COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

CITY OF MONESSEN

CITY OF MONESSEN COUNCIL CHAMBERS

JANUARY 11, 2024

6:30PM

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

1. ROLL CALL OF ALL MEMBERS PRESENT. Roll call by Michael Korposh – Anthony Orzechowski present – Lois Thomas present – John Nestor absent – Karen Cosner present – Ron Mozer present. John Nestor joined the meeting by telephone.

2. OPENING PRAYER OFFERED BY PASTOR JIM MICHAELSON, ORCHARD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP. Opening prayer offered by Pastor Jim Michaelson.

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

4. APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF PREVIOUS SESSION OF DECEMBER 14, 2023, DECEMBER 28, 2023, AND THE JANUARY 2ND, 2024 REORGANIZATION MEETING. Motion to approve minutes of previous sessions of December 14, 2023, December 28, 2023, and January 2, 2024, Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

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

No comments on agenda items.

6. CORRESPONDENCE - No correspondence

OLD BUSINESS

7. REPORT OF THE SOLICITOR OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN. Joseph Dalfonso – you will see on the agenda for the council to approve for Hilltop Fire Department – this is part of the process – they are borrowing money to purchase a new pumper truck – the type of borrowing they are getting requires council approvement according to the Internal Revenue code – this does not bind the city to any repayment of the loan – it is just required for the municipality to provide that approval – I participated on a conference call with the city administrator with an ongoing vehicle issue with the fire departments – the insurance company was able to resolve it with a rider to the city's current policies – right Mr. Korposh (Michael Korposh – that is right) – we are also looking for more demo hearings – February 22nd part of the county project – is that ok with council (Ron Mozer – certainly).

8. REPORT OF THE CITY TREASURER OF THE CITY OF MONESSEN. Gerald Saksun - garbage fees and city real estate taxes collected for the month of December 2023 – garbage fee current – December $4,936.00 – year-to-date $361,470.00 – 2023 budget $325,587.00 – garbage fee delinquent – December $1,651.49 – year-to-date $61,421.17 – 2023 budget $80,780.00 – amount collected by Portnoff – December 11.49 – year-to-date $21,885.58 (included in the total above) penalty and interest Portnoff – December $.69 – year-to-date $3,027.00 – 2023 budget $2,145.00 – garbage collected for next year 2024 – December $59,654.00 – year-to-date $158,524.00 – 2023 budget $1,385.00 – total garbage collected – December $66,242.18 – year-to-date $584,442.17 – 2023 budget $409,897.00 – city real estate taxes current – December $30,239.45 – year-to-date $2,025,213.60 – 2023 budget $2,013,724.00 – city taxes prior year collected by the city – year-to-date $8,673.30 – 2023 budget $5,503.00 – subtotal year-to-date $2,033,886.90 – delinquent city taxes collected by Westmoreland Tax Claim Bureau –

year-to-date $251,987.81 – 2023 budget $167,423.00 – total year-to-date taxes $2,285,874.71 – city real estate tax distribution as of December 31, 2023 – general year-to-date $1,414,975.14 – 2023 budget $1,400,947.79 – debt service year-to-date $383,997.89 – 2023 budget $380,191.09 – library year-to-date $41,735.86 – 2023 budget $40,677.22 – parks year-to-date $193,178.01 – 2023 budget $191,907.90 – total year-to-date $2,033,886.90 – 2023 budget $2,013,724.00 – real estate transfer tax – December $3,386.64 – year-to-date $119,743.08 – 2023 budget $89,333.00 – earned income tax – December $83,690.19 – year-to-date $723,928.49 – 2023 budget $513,898.00 – mercantile tax – December $40.50 – year-to-date $20,902.91 – 2023 budget $22,579.00 – local service tax – December $1,174.72 – year-to-date $76,686.76 – 2023 budget $53,357.00 – tax certifications – December $1,790.00 – year-to-date $22,890.00 – 2023 budget $21,940.00 – municipal lien letters – December $1,275.00 – year-to-date $16,350.00 – 2023 budget $14,775.00 – line usage account – unsewered payment – year-to-date $11,341.00 – line usage fee – December $69,078.21 – year-to-date $891,449.04 – total line usage year-to-date $902,790.04. Motion to accept treasurer's report by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

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

Rosalie Nicksich – general fund CFS Bank checking account bank reconciliation as of December 31, 2023 – beginning bank balance as of November 30, 2023, $533,168.76 – deposits $239,405.57 – expenses $404,899.12 – ending balance as of December 31, 2023, $367,675.21 – outstanding checks $59,937.12 – outstanding deposits $3,472.41 – reconcile balance to bank statement $311,210.50.

10. NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Ron Mozer, Director of Public Affairs

a. Mayor Mozer's Update of Issues within the City of Monessen from December 28th, 2023, to January 11th, 2024. Ron Mozer - we suffered a power failure and it lasted a good part of a day – it took out the internet – we had no internet for the majority of the day – we also had no phones – we were able to have a really good meeting with the LISC group – HUD crew met with Westmoreland Community Action – I am pleased to announce that Westmoreland Community Action did receive funding to build homes on Motheral – the project will be going forward – there will be a press release that comes out very soon – everything looks very positive on that – I am very pleased.

b. Motion to set policies within the City of Monessen relative to expenditures for Petty Cash and Credit Card purchases within City Government, and the correct policies to create and provide direction and regulation for transactions of these types. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – (Anthony Orzechowski – what policies have been set) (Ron Mozer – to be determined – to be set and established – all this is saying is that we will set the policies) (Joseph Dalfonso – and you will vote on the policy once it has been completed) (Ron Mozer – right) – vote 5 – 0.

c. Motion to approve the purchase of ammunition and related supplies for the training and utilization of the Police Force within the City of Monessen in their day-to-day operations. The Monessen Police would request an appropriation of $3,500.00 from the City of Monessen and would utilize an additional amount of $4,748.81 from the PCCD Grant Fund allocation for a total of $8,248.81 for supplies for the 2024 calendar year.

Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – (Anthony Orzechowski – we don't spend this much on shooting – a lot of this is for training) (David Yuhasz – yes) – vote 5 – 0.

d. Motion to accept the transfer of property located at 554 Donner Avenue in the City of Monessen, (also known as 560 Donner), to the City of Monessen for no cost outside of the payment of an outstanding electrical bill at the location not to exceed $200.00. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – (Anthony Orzechowski – what are we going to do with the building) (Ron Mozer – to be determined – it could be sold, it could be rented, it could be demolished – it is a building across the street that gives the city control over the majority of the block – it gives us a huge opportunity) (Anthony Orzechowski – I understand that but one of my concerns is that we don't have the rest of the block - I don't know if that is to be determined or has the city been approached by the owners of the last two buildings) (Ron Mozer – there is only one building left after this one) (Anthony Orzechowski – the big corner building and the one that was the pet building) (Ron Mozer – that one is gone – the only two buildings over there are the big building and this building) (Joseph Dalfonso – from the alley way to the end of the building) (Ron Mozer – that is Bialon's and he said he will give it to the city some time soon) (Anthony Orzechowski – my only concern is that this is not a typical building – I don't want the city to have to demolish it and spend the money because it is not a simple knock it down - $15,000, $20,000, $30,000 – it's got a steel vault that is going to take specialized individuals to even bid on it – if they bid on it and take it out they will reap the benefit of the stainless steel – but still how many tons is that thing – that is my only concern – we get the rest and we have this albatross sitting there – what is

the procedure or what would happen if we just have the county take care of it as they have been taking care of everything else – I just want to ask the questions) (Ron Mozer – we can get the county to deal with that building if we decided that is what we want to do) Anthony Orzechowski – ok) (Ted Harhai – asking about the buildings) (Ron Mozer – the big building has nothing to do with this now – we are only talking about the bank building now – it is a solid building that can be used – there are three things we can do with it, we can sell it, we can rent it, we can tear it down) (Linda Lacey – why would you want to tear it down) (Ron Mozer – if we had a development coming in that would want the land and wanted it more than what the building was worth – we are working with people who may want to do it – leave the questions until later) (Anthony Orzechowski – we don't own it yet – this just happened from what I understand, right) (Ron Mozer – right) (Anthony Orzechowski – I am not against knocking it down – the question is can the city have the resources to if it takes it over and knock it down – that's one – the second question I would have, that gentleman from California that owned it he had it for sale from $100,000+ to $40,000 – but he couldn't sell it for $40,000 – so my concern it what makes us think we can sell it for that – he was paying a realtor to do that – I just want to ask all these questions so they don't come out later) (Ron Mozer – all those questions are very valid – I don't know that I have an answer for all those questions – the property has been turned over to the city but has not been recorded at the recorder of deeds) (Lois Thomas – the intent is not to tear that building down – rent it out or sell it, possible lease it and have someone – that building is in good condition – I don't think the intent is to demo it) (Ron Mozer - it is an excellent opportunity to become a place

for the Nehemiah group, the Westmoreland Community Action) (Ernie Telegraphis – we don't want them) (Anthony Orzechowski – Ernie please) (Ron Mozer – Ernie shush) (Anthony Orzechowski – the other question I have on it – I know in the big scheme of things – the $200 is like a blip on the radar – my concern is setting a precedent) (Ron Mozer – we are buying it for $200) (Anthony Orzechowski – but we are not – we are paying an electric bill – the thing that bothered me about it was he is from California – Los Angeles and his address is Wilshire Blvd. – I've never been to California, but I do know about Wilshire Blvd. – the property there is $1 million – why can't he afford a $200 bill) (Ron Mozer – that was just part of the deal) (Anthony Orzechowski – I am just concerned that someone down the road wants to give us property – you pay my gas bill and you can take it over too – I'm just worried about a precedent – I understand in the scope of things, the bigger picture, yes it makes sense but it is a slippery slope) (Ron Mozer – anytime you deal property there is a process of negotiation) (John Nestor – questioning something – I cannot hear) (Ron Mozer – that can be handled through Westmoreland Land Bank) vote 4 – 1 (Anthony Orzechowski opposed) (Ron Mozer – we accepted the building across the street and pay the $200 bill – wait until the end to ask your questions) (Lois Thomas reread the motion again) (Anthony Orzechowski – the actual electric bill is $122.00)

e. Motion of the City of Monessen to recognize and acknowledge the Financing of One (1) New Fouts 4-550 Crew Cab GPM Rescue Pumper by the Monessen Volunteer Fire Department, Hose House, #2, contingent on the completion of a Public Hearing to be held by the #2 Fire Company on Friday January 12th, 2024, at 6:00 pm at the Monessen Volunteer Fire

Company, Hose House#2. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

f. Motion to approve Payment Requisition no. 14 and Certificate in the amount of $75,019.60 for the Phase 3A and Phase 3B work performed during the month of December 2023. The appropriate Invoices for approval by Council are attached to this Agenda as Exhibit "1". Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

g. Motion to approve 2024 Hourly Rate Schedule for Sewer Rehabilitation Project Phase 3 Amendment # 4-Amendment to Owner-Engineer Agreement (Exhibit K) to increase standard hourly rates on the project by 3% for this Agreement effective January I, 2024. The pertinent pages from this Agreement and previous Amendments are attached to this Agenda as Exhibit "2". Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

h. Motion to approve the hiring of an Animal Control Officer within the City of Monessen for the calendar year 2024. Resume and Contract Information are attached to this Agenda as Exhibit "3". Motion by Lois Thomas – seconded by John Nestor (Ron Mozer – we need to clarify who we are going to use – there are two companies left – one is Huffman's and the other is Who Rescued Who Humane Society – there are only some minor changes to be made in the second one to change to a city not a borough – and we do not have council present – we have a mayor) (Anthony Orzechowski - someone explain section 6) (Joseph Dalfonso – I believe that is part of state law – the fee goes directly to the state) (Ron Mozer – I would like to point out that both of these follow the same state laws – these are basically

state mandated issues – the demeaner of Huffman's is somewhat rash – the way they treat us as a customer is not always the most pleasurable – I think both of these companies agreed to the same requirements as mandated by the state – we have experience with Huffman – we have no experience with the other one – I'm looking for someone to say which one) (Anthony Orzechowski – I am not saying either one because of section 1) (Ron Mozer – that is a state requirement) (Anthony Orzechowski – no I talked with Huffman's it is not a state law – it's something they do if they have to) (Ron Mozer – that is the same for both of them – both of them actually stated that – if you talk with them but in the contract they both state that) (Anthony Orzechowski – the whole idea was to go out and get other bids because Huffman's was not a "No kill shelter" – people lost their beloved animals because they were closed on the weekends and they could not get ahold of them – they did not answer the phone – if they picked up your animal on Friday by Monday morning when you went to find out what was going on, it already passed) (Lois Thomas – is there any way we can ask for a number of days – maybe like 5 days) (Ron Mozer – the problem is we have a dog problem in Monessen – it is effecting us right now – there is a dog that needs to be picked up and we need to come up with a way to do this) (Anthony Orzechowski – I understand but I cannot be part of putting down animals when they don't get ahold of the owners, I don't care what happens to the city) (Ron Mozer – they have actually contacted the owner – they know who the owner is – let me say a little story here – it hurts because it is near and dear to me – my son-in-law adopted a baby pit bull before my grandson was born – it got to be a really good house pet – it was loved by everybody – he took extremely good care of it – when my grandson became

older, the dog became extremely attached to my grandson – that dog would protect my grandson beyond anything you should possibly imagine – you could not walk over to my grandson and touch my grandson – the dog would not allow anyone to touch him – my son-in-law had some people over the house – he had ahold of the dog as tight as he could – he asked the kids to go into the house – as the kids were going into the house the dog turned his head and grab one of the kids on the arm – he had to have stitched – very serious – the dog had to be put down - there are pets and they are safe pets – there are some dogs that are different) (Pino Cianflone – xxxxxx - a bunch of crap) (Ron Mozer – you can talk about it later) (Anthony Orzechowski – there is also on the WRWHS last page section 7B – a board fee paid by the owner prior to the release of the animal – it's the same thing – on Friday at 4pm and my dog got loose – they called them and they picked it up – do they pay for the weekend or when the owner finds out and has to contact them – we have a lot of dog lovers, pet owners in the city – we don't need to alienate people like this – I don't know what the suggestion is and I know the police are in a bind – I understand - the way I look at this right now is neither of these two are our options – that's my opinion – I'm sorry) (Linda Lacey - xxxxxxxx someone walking their dog without a leash) (Ron Mozer – that does not mean they will be picked up) (Linda Lacey – a dog over 50 pounds walking up through the neighborhood – they need to talk to the parents) (Ron Mozer – that is not what this is – chief do you have anything you would like to say about this) (David Yuhasz – we have no dog catcher – I have people calling me every day – dogs are chasing people – you currently have abandoned dogs in abandoned houses – I'm waiting on motion here – I have a search warrant ready – right

now I do not know what to do – we don't have facilities to grab a dog – it's the dangerous dogs out there that are the issue – extreme problem – we were fortunate on some dogs but some we were not so fortunate – we need somebody) (Ron Mozer – do you think it would be reasonable or possible to contact either one of these two and ask for an evaluation period – say 30 days) (Joseph Dalfonso – you can certainly ask) (David Yuhasz – let me add on to this – there are only a handful of providers in the area) (Anthony Orzechowski – who does Charleroi and Donora have) (David Yuhasz – Charleroi and Rostraver has Kim Secrete and now she won't take on another – Donora has their own guy and he is not interested in coming to Monessen – I think North Belle Vernon still uses Huffman's) (Lois Thomas – during their 30 days could you at least ask them to make it 5 days before they euthanize) (Ron Mozer – we can make any request we want to) (Lois Thomas – can we at least make it 5 days then you have the weekend that is 3 days and you still have 2 more days) (Pino Cianflone – talk to a veterinarian) (Ron Mozer – we have talked to a lot of people) (Anthony Orzechowski – it's a shame we did not get the one lady) (Ron Mozer – it is but we missed it – I would like to modify this that we make a request to both of them to see if either one would agree to do a 30 day period at least guaranteeing us 5 days before any euthanize an animal – give us an opportunity to see how well they work out under that condition – the owner is responsible for the fee) (Anthony Orzechowski – I would like it to state something like they give 5 days and are contacting the Humane Society – I would rather see them take the extra effort than to just 5 days and they are done) (Lois Thomas – it says they would try to place it – so the first thing is to place it) (Anthony Orzechowski – I don't want to be in front of the family that said my animal was put

down – I went to go get it and they said they were going to place it – I don't want to have that conversation) (Linda Lacey – why don't we have that information) (Anthony Orzechowski – you can have mine – it is in a packet for us) (Ron Mozer – we had the motion – we seconded it – let's have a vote) (Joseph Dalfonso – you have to amend it) (Ron Mozer – the motion would be to contact both companies to see who would agree to hold the animal for 5 days and contact the Humane Society before it is euthanized) – seconded by Anthony Orzechowski – vote 5 – 0.

i. Motion to pay an invoice request from Urban Design Ventures for the preparation and submission of the FY 2023 CDGB Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development in the amount of $5,000.00. Motion by Lois Thomas - seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0 (Anthony Orzechowski – is this the annual fee or is this the 18% of something) (Ron Mozer – that is the retainer) (Anthony Orzechowski – does that commit us to anything) (Ron Mozer – no) (Joseph Dalfonso – that is for him submitting the 2023 application) – vote 5 – 0.

Councilman Anthony Orzechowski, Director of Accounts and Finance

a. Motion to pay the following invoices from the General Fund in the amount of $24,869.52. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as Attachment "A". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by Lois Thomas – vote 5 – 0.

b. Motion to pay the following invoices from the Recreational Account in the amount of $1,381.23 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 $1,400.69. 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 Line Usage account in the amount of $14,622.52. 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 Liquid Fuel invoices from the Liquid Fuels account in the amount of $2,209.47. All invoices are attached to this Agenda as "Attachment "E". Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

f. Motion to approve the transfer of $86,983.37 from the General Fund to the Payroll Account to cover the payroll expenses. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

g. Motion to purchase a 2023 Ford Police Interceptor from C. Harper in the amount of $55,835.00 and to have the vehicle detailed and graphics applied by Evan's Graphics in the amount of $1,045.00 for a total allocation from the ARP Fund, The American Rescue Plan funds, in the amount of $56,880.00. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0 (Anthony Orzechowski – C. Harper has a car, and the

chief has been in contract with them – we should see it in less than a month) (David Yuhasz – depends on how busy they are at the shop)

h. Motion to approve the allocation of $3,792.93 for the License Renewal of the Quick Books Financial Operating System for the 2024 Fiscal Year. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

i. Motion to allocate $176.47 from the General Fund to the Liquid Fuels account. Motion by Anthony Orzechowski – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0 (Anthony Orzechowski – last month I allocated two bills that total $176.47 from the liquid fuels and later found out the invoice was for grease and the code car – it should have come out of the general account) (Ernie Telegraphis – who made that mistake) (Anthony Orzechowski – I did)

(Rosalie Nicksich – should that not be reversed) (Ron Mozer – no this was something that was charge to the liquid fuels account that should have not been) (Anthony Orzechowski – remember those two invoices that you mentioned to me that was paid out of liquid fuels – it should have gotten paid out of the general) (Ron Mozer – on Tony's behalf, the invoices did not really indicate what they were for – very difficult to figure out) (Anthony Orzechowski - I guessed).

The balances in the accounts – refuse $147,987.46 – ARP $209,347.85 – payroll $12,512.66 – healthcare $3,759.42 – debt service $829,178.99 – fire escrow $21,230.48 – grant $58,563.60 – line usage $789,137.43 – liquid fuels $10,586.69 – park $44,920.75 – recreation $5,375.47 – general $176,787.08 – TAN $500,000.00 – I want to clarify this – some don't agree with me - the general fund is the TAN – like I did last year I wanted to

separate the refuse – I prefer to have a sub account – when the general account gets below $75,000 I will be making a motion to council to take $100,000 from that and move it over to the general – I just don't want the whole thing – I want to be able to track how much we need and hopefully we don't need half of it – if we don't need half of it by March or April when taxes are coming in - we can pay it all off and that is my thought – I just want everybody to know that – so there are not questions.

Councilman Lois Thomas Director of Streets and Public Improvements

Streets and Public Improvement Report for month ending December 31st, 2023. Lois Thomas – I would like to defer my report to the next meeting.

Councilman John Nestor, Director of Public Safety

Police and Public Safety Report for month ending December 31st, 2023. John Nestor - I would like to defer my report to the next meeting.

Councilperson Karen Cosner, Director of Parks, and Public Property

Parks and Public Property Report for the month ending December 31st, 2023. Karen Cosner – I don't have anything I would like to report – I am here on Tuesday and Thursday – I have an office upstairs – if you need to see me about anything that has to deal with the parks – I spent Saturday traveling through all the parks to give me an idea of what is out there – I took photographs – I can't be everywhere all the time – if you see anything please let me know before it becomes a big issue – you can call any time

and come see me – I'll be upstairs since I am no longer at the library - I am going to get lonesome up here – let me know what your concerns are – if you have any solutions to any issues – hope we will have an amazing and civil year – that is my hope.

11. OPEN FLOOR FOR PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM.

Ernie Telegraphis – that is nice you gave Karen an office – if we believe in equality - did you offer the other council members an office (Anthony Orzechowski – Lois, John and I work – we would never be there anyways) but did they discuss this with you – you guys are skirting everything here – if you are going to give one councilman or council woman one, then the other people got to have it too – why are we electing people who can't come into the kitchen) (Anthony Orzechowski – I am more than sure if you would come to Karen about a problem with me – I'm sure she would get back to me – she would call me and let me know even if the mayor was not there – it is a huge asset to be upstairs – God love her for wanting to be here two days a week) you promised me for three months, even after the last meeting that you were going to vote on taking the property liability of the library and put it on your public buildings (Michael Korposh – at the next meeting – we discussed it today) their deadline passed January 5th – will it bring down the credit rating if you miss a payment – guess what – they are not paying it because they don't have the money (Michael Korposh – I thought we discussed this in my office the other day) you said you were going to bring it up at this meeting – I though you were going to come through with it – it's not on the agenda – we came through what – the library has 6 buckets there – we have a problem with a new section with the roof going down) (Michael Korposh – we need the substantiation from Dave

– I have not seen it) let's go back to something else – you guys are supposed to produce – your duties – safe and emphasize of having a city government – this newspaper just like Ron, you guys smudge over – what happened, why was there no electricity and what is the reason the generators did not work – why didn't they work (Ron Mozer – they did not work because the battery was dead) you are supposed to check it (Ron Mozer – they have not been checked since September) who's responsibility was it to check it (Ron Mozer – the police are at the building) name the person (Ron Mozer – the police and/or the fire department) how about Mr. John Nestor – he is the public safety (Ron Mozer – he works during the day) we got these excuses – they work and they can not fulfill their responsibility because they work – this is all bologna (Ron Mozer – ok Ernie settle down) if it's something else – I understood from going to all these meeting for all these years that there was a maintenance agreement on that generator that Mr. John Harhai did – 5 year guarantee agreement (Ron Mozer – that covers the engine itself) from 2020 to December 31 (Ron Mozer – all that does is change the oil periodically – that is the extent of what that does) is that all – if something breaks down – did you go back to Cummins (Ron Mozer – no) you went to somebody else – nobody is honoring the past – we elect new people and nobody connects to the past – what is good and what isn't good – you guys do your own thing just like all the other previous administrations – no continuity – we are starting from zero all the time – one other thing, I appreciate that when you guys are giving out statements, figures like Mr. Saksun did – I want to know – where are we December 31st – you gave us all these figures – how much money are you coming up with, are we in the plus or are we in the red (Gerald Saksun – I only take care of

the money that comes in – I do not take care of the distribution) xxxx (Gerald Saksun - I'm explaining if you want to listen – that is the job of the accounts and finance – I give him the money and he pays the bills – he pays all the bill and we hope we have a surplus at the end of the year – I believe we do after Mr. Orzechowski's report) how much – I am asking (Gerald Saksun – he gave you that number) (Anthony Orzechowski – were you sleeping when I gave you the number) I want to know what his book keeping is compared to yours (Anthony Orzechowski – you even ask me when I said I separated the general from the TAN) I wanted to hear it from him – he is the treasurer – you are not the treasurer (Ron Mozer – the treasurer only records the money coming in – the treasurer) since he is recording it, how much does he have at the end December (Ron Mozer – he reported what he had) (Gerald Saksun – when I distribute it to the accounts – that is the report – my report is here for you to have at the end of the meeting) (Ron Mozer – let me make sure that everyone understands the way this works – we have a treasurer's department – any money that coming into the city, taxes, donations, LST, whatever the case may be – it goes through the treasury department – the treasury department is responsible for saying so much goes to the general fund, so much goes to debt service, parks and to the library – us up here are responsible for paying the bills and making sure the cities' infrastructure is taken care of – then we have the controller – the controller makes sure everybody did what they are supposed to do) I hope she comes down on some of these people here – anyway I got one last issue – you guys are fumbling the ball on how to take care of animals – you still did not address the chief of police's concern – they have a mad dog loose – what is he supposed to do (Ron Mozer – we did)

you tell him he has to wait 30 days – is that the address (Ron Mozer – no – until in the morning) does the dog have rabies too – you guys keep shuffling everything around and nobody knows exactly who is responsible (Ron Mozer – the issue was and we had a long discussion on that) for the last 40 years (Ron Mozer – if you would ever listen, you might learn something Ernie – we have contacted numerous people – the two companies) name me four – you can't even name me four – numerous – I don't want to hear that – you guys talk out of both sides of your mouth – I'm getting sick of it – you are going to go into debt this year (Ron Mozer – calm down) jack up the taxes and fees on everybody (Ron Mozer – calm down) thank you.

Linda Lacey – you said Community Action was going to come in and going to build 5 houses on Motheral (Ron Mozer – yes) what part of Motheral (Ron Mozer – about the middle) is the apartment building on the corner of Motheral and 4th Street still there (Ron Mozer – yes) is that going to be demolished any time soon (Ron Mozer – I sure hope so) I would like to thank Karen for opening up her office to the residents of Monessen – I don't have anything pressing right now but if I do I will certainly come and visit you – this is personal – mayor your attitude tonight is very disturbing to me (Ron Mozer – I'm sorry – there has to be some decorum we maintain) it is just very disturbing – as a Monessen resident we have the right to come down here twice a month to discuss (Ron Mozer – and we have the right to make sure we follow a proper decorum – that is all we are saying) it's you attitude (Ron Mozer – when I an ignored I will get that way).

Pino Cianflone – on the civic center – it was allocated somewhere around $48,000 to fix the floor, the kitchen and carpet one of the offices (Linda Lacey - $44,775 – it was kitchen, handicap ramp)

(Ron Mozer – there were some change orders that took place – continue – what would you like to ask me about that because we have made some changes to that) what is the change (Ron Mozer – first off go over and look at the floor – it is phenomenal – it was done the day before yesterday – they completely redid the basket ball court, they redid the hallway – it looks spic and span and shines like you would not believe – it looks better than it has looked in many years – it is in pristine condition – it cost the city zero – a company by the name Apex, provided insurance and the scope of work – came in and did what they said they were going to do – they made it spic and span – it looks great and it cost the city zero – I have nothing but good things to say about Apex – they did it on Tuesday – it cost the city zero – go look at it to see what you think of it) Apex – it is a company that works in the oil field (Michael Korposh – there is one but that is not them) that's the floor – what happened to the handicap ramp (Ron Mozer – the handicap ramp we sent to CDBG today – we gave them the quotes – it has to go to Harrisburg to the DCED – they said they would let us know in 5 days and we can go out and we already got the bids so we can award it – the low bid was around $7,000) they going to do the entrance (Ron Mozer – yes) from the sidewalk to the front door (Ron Mozer – yes) did they do the kitchen (Ron Mozer – that was released today to – we can actually order all the equipment) ok what is the amount there (Michael Korposh – I can get it for you) roughly – I am trying to add up the numbers (Ron Mozer – we are going to come up short – so we have money left over to do exhaust fans in the kitchen and so forth that we did not have the ability to do before – we are going to spend it the best and smartest way we can at the civic center – it has to be at the civic center) so that is all going to be covered so if there is going to

be any money left over, where is it going to go to (Ron Mozer – civic center if possible – that is money that has a time limit on it – it has to be done by March 1st – it will evaporate if not spent by March 1st) let me ask you another question, Julian, how many hours a week does he work (Ron Mozer – 29 I believe) what is the pay scale that he is given (Ron Mozer – off hand $14.00) $14.00/hour – how can he live on 29 hours/week on $14/hour because you know he has to pay taxes on the money he gets because it is not clean money – he is getting $14 dirty money – I call it dirty money because you have to pay taxes – how can a person live on that (Ron Mozer – it's tough) you don't care – I said month ago if the attorney would go back to the original pay of $40,000/year – I suggested that months ago and they take the $20,000 you will be saving from the law firm and give it to Julian, he would be able to survive, right, it's only fair (Anthony Orzechowski – let me put it to you this way – you have a business – help wanted signs everywhere – they advertise this is what they are paying or part-time or whatever – people accept positions knowing upfront what they are going to get paid – plain and simple – everyone in this room does it – makes a mental decision that this is what I am going to make – if I don't like it, I'm looking elsewhere – plain and simple) I understand that but maybe this kid does not have the ability to get anywhere – maybe he does not have a vehicle – bottom line is this – how is he going to make a living on $14/hour on 29 hours/week - let me ask you a better question – code enforcement – last time you told me he gets $50,000 – but he has two helpers) (Anthony Orzechowski – 1 helper – it's $50,000 for both) I asked that question and you guys said no – what do they do share the money (Anthony Orzechowski – it is not a full time position) how does he get paid (Anthony

Orzechowski – by the amount of hours he works) how much does he make a hour (Anthony Orzechowski – I'll have to think) (Linda Lacey - $50,000 must be a salary) (Ron Mozer – no it is not a salary - $50,000 is a budget for the code enforcement office – it is paid on an hourly rate – it's $50,000 to run that office) what is the hourly rate (Ron Mozer – I don't know everybody's pay) $15/per (Anthony Orzechowski – it's not an hour - it is based on a budget number of $50,000 for the department – if it's one person or two or three people – that is what we budgeted for it) I understand that the budget is $50,000 whether there is one person or more and will not exceed $50,000 – not more if you have 4 people – my question is simple – how much do you pay them by the hour (Anthony Orzechowski – I would have to look that one up) is it $14/hour – would you be confident in saying it is more than $14/hour (Anthony Orzechowski – I would not feel confident in saying it is more than $14/hour – it may be a buck more if that – I'm not quite sure) I think you guys got to rethink – we don't pay people slave wages (Anthony Orzechowski – I'm not going to condone this but I am going to ask you – do you know what the PA) yeah $7 something – but you know what, do you know any legislator, senator that works in government making $7.25 (Anthony Orzechowski – I don't know a person – I know it does not happen – the state says $7 – we are paying $14) I know what the law is because we are stupid enough to elect people (Anthony Orzechowski – as a matter of fact there was a thing on the new before I came down here – there was that exact question – PA is $7.25/hour and every neighboring state is between $16 and $26 – it is way past what PA is) would it be fair to say you know of anybody that makes $7.25 in the area (Anthony Orzechowski – I have no clue because I don't hire anybody – if you can make it on

$7 something and hour that would be great – you are correct – that is a choice that people make when they apply for a job and say I'll take that for that value – there is no employer that I know that forces it down your throat – you think about what is presented to you as a perspective employee – this is the package the company is offering you – we would love to pay everybody here a lot more money but our tax base does not have it – I'm sorry but it is a cold hard truth) bottom line is I think the individual I am talking about or anyone who holds that job should be making more than or at least working 40 hours/week – I can see it but when you are working 29 hours and only make $14 – you clear about $8 to $9/hour for the day (Anthony Orzechowski – I don't know what you want) I would like to see him get an increase in his wages (Anthony Orzechowski – he got an increase – the mayor fought for an increase – he originally making $10/hour) give him 40 hours/week (Anthony Orzechowski – then he is a full time employee – we can not put another person on payroll for the benefits – that's why – it does not require a full time position) (Linda Lacey – how are you going to run the rec center efficiently if there is nobody down there) (Anthony Orzechowski – that is what the rec board is supposed to help with) (Linda Lacey – where is the rec board) (Anthony Orzechowski – that is something the council is going to look into) let me move on – I understand what you are saying – who is on the board of the civic center – do you guys know (Ron Mozer – the rec board) do you guys know (Anthony Orzechowski – I could not name you a name because they were all appointed by the last administration when everybody from the prior rec board all resigned – we are well aware of them not doing something – we did advertise if I'm correct – the council voted last month to advertise for all those

positions that are open – did we get anybody Mike for the rec board) (Michael Korposh – not yet) (Ron Mozer – let me make it quite clear – there are several boards that we need people to volunteer for to be considered for – library board is one – the rec board is another – are there any others that are really short – shade tree, planning commission, refuse authority – there is still an open position) (Anthony Orzechowski – it has been advertised – we will have to go through the applicants and interview applicants and then at that time the council will make the decision – nothing is going to happen until that happens – I'm hoping it gets done next month) (Ron Mozer – we have to do it by the next meeting on the 28th – all the boards – I thought it was this meeting but it is the next meeting – I made a mistake – we only put people in when they request to be put on) he asked if he could be put in – he is on hold (Anthony Orzechowski – it has to be advertised fairly so everybody in the city can have the same possibility and take a chance – I would like to do that – I would like to get interviewed for it – we just don't just because you have been there you automatically get renewed – that is wrong and you would be one of the first persons to stand up here an say that I didn't get the opportunity to do something – it does not work that way) I understand what you are saying (Ron Mozer – if you are serving on a board or authority and your term has expired – you can stay on that board until the council reappoints you and someone else is appointed in your place) he was not told that – I was at the last meeting and he was not told that (Ron Mozer – he was told by the refuse authority solicitor – I heard him say that and I verified though our solicitor) all I am telling you is that it took two years that somebody found somebody that said this guy is part of your team – bring him in – now you have a guy that

wants to be there and you say he has got to go through the process – I understand – this has been going on for months (Ron Mozer – the big problem is the advertising gave people 30 days to respond) I'll tell you again - advertise on real news not that fake news – nobody buys that paper (Anthony Orzechowski – the other thing is the position did not expire until December 31, 2023 – what do you want us to do – we can't do it before the term because there has been situations in this city where people had got appointed before the term was up – it started a hell storm and we are not going to do that again – council is going to do it right) we had a meeting in January (Anthony Orzechowski – the council did not – this is our first meeting) he said at the meeting that he was going to bring it up to council because you guys were going to vote on it (Ron Mozer – I really thought we were but found out that the advertising said 30 days – 30 days is not up – we have to give people time to respond – I think it is the 21st – anyone who would like to respond, if you have any interest in serving on any of those board please apply) you are the liaison for the redevelopment authority - you have to agree the redevelopment authority is not doing a good job (Ron Mozer – I think you will be excited at the next meeting) at the end of the day – I am saying the redevelopment authority is the most important authority for the city (Ron Mozer – I agree) and they do a lousy job because they are being manipulated – you have a board that does not have an agenda – everyone else has an agenda except the redevelopment – they don't have one (Ron Mozer – there is one posted on the door right now).

Norman Maddison – the rec board we got, they aren't doing anything (Ron Mozer – we already said that) get rid of them – what you need to do is get somebody that knows what they are

doing – the rec board is supposed to help out the guy at the civic center (Ron Mozer – absolutely) if you can't help out down there then you should not be on the rec board (Ron Mozer – I don't disagree a bit) when my nephew ran the rec board I would help him out – then I got to the point where I ran it myself – sometimes I was down there at 8am and still there at 11pm – I had no problem – I cleaned the place myself – cooked down there by myself – I had no problems – I did it all and did not have a rec board at all (Ron Mozer – if you are interested apply for the rec board) we have a rec board that don't do nothing but sit on their butt, have meetings and sometimes they don't even have meetings (Ron Mozer – the rec board has not had a meeting in several months now) they say I'm on the rec board of Monessen – big deal (Anthony Orzechowski – that is why we advertised for all those positions) put me on the rec board (Ron Mozer – did you put your application in) the ones you got, get rid of them (Anthony Orzechowski – nobody is arguing with you – put your name in) I'll do that (Lois Thomas – I agree – you can't complain if you can't come and help us – we want you on there – we want people who care – put the time to do it – people can not sit back and complain and not come and help) I'm not complaining (Lois Thomas – what you are saying is the truth but we need your help – we need everybody's help) I worked when the steel company was here (Lois Thomas – we need you Mr. Norman – you care about the kids – we need people who care – you care about Monessen, then come and be involved) I care (Lois Thomas – I know you do so put your letter in) (Ron Mozer – get your friends to put one in) (Lois Thomas – encourage people) (Ron Mozer – one person does not make a board) (Lois Thomas – one is not enough) who will get somebody to do something (Ron Mozer –

get some of your friends to come and help you) what are they doing – sitting around making a meeting when they get time (Lois Thomas – this is the time to do it – all the boards are open – it's a new year – so we need new people to come who care about the city of Monessen – come and sign up – put your letter in – get busy helping us move Monessen forward – bring your letter down here and let's get thing going) I will do that – I have been down there and the lights are on – two many people have keys (Anthony Orzechowski – do you know how many times I have paid to have those locks changed down there - $400 – 5 or 6 times we changed the locks) (Ernie Telegraphis – who is making the keys) (Anthony Orzechowski – that's the question) in the mailbox I get checks (Anthony Orzechowski – you mentioned that before - I'm talking about the big door) it's open all the time (Ron Mozer – we have talked about this enough – let's get to the next person) about the key (Ron Mozer – that changes every week) (Anthony Orzechowski – when that first started) I have that key (Ron Mozer – it should say do not duplicate on it) every single morning at 9am I check my mail – I go down there the door is open and nobody is there – late in the evening I go passed there the door is open and the lights are on (Ron Mozer – I can't express how important that we have a rec board that can help us with that) light are on all day and all night – who pays for that – the city (Ron Mozer – what I would really like to see is a rec board that would come up with a process where we could give everybody an ID card – if you want to come in and play basketball or any of the games they have there – you come in and get yourself a card – there parent comes in a gets a card for them – when they swipe their card you know who is in the building – you know when he came in and when he left – that card would allow you to work the lock – the money is

the reason why it has not happened) you have to have somebody down there that is responsible so when they go in – no telling what they would do when they are in there – that is what I am saying - they go out and leave the lights on – they put the latch out – how much trouble is it to (Anthony Orzechowski – let's start by getting a full rec board – get enough individual that can make a difference down there and then we can take it from there) I'll do that.

Bubba Palmer – I am the chairman of the board of directors and on the fire department – I had no intention on speaking until Ernie brought up the generators – I take personal offense that you turned the blame to the fire department and the police department, that it is our responsibility to service it – I know for a fact that the city pays a mechanic in the garage on Parente – we are volunteers first of all – none of us are diesel mechanics, none of us are electricians or any of the such – same with the police officers – they are police officers – what qualifications do we have to service a piece of equipment that we know nothing about (Ron Mozer – so let's talk about the generator for a second – that generator is supposed to be set up to turn on and run once a week for a period of a couple of hours – there is nothing on that generator to say that did or did not happen – you walk up to it and open up the cabinet – it has a record of it that show what is going on – people need to understand when you look at a fire truck that is critical to you to know that vehicle is going to go out there – you are not mechanics but you know how to operate that fire truck – you know how to adjust the pressure – you know everything about it – you guarantee that truck is always ready to go – simply why can't you make that part of what you do – just make sure that generator works – that truck is not going

anywhere if the doors don't open) that's fine – why haven't we been told that was our job – we have been in that building since it opened –tonight is the first time ever – I just asked Dave, the chief of police and he has no idea – secondly how can the fire department service (Ron Mozer – no one is asking you to service) ok then just check it because the controls are locked in the police station (Ron Mozer – no the controls are just behind the gate) no that is to start the generator (Ron Mozer – where you need to make sure it is working or not working) we need to make sure – do we not employ a mechanic for the city of Monessen (Ron Mozer – and he is working on other things – he is fully occupied) he does not have three minutes a day (Anthony Orzechowski – perhaps what we might need to do is put this on a maintenance schedule and have someone check it) absolutely (Anthony Orzechowski – someone who can go around and check it) to sit here in a public meeting and blame the fire department and the police department – that is absurd (Ron Mozer – that was not our intent) that is exactly what you so though (Ron Mozer – I'm saying that no one checked) that is exactly what you said – the fire department and the police did not check it – how can we do a job that we do not know we are supposed to do – absolutely not (Anthony Orzechowski – I'm going to talk about something else) now if that fire would have been Tuesday – we would have been making a motion to replace a garage door (Anthony Orzechowski – I am talking about something else) the generator (Anthony Orzechowski – that is what I'm going to talk about – let me finish – what I am going to say is whether it is going to do this or do that – unfortunately now – that is the wrong generator to put in there – if you are going to put a bypass generator in that is going to power your home in an emergency – or like down their it should

have been natural gas – that it automatically kicked on – you didn't need to worry about that and it didn't rely on a flipping battery that went dead that nobody knew about it – I'm not saying that's an excuse – but now that we know) this is twice in a year now that we dealt with this (Ron Mozer – how much money have we spent on that generator this past year in maintenance on that (Anthony Orzechowski – let me put it this way – I don't know – probably at least $8,000 or $10,000 – but I will ask our city administrator to find out when it was last serviced by the company – Mike was following up with them and find out why it failed – we are not paying for another service call for something they should have done right the first time) here is why I am up here – let me get this very clear – because that did not work – you at the table are the ones to make the decisions – you put volunteers in a bad situation to decide do we drive this fire truck through this door – damage (Ron Mozer – use the cord and open it manually) please follow me to the station and you do it – this is not a six foot door in your garage (Ron Mozer – I understand) and it is even harder to do when there is no electricity in the whole facility – it's pitch black – volunteers are coming out on hazardous road conditions to help a citizen of this community – you get there with a cell phone and getting dressed and trying not to get hurt – start a truck and decide do we let somebody's house burn down or do we drive through the door and deal with it later – what decision do you make – you don't know because you will never be put in that decision (Ron Mozer – first off, I very much respect all that you are saying – I have all the respect in the world for the fire department – there is no doubt about that – but let me put it this way – first off, the generator is part of the building – it was put there when the building was built – and as such, you

are right, we have spent a lot of money for the repair of that generator to keep it up to snuff – the reason why it failed this last time is because water got into the device switch that killed the battery charger – the battery went dead – the battery was dead and it did not start – just like anything else – whether it is a window that is broken in the fire house or whether there is a roof that is leaking on it – we don't know if it is working or not working if somebody does not tell us – all I am saying is we had no idea whether the generator worked nor did we expect a reason to have to go out and test it because first off it had a backup system that would be ready to fire – but nobody, not the police, not the fire department, not the city, never went over there and checked it – the GFI has water in it – the battery is dead – this generator is not going to run) can I talk please – I have the floor – I did not interrupt anybody else – as I agree with you – when we know to keep this fire truck in tip top condition – we know what we have to do – we were told we have to do this and this – you just said again that we did not go check it – we did not check something that we do not know we needed to be checking (Ron Mozer – we need) we had no idea (Ron Mozer – we just want to know that somebody over there understand how you got to look at this and how it works) (John Nestor – I am trying to absorb this information – I am not trying to throw anybody under the bus – I agreed it is our responsibility – we should not be asking someone who does not know – I think we should sit down with the administrator and the fire chief and see what our city employees can do to make sure that building in tip top shape – also in the meanwhile if there is something you see, your volunteers, please let us know) with that said, we have turned in letters – I'm going way off the top – you said if you don't know you can't fix it – we

have turned in letters numerous times – last count we have eighty eight burned out lights at the fire station – eighty eight lights (John Nestor – can we look at the light bulb issues – get this stuff looked at and fixed) over a year two urinals did not flush – the Sloan valves were bad – all that has been turned in – don't say we don't do our part – we report everything – everything and we give it to multiple people so nothing gets lost in the shuffle – (John Nestor – Mike I think we need to get someone down there) we asked to be put on the agenda for the last meeting and we were not put on – we wanted to bring all that stuff up – somehow that got lost in the shuffle and we were not put on the agenda (John Nestor – I just can't keep going back and forth) (Ron Mozer – we had the repair guy down there today and he did fix the problem – battery is being charged – it should be fully functional at this time now) (Michael Korposh – he made an offer to train our city employees) (John Nestor – I was told by email this past week that it was just hanging on by a thread) (Ron Mozer – I don't believe that is the case – the guy did not feel that way – Mike and I did that today with the repair man and we went through the process) (Michael Korposh – he came up with an idea to train our city employees – our folks go down there for maintenance bi-monthly) (Anthony Orzechowski – something we can come away with this unfortunate thing is we have a possible separate power supply that opens the doors in case of an emergency – let's start at the doors) we are opening ourselves, we the city, to twenty to thirty firemen coming in here in the pitch black – three guys fall and break a leg – that's on the city (Anthony Orzechowski – then you are right – we need to) (Ron Mozer – there should be some emergency lights) there is not (Ron Mozer – but that should be address) maybe that is some of the eighty eight that are burnt out

– eighty eight is an absurd number to have in a public building (Anthony Orzechowski – this is the first time I have heard this) you mean eighty eight (Anthony Orzechowski – I know we have sent Godla down there many times to fix the urinals – like that) they are now working – it had been many months that they had not been working (Ron Mozer – when we hear – we'll send someone to fix them) (Anthony Orzechowski – maybe the council should take them out and get ones with a regular flush – I don't know why – who put that together – the best and the more electronics – guess what – don't use it if it don't work) (Linda Lacey – take some of the ARP money and fix the fire station) (Anthony Orzechowski – we probably have money in the general account that we can fix that – the point of the matter is, it is now going to be addressed – we can harp on it for another half an hour) (Lois Thomas – one of the good things we have is we have the chief who also works with our streets and public departments – they can work together and help us get what needs to be done – get a list – between the mayor – we avoided a major tragedy) (Linda Lacey – now we are going to jump on the band wagon) (Lois Thomas - it's not jumping on a band wagon – it is what we have to do today) (Linda Lacey – every three months) (Lois Thomas – that is what they are talking about – getting a maintenance schedule together) that's all I had – thank you.

12. ADJOURNMENT – Motion to adjourn meeting at 8:15 pm by Ron Mozer – seconded by John Nestor – vote 5 – 0.

Ron Mozer, Mayor City of Monessen

Attest:

Linda Matthews, City Clerk