3-27-2025 Council Meeting

Fri, Mar 28, 2025 3:32PM • 42:22

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

City council meeting, roll call, public comment, financial report, sewage project, garbage fees, city real estate taxes, line usage fund, Pennvest loan, Monessen Beyond Grad, music in the park, fire department equipment, Army Corps of Engineers, public meeting, chemical dumping

SPEAKERS

Councilwoman Lois Thomas, Betty Torrent, Councilman John Nestor, Delmar Hepple, Mike Korposh, Councilwoman Karen Cosner, Mayor Ron Mozer, Ernie Telegraphis, Joseph Dalfonso, Linda Lacey, Ted Harhai, Gerry Saksun

Mayor Ron Mozer 00:04
It's now 630. I'd like to call this city council meeting of March 27 to order. Could I have a roll call please? Council person Cosner here, Councilman Nestor present. Council person Thomas here, Councilman Orzechowski, Mayor Mozer present. Mayor, we note four present, one absent. We have a quorum. Thank you. At this time, I'd like to ask Betty from the Orchard Church to lead us in prayer.

Betty Torrent 00:36
Thank you. I felt impressed that the Lord wanted the Lord's prayer tonight, and it's the perfect prayer according to the Bible. And if you know it and you want to say it along with me, that would be good. And I'll say a short prayer after. Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name, thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever, amen. So Lord, we pray for open hearts and minds to receive your plans and purposes here tonight, may we be sensitive to your leading and obedient to Your will. We pray that You would open our eyes to see your hand at work in every aspect of this meeting. May Your Holy Spirit guide us in making wise decisions and lead us toward the best possible outcome. Thank you. Amen,

All 01:47
I pledge allegiance to the Flag and to the Republic for which it stands: one Nation indivisible, with Liberty and Justice for all.

Mayor Ron Mozer 02:04
Thank you. I believe the minutes from March 13 session have been circulated. When somebody's ready. Could they make a motion?

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 02:20

Mayor, I'd like to make a motion to approve the minutes of a previous work session of March 13, 2025.

Mayor Ron Mozer 02:25
Is there a second? Second? Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 02:29
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 02:36
At this time, I'd like to open the mic for public comment directed to myself on agenda items, only.

Ernie Telegraphis 02:43
Ernest Telegraphis, 29 Rex, I have one major question, but Tony's not here. Maybe the mayor or somebody else could jump in. The last time when we were talking, he said, You only had $500 in the account, and he was going to draw down again the TAN note. So again, here we got over almost $200,000 $150,000 how is this being paid? Can you explain this? Is it another draw down from the TAN, or did you come up with some money?

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:24
Well, there's always money that's coming in. I haven't looked at it to understand exactly where that is right now, but I'm sure we have money.

Ernie Telegraphis 03:30
So, you got money to pay all this today?

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:32
We do.

Ernie Telegraphis 03:43
My first question is, where is Councilman Orzechowski?

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:45
He's sick today.

Ernie Telegraphis 03:46
He's up. Sorry, he's sick. He's sick. He's out ill today.

Ted Harhai 03:49
Hey, are you going to talk about the garbage trailers up on Motheral today?

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:54
No,

Ted Harhai 03:55

They haven't been mentioned. Not none have been sold.

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:58
That is not on the agenda. I'm sorry. That is not on the agenda evening.

Ted Harhai 04:01
Okay, when are you going to talk about it? Because it's a hidden thing.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:02
Well, when it's time.

Ted Harhai 04:06
But that is not only when it says time. Now, because you know, it's not trailers and you're saying that that's going to create all this great stuff for the city, and it's not. And now we're dealing with the church. When you're going to that's in a shroud of secrecy too, Saint Cajetan church, and you're part of that also, but you condemn me about all the houses.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:27
This discusssion is for comments on agenda items only.

Ted Harhai 04:30
Okay, you're not going to talk about the garbage trailers or come to a work session. Okay, talk about that. Okay.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:50
Nobody else with comments. Is there any correspondence that anybody like to bring forth? No mayor. I. At this time, I'd like to ask the solicitor for his report.

Joseph Dalfonso 05:03
Thank you, Mayor. Good evening, everybody. An update on the phase three sewage project easements. We almost have all of the residential property easements up on Rostraver, Boston and Grand Boulevard. We're waiting on two property owners to coordinate the signing of those easements. Cleveland Cliffs is reviewing everything through their Department of Real Estate, and we're still waiting on a railroad response, based upon what the engineer submitted as part of the plan for phase four. Worked with WEC and the mayor for the phase four close out. That's on tonight's agenda for the final payment, there will be a DEP review, and once that's done, that project will be complete. I work with the mayor for the repayment of the line usage funds for the funds that the city was required to pay back pursuant to a resolution in 2022.The city will be paid up through the end of 2025 once this motion is passed tonight. I did meet with the city administrator and the code department to discuss how the code department's going to move forward. I believe that position has been posted to hire the viaduct project the city approved this last year at some point. PennDOT is going to be repairing the viaduct. That was contingent on PennDOT sending the final agreements and all of the backup information to those agreements that has been uploaded, and that project slated to start in October. And you'll see tonight, some agreements with People's Natural Gas for the restoration of some roads. Took a look at those

agreements. They are similar to what the city has done with Peoples in the past. I believe the newest one is for Pacific. That's all I have this evening. Thank you.

Mayor Ron Mozer 07:08
Does the city Controller have a report? She does have one in the packet? Well, let's do the city Treasurer first, Gerry, would you give us your report? Please? Yes. Thank you, mayor,

Gerry Saksun 07:27
Mayor, Council and citizens of Monessen, this is my report, the income to the city for the month of February, 2025. Garbage fees. Current February, we received $120,867.50 $1,867.50 year to date, $466,828 budget amount, $400,000 garbage fees delinquent February, $11,938.88 this includes the amount connected by Portnoff $2,845.62 $1,845.62 year to date, total $35,348.79 this includes the amount collected by Portnoff. $8,894.03 budget. Amount for delinquent to $75,000 penalty and interest collected from Portnoff February. $1,242.92 year to date. $1,936.69 budget amount. 2500 garbage fees collected for 2025. Should have been 2026, February, $534 year to date, $51,515 budget amount, $140,000 total collected for the month of February, 134,008 $583.30 year to date, $505,628.48 budget amount, $617,500 City Real Estate Taxes, revenue current received nothing in February and nothing year to date. Budget Amount, 1,487,000 city taxes collected prior for prior years. February, we received 30,000 $186 year to date, 30,000 $186 budget amount, $10,000 delinquent city taxes collected by Westmoreland County, we received nothing February and nothing for year to date. Budget Amount, $250,000 total year to date, taxes. That's also the total for Westmoreland County, 30,000 $186 budget amount, $1,747,000 a. City, real estate, taxes, distribution, general fund, year to date, $21,001.01 budget amount, $1,034,505.90 debt service. Year to date, $5,699.29 budget amount, $280,745.60 library, $609.78 budget amount, $30,037.40 parks here to date, $2,876.81 budget amount, $141,711.10 $1,711.10 year to date, total distribution, 30,000 $186.89 budget amount, 1,000,004 and $87,000 miscellaneous income, real estate, taxes collected for fair wear, we received nothing. Year to date, $12,723.37 budget amount, $60,000 earned income tax February received $89,098.18 year to date, $111,878.23 budget amount, $651,046 merchantile tax, February received $68.09 year to date, $222.30 budget amount, $20,000 local service tax, February received $12,865.15 year to date, $16,672.76 one budget amount, $72,000 tax certifications, February received $1,750 year to date, $3,390 budget amount, $20,000 municipal lien letters, February received $2,025 year to date, $3,300 budget amount, $12,000 line usage account, unsecured payments. We receive nothing. Year to date, $25 line usage fee, February, receive 64,000, $168.85 year to date, $147,571.02 $1,571.02 the total year to date is 147 $596.02 mayor, that concludes my report for the month of February.

Councilman John Nestor 12:30
Motion, Mayor to accept the Treasurer's Report for garbage fees and city real estate taxes collected for the month of February.

Mayor Ron Mozer 12:42
Is there a second? Second? Any questions? Call the roll please.

Mike Korposh 12:46
Council person Cosner, Yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person, Thomas, yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 13:01
Now it's time for the Controllers report. Do you want to read it?

Mike Korposh 13:06
Let me do that please. Please read that for Controllers report for February 2025 the general fund, CFS bank, checking account, bank reconciliation as of February 28 2025 the beginning bank balance as of January 31 2025 was $253,655.64 we had deposits of $345,440.37 and expenses of $369,361.66 $361.66 the ending balance as of February 28 2025 was $229,734.35 We had outstanding checks of $106,101.66 and outstanding deposits of $1,450.83 reconciled balance to bank statement. $125,083.52 That concludes the report. Thank you.

Mayor Ron Mozer 14:26
Lois, if you'd be so kind to read my motions, I would appreciate it.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 14:30
Good evening. Everyone like to make a motion to pay Reynolds brothers, Inc, in the amount of $113,713.94 from the PennVest fund to set all debt related to PennVest loan number 27939, for Project 6522521072111- c, totaling $2,276,552 known to the City of Monessen as Sewer Project Phase four.

Mayor Ron Mozer 14:58
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 14:59
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 15:00
Any questions. I'd like to just point out that this will be the last payment we make from the Phase Four Project. Call the roll please.

Mike Korposh 15:11
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas, yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 15:17
Make a motion to approve PennVest phase, final payment application number 13 in an amount of $79,520.96 for Reynolds Brother, Inc. This is for the final 5% retainage being held, and this will zero out the contract. All contracted work is complete, and any outstanding punch list issues have been finished.

Mayor Ron Mozer 15:37
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 15:38
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 15:39
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 15:41
Council person Cosner Yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer Yes.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 15:48
I'd like to make a motion to approve resolution number one of 2025 authorizing the City of Monessen to apply for funding under DCED's Strategic Management Planning Program, to develop a Financial Management Planning Program and to develop subsequent funding sources for the city of Monessen.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:05
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 16:05
Second,

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:06
any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 16:09
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas, yes, Mayor Mozer, yes

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 16:15
I'd like to make a motion to permit WC to proceed with specifications, bidding and award of contract to resurface Marion Avenue with funds on deposit received from PNG for work that they performed on Marion Avenue.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:28
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 16:28
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:29
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 16:31
Council person Cosner Yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas, Mayor Mozer, yes.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 16:37
I'd like to make a motion to permit WEC to proceed with specifications, bidding and award of contract to resurface Pacific Boulevard from funds received from PNG for work performed on Pacific Boulevard pending suitable review of contract materials presented by PNG.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:52
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 16:53
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:54
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 16:56
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor, aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 17:02
I'd like to make a motion to repay the line usage fund in accordance with Resolution three of 2023, of the City of Monessen through the end of March, 2026, in the amount of $5,666.36 from the General Fund, and which funded certain delineated activities performed by Streets Department that qualifies as Line Usage expenditures.

Mayor Ron Mozer 17:24
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 17:24
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 17:25
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 17:27
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nester aye, Council. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 17:35
I'd like to make a motion to repay the General Fund from the Line Usage Fund in amount of $2,510.42 for activities that qualifies expenditures performed by Streets Department.

Mayor Ron Mozer 17:46
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 17:47
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 17:47
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 17:49
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas, yes, Mayor Mozer yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 17:55
Go ahead and skip to I and J and I'll then take them.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 17:55
Last motion to approve resolution number two, the city of Monessen, setting forth the intent and resolve for the city of Monessen, County of Westmoreland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, to join the Mon River Towns Program.

Mayor Ron Mozer 18:12
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 18:13
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 18:13
Any questions?

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 18:14
I just have one question, what other towns are involved with this program?

Mike Korposh 18:19
I believe there are 13 throughout the Mon Valley that are involved. I can get you the complete list, and it might be in that packet that I gave you with their background information,

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 18:28
I just wanted to know a little bit more about it, like what they do.

Mike Korposh 18:32
They are a group to promote the Mon River Valley with programs, looking into grants, looking into cooperative ventures between the municipalities, just promoting the overall river areas of the Long Valley region.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 18:49
If we do have a list of those towns, I could maybe give them a call, out of curiosity, because I think it's great, but I'd like to know what they have actually done.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 18:58
They contributed some of their money towards the t mural at the park, and also towards the sculpture on McKee Avenue.

Mike Korposh 19:11
I'll get you more information from their current director, Dennis Mark.

Mayor Ron Mozer 19:20
Any other questions, call the roll please.

Mike Korposh 19:23
Council person Cosner Yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas Yes, Mayor Mozer Yes

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 19:29
Motion to hire Allen Michael Fronzaglia for the streets and parks department of the City of Monessen, pending finalization the background check process.

Mayor Ron Mozer 19:40
Is there a second

Councilman John Nestor 19:41
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 19:42
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 19:44
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, Yes

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 19:50
I'd like to make a motion to hire Billy Creighton Dupree for the streets and parks department of the City of Monessen, pending the finalization and background check process.

Mayor Ron Mozer 19:58
Is there a second

Councilman John Nestor 19:59
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 19:59
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 20:01
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye, Council person Thomas, yes, Mayor Mozer, yes,

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 20:08
Motion to advertise for position on the Monessen Civil Service Commission. Effective immediately.

Mayor Ron Mozer 20:13
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 20:14
Second,

Mayor Ron Mozer 20:15
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 20:18
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye, council person Thomas Yes, Mayor Mozer, Yes

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 20:24
Motion to award El Grande to pave Lower Ninth Street from Knox to Schoonmaker, and upper Ninth Street from Reed to Schoonmaker as the low cost qualified vendor for $116,138.80 cent pending CDBG approval.

Mayor Ron Mozer 20:41
Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 20:42
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 20:43
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 20:45
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 20:58
Let me talk a little bit for just a second here. First off, I think today was a very important day for the City of Monessen. We actually were able to close a seven and a half million dollars of interim loan to PNC Bank and convert that to the very low interest loan that we have with USDA. That is quite a remarkable feat. We should be able to close out the rest of that in October, if our engineer can complete the work as we expect, and that is pending us getting the right of ways. And there's many things that it's going to take to make that happen, a couple of things that are kind of interesting too. Today I had pastor Holmes come by my office, and he is working with a program that he calls Monessen Beyond Grad program. Monessen Beyond Grad program, and what it does, he works with students from the ages ninth to 12th grade in the process of building a future for them, giving them some ideas as to what they can do. And he has different programs he can introduce them to. He takes them different places where they can see what their future might hold if they study hard and continue to get the proper education. And it's quite a very, very interesting program he runs. It's funded through RC Mellon or RC Mellon, I guess it is. But any event, he's asked that he could use the City Park and Ninth Street park for a couple of days in the month of June, July. This will be discussed more at our work session, and we'll have it on the agenda

for the next meeting. I'm just kind of bringing everybody up to speed. That there's some good things going on in the city of Monessen. Also, we had a meeting today talking about our music in the park programming, and I'm sure Karen will talk more about that. This is a fantastic opportunity for us to really excel. We since the last meeting we had, we actually received grant from we got the $8,000 in at the last meeting.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 23:18
We weren't really supposed to say where it's from until we actually got the check.

Mayor Ron Mozer 23:21
Oh, okay. It's happening. The one thing that I will stress though, is that we do need volunteers. This is a big program. I expect there to be somewhere between 500 and more people at this program. It's going to take a lot of volunteers. Anybody that would like to volunteer towards this program, please get a hold of myself or Karen. We've got lots of different things that they can be doing, everything from assisting in parking cars to picking up garbage to all kinds of things. It is a big program, and it will require lots of cooperation. I also want to really express my appreciation to Representative Davanza, his chief of staff, Brian Sokol. The work that Brian and Delmar did was helpful in getting what we applied for and received for some funding through the county LSA, and included in that is two thermal imaging Bundler cameras for our fire department. These are top quality image assistant imaging devices that allow them to spot hot spots in the midst of huge smoke and everything else. It's a very good thing. They also are getting a special fan that can help them remove smoke from areas that. And do things. That total thing for the fire department works out to $23,736.00 but in addition to that, he also got us some equipment for our streets and parks department, and that includes a hot pressure unit, high pressure unit that we can use to clean the vehicles, both when it's hot and cold. That was worth $2,500 the chain saws weed whackers, portable blowers, wheels and bolts for the riding tractor. Another $437 and a push and a couple of push Toro mowers at 1600 bucks, along with a roller blade in the amount of $634 for a total of $8,540. This totals about $38,500 that we got through from LSA. And I really want to express my appreciation to Representative Davanza and his Chief of Staff and the work that Delmar did in making this all happen. Tony's not here, so I'm going to go ahead and read his motions. motion to pay the following invoice from the general fund and the amount of $47,765.45 all invoices are attached to this agenda as Attachment A. Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 26:50
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 26:51
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 26:53
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nester aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:00
Motion to pay the following invoices from the refuge account in the amount of $55,750.26 all invoices are attached to this as an attachment. B, is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 27:10
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:11
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 27:14
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nester aye. Council person Thomas, Yes. Mayor Mozer, Yes

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:19
Motion to pay the following invoices from the line usage account in the amount of $15,820. All invoices are attached to this agenda's attachment. C, is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 27:29
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:30
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 27:32
Councilperson Cosner Yes. Councilman Nester aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:39
Motion to pay the following invoices from the parks fund in the amount of $177.29 all invoices are attached to this agenda as Attachment D. Is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 27:48
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:49
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 27:51
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas, yes. Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 27:58
Motion to pay the following invoice for the recreational account in the amount of $666.09. All invoices are attached as to this agenda is Attachment E. is there a second?

Councilman John Nestor 28:10
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:11

Call the roll please.

Mike Korposh 28:12
Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Council person Thomas, yes. Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:20
Motion to pay the following invoices from the grant fund in the amount of $188.65. All invoices are attached to this agenda is attachment F. Can I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 28:29
Second .

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:30
any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 28:32
Council person Cosner, yes. Council Nester, aye. Council person Thomas, yes, Mayor Mozer yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:38
Motion to approve the transfer of $66,222.67 from the general fund to the payroll fund for payroll expenses for March 27, 2025. Could I have a second?

John Nestor 28:49
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:50
Are there any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 28:52
Council person Cosner, yes. Council man Nester aye. Council person Thomas Yes. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:58
And in the spirit of Tony, I'll go through some of the accounts that we have. The paving account has $45,172 in it. The liquid fuels has $15,584 in it. The parks fund has $32,471 the debt service has $659,314 the rec fund has $462 and in in it, the line usage has $748,621 fire escrow has $22,187 the TAN note has $326,253.72 And for earnings information, the general phone, after all, this is still $106,967 Councilwoman Thomas, would you like to give us your report?

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 29:58
Yes, the Streets Department report for February of 2025 collected garbage throughout downtown, marked PA One calls, cold patched several streets throughout the city, swept streets weather permitting, fixed the sidewalk at City Hall, worked on the truck, repaired a sinkhole on a the 100 block of Knox Avenue, salted and plowed roads, ordered, fuel and salt, and helped the Parks Department as needed. That is my report, Mayor.

Mayor Ron Mozer 30:23
Thank you, Councilman Nestor, do you have a report for us?,

Councilman John Nestor 30:29
Thank You Honorable Mayor. Members of Council, administrative staff, row officers and assistants. This is my report. Police department receipts for the month of February 2025, Miscellaneous collections: copies of the police accidents report, which was $345 which makes a grand total of miscellaneous collections of $345, court receipts for district Justice Office are the following: Vehicle Code fines collected $697.24, crime code fines collected $252.55, code enforcement collected $98.22. Total receipts from the district Justice Office is $1,048.02, Total receipts collected for February 2025 $1,393.02. Citations given out from the department, from the Monessen Police Department, were 63 for February, year to date, 110. I also just wanted to remind the mayor we were able to look at Leeds earlier, the portion that we mentioned the other day.

Mayor Ron Mozer 31:37
I think that we need to get Rodney and see if he can get some paint, get up there and redo the paint that is left.

Councilman John Nestor 31:47
Thank you, Mayor. I appreciate that. I also just wanted to bring up an issue that I mentioned to two other council members. We have issues on Motheral where we have vehicles entering the "do not enter side", and they're the contractor vehicles that are working at that location. I have photos that were given to me from some of the constituents that live in that area. I'll be happy to email those photos to you at the end of this meeting. The vehicles are from the construction workers, or workers on that site that are coming in the "do not enter" side. Yeah, that needs to stop. So, Chief, if you see anything of that nature coming in, if you could maybe put a stop to it. Thank you. Other than that, Mayor, I have nothing else. I yield the floor. Thank you.

Mayor Ron Mozer 32:47
Councilwoman Karen Cosner, would you like to give us your report.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 32:49
Sure. The Parks Department report for February 2025: Clean the civic center, clean the park garage, help the Streets Department as needed, and they're excitedly awaiting their new hires. And Rodney Freeman would like to personally thank Luke Doptis for his services while he was here and best wishes on his new journey. That is my report. Thank you. We have a Clean up day scheduled for Saturday, April 26 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at Madison Park. And those of you have helped before, you know what to expect, but we really need some volunteers. It would be really nice to have some younger people to again, so if you know anybody. The Salvation Army is bringing their truck for lunch. So ,if you want to volunteer, we really need to know, so I can call Kara back and let her know how many people to expect, because we don't want to have 100 people show up, and we're only prepared for 30. And then, of course, the flea markets are scheduled. The first one is on Saturday, April 19, at the corner of Donner Avenue, Fifth Street, and it's free. If you're doing spring cleaning, and you want to set out a table,

please come. We had a good time last year, so I hope we have a really nice turnout this year. And of course, the concerts are coming up, and like the mayor said, we need a lot of help. If you have family members, or whomever you have, please, ask them to give us a call and sign up. It's going to be fun. It'll be a nice day, but we do need your help, so we're working on it. Like we said. At the next meeting, we'll be able to tell you about the grant we got. But I think we're doing pretty well. I'd say by now, we definitely have enough to cover expenses enough for the first concert and then moving forward. So again, if you want to donate, we're here to take your money. There you go. Thank you.

Mayor Ron Mozer 35:00
This time I like to open the floor for public comment and directed to myself relating to business ordinances, statues, resolutions or daily work product and the attention of the city of Monessen.

Delmar Hepple 35:22
Delmar Hepple. Municipal fire chief. Just want to thank Mike and Ron. I know we had a lot of meetings with this LSA stuff, and there was a lot of negativity in the past, but I want to thank Eric Davanzo. I've already thanked him and Brian personally, their staff that worked on this, but I think we got something good going here, and we keep up to work. I think the three of us get together quite often, like we do and we can make this happen to be better for the fire department. Appreciate it.

Ernie Telegraphis 35:47
Thanks. Ernie Telegraphis. Can you tell me what else is down the road there, fire chief Hepple that you're going to be needing assistance? What else you got coming down the road that you're going to need assistance?

Delmar Hepple 36:07
We do have some things in the works, but we'll keep them to ourself until we get finished. Mike and Ron are in the mix for needs of the the fire department, and we're all working together. We got some things that should show up soon, hopefully.

Ernie Telegraphis 36:22
You're going to be able to cover those costs Absolutely. Wow. Okay, so coming back here to council, can you tell me, what are we doing here with the easements? You talked about it. You got some idea what numbers are thrown at you for us to go under the railroads?

Joseph Dalfonso 36:43
The City's already paid their review fees.

Ernie Telegraphis 36:47
How much did that come up?

Mayor Ron Mozer 36:50
It was sizable.

Ernie Telegraphis 36:52
That's what I'm afraid of. What's the size?

Mayor Ron Mozer 36:55
10 or $15,000

Ernie Telegraphis 36:57
We have enough in our budget?

Mayor Ron Mozer 36:59
Yes, it is paid for part of the project, as part of what was planned from day one.

Ernie Telegraphis 37:05
Okay, and then what are we doing, as far as promoting somebody for industry? We have anybody working on industry?

Mayor Ron Mozer 37:17
We got several things in the works, and hopefully we'll be able to let people know how it works out in the near future. Okay,

Ernie Telegraphis 37:24
I asked you many times in the past, can you invite somebody here?

Mayor Ron Mozer 37:29
When it's time, we will invite somebody here.

Ernie Telegraphis 37:33
Okay, because we need money to come in. I understand. Alright. Thank you. Anybody else?

Linda Lacey 37:49
Linda Lacey, 1624, Maple Avenue, I just want to know. Do we have any updates, or what we going to do with the Mihalich Boat Launch? Has anybody got a hold of the Army Corps of Engineers?

Mayor Ron Mozer 38:03
We've had meetings with the Army Corps of Engineers. We've had several discussions. They still insist that they have no money available for us. We did reach out to RVE. RVE has identified several different grants that may work, some of which have some match money associated with it, and we'll look at different ways of addressing that. Maybe it's through the Monessen River Rats that brought it to our attention. Maybe it's through some other program that we come up with. But yes, we are definitely working on that.

Linda Lacey 38:35
Is the Army Corps of Engineers dredging part of the river now, yes, and they don't have no money,

Mayor Ron Mozer 38:43
That blows my mind too.

Linda Lacey 38:45
Well. Maybe they should have a public meeting instead of meeting with you guys. Maybe they should have a public meeting because I think that that benefits everybody in the city of Monessen, and the fact that they should have been there last week in Belle Vernon because of dropping these dangerous chemicals in our water.

Mayor Ron Mozer 39:14
I don't know about that, but okay,

Linda Lacey 39:15
You didn't know about that.

Mayor Ron Mozer 39:20
Why would the Army Corps of Engineers be dropping chemicals?

Linda Lacey 39:23
No, I didn't say the Army Corps of Engineers. I said they should have been at that meeting.

Mayor Ron Mozer 39:32
Well, they're talking about ---

Linda Lacey 39:36
I'm talking about Westmoreland County landfill, dumping this leachate in the water. Everybody should be concerned in the whole Mon Valley, because it just doesn't affect us. It affects the Allegheny, and it affects the Ohio, and it affects the Yough and the Yough goes into the watershed of the Chesapeake. So. It's a lot, and I can't believe that Belle Vernon lets them do that. They stopped them now, of course, because it just damaged a lot of things, and if a chemical is too dangerous to be transported on our highways, and yet, they're going to dump it in our rivers. Well, we lived through the pollution of Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel, and they sort of cleaned it up. Now they're going to drop more chemicals in it that probably will stay in there forever. And nobody seems to be concerned about this, except for Rostraver Township. I was there, Wayne Vlasic, right, and Ernie, of course, and Mrs. Urbanowicz, okay, because she put at a letter to the editor in the paper a couple days before this meeting, and she got called out on it, which I thought was disgraceful.

Mayor Ron Mozer 41:07
During that time, there was a council meeting.

Councilman John Nestor 41:08
Mayor, you were out, and that's also when we had a work session in progress. There was no representation, in essence, because of the work session.

Mayor Ron Mozer 41:17
We were interviewing for employment.

Linda Lacey 41:31
That's right, you were interviewing.

Councilwoman Lois Thomas 41:33
We were interviewing for the Streets Department.

Mayor Ron Mozer 41:41
Everybody had different projects going on at the time. It was just very difficult for anybody to get there. I was working with the county. They were interviewing for employment. I appreciate that. If nothing else,

I'd like to make a motion for adjournment. Is there a second? Second? All in favor? Say aye. Meeting is adjourned.

ATTEST:

Linda Matthews / City Clerk

SIGNED:

Ron Mozer / Mayor