

**MATTHEW T SHORRAW**  
MAYOR  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS



**CITY OF MONESSEN**  
557 DONNER AVENUE  
MONESSEN, PA 15062  
PHONE 724-684-9000  
FAX 724-684-4006

**GERALD SAKSUN**  
CITY TREASURER

**ROSALIE NICKSICH**  
CITY CONTROLLER

**JOHN HARHAI**  
CITY ADMINISTRATOR

**TIMOTHY J WITT**  
SOLICITOR

**CHERYL GORDON**  
CITY CLERK

**MEMBERS OF COUNCIL:**

**GILBERT A COLES**  
DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTS  
& FINANCE

**DONALD S GREGOR**  
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY

**LOIS A THOMAS**  
DIRECTOR OF STREETS &  
PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS

**ANTHONY ORZECZOWSKI**  
DIRECTOR OF PARKS &  
PUBLIC PROPERTY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

DECEMBER 3, 2020

**NO TAX HIKE FOR MONESSEN IN PROPOSED BUDGET**

MONESSEN – The City of Monessen introduced its budget for 2021. The \$4.3 million budget includes no tax hike on city property taxes, and is balanced for the first time in years. Typically, at the beginning of each year, the City acquired a Tax Anticipation Note of \$500,000. The City was not able to obtain a Tax Anticipation Note in 2020, due in part to an incorrectly prepared budget and financial and administrative instability. Monessen Mayor Matt Shorraw says that in 2021, he does not believe the City will be able to get a Tan Anticipation Note, but he also does not believe the City will need it, if the administration sticks to the proposed budget.

The Mayor says the balanced budget and improved financial standing is due in part to his administration’s commitment to implementing cost-saving measures, while not reducing services. Such measures included a reduced cost of City Solicitor fees, engineering fees, and savings in insurance costs, among other things. “This balanced budget is an example of the hard work of the City Administrator, City Clerk, and other members of the administrative team, who have done an excellent job at getting costs down, while still working to improve city services.”, Mayor Shorraw said. The Mayor added that he and his team will continue to seek and acquire grant funding for various projects throughout the city in the coming year – especially infrastructure projects and economic development initiatives. The proposed budget will be adopted at a public meeting later this month.

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