

**CITY OF DUQUESNE  
TUESDAY, JANUARY 28, 2020  
CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

6:32 pm

**The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nickole Nesby**

**Present:** Richard Scott Adams, Rev. Tim Caldwell, Terra Henderson-Murphy, Elaine Washington

**Others Present:** City Manager, Douglas Sample, Solicitor Myron Sainovich, Police Chief, Tom Dunlevy, Fire Chief, Frank Cobb, Controller, Maureen Strahl, Act 47 Coordinator, George Dougherty, Executive Assistant, Marian Marko-Eberle

**PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS**

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes –January 6, 2020 and January 14, 2020
2. Bill List – January 28, 2020

**I move to approve the January 28, 2020 Consent Agenda.**

**First:** Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Elaine Washington **Motion carried: 5-0**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

**\*\*Mayor Nesby made mention that for 18 months she worked with PA Water Center for efficiencies. The Mayor scheduled meetings of which there was no response of updates from the City.**

**\*\*Mayor Nesby mentioned she has still not received any updates on the functionality of fire hydrants throughout the City.**

**\*\*Mayor Nesby directed a comment to Councilperson Washington as to still not receiving any update on the Library Street Tree issue.**

**\*\*Mayor Nesby brought up an incident that happened on a West Mifflin School Bus involving a City of Duquesne student being assaulted and is asking to use the City of Duquesne's Board Room to hold a meeting to further discuss this incident. A tentative meeting to be scheduled either Wednesday, February 12 or Wednesday, February 19, 2020. The charge to use the Board Room would be \$150.00**

**I move to approve the use of the City of Duquesne's Board Room to hold a meeting to discuss the West Mifflin School Bus incident.**

**First:** Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Terra Henderson-Murphy **Motion carried: 5-0**

1. Ordinances – 1st Reading
  - a. Unbiased and Equal Treatment of all Persons whether Documented or Undocumented
2. Resolutions – Allegheny County Hazard Mitigation Plan

**MOTION: I make a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-03 adopting Allegheny County's Hazard Mitigation Plan.**

Mr. Sample, City Manager made a point to announce that Tammy Pratt, Emergency Management Coordinator was in the audience for funding support.

**First:** Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Elaine Washington **Motion carried: 5-0**

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

The litigation between Cargill (Salt Distributed) and the city is resolved. The \$70,000.00 that we owed has been paid and Cargill has resumed business with the city.

On Sunday January 12<sup>th</sup>, the severe wind storm damaged and cracked large portion of a tree on Library Street. Two city workers were called out to saw and removing hanging limbs. No injuries to anyone, home or cars.

City workers on down time are picking up trash throughout the city as well as the city cans.

### **WATER DEPARTMENT**

12-24-2019/ Water main break top of Pirl Street. Repaired.

01-03-2020/Low water pressure reported in the 100 block S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street. MAWC was contracted for leak detection.

01-06-2020/A break was located at the Intersection of S. 5<sup>th</sup> Street & Ferndale. The repair was started and was ultimately finished on 1-08-2020. A new clamp had to be ordered to properly seal the break.

01-06-2020/ Contracted Mollie Glover and Pete McKeating from County Hauling concerning garbage not being collected in the Maryland Avenue area. Mr. McKeating advised he would look into the situation.

01-06-2020/ An invoice was sent to me for a new Chlorinator pump. I forwarded it to the City Manager. Total Equipment was the submitting company.

01-08-2020/3 THM quarterly samples were taken (Kahar / Crawford, Pump Station & Fairmont/837. Samples taken by Sarah Kocak from MAWC). Next scheduled samples to be take

in April 2020. The samples were tested and were well within EP standards for safe drinking water.

1-14-2020/ Repaired a water break in the 500 block of Kahler Street. Also, a large water break occurred in McKeesport and caused us to shut down our water flow from MAWC. Our water supply was shut off for a few hours without any inconvenience to our residents.

1-17-2020/ I attended a meeting that included Mr. Sample, Jaqui Daniels and Frank DiPaolo. The meeting was set up for discussions on temporary water accounts.

1-20-2020/Chlorine was delivered to the Water Department.

1-22-2020/ Water samples were taken for Bacterial/Coliform testing. Samples taken from Meyers Furnace/McDonalds/Matta Florists areas. Samples were submitted to MAWC and results showed clean results.

1-24-2020/ I contacted Frank DiPaolo and the Fire Chief concerning the number of hydrants and the operability of those hydrants within the City. The City Engineer has also offered to assist in this endeavor.

1-27-2020/ I contacted Pete McKeating/Mollie Glover (County Hauling) concerning garbage not being picked up in Thorn Alley. Both responded and informed me it will be taken care of. Garbage was picked up in that area.

On 12-19-19 or delinquent balance was \$88,251.81. On 1-16-2020our balance is \$52,602.74. Amount collected \$35,649.07. During the same period, 43 water accounts were shut off for delinquency.

## **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

1. Report from Councilperson Caldwell
2. Ordinances – 1st Reading
  - a. Abating Derelict Properties
  - b. Adopting International Property Maintenance Code
3. InCity Farms Subdivision

Jacob Catt from KU Resources, Inc. spoke on behalf of RIDC Southwestern Pennsylvania Growth Fund and InCity Farms about the proposed subdivision of Lot Tax ID 378-B-80;S-20-1. The proposed subdivision will convert the existing single 72.8 acres lot into four smaller parcels. The intent of this proposed subdivision is to make way for the future development of InCity on one of the newly proposed parcels. Two visual aids were presented, the first showing and overview of the existing parcel and a second highlighting the parcel which InCity Farms intends to purchase and develop. Following my presentation Glenn Ford of InCity Farms presented on the vision of the future development. A few questions arose around the location and ownership of wells located I the vicinity. The City of Duquesne’s wells do no lie within the parcel with is proposed to be subdivided or developed by InCity. Ongoing efforts are being made by InCity

Farms to identify a source of water for the development and may lead to utilizing the City of Duquesne's wells or drilling their own wells within their future parcel. City Council voted to grant conditional approval of the proposed S-20-1 subdivision plan pending compliance with Allegheny County Department of Economic Developments review letter findings.

**\*\*Councilman Adams asked Jacob if he had any property to date. Jacob's response was "yes."**

**MOTION: I make a motion to grant conditional approval of S-20-1 with final approval to be granted upon applicant addressing any possible issues and/or comments of the Allegheny County Department of Economic Development's (ACED) review letter.**

**\*\*Douglas**

**First: Mayor Nesby Second: Councilman Rev. Caldwell Motion carried: 5-0**

### ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

1. Resolution – Real Estate Tax Refunds

**MOTION: I make a motion to adopt Resolution 2020-04 authoring Real Estate Tax refunds for the Year 2019.**

### TREASURER

1. Report from David J. Bires

### COMPTROLLER

1. Report from Maureen Strahl – NO REPORT

### SOLICITOR

1. Report from Solicitor Myron Sainovich

### CITY MANAGER

1. Report from Manager Douglas Sample
2. 2020 Meeting Schedule

**MOTION: I move to approve the meeting schedule starting February 2020 through December 2021 to be a combined Committee/Workshop and Business Meeting on the Second Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 PM and a Business Meeting on the fourth Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 PM.**

3. Employee Training Policy

**MOTION: I move to adopt the Employee Training Policy.**

4. Elected and Appointed Officials Training Policy

**MOTION: I move to adopt the Elected and Appointed Officials Training Policy**

5. Appointment for Vacant Seats of Elected and Appointed Officials

**MOTION: I move to adopt the Appointment Policy for Vacant Seats of Elected and Appointed Officials.**

6. Pittsburgh Business Exchange Membership

**I move to approve membership to the Pittsburgh Business Exchange at a cost NTE \$399.00.  
First: Mayor Nesby Second: Councilman Rev. Caldwell Motion carried: 5-0**

### **POLICE DEPARTMENT**

1. Chief Thomas Dunlevy

### **ACT 47 COORDINATOR**

Mr. Dougherty reported on the following items he has generation his time on:

- \*\*Worked on the DCD Reports along with the Act 47 Plan
- \*\*Mentioned a sidewalk issue which he can ask for addition money
- \*\*The month of December he collaborated with the Interim City Managers with not being able to locate ordinances.

### **FIRE DEPARTMENT**

\*\*Chief Cobb mentioned there were 400 calls to the Fire Station in 2019.

\*\*Chief Cobb proposed the possibility of securing the property across the street of City Hall to put into place a Bunk House. Chief Cobb then mentioned the building was offered to the Fire Station. The Bunk House would be staffed by eight to ten young adults; ages 18 years of age who would be State and County certified (full city certification and full interior fire fighters). Once certification was completed the expectations of these fire fighters would be to perform duties for the City of Duquesne Fire Station. Chief Cobb mentioned that Monroeville Fire Station has a Bunk House in place and it has been extremely a win-win situation for both the community of Monroeville and the young fire fighters.

\*\*Chief Cobb then inquired about being on track for the Capital Improvement Bond for a newer Ladder Truck going forward. Solicitor Sainovich stated he has been approved, but needs to get timing of it with Mr. Dougherty, Act 47 Coordinator.

\*\*Chief Cobb also brought up the issue of purchasing the police vehicle. Solicitor Sainovich mentioned that the vehicle could be sold as long as it was for less than \$1,999.99. Solicitor

Sainovich's suggested selling the vehicle to Chief Cobb, which all Board members agreed. Councilman Adams just inquired as to how the car would be used.

I move to approve the sale of the Police Vehicle to Chief Cobb for the purchase of One Dollar (\$1.00).

**First:** Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Henderson-Murphy **Motion carried: 5-0**

**POLICE CITIZEN'S REVIEW BOARD – NOT PRESENT – NO REPORT**

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

**8:41 pm**

\*\*Before the meeting adjourned, Mayor Nesby invited Mr. Jim Danko up to the microphone to speak. Mr. Danko complained that the Board Members are to be speaking to the public, but cannot be heard due to the poor microphone system and the fact that no one ever speaks into the microphones to be heard. Mr. Danko suggested buying a new sound system!

\*\*Councilperson Henderson-Murphy wanted to recognize and thank the Interim Managers, Virginia Finnegan and MaryLou Bittner for the work they have done to support the City of Duquesne during the search of a permanent City Manager. She also recognized George Dougherty, Act 47 for his hard work in helping the City of Duquesne, especially getting money to help the Fire Department as well. And a welcome and thanks to Marian Marko-Eberle, Executive Assistant for coming on board.

8:41 pm

**MOTION TO ADJOURN**

**I move to adjourn**

**First:** Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Washington **Motion carried: 5-0**

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Mayor Nickole Nesby

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Marian Marko-Eberle