COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF MONESSEN

CITY OF MONESSEN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

FEBRUARY 9, 2023

6:30PM

Meeting called to order by Ron Mozer at 6:30 pm

1. ROLL CALL OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Roll call by Michael Korposh – Lois Thomas present – John Nestor present – Donald Gregor present – Anthony Orzechowski present – Ron Mozer present

2. OPENING PRAYER OFFERED BY BISHOP WILLIAM C. BASS, PASTOR OF GATE OF HEAVEN CHURCH OF GOD IN CHRIST, MONESSEN PENNSYLVANIA. Opening prayer by Bishop William Bass

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Lead by Ron Mozer

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSION OF JANUARY 26, 2023. Motion to approve previous session minutes by John Nestor – seconded by Lois Thomas – vote 5 - 0

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

Ernie Telegraphis – amazing to see all the motions to pay and transfer money from funds – I see nothing coming in from private sector – Tony you mad a big issue about 16 checking accounts but you are still moving money around – no records for 2018 – big fraud (Donald Gregor – what is your real issue – we have to keeps funds separate) item d on page 2 – what are we repealing (Joseph Dalfonso

– this city ordinance was a duplicate – we are to issue a temporary use permit in order for the owner to into the property to make necessary repairs – there is no need for this ordinance) how about e – rules and regulations (Ronald Mozer – city council through the council meeting is a method of providing the public to see what we do with their money – personal attack is not appropriate – on Thursday we are having a town hall meeting to talk about anything you want to talk about – present if professionally) (Joseph Dalfonso – limits public comments at council meeting to 3 minutes) meeting no longer on you-tube (Ronald Mozer – yes you can google it on you-tube or it is on our city website)

6. CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS N/A

7. **REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.** Joseph Dalfonso – resolution – repayment of line usage – first meeting the auditors said we owe back $448,938 – code says we can borrow money but we must pay it back – we are going to pay back quarterly $2,030.76 at 1 ¼%, suggested by auditors, for 40 years – same term as the USDA loan – won't take 40 years – we will credit line usage fund for the time we are working on the sewage – last meeting we applied costs for working on the sewage and now the amount due is $301,595.15 (Ronald Mozer – the City Clerk is going to reconcile quarterly – sweep streets, drain cleaning – we will be able to credit the account for the costs of that – we do not expect to ever hit the budget – we expect to pay back by using the fund as designed – loan will be paid back much sooner) Repeal 10 -2022 – my office received quiet titles – part of the process – demo or rehab property – project continues to move forward – last was 15 properties

8. **REPORT OF THE CITY TREASURER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.**
Will be given at the next meeting

9. **REPORT OF THE CITY CONTROLLER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.**
Will be given at the next meeting

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Ron Mozer, Director of Public Affairs

a. Motion to submit Reynold's Brothers Payment Application No. 5 Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase 4 (MON-2021-02) and to PennVest in the amount of $30, 840.69. Motion to table this motion by Ronald Mozer – seconded by John Nestor – motion a and c together equal b. – vote 5 – 0

b. Motion to submit Payment Request No. 13 Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase 4 (MON-2021-02) to PennVest in the amount of $68,990.75. Motion by Ronald Mozer – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

c. Motion to submit Payment Request #11 for Engineering Design and Construction Management and Observation in the amount of $37,938.76 to PennVest for Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase 4. Motion to table this motion by Ronald Mozer – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

d. Motion of first reading of Repeal Ordinance of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, repealing Ordinance No. 10-2020 Chapter 171 of the City Code of Ordinances which established the City of Monessen Municipal Code and Municipal Code and Ordinance Compliance Act and to advertise. Motion by Ronald Mozer –

seconded by Donald Gregor – vote 5 – 0

e. Discussion and Motion to discuss a Resolution of the Council of the City of Monessen, Westmoreland County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania establishing rules and regulations for Public Participation at all Advertised regular and special meetings of the Council of the City of Monessen. Ronald Mozer – want to make this a discussion instead of a motion at this time – we are going to limit the time to 3 minutes – I have a timer (Donald Gregor – have three or more items – speak all together 3 minutes or 3 minutes per item) we can extend this to as long as we need to – we make an agenda – we need to establish guidelines – no personal attacks – keep their thoughts to something city council has control over – we have the ability to change – want to hold at a higher standard (Linda Lacey – if I have something to say – I'm going to take more if I need to - we can say what we want to say) (Lois Thomas – trying to put a limit to what they want to say) if you have a valid point – we give you that ability (Pino Cianflone – signs 9th street park – no POW sing) (Lois Thomas – Muriel is not finished – what needs to be added – anyone have anything else – we are trying to do it right)

f. Motion to establish A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND MANDATING THE REPAYMENT OF FUNDS FROM THE CITY'S LINE USAGE FUND. Motion by Ronald Mozer – seconded by Donald Gregor (Anthony Orzechowski – how will this be tracked) (Ronald Mozer – QuickBooks will keep track and the City Clerk is also keeping track) (Joseph Dalfonso – it will be reconciled each quarter – you can adjust table if needed)(Anthony

Orzechowski – there is no money in the budget to accommodate the payment) (Pino Cianflone – if we miss a payment, can we catch up later) (Anthony Orzechowski – I will pay payroll before this payment – there could be a missed payment – I don't want people coming back and saying I did not pay it – it could get ahead – it could get behind) – vote 5 – 0

g. Mayor's Status Report for 2022 – Ronald Mozer – civic center – basketball season – 380 people on January 21st – 250 on January 22nd – 300 on January 28th – 280 on January 29th – 300 on February 3rd and 296 on February 4th – just wanted to point out that the civic center is getting a lot of use

Councilman Anthony Orzechowski, Director of Accounts and Finance

a. Motion to pay the following invoices from the General Fund in the amount of $67,629.51. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as Attachment "A". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

b. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Recreational Account in the amount of $832.59. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as Attachment "B." Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

c. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Parks Fund in the amount of $20,897.86. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "C". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

d. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Grant Fund in

the amount of $2,703.72. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "D". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

e. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Line Usage Fund in the amount of $8,792.31. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment E". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0

f. Motion to authorize payment for retiree health insurance from the General Account in the amount of $8,468.72 for January 2023. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

g. Motion to approve the transfer of $69,092.76 from the General Fund to the Payroll Account to cover the payroll expenses for February 2nd, 2023. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0

h. Motion to approve the transfer of $5,000 from the General Account to the Health Care Account. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

Account Balances

General $497,496.34 – payroll $11,608.06 – healthcare $7,885.19 – park $9,718.14 – recreation $3,260.45 – line usage $619,884.66 – grant $94,691.75 – fire escrow $49,367.48 – debt service $503,926.08 – American rescue $271,195.55 – refuse

$3022,416.72 - Liquid fuels $275.07

Councilman Lois Thomas Director of Streets and Public Improvements

Streets and Public Improvement Report for month ending January 31st, 2023. Lois Thomas – defer to next meeting

Councilman John Nestor, Director of Public Safety

Police and Public Safety Report for month ending January 31st, 2023. John Nestor – defer to next meeting

Resolution to change the Annual Tenant License and Fees required for all properties, excluding personal residences. The fees for each unit are as follows:

1. $25.00 per unit, if the Owner resides in the City of Monessen or maintains their principal place of business within the City limits.

2. $50.00 per unit if the Owner resides outside of the City of Monessen or surrounding area and has a designated property manager who resides in the City limits.

3. $100.00 per unit if the Owner does not reside in the City and does not have a designated property manager.

4. $65.00 Vacant Building Registration. Motion by John Nestor – seconded by Lois Thomas – (Donald Gregor – what are the current fees) #3 was $250 – vote 5 – 0

EMS – Ronald Mozer – Donald Gregor and myself met with Mon Valley EMS – we asked for specific information – I can back from vacation – no response – Charleroi wen to Rostraver EMS – they did not realize they had so many problems with Mon Valley EMS until they switched – same with Donora – I know Mon Valley EMS

lost Allegheny Health – now doing 50% of calls – we need to evaluate EMS carriers – I talked with them all – only 2 are willing to come to Monessen, Rostraver & Washington, - makes sense Rostraver is close and we are in the middle of the area they handle – Washington has equipment in Bentleyville and most in Washington – they talked stiffens to help them stay in business – get a call, cost them $750 to leave garage by the time insurance deducts and they get their money it may be $200 – they sell subscriptions to help – I think we need to meet with Mon Valley EMS to see if they just have a problem or it this something that can be fixed – we need reliable service – we may have to go with someone else – we already have a resolution prepared to call an emergency meeting if something happens (Donald Gregor – I recommend John Nestor set up a meeting with their board of directors, I will reach out to them – come back to council with information – situation has changed)

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

Parks and Public Property Report for the month ending January 31st, 2023. Donald Gregor – defer to next meeting

Repairing gas lines – what are they going to do – is this a temporary fix until better weather (Lois Thomas – they are coming back to finish when it gets warmer)

11. OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM.

Ed Lafever – I acquired the Comprehensive Plan from the City – it is 2 years old – resolution was in 2021 – meeting was in 2019 – what are your thoughts – does this need revised – what happened

to the meetings and the focus group (Ronald Mozer – in the

comprehensive plan – very important plan – show what we want the city to look like - we have completed somethings – we have new zoning – we made some ordinance changes – some details are outdated – this is a living document - we need to modify as we go) I know you have begun demolition – will you update or another study (Ronald Mozer – we have not been meeting because it is not necessary - DCD stamp program – keep this like this up to-date – HUD coming into city – not a dead document – good information – needs to grow with the city – rewrite today it would be out of date tomorrow) recently received the city budget – I got 2 budgets produced by 2 city officials – some of the figures vary substantially – have you decided to accept one budget (Ronald Mozer – yes we voted on one budget – one is work in art – one is a final budget) looking for line usage fund – one budget liquid fuels $90,000 – other zero – mistake in both (Ronald Mozer – a best guess – we should follow as we can – we don't know what will happen through out the year) where does it say General Fund – what would I look for (Ronald Mozer – happy to go through the budget with you – general fund is money not targeted – we must publish and report to DCED by end of March) budget you can't – I have to stick to my budget – I know the money – if I run short – I have to borrow money – my budget balances every month – the city needs a budget but not in stone (Ronald Mozer – in stone as much as you can follow it)

Pino Cianflone – we are in bad shape in Westmoreland County – the sign by the police station says Fayette County (Ronald Mozer – the movie company did that)(John Nestor – possible coming back to film again) no one from Monessen was at the Refuse meeting in Belle Vernon (Michael Korposh – I was on the phone – I could not be here) (John Nestor – I had a death in the family and could not be here –

we have a young group meeting at city hall and could not be left alone)

I just want everyone to know no one from Monessen was there so when things come up don't complain

Reverend Bass – discuss rules and regulations – employed in DC one of the things they had time limits – you could not just go on and on – including chairman – state government – chair general assembly in my church – you can not keep running back and give comments back – if you had a hot topic and a lot of people here you have to have a time limit – don't look at the broad issue – we all have to compromise – discuss – come up with some control – he gets up every meeting and then leaves – my opinion is go back and come up with something – people will just go on and on – limit comments to issues in hand – not 30 years ago – rules and stay on subject you are talking about

Pino Cianflone – we need to see the agenda(Joseph Dalfonso – it is on the website, on the door or you can come in a get an agenda inside) only 8 people here today – I say everyone talk for hours at the next building – they were on the other side – no memory of what you did – resign

12. ADJOURNMENT - Motion to adjourn by John Nestor at 7:45 pm – vote 5 – 0

City of Monessen meeting 2-9-2023