

**CITY OF DUQUESNE**  
**TUESDAY, August 16, 2022**  
**6:30 PM**  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING/MINUTES**

**CALL TO ORDER (PLEASE MUTE YOUR PHONES)**  
**MOMENT OF SILENCE AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**  
**ROLL CALL**

Councilperson Caldwell (not present)  
Councilperson A. Adams (present)  
Councilperson Washington (present)  
Councilperson Artim (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 3 minutes. Groups of people will be required to designate a spokesperson to represent them before the Council 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 and sign in on the sign in sheet.*

**CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes – July 12, 2022
2. Bill list ending July 2022
3. Approval of July 2022 Consent Agenda

**Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve the July 2022 Minutes and bill list, plus the July 2022 Consent Agenda.  
(Motion passed 4/0)**

**PUBLIC SAFETY**

1. Postponed the reading of the Proclamation for Timothy Petrisko.
2. Mayor proposed moving dates of meetings (will discuss more later)
3. **Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to accept the resignation of Kelly Robertson, City manager.  
(Motion passed 4/0)**
4. **Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve the nomination of Robert Yoder to the Planning Commission.  
(Motion passed 4/0)**
5. **Councilperson Washington made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to post the City Manager position.  
(Motion passes 4/0)**
6. **Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to approve the advertisement of the Ordinance for the City Manager position. Upon approval Atty Sainovich stated he would follow through with that ad.  
(Motion passes 4/0)**

7. **Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Washington to place and Ad and move the council meetings to the first Tuesday of the month. (October 4, 2022 next council meeting) And to cancel the next scheduled council meeting for September 20, 2022. Agreed to go back to conducting workshops, the first one is on 09-28-2022. (Motion passed 4/0)**
  
8. A question was raised as to how long should the City Manager position be posted? The answers were:
  - Depends on how many applicants apply
  - At least 3-4 weeks
  - Maybe have a cutoff date for 09-21-2022

### **PUBLIC WORKS**

1. Repaired a broken sewage line
2. Cleaned and sprayed Center Street
3. Addressing calls regarding trees and/or grass that is overgrown in alleys.

### **WATER DEPARTMENT**

1. Report Submitted.
2. Jaqui's contact in the Water Dept. 412.466.8575
3. Complaints about whatever 412.913-7333
4. Contact for garbage 412-567-2785

1. **Councilperson Artim made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Washington to approve for the city to take over the maintenance of the storm water basins due to the Mon Valley Expressway construction. (Motion was passed 4/0)**

### **Community and Economic Development**

1. Report submitted from Glenn Engineering.

### **ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE**

1. Report submitted.
2. **Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Washington to approve the process of reimbursements for use of the Credit Cards that are issued. Receipts should be turned in with the statement or the card holder will be required to reimburse the charges. (Motion passed 4/0)**

### **TREASURER**

1. Report Submitted

### **CONTROLLER**

1. No report

## SOLICITOR

1. Myron provided the city with a copy of an ordinance that outlines the sale of city vehicles.
2. Myron talked about the process of contract negotiations.
  - a. First, the union and the city discuss proposals and come to an agreement
  - b. Second, the city provides a final contract offer made to employees to the council.
  - c. Third, the council votes on the final contract

## CITY MANAGER

1. Wall at Library Court
2. Workman's comp. audit.
3. Work completed at Polish Hill/Community Day.
4. A/C units in chambers.
5. Contracts signed.
6. Fixed black light at police dept.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

1. Report Submitted.
2. **Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to accept the resignations of the following: Officer W. Spangler; Officer J. Brentley; Officer P. Scherf; and Officer D. Rupert.**  
(Motion passed 4/0)
3. **Councilperson Adams made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Artim to ratify the hiring of new police officer J. Speelman.**  
(Motion passed 4/0)

## ACT 47 COORDINATOR

1. Labor negotiations meetings were completed expeditiously.
2. Obtaining information from Harris to make certain the financials that are being requested from council provide the information they are requesting.
3. Provided a 6-month budget analysis – results prove that budget is on point.
4. Discussed Home Rule presentation at next meeting or workshop.

## FIRE DEPARTMENT

1. No report submitted

## POLICE CITIZEN'S REVIEW BOARD

1. Debra Chaffin (see attached report, if not attached was not provided)

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

## PUBLIC COMMENT

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-Ms. Hoss raised concerns about the overgrown grass throughout the city and Councilperson Washington explained that we cannot cut private owned lots but that the city is addressing vacant lots. Councilperson Adams said he'd reach out to garbage company, plus review their current contract in the hopes of obtaining a new contract with a new vendor. The city can cut overgrown areas that impede the sidewalks.

-Mr. Martin thanked the city for assisting with the installation of lights on his street. He asked if a study can be done to determine if we can get speed bumps constructed on Commonwealth Avenue.

-Mr Vaughn wants to construct a driveway and a sidewalk on his property. He was directed to contact the BIU for more information. He also raised concerns about yards in his neighborhood and was forwarded to code enforcement.

-Christina raised concerns about feeling scared and anxious because of the decreasing number of police officers and the recent shootings in this city. The Mayor told he'd set up a time for them to meet. We clarified that residents can attend workshops but cannot speak at them. Mr. Kurta (PW) told her he'd contact HACP to determine property ownership behind her house to see who is responsible for upkeep.

-Ms Par thanked Kelly for her time served as City Manager. She is also concerned about decreasing number of officers. She wanted ti know if the marquee in front of city hall could display messages in paragraph form. It cannot – it only gives a one line message.

-Ms. C. Scharding raised specific concerns about property owners who have cars parked on their grass, and overgrown grass and weeds.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

**Councilperson Artim made the motion and was seconded by Councilperson Adams to call the meeting to adjournment.**

**(Motion was passed 4/0)**



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**Mayor/Vice-President**



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**City Manager-Interim**