

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA
CITY OF MONESSEN
CITY OF MONESSEN COUNCIL CHAMBERS
MARCH 24, 2022
6:30PM

1. ROLL CALL OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT

Present: Mayor Mozer

Councilman Orzechowski; Nestor; Gregor; Councilwoman Thomas

Solicitor Joseph Dalfonso

City Treasurer Gerry Saksun

City Controller Rosalie Nicksick

City Administrator Mike Korposh

Police Chief Dave Yuhasz

2. OPENING PRAYER OFFERED BY Reverend Bass

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSION, MARCH 10, 2022.

Motion to approve: Councilman Nestor

Seconded by: Councilman Gregor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

5. OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY.

Resident Ernie Telegraphis presented questions in relation to the contract bid for the demolition of 500 Donner Avenue. He asked who the contractor would be, if they were the low bid, if there would be additional charges if situations arose, if a purchase

order would be produced were some of the questions presented.

Mayor Mozer answered all of his questions in great detail.

Solicitor Dalfonso also responded in relation to specifics of the contract (add on fees in particular).

6. CORRESPONDENCE

A special resolution offered by Councilperson Lois Thomas, proclaiming April 3rd to April 9th, 2022, as National Library Week in the City of Monessen, and encouraging all residents to visit our libraries, and explore all they offer to help move both the City of Monessen, and all of Pennsylvania and the United States forward, and moves for its immediate adoption and passage and to be placed into the official record of this session.

OLD BUSINESS N/A

7. REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN

Solicitors Report for the City of Monessen ending March 24, 2022.

The solicitors report contained an update on the sewage project; the Penn Vest loan; an issue with the CDBG demolition project for 12 homes 6 of them were owned by private individuals. It turned out that the proper parties were not notified of the demolitions so that had to be rectified. Title searches were conducted. Also reported was a meeting between the mayor, the solicitor and an individual from the urban design ventures regarding the city new zoning ordinance.

8. REPORT OF THE CITY TREASURER

Treasurer's Report for the month ending March 24, 2022.

The Treasurer stated that the monthly treasury report for February 2022 was given at the March 10th, 2022 meeting, therefore there was no report to give for this meeting.

9. REPORT OF THE CITY CONTROLLER

Controller's Report for the month ending March 24, 2022.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Ron Mozer, Director of Public Affairs

Based upon the approval of a motion of the Monessen Council session of March 10, authorizing the hire of three new officers and their passage of all relevant Civil Service examinations required for the position.

a. Motion to appoint and approve Austin Hritz, Jacob Hensell, and Walker Bakewell as the newest members of the City of Monessen Police Force.

District Justice Wayne Vlastic will perform the swearing in ceremony along with Monessen Police Chief Dave Yuhasz.

Motion to approve made by: Councilwoman Thomas

Second: Councilman Gregor

Unanimous Yes

b. Mayor Mozer Discussion of recent activities of the Department of Agriculture/LGUDA Penn Vest Water and Sewer Issues and

recent Bid openings, and upcoming events and activities relative to the Monessen Sewer Revitalization Project.

Bids were opened: \$2.8 million high bid, another bid of \$2.4 million, and another bid of \$1.4 million. It looks promising being this is the worst of the worst that needs done. After April 28th that part of the project will get going. The contract will be with Reynolds Brothers.

c. Mayor Mozer Discussion of continuing Economic Development Activities in the City with visits by officials of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development, Coordinated Meetings of the Monessen Redevelopment Authority, the Monessen Planning Commission, and the Blight Property Review Board this week, in addition meetings with consultants, advisors, and potential project participants on moving ahead with plans for development in the City of Monessen.

There was a meeting with DCED (a large group was present). They were very receptive and saw that all groups were working together within the city. The DCED group see nothing but good things that they will make some opportunities available to the city. Mayor Moser mentioned the lengths that he went to to make certain everything was done correctly in relation to the demolition of 500 Donner Ave (including the pigeon problem). Also mentioned was to put together a plan as to what to do with the land once the building is demolished.

d. Motion to authorize the award of the contract bid for the demolition and removal of the structure located at 500 Donner Avenue in the City of Monessen in the amount of \$114,950.00, and the coordination and finalization of all appropriate and

necessary procedures and legal processes to finalize the transaction.

Motion to approve made by: Councilman Nestor

Second: Councilman Gregor

Unanimous Yes

e. Motion to print 20 copies in color with clear cover and GBC binding of the final version of the adopted ten-year “Comprehensive Plan 2020-2030” for distribution to the public as a guiding document.

Motion to approve made by: Councilwoman Thomas

Second: Councilman Nestor

Unanimous Yes

No Questions

Comment made to have one copy available at the library.

f. Motion to advertise for the following positions:

1 position from the general public for the Blighted Property Review Board. (4-year term)

This position is filled

1 position for the Human Relations Commissions

1 position for the Monessen Planning Commissions (4-year term)

1 position for the Zoning and Hearing Board (3-year term)

Motion to approve made by Mayor Moser

Second: Councilman Nestor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

g. Motion to transfer 20-02-11-0-250 known as 18 Elm Street to the Redevelopment Authority for the purpose of selling to Alexis Horrell. She desires this property to facilitate an add on to her home.

Motion to approve made by Councilwoman Thomas

Second: Councilman Gregor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

h. Motion to approve a Notice to Proceed by the City of Monessen to Reynold's Brothers, Inc. pending settlement of the Penn Vest loan.

Motion to approve made by Councilwoman Thomas

Second: Councilman Gregor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

Councilman Anthony Orzechowski, Director of Accounts and Finance

a. Motion by Councilman Orzechowski to return \$30,000.00 into the line usage fund account.

Motion to approve made by Councilman Orzechowski

Second: Councilwoman Thomas

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

b. Motion by Councilman Orzechowski to pay for the recording of Deeds and Easements as part of the PennVest project application process in the amount of \$258.52 out of the line usage fund.

Motion to approve made by Councilman Orzechowski

Second: Councilman Gregor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

c. Motion to pay bills from the General Fund Account of the City of Monessen in the amount of \$172,386.08. All individual bills and totals to be paid for the general fund accounts are attached to the meeting agenda and information packets of the Mayor and Council members as Attachment "A"

Motion to approve made by Councilman Orzechowski

Second: Councilman Nestor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

d. Motion to pay bills from the Liquid Fuels Account of the City of Monessen in the amount of \$17,792.50. All individual bills and

totals to be paid from the Liquid Fuels Accounts are attached to the meeting agenda and information packets of the Mayor and Council members as Attachment "B".

Motion to approve made by Councilman Orzechowski

Second: Councilwoman Thomas

Question from Councilman Gregor about replacement back of funds to the general fund.

Unanimous Yes

e. Motion to pay bills from the Recreation Board Account of the City of Monessen in the amount of \$79.99. All individual bills and totals to be paid from the Recreation Board Accounts are attached to the meeting agenda and information packets of the Mayor and Council members as Attachment "C".

Motion to approve made by Councilman Orzechowski

Second: Councilman Nestor

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

f. Motion to pay bills from the Parks Account of the City of Monessen in the amount of \$572.50. All individual bills and totals to be paid for the individual accounts are attached to the meeting agenda and informational packets of the Mayor and Council members as Attachment "D"

Motion to approve made by Councilman Orzechowski

Second: Councilwoman Thomas

No Questions

Unanimous Yes

Councilman Lois Thomas Director of Streets and Public Improvements

Streets and Public Improvement Report for month ending March 24, 2022

Councilwoman Thomas reported that the library budget is available on their website and that the library will resume in-house adult programming in May. She also reported that garbage throughout the city is being picked up twice a week.

Councilman John Nestor, Director of Public Safety

Police and Public Safety Report for month ending March 24, 2022

Councilman Nestor gave a report on monies collected in relation to licenses issued, permits issued and fees collected. He also reported the list provided by the Monessen Fire Chief. The Mon Valley Emergency Medical Service report was also read.

Councilman Nestor related that he spoke with the Code office on issues that need addressed. He scheduled a meeting with the Code office and selected members to go over hurdles the city is facing.

Spoke with residents on Donner Ave about private parking West of Rt. 906.

Councilman Nestor attended the Westmoreland County Dept. of Public Safety Local Emergency Coordinators Bi-Monthly meeting.

Announced there will be an emergency preparedness presentation at the Monessen Senior Center on Wednesday May 25th at 1pm.

Councilman Donald S. Gregor, Director of Parks and Public Property

Parks and Public Property Report for the month ending March 24, 2022.

Councilman Gregor had no report to give.

Councilman Gregor stated that the city building were part of his domain and there was an issue with “the bathrooms being filthy”. Mayor Mozer mentioned that he is mopping the floors. Councilman Gregor spoke of getting a janitorial service. He said the men in the parks department said they need a new push mower.

Before opening the floor for public comment the mayor spoke of the search for the job position of Treasury Deputy Director and the fact that it pays \$14 an hour which is the same pay level as McDonalds.

The mayor spoke of having Cypher and Cypher come and present the 2019, 2020, and 2021 city audits.

11. OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM.

A city resident (Donnie Retay?) spoke of advertising the availability of the pavilions in city park.

He mentioned a Memorial Day service on May 29th that is being planned. He said his group would like to have an event on May

28th to involved local children to teach them about veterans and “why we are free”.

He was told to make a proposal and present it to council at the next meeting.

Fred Natille announced an event sponsored by the Library for the coming Sunday (noon at St. Vincent social hall). It is a lecture by Barbara Aiello on the Italians and Jews in Italy during WWII.

Ernie Telegraphis spoke of the negative projection from a city individual that appeared on a local newscast. Mayor Mozer responded that he has only been transparent.

A woman introduced herself as a new city resident. She recently purchased property in Monessen and wanted to introduce herself.

Chief of Police Yuhasz about what was discussed in the previous council meeting about the sale of the police guns. It was an oversight by council and will be addressed at the next council meeting.

12.ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn made by Councilman Gregor

Second: Councilman Nestor

Unanimous Yes