

City of Duquesne Council Meeting Minutes

Date: April 22, 2025

Time: 6:30 PM

Location: Council Chambers and via Zoom

1. Call to Order

- Meeting called to order at 6:30 PM by Mayor Adams.
- Moment of silence observed in remembrance of Pope Francis.
- Pledge of Allegiance recited.

2. Roll Call

- Present: Councilpersons Washington, Adams, Artim, Brownfield, and Mayor Adams.
- Quorum confirmed.

3. Public Comment on Agenda Items

- Inquiry regarding the pet waste ordinance. Council confirmed it would be posted online.

4. Approval of Minutes

- March 25 and April 1 meeting minutes were distributed and signed.
- Consent agenda items to be acted on at the May 6, 2025 meeting.

5. Mayor's Report

- Officer Caleb Black's resignation accepted, effective April 27, 2025.
 - **Motion:** To accept the resignation of Officer Caleb Black, effective April 27, 2025. **Motion passed unanimously.**
- Police Chief wage discussion tabled to next meeting.
 - **Motion:** To table discussion on Police Chief wage adjustment to next meeting. **Motion passed.**
- Banners Program: Tentative launch on May 17, 2025 with approximately 45 banners expected.

**6. Public Works Report

- Weed spraying to begin within next two weeks. Public notice to be issued.
- Request made for 2024 delinquent tax list from MBM for collection.

7. Discussion on Delinquent Taxes & Vacant Properties

- Suggestion to target landlords with unpaid taxes.

- Discussion on back tax forgiveness under the vacant property program.
- Solicitor to provide a resolution template for forgiving back taxes in specific cases.

8. Water Department Report

- Council approved Resolution 2025-008 to apply for Small Water and Sewer Program Grant (\$500,000 with 15% match).
 - **Motion:** To adopt Resolution 2025-008 authorizing submission of a grant application under the Small Water and Sewer Program for Phase II of the lead and copper inventory. **Motion passed 5-0.**
- TTHM Violation from November 2024 addressed; public notice required.

9. Community and Economic Development

- Pet Waste Ordinance (First Reading completed; Second/Third on May 6).
- Events:
 - 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament (June 19, 2025).
 - Duke Youth Association Parade & Picnic (June 27, 2025).
 - Community Day scheduled for August 2, 2025.
- Updates:
 - Tree Pittsburgh initiative.
 - Inclusion Project food truck partnership.
 - Polish Hill 5K grant reapplication.
 - Multimodal Grant for 837 lighting project.

10. Zoning and Planning

- No current updates.
- Dedication of a memorial bench for Mr. Tucker discussed; possible date on June 27, 2025.

11. Code Enforcement

- Emphasis on sidewalk cleanliness and enforcement.
- Concern raised about residential garbage being dumped in public trash cans; investigation ongoing.

12. Finance

- Jordan Tax Service retained for ACT 32 collections (3 years + 2-year extension).
- Proposal to retain Herman & Louw for 2024 audit (\$16,000) for May 6 approval.

13. Engineering Report

- DJ Demo near completion of house demolitions.
- CD48 paving project to be advertised May 1 & 8, with bid opening two weeks after.
- Engineers working on shared Google Doc for water service line tracking.

14. Legal (City Solicitor)

- Solicitor drafting template resolution for tax forgiveness for properties in judicial sale or repository.
- Advised on proper legal procedures for selling city-owned properties (sealed bids, appraisals).

15. City Manager Report

- No current solicitation ordinance found; new one to be drafted.
- Code enforcement monitoring sidewalk access and trash accumulation.

16. Other Department Reports

- Police and Fire Chiefs absent; no reports submitted.
- Treasurer's report deferred to next meeting.

17. Public Comment

- Comments on road conditions, blight enforcement, and garbage issues on Grant Avenue.
- Concerns raised by community and clergy regarding public trash misuse and employee conduct.

18. Announcements

- Next Council Meeting: May 6, 2025 at 6:30 PM
- Home Rule Study Commission Meeting: May 19, 2025 at 6:30 PM

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned following conclusion of public comments.



Mayor **R. Scott Adams**



City Manager **Douglas Sample**