COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

CITY OF MONESSEN

CITY OF MONESSEN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

MARCH 23, 2023

6:30PM

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

Please Note: An Executive Session of the Mayor and the Council of the City of Monessen was held on Wednesday March 16th, 2023, at 6:00 pm in the City Hall of the City of Monessen at 575 Donner Avenue, Monessen, Pennsylvania 15062 to discuss personnel matters and issues.

1. ROLL CALL OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Roll Call by Michael Korposh - Lois Thomas present – Anthony Orzechowski present – John Nestor present – Ron Mozer present – Donald Gregor joined a little late

2. OPENING PRAYER OFFERED BY COUNCILPERSON LOIS THOMAS, CITY OF MONESSEN. Opening prayer by Lois Thomas

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Led by Ron Mozer

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSION OF MARCH 9TH, 2023. Motion to approved 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 – it was kind to give the library extra funds – go 1 step further – pay the insurance on the building – you should get a discount because of all the building the city has – may be better

Pino Cianflone – when you vote on the minutes – what are you voting on – do you approve minutes off the tape or the written minutes – I pay taxes – I am not complaining – I am asking a questions – written minutes are not legal – I can find lawyers that will agree – do you all pay taxes in Monessen (All council & mayor – yes) (Ron Mozer to Joseph Dalfonso – are you going to answer that) (Joseph Dalfonso – that has already been answered)

6. CORRESPONDENCE

OLD BUSINESS N/A

7. **REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.** Joseph Dalfonso – EQ Tank progression – subdivision – I have a meeting with the may and their engineers and their solicitor – they will have an addendum – everything will be brought to council's attention and at our council meeting – Marvin Davis has 20 properties to send to the county – 10 have been notified by the code office – the county is securing the title search – with have information for the second meeting of April or the first meeting of May

8. **REPORT OF THE CITY TREASURER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.**

Absent for the meeting – report was given at last meeting

9. **REPORT OF THE CITY CONTROLLER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN.**

General Funds CFS Bank Checking Account as of February 28, 2023 – beginning bank balance as of January 31, 2023 $555,307.21 – deposits $197,275.83 – expenses $362,543.91 – ending balance as of February 28, 2023 was $390,039.07 – outstanding checks $53,592.28 – outstanding deposits $15,680.31 – reconcile balance to bank statement $352,127.10

10. **NEW BUSINESS**

Mayor Ron Mozer, Director of Public Affairs

Presentation by Adrian Achinko of Patch Management, Inc. to discuss effective techniques and technologies to assist municipalities with spray injection pothole services and repairs. Adrian Achinko – typically a one man and one vehicle operation – work on potholes – fill any pothole not matter if asphalt or concrete – clean are – add a tack coat – fill stone – taper out – we utilize a roller – hardens in 5 to 10 minutes – we use small rectangular stones – cold patch is a temporary fix – w address cracking and the pothole – we work with NJ DOT, PennDot, state highways, turnpike, Harrisburg, Erie – we have a material cost/hour – we have not discussed pricing yet – we are co-star listing – in business for 28 years – will discuss pricing with council (Ron Mozer – we seem to patch same hole over and over again – snowplow knock out the patch) on an average our patch will hold for 2 to 5 years – tapered – square patching off – light grey – we give a 90 day warranty (Donald Gregor – speed bumps – concrete road) 2 man operation – remove cold patch – grind off – jack hammer – we will add a roller – repair concrete also – one smoother surface (Donald Gregor – manholes) place cardboard over the manhole – we have different ways to handle – spray around it – we will not cover the manhole (Ron Mozer – storm drains) – storm drains the same – typically 6 tons – 6 hour workday – can use street sweeper after 3 days to cure – we have full capability (Donald Gregor – Google Process)

Presentation by Dave Zilka, Director of the Monessen Public Library to discuss all relevant Library issues, financial concerns and long term Objectives and Goals. Main point is to request funding - $12,000 from the American Rescue fund to hire a children's coordinator – this is our main connection to the city's

youth - $13.50/hour for 20 hours/week – biggest event in summer reading club – last year we had 80 kids – it takes someone to put in long hours and a lot of work – we need to start preparing – we provide 100 programs/year for children ages 1 through 16 – work with Outreach, Communities, SPHS family center (Ron Mozer – the challenge is to find the right person for the job) the Board's goal is to figure out how to pay for this position next year – this is a one time asking for help (Anthony Orzechowski – on your budgets – any left over money from year to year – see such a fluctuation – Marsha in budget last year but not this year – we gave everyone a raise in July – they had not had a raise in 12 years (John Nestor – when were you closed for covid) around March 13th – reopened June 14th or 15th – 3 months closed – paid employees to first two weeks – they extended 2 more weeks and we paid them again – when they changed to 2 months – we stopped paying them (Anthony Orzechowski – budget so tight – where are you going to get the extra money) can't predict anything – we already have bare bones employees – more fund raising (Lois Thomas – we can help by supporting the Friends of the Library events) (John Nestor – the new coordinator – will they work with the elementary school since they have no library) our main connection is with the elementary school – school not always receptive to everything – send out a newsletter every month (Lois Thomas – field trip to the library) no school funding – once Hilltop bus donated a bus and we had kindergarten to grade 5.

a. Proclamation by Mayor Mozer to honor and recognize former City of Monessen Councilman Joseph Cieply who served the City during the 1970's during the Administrations of former Mayor James Sepesky. Ready by Ron Mozer – Whereas, Joseph Cieply

was appointed to Monessen City Council in 1971 serving in the administration headed by Mayor Thomas Dalfonso and; Whereas, Joseph Cieply was elected into office three times ending service in the administration headed by Mayor James Sepesky and; Whereas, Joseph Cieply promoted the river front park now known as the Herman Mihalich Boat Launch and; Whereas, Joseph Cieply worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for those living in Monessen, an; Whereas, Joseph Cieply as a veteran of World Ward II, served on the Westmoreland County Drug and Alcohol Planning Advisory Council, Western Pennsylvania Police Chiefs Association, Westmoreland County Law Enforcement Officers Association, Veterans of Foreign Wars, American Legion, and various social and fraternal organizations, and; Now therefore, I, do recognize Joseph Cieply for his service to the City of Monessen. In witness whereof, I do hereby set my hand and cause the seal of my office to be affixed, this 23rd day of March in the year of 2023. Ron Mozer; Mayor, City of Monessen

b. Motion to hire Luke Doptis, of 1224 Nash Avenue, Monessen, PA 15062 as a member of the City of Monessen Street Maintenance and Improvement work crew at base salary of $21.00 per hour, and under all applicable terms of the Agreement of the City of Monessen and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, AFL-CIO Council 83, Local 769. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

c. Motion to adjust the salary specifics of City of Monessen, part time employee, Marlene Thorpe to a base salary of $14.00 per hour, and to provide the 10 paid Holidays provided under the Agreement of the City of Monessen and the American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees. In

addition, based upon her 5 years of service, Ms. Thorpe will receive 5 sick days for the upcoming year of employment. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0

d. A motion to permit the coordination of the utilization of the 9th Street Park in the City of Monessen, by the Monessen Communities that Care Youth Group and Seton Hill College on April 10th, 2023, for a Cleanup and Beautification Day with students at the park. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

e. Motion to approve the City of Monessen Police Department's request to utilize recently acquired grant funds from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to purchase a Base Software License and Activation and Subscription Deployment package for utilization in a comprehensive update for the police departments reporting system capabilities and requirements. This Co Star participant package will cost $59,901.00 out of the grant allocation approved for the City of Monessen Police Department for the 2023 calendar year to procure, initiate and begin utilization of the product for 19 licenses within the force. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

f. Motion to approve the creation of a Tax Anticipation Note account within the City of Monessen financial structure and begin the specifics and logistics of the appropriate payments into the account for repayment of the TAN Note in a timely manner. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

g. Motion to approve the demolition of structures and properties in the City of Monessen at the following locations,

525 Rostraver Street, Parcel ID: 20-02-07-0-285, 519-521 Rostraver Street, Parcel ID: 20-02-07-0-284, 511 Rostraver Street, Parcel ID: 20-02-07-0-281, 527 Rostraver Street, Parcel ID 20-02-07-0-286. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

h. Motion to appoint Karen Cosner to an additional term on the Monessen Shade Tree Commission. Term to begin on 01/01/23 to 12/31 25. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0

i. Motion to pay $12,000 to the Library from the ARP fund to address the loss of revenue they experienced. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 - 0

j. Mayor Mozer's Update of Issues for the weeks of March 09, 2023, to March 23rd, 2023. Ron Mozer – the Civic Center would up the youth basketball season – installed a counter for the number of people in and out – 851 people on Saturday and Sunday – impressive turnout – 200 people seated at any time – we are talking with the sewage authority – coordinate with Nehemiah group

Councilman Anthony Orzechowski, Director of Accounts and Finance

a. Motion to pay the following invoices from the General Fund in the amount of $$85,364.98 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 $1,004.84. All invoices are attached to

this Agenda as Attachment "B." Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – Vote 4 – 0 (Donald Gregor had to leave for personal family reasons)

c. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Parks Fund in the amount of $330.00. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "C". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 - 0

d. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Line usage Fund in the amount of $13,540.00 All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "D". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 - 0

e. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Grant Fund in the amount of $250.00. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "E". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – (John Nestor – pages I have are not the same as the solicitor) – vote 4 - 0

f. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Refuse Fund in the amount of $48, 517.24. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "F". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 - 0

g. Motion to approve the transfer of $65,529.48 from the General Fund to the Payroll Account to cover the payroll expenses. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 - 0

h. Motion to approve a transfer from the General Account to the Healthcare account in the amount of $3,000.00. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 – 0

Account Balances – general $384,718.17 – payroll $16,218.27 – healthcare $3,080.36 – American Rescue $271,742.18 – refuse $357,699.29 – fire escrow $49,464.14 – debt service $543,318.08 – recreation $3,752.13 – line usage $690,843.11 – general in community bank $23,158.73 – grant $102.358.80

Councilman Lois Thomas Director of Streets and Public Improvements

Streets and Public Improvement Report for month ending February 28th, 2023. Lois Thomas – got downtown garbage twice a week – cold patched – answered 47 PA One Calls – put up and straightened signs – fix a sink hole on State Road and Jackson – helped the parks department drop 21 trees for Shade Tree Commission and Forestry of D.C.N.R. – fixed catch basin in 9th street park – helped the parks department as needed

Councilman John Nestor, Director of Public Safety

Police and Public Safety Report for month ending February 28th, 2023. John Nestor – police department receipts for the month of February 2023 – parking permits $80 – miscellaneous collection, copies of police accident reports $270 - court receipts from district Justine office, vehicle code fines collected $940.27 – crime code fines collected $182.67 – city ordinance collected $6.26 – total receipts from district justice office $1,058.22 – total receipts collected for February 2023 $1,479.20 – citations for March 73 – year-to-date 176

Code for report for March 2023 – habitation permits 13 – correction letters 17 – animal complaints 4 – misc complaints 23 – building permits 1 – office meeting with residents 6 – citations issued 12 – hearings 5

Fire report for March 2023 – automatic fire alarm 2 – fuel spill 2 – structure fire 2 – stove fire 1 – wires down 1 – trees down 2 – EMS assist 4 – carbon monoxide 1 – public service North Belle Vernon 1 – structure fire North Belle Vernon 1 – automatic fire alarm Charleroi 1 – structure fire Charleroi 1 – structure fire Carroll Township 1 – total calls 20 – total responding 210 – average responding per call 10.50 – total man hours 239

Car Safety Check at Mon Valley EMS on Friday April 14, 2023 – from 10am to 2pm – appointments only - call Melissa at 724-439-7135

No report from EMS this month

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

Parks and Public Property Report for the month ending February 28th, 2023. Ron Mozer read report – pick up litter – cleaned the civic center – picked up limbs in the park – cut down 21 trees for the Shade Tree Commission and Forestry of D.C.N.R. – helped the streets department as needed

Ron Mozer – survey is conducted by Heinze College and CMU – the county has asked them to help them with ideas for the acquired properties thru judicial sales – contracted theme to conduct a study – best use of land – young kids have a new way of thinking – they challenged one to determine what our ideas are for the properties – they have come up with a survey – I invite you

to fill out – tell them your ideas – another note, our website is down – I tried to get on Monday and Tuesday – can't post anything – they are working on it – I am using facebook to post the agenda

11. OPEN THE FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM. Pino Cianflone – parking lot and parking garage – can we get an estimate for what it cost to repair – without it there is no place to park – get bid to fix up (Lois Thomas – I believe our engineer already did – I will touch base with him) potholes are getting worse every day – I have no faith in the guy that talked – he does not have a cost – I'm sure blacktop is cheaper – after 90 days with him you are on your own – you know he is just a salesman

Linda Lacey – parking garage – both top and bottom – why closed the top (John Nestor – was there a bid to close) (Ron Mozer – it was closed by the engineer – supports to hold top part have deteriorated – he felt it was not safe to park cars on top)

John – 1545 Mellon Avenue – the library is celebrating 87 years – one of the top 2 oldest libraries – we are fund raising – on May 1, 1936 it was opened – the Mon Valley Independent is going to do a story on the library – we have bumper sticker that we donated – want you to donate for a bumper sticker – also tickets for the library spaghetti dinner – let's keep this precious institution open

12. ADJOURNMENT Motion by John Nestor to adjourn meeting at 7:43pm – seconded by Anthony Orzechowski – vote 4 - 0