

CITY OF DUQUESNE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 3, 2023
6:30 PM
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER (PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES)

MOMENT OF SILENCE (Sylvia Pitts)

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPENING PRAYER – Reverend Chaffin

ROLL CALL

Councilperson Rev. Timothy Caldwell – not present

Councilperson Elaine Washington - present

Councilperson Aaron Adams - present

Councilperson Derek Artim - present

Mayor R. Scott Adams - present

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

1. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes – December 6, 2022
2. Approval of Council Meeting Minutes December 20, 2022.
3. Bill List ending – December 2022
4. January 2023 Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve the December 6, 2022, Minutes; The December 20, 2022, Minutes; Bill list ending December 2022; and the January 2023 Consent Agenda with any necessary corrections.

(Motion passes 4/0)

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Report from Mayor R. Scott Adams
2. Attended the following:
 - a. Zoom meeting with State DHS concerning refugee issues
 - b. Zoom meeting with TPC concerning Mon-Fayette Expressway issues
 - c. Meeting with CVRP Community Violence Reduction Plan
3. Promotions

MOTION: Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Mayor Adams to approve the promotion of Acting Chief Shaw to permanent status (Chief Shaw). This will take effect January 4, 2023.

(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Mayor Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to approve the promotion of Lt. Karra Vance to the position of Assistant Police Chief. This will take effect on January 4, 2023.

(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to advertise for upcoming police test.

(Motion passed 4/0)

PUBLIC WORKS

1. Report from Councilperson Elaine Washington
2. Goals for 2023 include the following:
 - a. New street signs
 - b. Massive cleanup city-wide especially the overgrowth on 837
 - c. Condition of public works garage – possibly obtaining a new building
3. Councilperson Washington thanked everyone for their donations and participation in the staff and family Christmas party.

MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Mayor Adams to adopt and Ordinance that requires “Curb-to-Curb” paving on street repairs. Vendors will have to be made aware of this change.

(Motion passed 4/0)

WATER DEPARTMENT

1. Report from Councilperson Aaron Adams
2. Water & waste rate Ordinances – Advertisement/Readings
3. Reported updates on the following:
 - a. Water Breaks for the month
 - b. Water testing
 - c. Garbage complaints
 - d. Sewage bill complaints
 - e. Water bill complaints
4. Discussed resignation of public works employee
5. Discussed hiring of Supervisor/Code Enforcement Officer
6. Discussed dangerous structures ordinance and advertising it and moving to the workshop at the end of the month for further consideration.
7. Discussed the need for job descriptions for PW Supervisor/Code Enforcement Officer. Myron stated that he would begin that process.
8. Councilperson Adams asked about a credit application that his department applied for. To date there has not been a response.

MOTION: Mayor Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve water rate increases as has been previously outlined by Councilperson Adams. This is also considered the second reading.

(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve waste rate increase as has been previously outlined by Councilperson Adams. This is also considered the second reading.

(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Motion needed to start the process we will implement for naming the connector road. (This had been previously tabled and may warrant more discussion) This will be moved the workshop at the end of the month for further consideration.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. Report from Councilperson Timothy Caldwell
2. Engineer Report
(This section will be tabled to the workshop)

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

1. Report from Councilperson Derek Artim
2. Budget for 2023 was passed. City Manager will enter the budget into the accounting software. It will also be posted on the website.
3. Council can make any necessary changes to the budget until the end of February 2023.
4. Councilperson Artim will begin conducting meetings with George D. from Act 47 to make certain things are in order for exiting Act 47.

TREASURER

1. Report from Maureen Strahl.
2. Discussed training clerical staff to do tax and water clerk job descriptions
3. Going forward supplying a report of delinquent taxes to date.
(This section will be tabled to the workshop since the Treasurer was absent)

CONTROLLER

SOLICITOR

1. Report from Solicitor Myron Sainovich
2. Discuss process for passing Ordinances and Resolutions, Myron suggested the following procedure:
 - a. Call Myron to discuss the Ordinance and/or Resolution(s)
 - b. Advertise the Ordinance (Not less than 7 days not more than 60 days)
 - c. Present 1st reading.
 - d. Present 2nd reading and make motion for passing.
3. MOU for City Manager and Administrative Assistant will be completed by end of the week.
4. In the process of scheduling motions court for the EIT rate.

CITY MANAGER

1. Report from Scott A. Crawford, City Manager
2. Resolutions for DCED Grants:
 - a. Grant for Human Resources Management Professional
 - b. Grant for Municipal Records Organization
3. Discussion involving dig located 28 South 6th Street - This will be tabled to the workshop at the end of the month.

4. Discussion involving city paying for gas/fuel for VFD – This will be tabled to the workshop at the end of the month. Chief Cobb also stated that his dept meets on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. Council agreed to have representation at that meeting. In addition, Chief Cobb was asked to provide any statues that support the city's responsibility for paying gas for the VFD.

**MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Mayor Adams to approve the Resolution to acquire the DCED grant for a Human Resources Management Professional.
(Motion passed 4/0)**

**MOTION: Councilperson Artim made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to approve the Resolution to acquire the DCED grant for Municipal Records Organization. (Codifying files)
(Motion passed 4/0)**

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Acting Chief Thomas Shaw was not present, but he submitted his report.

ACT 47 COORDINATOR

1. Report from George Dougherty
2. Planning on making presentations for Home Rule in February 2023.
3. Working with City Manager on obtaining DCED grants and making more presentations of things that will need completed as Act 47 exits.
4. Fleet electrification grants (Electric Cars) to be discussed going forward

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Chief Frank Cobb
2. Provided updates for his dept through the month of December
3. Working on completing end of the year reports
4. His dept obtained two grants throughout the year that will help with overall equipment and the air packs that Firefighters use.

POLICE CITIZEN'S REVIEW BOARD

1. Debra Chaffin

***Members of the Duquesne City Council will meet in Executive Session (if needed)

PUBLIC COMMENT

At this time, citizens may address the Council 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 3 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before the Board who may speak for a maximum of 3 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.

Ms Chaffin – need documents from Chief Shaw to complete the procedure for a citizen’s complaint against the police department. Councilperson Artim let Rev Chaffin know that the city did approve money to assist her organization’s operations. Mayor Adams suggested that Rev Chaffin call him at 412.469.3857 to discuss what she needs to complete the complaint process.

Ms Pat – Wanted to know if recent repairs completed on 2nd street can be marked with cones especially at night so that drivers can be warned of dips in the road. Councilperson Adams stated that he would look into it for the city and will try and set cones if possible. She also wanted to know if DBAC and RIDC can provide reports when they meet. Mayor Adams stated that he would try and provide information about those projects going forward since he might attend those meeting as well.

Bert C. – noted that seniors may not be computer savvy enough to click on links to get pertinent information about the city.

Catherine Scharding – Thanks for dealing with the overgrowth situations in the city and your presentations

Parking in alley ways is allowed if the vehicle in question does not block a garage and it does not prevent the access of emergency vehicles.

Donation of properties to the city will be discussed in the workshop at the end of the month.

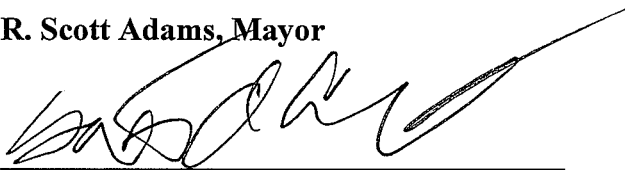
ADJOURNMENT: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to adjourn the meeting.

(Motion passed 4/0)

Meeting was adjourned at 7:41pm.



R. Scott Adams, Mayor



Scott A. Crawford, City Manager