

**City of Duquesne**  
**City Council Minutes**  
Tuesday, February 6, 2024  
6:30 pm

Meeting being held in person and remotely using ZOOM:  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5251078707?pwd=Z01uVXlMMlZaYm5BazJnYmR4MWs1OT09#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 Adams, Councilperson Brownfield, and Mayor Adams

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

**Absent:** Councilperson Artim and Washington

**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.*

**Connie Lucas Kemp, 127 Crawford Ave** – asked about the process regarding Home Rule. Mayor Adams reviewed the following process:

- i. City Council will adopt Ordinance forming the Government Study Commission (GSC) (Council will need to decide if the 7, 9, or 11 members)
- ii. 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 ballot)
- iii. GSC will follow same process and timelines as those running in the Primary Election

Ms. Lucas then asked about the process of running for the Planning and Zoning Commission. Mayor Adams said that they are appointed by the Mayor.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. Approval of Minutes – January 23, 2024
- b. Bill List – February 6, 2024

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

**First:** Councilperson Brown **Second:** Councilperson Adams

**Motion carried 3-0**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **2. *Public Safety – Report by Mayor Scott Adams***

- a. Chief Shaw read the attached report
- b. Police Collective Bargaining Agreement

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion 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.**

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

**Motion carried 3-0**

- c. Planning Commission Appointment

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to appoint Jake Zebelsky to the Planning Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire December 31, 2025.**

**First:** Councilperson Adams **Second:** Councilperson Brownfield

**Motion carried 3-0**

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion appoint Robert Yoder to the Planning Commission to fill a vacancy for a term to expire December 31, 2027.**

**First:** Councilperson Adams **Second:** Councilperson Brownfield

**Motion carried 3-0**

- d. Summer Schedule for Workshop and Council Meetings

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to cancel the July 23, 2024 and August 6, 2024 Council Meetings for summer recess.**

**First:** Councilperson Brownfield **Second:** Councilperson Adams

**Motion carried 3-0**

**3. *Public Works – Report by Councilperson Elaine Washington (absent no report)***

**4. *Water Dept. – Report by Councilperson Aaron Adams***

- a. Routine testing and one water break to report. In addition, the City is utilizing its new excavator to address the backlog of fixing curb boxes. See attached report.

**5. *Community & Economic Development – Report by Councilperson Denise Brownfield***

- a. Reved Civic Plus website updates.

Councilperson Brownfield asked for a **motion for approval of Civic Plus update design.**

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

**Motion carried 3-0**

- b. Home Rule Charter- City Manager will be meeting with DCED on February 9,2024 to discuss next steps for City moving towards Home Rule Charter

Councilperson Aaron Adams asked about the Rental Inspection Program and fees. Manager Sample said the fees would be reviewed at the next Council meeting.

**2) *Accounts & Finances. – Report by Councilperson Artim (Absent)***

**3) *Treasurer Dept. – Report by Maureen Strahl (Absent)***

-Sent bank account balance

**4) *Solicitor – Report by Myron Sainovich***

- a. Requested a listing of streets to make sure that they are posted with signs

**5) *City Manager – Report by Douglas Sample***

**6) *Police Dept. – Report by Chief Shaw***

- 7) **Fire Dept. – Report by Chief Frank Cobb**  
a. 2023- 2024 yearly report of calls & assists  
b. Reminder of Volunteer fundraising site

**OLD BUSINESS**

**COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS**

1. **Upcoming Council Meeting** – Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 6:30 PM.
2. **Duquesne Volunteer Fire Department Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser-** February 24,2024 from 2:00-7:00 pm at the Croation Club.
3. **Duquesne Hiring-**Administrative Assistant to City Manager Doug Sample
4. **Easter Egg Hunt-** March 16,2024 @ 12:00 pm. Location: Polish Hill Ballfield

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

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Rosie Reed: 908 Chestnut St

- i. Snow removal was not completed and she was not able to leave her home for the 4 days. She however wanted to state that all the other streets were completely clear just not hers.
- ii Needed clarification on water increase
- iii Thanked Frank Cobb for the assistance he had given to her.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:17 PM**

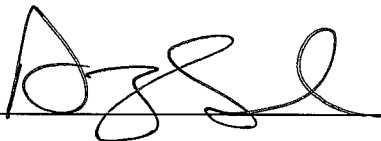
**First:** Councilperson Adams **Second:** Councilperson Brownfield

**MOTION carried 3-0**



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**R. Scott Adams, Mayor**



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**Douglas Sample, City Manager**

CITY OF DUQUESNE  
POLICE DEPARTMENT  
12 SOUTH SECOND STREET. DUQUESNE PENNSYLVANIA 15110

January 2024 POLICE ACTIVITY REPORT

TOTAL CALLS OF SERVICE – 419

ADULT ARRESTS – 22	JUVENILE ARRESTS –
TRAFFIC STOPS - 88	TRAFFIC WARNINGS- 22
TRAFFIC CITATIONS –	REPORTABLE CRASHES- 8
	NON REPORTABLE CRASHES- 2

TYPES OF CALL

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE-12	BURGLARY - 4
ASSAULTS – 3	ALARMS- 16
TRESPASSING – 4	FIGHTS- 2
SHOTS FIRED –6	FIRES- 3
WELFARE CHECK- 16	DISABLED VEHICLE- 2
HARASSMENT – 8	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE –8
THEFT – 13 (5) auto	ABANDONED MOTOR VEHICLE – 3
ANIMAL COMPLAINTS – 22	CRIMINAL MISCHIEF-3
FRAUD-0	JUVENILE COMPLAINTS – 2
SUSPICIOUS PERSON- 4	SUSPICIOUS ACTIVITY- 3
Disputes-6	Unknown Trouble- 13

January 2024 Activity Report  
Council Meeting – Councilman Adams  
Water, Garbage/Recycling/Sewage

January 1 – January 6

- Free chlorine test
  - Collected and tested
- Bac-T tests were collected and tested
  - Clean results

January 7 – January 13

- Free Chlorine tests were collected and tested
- TTHM samples tested at appropriate locations.
  - No OCL or MCL reported.

January 14 – January 20

- Bac-T tests were collected and tested
  - Clean results
- Free chlorine test
  - Collected and tested

January 21 – January 27

- ACI to complete work at standpipe.
- Water break at Aurilles Street
  - Repaired without incident
- Free chlorine test
  - Collected and tested

January 28 – January 31

- No reportable information this week.

**Water Breaks**

- *1 water /leaks breaks in the month of January*

**Action Items**

- *Water department looking in 0 consumption and negative consumption readings with our metering system*
- *January Billing File – Not given by PAAW.*
  - *(X) estimated readings, (X) estimated negative consumptions*
  - *(X) actual readings with negative consumptions*
- *Pump station project is still underway and the city will post updates*
  - *All pumps and electrical connections are installed.*

### **Other items**

- *Recently purchased equipment needed to assist with curb box repairs and small digging for the water and street department.*
- *Water rate increases for the City of Duquesne.*
  - *\$10.40 per 1000 gallons for standard resident*
- *Water meter replacements and repairs. Records in possession of water department clerk.*
- *Need to repair all curb boxes to ensure shut offs can occur at every location where there is an active account.*

### **Recent News**

- *State Representatives testified in a public hearing against the rate increases from PA American Water, approved by the PUC.*
- *Councilman Adams electronically signed a document sent by a joint comment letter to EPA about the proposed National Primary Drinking Water Regulations for Lead and Copper: Improvements (LCRI). The letter urges the federal government to provide additional funding, particularly in the form of grants, to support expanded and accelerated lead service line replacements and recommends that EPA revises the proposed rule to clearly indicate that the replacement requirement includes replacement of lead service lines located on private property while maintaining flexibility for implementation.*

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POLICE DEPARTMENT

12 SOUTH SECOND STREET. DUQUESNE PENNSYLVANIA 15110

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