

**CITY OF DUQUESNE
TUESDAY, MAY 26, 2020
6:30 PM
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

6:36 pm

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Nesby followed by a moment of silence for the respect of Former Police Chief, Richard (Lefty) Adams.

Present: Councilperson, Terra Henderson-Murphy, City Councilperson Elaine Washington, Mayor, Nickole Nesby

Others Present: City Manager, Douglas Sample, Act 47 Coordinator, George Dougherty, Executive Assistant, Marian Marko-Eberle, Solicitor, Myron Sainovich, Controller, Maureen Strahl

Absent: Councilman Tim Caldwell, Police Chief Thomas Dunlevy, Fire Chief Frank Cobbs

NO COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS AT THIS TIME

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Minutes – April 14, 2020 and May 12, 2020

All in Favor Say I: 3 Nays: 0 MOTION carried 3-0

2. Bill List – May 26, 2020

I make a motion to approve the Bill List of May 26, 2020.

First: Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Henderson-Murphy with any necessary corrections
MOTION carried: 3-0

PUBLIC SAFETY

****Mayor Nesby met with Lance Chimka, Allegheny County Community and Economic Department on City's assessment of needs during COVID-19.**

****Meeting to discuss/review SR 837 traffic signal Improvement City's responsibility, renaming of streets. Suggested doing some type of community involvement in renaming streets as a result of Mon Fayette Expressway.**

****Met with Put People First Mon Valley-getting COVID-19 testing in area.**

****Met with PACC making sure inmates' needs are being met during COVID-19. Mom Demand Action legislator response to COVID-19 verses gun violence.**

**Met with Cities United to discuss improving community and police relationship
<http://clitiesunited.org/>

**Attended American Heart Association Global pandemic discussion.

**Attended African American Mayors' Association pandemic in Black America.

**Attended Women Mayors' Network, Mayor's Innovation Project.

**Attended panel for Connecting the DOT, discussion on running for office and corruption in local government.

**Met with Higher Heights for assistance in threatening emails of concerns.

**Met with Pittsburgh Foundation topics included Social Services and Education. As a result, PR, School District and City meet to arrange further discussion.

**Interview with Public Source.

**Introduction Premium Home Builders to Time White of RIDC-Duquesne for possible 7-10 acres for development of home site in Duquesne.

**Emailed Port Authority of Allegheny County informing them of development on RIDC-Duquesne with need of public transportation.

**Attended Participatory Budget, Real Money Real Power, Grass Root Organization to teach communities about government spending, participation, and allocation Council will need to approve.

PUBLIC WORKS

Councilperson Washington stated that the City workers are out and about the City trimming, as well as, manicuring Memorial Park.

WATER DEPARTMENT – NOT PRESENT – NO REPORT

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – NOT PRESENT – NO REPORT

1. Report from Councilperson Caldwell
2. Community Development Block Grant Program – In order for the City of Duquesne to stay in the program, because we are an Act 47 community that receives its own allocation of CDBG funds through Allegheny County's program each year, we must pass a resolution and sign a cooperation agreement. The City receives approximately \$125,000.00 a year through this program.

I move to adopt Resolution 20-11 authorizing the City of Duquesne to Opt-In into the Allegheny County Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Programs for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

First: Mayor Nesby Second: Councilwoman Washington MOTION carried: 3-0

I move to execute the Cooperation Agreement between the City of Duquesne and the County of Allegheny to participate in the County's Community Development Block Grant and Home Investment Partnership Programs for the years 2021, 2022, and 2023.

First: Mayor Nesby Second: Councilperson Henderson-Murphy MOTION carried: 3-0

ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE

1. Appointment of a Delegate to the Allegheny County Southwest Tax Collection District

I move to adopt Resolution 20-12 appointing Nickole Nesby as the Alternate Delegate to the Allegheny County Southwest Tax Collection District.

**First: Councilperson Henderson-Murphy Second: Councilperson Washington
MOTION carried 3-0**

2. Banking Matters – Issuing the City Manager a credit card and adding him as an administrator for the City's Credit Card with First Commonwealth Bank and establishing the authorized signers for all City Accounts to be the Mayor, City Manager, Controller, Treasurer, and Chair of Finance

I move to adopt Resolution 20-13 issuing the City Manager Douglas Sample with a credit card and appointing him as the Credit Card Administrator with First Commonwealth Bank.

**First: Councilperson Henderson-Murphy Second: Councilperson Washington
MOTION carried 3-0**

CITY ENGINEER PROJECT STATUS REPORT

1. CITF Grant for Demolition

Once the legal clearances are done, the County will proceed with asbestos surveys after which we can advertise for bids.

2. CD 45 Demolition

This project will be advertised for bid after legal clearances are complete.

914 W Grant 916 W Grant 1036 Lincoln 114 S 5th 920 W Grant

3. Fire Hall Door Project

The steel is being fabricated for this project. 2 weeks before the steel is due, demolition of the current door frame will begin.

4. GTRP Recreation Grant

A Grant application for renovation of Polish Hill Playground has been submitted. Grant awards will likely be announced in November.

5. CD 46 Projects

The County has awarded Duquesne \$125,800 which can be used for the following **highlighted** projects:

A. Fire Hydrants (11) and one valve -*Not funded*

Friendship & Kennedy	1416 Highland
Fairmont between Richford & Rt 837	4 th & Priscilla
Grant & N 5 th	Mehaffey & Wool
Hamilton & Ross	Camp & Rt 837
Oliver & N 3 rd	Clark & St Clair
Wilmot & Kennedy	Priscilla & Auriles

B. Demolition (6 houses) - *Not Funded*

615 Priscilla Avenue	1006 Sherman
11 South 5 th Street	31 Meadow
117 North 4 th Street	501 W Grant

C. Street Reconstruction (4 streets) *\$45,800*

<u>S 6th Street (Grant to Kennedy) <i>\$35,000</i></u>
S 7 th Street (Kennedy to Line Alley) <i>\$37,000</i>
Norman Street (Kennedy to S 7 th) <i>\$20,000</i>
<u>Kennedy Avenue (S 1st to S 2nd) <i>\$24,000</i></u>

D. Polish Hill Playground Renovation *\$80,000*

Council will need to decide which projects to spend the money on.

I move to adopt Resolution 20-14 appointing the authorized signers for all City Accounts to be the Mayor, City Manager, Controller, Treasurer, and Chair of Finance First.

First: Councilperson Henderson-Murphy **Second:** Mayor Nesby **MOTION carried 3-0**

- Peer Consultant for Payroll Taxes – Research and complete a detailed process for processing and paying all payroll taxes and deductions on a bi-weekly, monthly, quarterly, and annual basis. The City processes employee payroll on a bi-weekly basis but not all taxes and/or deductions are due at that time. The Peer will determine the payment frequently, the process from the interface between PayForce (where payroll is processed) and MicroFund (where all checks/EFT/ACHs are processed) and how each is paid (whether via check or an online payment).

I move to authorize the City Manager to submit a DCED Grant to hire a Peer Consultant for Payroll Taxes.

First: Councilperson Henderson-Murphy **Second:** Mayor Nesby **MOTION carried: 3-0**

TREASURER – NOT PRESENT – REFER TO ATTACHMENT

CONTROLLER- NO REPORT

SOLICITOR

1. Report from Solicitor Myron Sainovich

CITY MANAGER

1. Report from Manager Douglas Sample
2. COVID-19 PEMA Funding Process

MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution 20-15 appointing City Manager Douglas Sample as the City of Duquesne's Designated Agent to execute all documents on the City's behalf regarding financial assistance from PEMA concerning the COVID-19 crisis.

First: Councilperson Washington **Second:** Councilperson Henderson-Murphy
MOTION carried 3-0

POLICE DEPARTMENT – NOT PRESENT – NO REPORT

ACT 47 COORDINATOR

****Mr. Dougherty stated that he had worked alongside of Mr. Sample regarding overall finances for the City.**

****Mr. Dougherty gave an update on the 2018 Audit which has been done. Mr. Dougherty also mention that the 2019 Audit is in good shape to be started.**

****Mr. Dougherty spoke on the DCED revenue crisis that is upon the City and is looking to get help not only for the City, bur other municipalities too.**

FIRE DEPARTMENT – NOT PRESENT – NO REPORT

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

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

NO Executive Session needed at this time.

PUBLIC COMMENT

**Mr. Tom Molanick, 115 S 5th Street, Duquesne, PA 15110 asked if the Board and the Mayor were going to make a motion regarding the Job Description and Advertisement for the Director of Public Works vacancy which appeared on page one (1) of the Agenda. Mr. Sample immediately referenced the motion to the Board to vote.

**An audience attendee inquired about Lori Achtzehn, Police Secretary, being rehired after seeing a Facebook post that a decision was made by the Courts in her favor to return to work. Mr. Sample stated, that at this time, he could not speak publically about this matter, but will have a dialogue with Solicitor Sainovich and will then apprise Council on this matter.

**Before the meeting adjourned Mayor Nesby made the following comments:

1. State Senator Austin Davis supported funds for financial help to the City of Duquesne.
2. Mayor Nesby reminded the Board of the upcoming 25 year anniversary for the City of Duquesne's Fire Department. Mayor Nesby would like to see a Proclamation for this accomplishment. Mr. Sample spoke up to say he would work with Chief Cobb on this request.
3. Mayor Nesby also mention a Proclamation for former Chief "Lefty" Adams who recently passed away. Councilperson Henderson-Murphy agreed with Mayor Nesby regarding the Proclamation for former Chief "Lefty" Adams. Mr. Sample spoke up to say he will work on the Proclamation for Chief "Lefty" Adams too.

ADJOURNMENT

7:15 pm

I move to make a motion to adjourn the meeting

First: Mayor Nesby **Second:** Councilperson Washington **MOTION carried: 3-0**

Nickole Nesby

Marian Marko-Eberle