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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 22, 2021**

**Monessen Approves New Police Contract**

MONESSEN – The City of Monessen voted to approve its new contract between the City of Monessen and Teamsters Local 205. The agreement will be retroactive from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2025.

In the agreement, most notably, the City has given a \$1.00 per hour raise to each full time officer, brought back the rank of Sergeant and moved officers to a 12-hour shift schedule. Additionally, the City negotiated with the officers to improve past practices on post-retirement Healthcare Coverage, which has cost the City a lot of money in the long-term.

Mayor Shorraw says he is “pleased with the contract, and glad that everyone has come together to meet in the middle. With this contract we are able to fix our long-term issues with the health insurance, while still providing officers with quality coverage at a lesser cost, and putting more money directly into the hands of our officers.

Additionally, the City hired two new full time officers, and one part time officer, bringing its ranks to ten officers, one DEA officer, Chief Smith, and three part-time officers. Since the start of Chief Smith’s tenure, the City has adopted a community-policing model, and created a Police Accountability Board, in an effort to improve community relations.

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