

CITY OF DUQUESNE
TUESDAY, October 4, 2022
6:30 PM
CITY COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

CALL TO ORDER (PLEASE TURN OFF CELL PHONES)
MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
OPENING PRAYER
ROLL CALL

Councilperson Timothy Caldwell – not present
Councilperson Aaron Adams - present
Councilperson Derek Artim - present
Councilperson Elaine Washington - 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 Minutes – August 16, 2022
2. Bill List ending – August 2022 & September 2022
3. Approval of October Consent Agenda

MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve the August 16, 2022 minutes, bill list ending August 2022 and September 2022, and October Consent Agenda.
(Motion passed 4/0)

PUBLIC SAFETY

1. Report from Mayor R. Scott Adams
2. The Mayor applied for a grant from Sen. Brewster's office for \$100K. It will be split between the police and public works depts.
3. Mayor Adams read the Proclamation for Timothy Petrisko

MOTION: Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Washington to ratify the return of William Spangler to full time active duty as a Police Officer.
(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Mayor Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to interview, test if applicable, and hire part-time police for the city of Duquesne.
(Motion passed 4/0)

PUBLIC WORKS

1. Report from Councilperson Elaine Washington
2. Attended “town hall” type of meeting concerning community and their concerns
3. Crews are continuing to clear sidewalks and alley ways from overgrowth and debris

WATER DEPARTMENT

1. Report from Councilperson Aaron Adams
2. LIHWAP ends October 2022.
3. Discussing garbage contract with County Hauling RE: Weekly complaints
4. Maybe start discussions about a garbage ordinance.

MOTION: Mayor Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to use the insurance money already obtained from Progressive Insurance Co. for the repairs needed to the wall located at Library Court.

(Motion passed 4/0)

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

1. Report from Councilperson Timothy Caldwell
2. Updates on grants

MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to accept donated property (3 Acres) located at RIDC Park located in the city of Duquesne.

(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Councilperson Artim made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Washington to allow the use of Memorial Park on October 31, 2022, from 3pm – 7pm for a Halloween event by PRIDE. The city will donate \$500.00 for this event. (Provided liability contracts are signed)

(Motion passed 4/0)

MOTION: Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to allow the use of Memorial Park for an hour Prayer Vigil on October 22, 2022.

(Provided liability contracts are signed)

(Motion passed 4/0)

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

1. Report from Councilperson Derek Artim
2. Budget is most important item right now – adhering to budget schedule

TREASURER

1. Report from Maureen Strahl.

COMPTROLLER

SOLICITOR

1. Report from Solicitor Myron Sainovich
2. Pledges a \$200.00 donation to PRIDE with Duquesne for Halloween candy giveaway
3. Had a discussion with Acting Chief Shaw regarding scheduling and rehiring officers

CITY MANAGER

1. Report from George Newsome, Interim City Manager
2. Meeting discussing police salaries – proposed bonuses
3. Budget schedules
4. Gave black phone update – will need new equipment and possibly a new line.

POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Chief Thomas Shaw

ACT 47 COORDINATOR

1. Report from George Dougherty
2. Met with Councilperson Artim concerning the budget
3. Talked about police staffing and grants for tuition for students who want to attend the police academy.
4. The discussion regarding Home Rule will be in October 25th workshop meeting.
5. Council to review final draft of template for financials upon completion.
6. Had meeting to discuss police salaries with Mayor and Interim Manager

FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. Chief Frank Cobb
2. Fire dept. meets in council chambers every 3rd Wednesday of the month
3. Looking at upgrading electrical system in their garage to assist with new equipment obtained from a grant.

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.

- *Debra Chaffin apologized for missing the last two meetings. The review board met on October 1, 2022. They may be trying to find an alternative meeting place. They voted in a new member Ben Smith and are recruiting new members. If interested, please call 412.969.1246. Ms. Chaffin asked if the city could help their organization with money to do copies and post notification, etc. The Mayor told them we would try and find some money to help them. She also requested a copy of the police policy and procedure manual as well as the police roster.*
- *When questioned concerning the marquee, Councilperson Adams stated that he is in the process of dealing with it. He is looking into any possible upgrades and what the sign can actually and using it more efficiently.*
- *When a question arose concerning street lighting the Mayor stated that he would need the pole number to report repairs and he is looking into another grant from Sen. Brewster's office about street lighting.*
- *Ben Smith congratulated city on assisting with the traffic the travels down onto Mifflin Street. Concerned about possible squatters.*
- *Christian Walker talked about a meeting she had with Acting Chief Shaw about the violence and shootings in the neighborhood. She is happy about people coming together in a town hall type of meeting to discuss the community. Very concerned about the safety of children in the community. Shared a story about her son who was threatened at gunpoint. She believes we need more round table discussions about issues facing our community. She has hopes that Duquesne can become a pilot city for people to move into and work.*
- *Ms. Pat thanked the city council for getting back to the workshop model for meetings. She was concerned that the marquee can display more than one line at a time. She discussed the publication of where to turn book. Urban League Dennis Robinson as a resource for meetings held concerning goals for the city of Duquesne.*
- *Confirmed with Tom M. that there will NOT be any door-to-door trick or treating in Duquesne on Halloween. He also states that there are only 5 weeks until election.*
- *Maureen Strahl noted that she would like to use of chambers for a meeting scheduled on October 19, 2002 @ 7:00pm.*

MOTION TO ADJOURN

**MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to move into Executive Session.
(Motion passed 4/0)**

**MOTION: Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to exit Executive Session.
(Motion passed 4/0)**

MOTION: The Mayor made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to adjourn the meeting.

Mayor R. Scott Adams

George Newsome Interim City Manager