

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 14, 2021

7:00 PM

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Pledge of Allegiance
4. McClure & Wolf audit presentation for 2019 (absent)
5. Approval of Minutes from the August 10, 2021, meeting. motion Mayor Shorraw seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0
6. Approval of Minutes from the August 27, 2021, meeting. Motion Mayor Shorraw seconded Councilman Coles 5-0
7. Open the floor for comments on agenda items only (3 minutes) Mark Galper
8. Correspondence:
 - A. Reminder for all residents, you must place your trash cans out the night before their scheduled pick-up day.
 - B. A second reminder for all residents, Monessen is an ACT 101 community and recycling is required under this ACT.
 - C. Monessen Planning Commission minutes have been received for the July 15, 2021, meeting.
 - D. Recreation Board minutes have been received for the July 26, 2021, meeting.
 - E. Westmoreland Cleanways Recycling Center has announced they will hold a Household Hazardous Waste Collection on Saturday, October 23, 2021, from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. (letter will be posted on the window)
 - F. City Hall operations will move across the plaza on Friday, September 17. Office will be closed to accomplish the move.

9. Old Business:

10. City Treasurer: Gerald Saksun

- A. Treasurer's Report for the month ending August 2021. Motion by Mayor Shorraw seconded by Councilman Coles. 5 - 0

11. City Controller's: Rosalie Nicksich

- A. Controller's Report for the month ending August 2021

12. New Business:

Mayor Matthew Shorraw: Public Affairs

- A. Motion to rescind and vacate the improper appointment of Donald Byron to the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority, in accordance with Resolution 25 of 2021. Seconded by Councilman Gregor 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.
- B. Motion to rescind and vacate the improper appointment of Louis Mavrakis the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority, in accordance with Resolution 25 of 2021. Motion seconded by Councilman Coles 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.
- C. Motion to appoint Ted Harhai, a resident of the City of Monessen, to the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority for a term to expire December 26, 2024, pursuant to the Urban Redevelopment Law, 35 P.S. 1705 and in accordance with Resolution 25 of 2021. Seconded by Councilman Gregor 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.
- D. Motion to appoint Mark Galper, a resident of the City of Monessen, to the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority for a term to expire December 27, 2023, pursuant to the Urban Redevelopment Law 35 P.S. 1705 and in accordance with Resolution 25 of 2021. . Motion seconded by Councilman Coles 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.
- E. In accordance with the foregoing motions, Motion to adopt and approve Resolution 25 of 2021, a Resolution of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, rescinding certain unauthorized and improper City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority Board Appointments and Properly Appointing Two Members to the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority Board pursuant to the Urban

Redevelopment Law. . Motion seconded by Councilman Coles 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.

- F. Motion to authorize the Mayor and Council to send a letter to the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority, notifying the Board of Resolution 25 of 2021. Seconded by Councilman Gregor 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.
- G. Motion to authorize special counsel, Gaitens, Tucceri & Nicholas, P.C., to enforce, if necessary, Resolution 25 of 2021 by filing an action in the Court of Common Pleas of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. Seconded by Councilman Gregor 3 – 2 No Councilman Orzechowski and Councilwoman Thomas.
- H. Motion to approve Resolution 24 of 2021, a resolution of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving the program modifications to the FY 2019 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program. Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0
- I. Motion to approve Resolution 26 of 2021 a resolution of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving a budget revision to the FY 2020 CDBG-CV Program. Seconded by Councilman Gregor 5 - 0
- J. Motion to approve Ordinance 1245 (final reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Chapter 175 of the codified ordinances of the City of Monessen, as related to curfew; and providing for an effective date. . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0
- K. Motion to approve Ordinance 1246 (final reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, ratifying the establishment of a police accountability and internal affairs board by and for the City of Monessen; ratifying the appointment of its members; establishing a police accountability and internal affairs policy; establishing a process for internal affairs investigation; establishing an accountability review process; establishing a formal complaint procedures;

establishing an investigation procedure; and providing for an effective date. . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

- L. Motion to approve Ordinance 1247 (final reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to adopt a Municipal Stormwater Management Plan by and for the City of Monessen. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0
- M. Motion to approve Ordinance 1248 (final reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, directing the City Treasurer to no longer accept partial payments for property taxes, garbage fees, and any other miscellaneous payments owed to the City, due to requirements under Pennsylvania local Tax Collection Law being unmet, and due to recommendations from the City Auditors; and providing for an effective date. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0
- N. Motion to approve Ordinance 1249 (first reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, defining public nuisances for structures and properties; providing for the reporting and investigation of public nuisances; providing for summary abatement and abatement by prior notice of public nuisance; providing for statements of cost, administrative fees, and civil penalties for abatement of public abatement nuisances; enabling liens and establishing owner personal liability; providing procedures for notice and appeal of public nuisance actions and statements of cost; repealing all inconsistent ordinances; and providing for an effective date. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0
- O. Motion to approve Ordinance 1250 (first reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the provisions of the neighborhood blight reclamation and revitalization ACT90; providing for permit denial and asset attachment; and providing for an effective date. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0
- P. Motion to approve Ordinance 1251 (first reading) an ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. amending Chapter 172 of the codified ordinances of the City of Monessen, pertaining to the Uniform Construction Code; establishing a Building Code

and Property Maintenance Board of Appeals; establishing procedures for accepting, processing, and deliberating on such appeals; and providing for an effective date. Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

- Q. Motion to rescind an approval given at the August 10, 2021, council meeting for a Quitclaim Deed by and between the City of Monessen and the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority.

Tax Map Nos, 20-02-08-0-382 and 20-02-08-0-384
(Lots on Moffat Street & Elizabeth Avenue) The city needs to control the properties for the USDA Stormwater Project. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0

- R. Motion to approve a request for a handicap parking space in front of 17 Linden Avenue. Police has approved. . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

- S. Motion to make K2 Engineering the City's Zoning Officer on a temporary basis, until a full-time code enforcement officer is found. . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

- T. Motion to accept the resignation of Jean Aiello from the Environmental Advisory Board. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0

- U. Motion to accept the resignation of Jean Aiello from the Shade Tree Commission. . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

- V. Motion for approval to advertise the two vacant positions on the Shade Tree Commission and the Environmental Advisory Board. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0

- W. Motion for advertise for RFPs for Animal Control Officer. The current contract expires this year. Seconded Councilman Thomas 5 - 0

- X. Motion for forgiveness of taxes \$3,006.48 to the City of Monessen.

Tax Map No: 20-02-07-0-513

Property: 422 Second Street

Copy of Deed in hand and a signed Development Agreement. . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

- Y. Motion for forgiveness of taxes \$368.85 to the City of Monessen.

Tax Map No: 20-02-07-0-521

Property: 119 Knox Avenue

Copy of Deed in hand and a signed Development Agreement. Seconded Councilman Thomas 5 - 0

Z. Motion to set the 2021 City-Wide Monessen Trick or Treat to Saturday, October 30, 2021, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0

AA. Motion to approve a request to use the City Park Walking Track on Saturday, October 30, 2021, from 4:00 to 6:00 pm. for Trunk or Treat. In case of inclement weather, the event will be held at the upper parking lot of City Park. Sponsors: Monessen Amphitheater Committee, Monessen Community Development Corporation, the Monessen Recreation Board. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0

BB. Motion to accept the request of Alec "Ricky" Dick to hold the City's Annual Halloween Parade on Thursday, October 21, 2021, at 7:00 pm, in Downtown Monessen. Parade line up at 6:30 pm. (Eastgate – Wendell Ramey Lane) . Seconded by Councilman Coles 5 - 0

CC. Motion to approve (11) structures to be demolished with (CDBG) monies.

1220 Knox Avenue 417 Pearl Street 336 Franklin Drive

210 Reed Avenue 217-219 Reed Avenue 301 Lenawee Avenue

28 Schoonmaker Ave. 540 Chestnut Street 109 Elm Street

DD. 511 Summit Avenue 217 Parente Blvd. Seconded Councilman Gregor 5 - 0

EE. Police Report for the month ending August 2021

Councilwoman Lois Thomas: Department of Streets

- A. Streets Report for the month ending August 2021
- B. Library Board Report (liaison)
- C. Redevelopment Authority Report (liaison)

Councilman Anthony Orzechowski: Department of Parks & Public Property

- A. Parks Report for the month ending August 2021

Councilman Don Gregor: Department of Public Safety

- A. Code Enforcement Office Financial Report ending August 2021
- B. Code Enforcement Activity Report ending August 2021
- C. Mon Valley Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Report ending August 2021
- D. Fire Department Report ending August 2021
- E. Mon Valley Sewage Authority (liaison)

Councilman Gilbert Coles: Department of Accounts & Finance

- A. Motion to approve payment of invoices – General Fund \$217,957.51
Seconded Mayor Shorraw 5 - 0
- B. Motion to approve payment of invoices – Line Usage \$ 83,228.14
Seconded Mayor Shorraw 5 - 0
- C. Motion to approve payment of invoices – Liquid Fuels \$ 12,897.26
Seconded Mayor Shorraw 5 - 0
- D. Motion to approve payment of invoices – Park Fund \$ 5,717.32
Seconded Mayor Shorraw 5 - 0
- E. Motion to approve payment of invoices – Recreation \$ 1,504.35
Seconded Mayor Shorraw 5 - 0
- F. Large Dollar Account balances, for the month ending August
 - 1. Debt Service \$476,083.38
 - 2. American Rescue \$314,472.54
 - 3. Line Usage \$ 97,614.02
 - 4. Parks & Recreation \$ 95,790.50
 - 5. General Fund \$ 72,721.47
- 13. Presentation regarding the situation on South 14th Street and Reservoir Avenue. Mr. Mozer spoke for 14th Street Group.
- 14. Open the floor for public comment on any item (3 minutes)
- 15. Adjournment: 10:02.