COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF MONESSEN

CITY OF MONESSEN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL

OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN

NOVEMBER 29TH, 2023

6:30PM

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

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

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

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE. Pledge of Allegiance led by Ron Mozer.

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

Ernie Telegraphis – who could answer this for me – Farmer's Bank, I thought you were with Community Bank (Ron Mozer – this is a bond taken out by previous administration – this is the payment) can you refinance it again with Community Bank (Ron Mozer – we can but we got a good rate for this – it was done in an opportune time) it's a good rate (Ron Mozer – it's better than you get today) the interest rate is not going to change (Joseph Dalfonso – it can go up and down) (Ron Mozer – if it goes down we can refinance) (Joseph Dalfonso – it's just like refinancing a mortgage on your house) I have a question for the CFO – where do we stand – you guys are putting a budget together – where do we stand right now (Ron Mozer – that's

no on the agenda) the budget is (Anthony Orzechowski – there is right now $503,000 in the general fund – if we take payroll through December, what are expenses are which is like and pay the MMO) where does that leave us (Anthony Orzechowski – looks like if nothing major happens we may come out in the black) oh yeah – see it was worth the answer (Anthony Orzechowski – I don't want to say exactly because it could change tomorrow – I could give you a dollar amount and then the next meeting you are sitting here quoting me – you told us you were going to save us with money left over – I am going to say there is a good change we may hit the black) are we still going to get a TAN note in January (Anthony Orzechowski – we are still getting a TAN note – we need it to bridge January, February and March – yes) that's all I wanted.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - defer to regular meeting.

OLD BUSINESS N/A

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Ron Mozer, Director of Public Affairs

a. **Motion for a first reading and approval of Advertising of Ordinance 1266, of the City of Monessen, County of Westmoreland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, appropriating specific sums estimated to be required for the specific purposes of the Municipal Government, hereinafter set forth during the Year 2024.** Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor (Joseph Dalfonso – this is the city's budget) vote 4 – 0.
b. **Motion for a first reading and Approval of Advertising of Ordinance 1267 of the City of Monessen, County of Westmoreland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, fixing the**

Tax Rate for the Year 2024. Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor (Ron Mozer – this is the tax that is attached to it) (Jospeh Dalfonso – no tax increase) (Ron Mozer – no tax increase) vote 4 – 0.

c. **Motion to approve Resolution 12 of 2023 of the City of Monessen authorizing a request for a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be utilized for infrastructure and related improvements within the City of Monessen.** Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 – 0.
d. **Motion to approve payment to Farmer's National Bank for Debt Service payments in the amount of $380,468.73.** Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 – 0.
e. **Motion to approve the employment of Barbara Machesky as Clerk in the Office of the Treasurer of the City of Monessen pending the finalization of all pre-employment testing and screening.** Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 4 – 0.
f. **f. Motion to approve Change Order for Municipal and Contracting Sealing Products, Inc., Contractors Project, No. 23-1040, for Sewer Rehabilitation Phase 3B, in the amount of $18,255.58.** Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor (Anthony Orzechowski – I know this is for something they did unexpectedly find) (Ron Mozer – yes) (Anthony Orzechowski – but I have a question about or concern about – this was back on November 16th – if there is a change order and an amount change – why wasn't the council given an opportunity to say yeah or nay – I know we would say yeah - we should approve all change orders before they are done unless it is an absolute emergency) (Ron Mozer – I think we

made that quite clear to W.E.C. that his would not happen this way again) (Anthony Orzechowski – well who approved this) (Ron Mozer – nobody until now) (Anthony Orzechowski – somebody had to approve the change order for it to go through) (Ron Mozer – W.E.C.) (Anthony Orzechowski – this is not acceptable) (Ron Mozer – I agree) (Anthony Orzechowski – and I just going to go on record saying I'm concerned – W.E.C. should pick up the change cost because council did not know about it – we cannot continue that type of business no matter who it is – we need to have accountability – to ok a change order – because somebody ok'd it and thought it was the right thing to do - we have email the in the world today – just a simple email during that time and that situation could have been taken care of in 10 seconds – or at least informed – nothing we could vote on but at least we could have been aware – I'm not blaming you or anybody else but I want to make it quite clear that this is not acceptable) (Ron Mozer – I agree – there is a – we can work this out as we go along – we cannot allow this to happen again for sure) (Anthony Orzechowski – and that is with anything we do in the city – for anything) (Ron Mozer – right – I don't disagree with you even one little bit) vote 4 – 0.

11. OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS, RESPONSIBILITY, STATUTES, CODES AND ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN WILL BE ADDRESSED AT THE NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING OF THE CITY COUNCIL ON DECEMBER 14TH, 2023. Ron Mozer – we are going to defer any comments to the regular meeting.

12. ADJOURNMENT - Ron Mozer - I am asking for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 6:40 pm – seconded by Lois Thomas – vote 4- 0.