

City of Duquesne
Workshop Minutes
Tuesday, November 28, 2023
6:30 pm

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

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

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

Absent: Councilperson Caldwell

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.

No comments made.

NEW BUSINESS

- 1. Public Safety – Report by Mayor Scott Adams**
 - a. Proclamation for Lee “Spanky” Zabelsky
 - b. Police Test December 15, 2023
 - c. Report will be submitted for the December 5 Council Meeting

- 2. Public Works – Report by Councilperson Elaine Washington**
 - a. Proclamation for Charlotte Jeffery Jones
 - b. Report will be submitted for the December 5 Council Meeting

- 3. Water Dept. – Report by Councilperson Aaron Adams**
 - a. Solid Waste Contract – bids will be opened on December 1, 2023 at 11 AM and action will be taken at the December 5, 2023 Council meeting.
 - b. Proclamation or Plaque honoring Sam’s Tailor
 - c. Report will be submitted for the December 5 Council Meeting

- 4. Community & Economic Development – Report by Manager Douglas Sample**

- a. Engineering Branthoover reviewed the issue with PA American Water doing work on Grant in the section we received LSA funding. LSA confirmed we can change the location.
- b. Civic Plus Website Proposal
 - i. Manager Sample reviewed the proposal from Civic Plus for a new website
- c. Quarterly Newsletter
 - i. Manger Sample said at this time we don't have the resources for a quarterly newsletter. Mayor Adams mentioned the new marquee and website will help, but asked if we could send something out with a water bill. Manager Sample said we will look into this.
- d. Home Rule Charter
 - i. Manager Sample said that the City needs to work towards this goal for the November election.

Manager Sample stated that the following motions were added after the agenda was posted on the website. Manager Sample asked if the public had any comments on these resolutions. No comments made.

- e. CDBG Year 50 Grant Application – the City is applying for funds to reconstruct South Second Street in the amount of \$397,590 from CDBG Year 50 Program.

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to ratify the adoption of Resolution 2023-14 requesting a grant of \$397,590.00 from CDBG Year 50 Program to reconstruct South Second Street.**

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

MOTION carried 4-0

- f. Local Share Account Grant Applications – the City is applying for 3 separate grants through the LSA program: 1) Water System Upgrades -- \$1MM, 2) Lead and Copper Inventory -- \$1MM, and 3) Tractor w/ Boom Cutter -- \$144,094.00.

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to adopt Resolution 2023-15 requesting a grant of \$1,000,000.00 from LSA Grant for Water System Upgrades.**

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

MOTION carried 4-0

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion adopt Resolution 2023-16 requesting a grant of \$1,000,000.00 from LSA Grant for Lead Copper Line Inventory.**

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

MOTION carried 4-0

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to adopt Resolution 2023-17 requesting a grant of \$144,094.00 from LSA Grant for a Tractor with Boom.**

First: Councilperson Adams **Second:** Councilperson Washington

MOTION carried 4-0

5. Accounts & Finances. – Report by Councilperson Artim

- a. 2024 Budget Review
- b. **Ordinances – 1st Reading**
 - i. 2024 Budget
 - ii. 2024 Tax Millage
 - iii. 2024 Water Fee
- c. Resolutions
 - i. 2024 Wage Resolution
 - ii. 2024 Fee Resolution

6. Treasurer Dept. – Report by Maureen Strahl

- a. Discussion on Adjustment of Video Device Fee

7. Solicitor – Report by Myron Sainovich

8. City Manager – Report by Douglas Sample

9. Police Dept. – Report by Chief William Shaw

10. Fire Dept. – Report by Chief Frank Cobb

OLD BUSINESS

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 1. **Upcoming Council Meeting** – Tuesday, December 5, 2023 at 6:30 PM.

PUBLIC COMMENT

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Rosia Reid, 908 Chestnut St. – Ms. Reid asked about the increases in the Water and Sewer Rates and is concerned about these increased costs. Councilperson Adams stated they are trying not to increase water, but it must go up to keep the Water Department functioning. Ms. Reid also wanted to express her concern for getting information to those that don't have computer access regarding Home Rule Charter. Mayor Adams asked to have some presentations prepared to help educate the residents regarding this important issue.

Tom Molinak – was concerned about the front of City Hall and the bricks. Mayor Adams stated Public Works will look into the issue.


ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Adams mentioned there will be brief Executive Session following the meeting to discuss a contractual issue.

Mayor Adams asked for a **motion to adjourn the Workshop meeting at 7:14 PM**

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

MOTION carried 4-0



R. Scott Adams, Mayor



Douglas Sample, City Manager