for duplex, and \$165.00 for multifamily. I would recommend we stay with the current 2024 rates. In addition, there will be an annual registration fee of \$100.00 per unit (i.e. duplex will cost \$200 per year, 8-unit apartment will cost \$800 per year).

d. Touring Boys/Girls Club on Chestnut Street

2. Public Works – Report by Councilperson Elaine Washington

3. Water Dept. – Report by Councilperson Aaron Adams

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

- a. 2023-GEDTF-142 – City was awarded \$75K for an estimated \$285K project. Council will need to prioritize which properties to demolish (11, 13 15, 17, 19, 21, 23, 25, 27, 29, 31,32, 33, 125 S. 7th St; 733 Klere; 138 and 151 Auriles). My recommendation is to bid out 32, 33, and 125 S. 7th St; 733 Klere St; 138 and 151 Auriles St as the base bid and add 11 to 31 S. 7th St. as an alternate.

MOTION: move to advertise a Base Contract to demolish 32, 33, and 125 S. 7th St; 733 Klere St; 138 and 151 Auriles St with an Alternate Bid to demolish 11 to 31 S. 7th St.

- b. CD49 Safe Neighborhood Grant – City was awarded \$75K for an estimated \$100K project. The selected addresses are 16, 18, 28, 30, 35, 119, 121 S. 7th St.

MOTION: move to advertise a contract to demolish 16, 18, 28, 30, 35, 119, 121 S. 7th St.

c. Proposed Grant Applications

- i. Greenways, Trails and Recreation Program (GTRP) (due 5/31/24)
 - 1. Trail and bike trails in the area of 5th Avenue and Priscilla Avenue. The estimated cost is \$35K with a 15% cash match.
 - 2. Polish Hill Park Renovations. Estimated cost is \$500K with a 15% cash match.

MOTION: move to authorize Glenn Engineering to submit a grant application to the GTRP for

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ii. COVID-19 ARPA (due 4/9/24)

1. Purchase of Recreation Center. Estimated cost is \$300K with no match.
2. Polish Hill Park Renovations. Estimated cost is \$500K with no match.

MOTION: move to authorize Glenn Engineering to submit a grant application to the COVID-19 ARPA Monies for

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iii. Walk Works Commonwealth Grant (due 3/22/24)

1. Trail and bike trails in area of 5th Avenue and Priscilla Avenue. The estimated cost is \$35K with no match.

MOTION: move to authorize Glenn Engineering to submit a grant application to the Walk Works for a Planning Grant for area of 5th and Priscilla.

- d. Community Day Parade Update (August 3rd, 2024 starting at 10 AM on 4th and Grant and proceed upwards towards Polish Hill Park).

5. Accounts & Finances. – Report by Councilperson Artim

6. Treasurer Dept. – Report by Maureen Strahl

7. Engineer – Report by Laura Branthoover

8. Solicitor – Report by Myron Sainovich

9. City Manager – Report by Douglas Sample

- a. Hiring of Administrative Executive

MOTION: move to hire Christina Martin as Administrative Executive for an annual salary of \$52,000 (prorated for 2024).

b. Home Rule Charter

- i. **First Reading of Ordinance No. 2024-02** – Authorizing a Referendum on the question of creating a Government Study Commission (GSC) of 7 Members to study the existing form of government and advisability of adoption of a Home Rule Charter. The ordinance will be voted on at the April 2, 2024 meeting.

ii. Next Steps

1. Those running for GSC must obtain signatures of registered voters of at least 2% of votes cast in last gubernatorial election (will need approximately 30-35 signatures to get on the ballot for the November 5th Election).
2. GSC will either recommend no change after 9 months of study or must produce report to DCED with proposed changes after 18 months.
3. Following review by DCED, the Home Rule Charter Adoption will be on the next regularly scheduled election to either accept or reject the charter as a whole. The earliest a Home Rule Charter could be on the ballot for the voters to decide would be General Election in November, 2026.

10. Police Dept. – Report by Chief William Shaw

11. Fire Dept. – Report by Chief Frank Cobb

12. Police Citizen Review Board – Report by Debra Chaffin

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. **Upcoming Council Meeting** – Tuesday, March 26, 2024 at 6:30 PM.
2. PRIDE (People Residing in Duquesne Equally), co-sponsor, along with the city and the Duquesne PartnerSHIP, the annual community Easter Egg Hunt celebration will be held on Saturday, March 30, 2024 in Polish Hill Park from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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ADJOURNMENT