

WORK SESSION AGENDA

September 8, 2020

7:00PM

1. Call to order
2. Roll call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. Open the floor for public comment on agenda items only
5. Items for discussion
 - A. A proclamation, on the occasion, of the 100th Anniversary of the Passage of the 19th Amendment
 - B. A proclamation, on the occasion, of the 122nd Anniversary of the Founding of the City of Monessen
 - C. A statement of goals in compliance with the National Program for Minority and Women Business Enterprises, Executive Order 11625, City of Monessen, PA
 - D. City of Monessen Employees: In order for the City to fully comply with the Pennsylvania Department of Health orders and Centers for Disease Control guidance, the City implements this protocol. For purposes of this protocol, "probable" is defined as being symptomatic for COVID-19; "confirmed" is defined as a positive test result for COVID-19; and "close contact" is defined as being within 6 feet of a probable or confirmed case of COVID-19 for about 10 minutes.
 - E. Fair Housing Resolution 12-2020 Let it be known to all persons of the City of Monessen that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing, or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, sex, national origin, religion,

familial status (families with children), or handicap (disability) is prohibited by Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (Federal Fair Housing Act) and the Pennsylvania Human Rights Act.

- F. Writ of Execution Approval Requested by Portnoff Law Associates.
Portnoff is asking whether Council would want the City to be able to pursue legal proceedings to force the sale of someone's property who has a substantial unpaid balance. This may incentivize some residents to pay their garbage bills.
- G. City credit card fees, year to date, are \$19,862.69. Our current vendor MuniLink offers MuniPay for Municipalities. The Treasury Department researched our options to reduce or eliminate the fees the City is paying. The City would pay a one-time charge of \$185.00 for a card reader.
All other credit card fees, as listed, are charged to the credit card holder.
2.50% or \$1.50 minimum for credit cards
\$1.50 flat for E-checks
MuniPay will give us a daily report, by customer, of all activities to the City's Account. This will save the City costs, as well as, man hours on the phone, which relates to savings for the City.
- H. Mid-Year State of the City of Monessen
- I. City of Monessen Newsletter to be issued on a quarterly basis *\$1,800.*
- J. Resolution 11-2020 City of Monessen Hiring and Appointment Procedures
- K. Final reading of Ordinance 8-2020 an ordinance of the City of Monessen to include boring or disturbance beneath any street or public alleyway; repealing inconsistent ordinances; and providing for an effective date.
- L. Final reading of Ordinance No. 10-2020 an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending certain sections of the City Code by requiring all purchases of any building, property or structure within the City of Monessen known to have one or more City Code violation(s) to bring that building, property, structure, or code into compliance with the City Code within 12 months of the date of purchase in accordance with PA ACT NO. 2016-133; requiring the purchaser of real property to make reasonable attempts to abate nuisance ordinance violations relating to maintenance, health, quality of life, or safety

within twelve (12) months of the date of purchase; authorizing the issuance of temporary access certificates, temporary use and occupancy certificates in accordance with PA ACT No. 2016-133; authorizing the imposition of penalties for failure to do so, while preserving all remedies to the recovery, prevention, abatement or restraint of code violations under other statues and ordinances, and providing for an effective date.

M. First reading of Ordinance 9-2020 an ordinance of the Council for the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing Compensation on a per-meeting basis; repealing Ordinance No. 1-2019 of the City of Monessen

N. First reading of Ordinance 11-2020 an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing requirements for the registration of vacant, abandon, and foreclosed real property within the City of Monessen; providing for regulations and enforcement; assessing fees, violations, and penalties; and establishing a blight fund.

O. First reading of Ordinance 12-2020 an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for the creation of an Environmental Advisory Board in and for the City of Monessen; establishing an authority and purpose; repealing inconsistent ordinances; and providing for an effective date.

P. Westmoreland County Real Estate Tax Office sent information concerning the proposed sale.

Tax Map No: 20-02-06-0-047

Property Address: 1017 Knox Avenue

Property Owner: Jody Hill

Amount of Bid: \$838.38

Prospective Buyers: Kareem G. Straughn and Waquan T.

Q. Westmoreland County Real Estate Tax Office sent information concerning the proposed sale.

Tax Map No: 20-02-06-0-248

Property Address: 533 6th Street

Property Owner: Clifford Martin

Amount of Bid: \$728.22

Prospective Buyer: Kareem G. Straughn

- R. Kareem G. Straughn has contacted the Redevelopment Authority to purchase the following properties.

Tax Map No: 20-02-06-0-048

Property Address: 1021 Knox Avenue (vacant lot)

Property Owner: City of Monessen

Amount of Bid: \$500. (quote by Redevelopment Authority)

Prospective Buyer: Kareem G. Straughn

Tax Map No: 20-02-06-0-249

Property Address: 539 Sixth Street (vacant lot)

Property Owner: City of Monessen

Amount of Bid: \$500. (quote by Redevelopment Authority)

Prospective Buyer: Kareem G. Straughn

- S. Re-establish the full-time Code Enforcement Officer position. Our current part time officer has 22 years of experience and certifications to warrant the position. We need to be more proactive and aggressive regarding code enforcement. This is in line with the Comprehensive Plan 2030.
- T. River Launch safety:
Replacement of gangway \$8,500. Replacement of the fishing dock \$8,800.
- U. Property Loss Notice for the Hilltop Fire Department – The City filed an \$18,192.94 claim with our insurance company. The claim was turned down. The damages were not caused by weather related issues. The damages were the result of neglect. Therefore, tax dollars will need to be spent to repair and replace the damages at the Hilltop Station.
- V. Monessen Community Development Corporation (MCDC) is requesting the use of Monessen City Park for a drive thru “Trunk or Treat” on Saturday, October 31, 2020 from (2:00 to 4:00pm.) COVID-19 guidelines as put forward, by the PA Dept. of Health, will be followed