

City Council 8-14-2025

Sun, Aug 17, 2025 9:00PM • 1:03:38

SUMMARY KEYWORDS

City Council meeting, quorum, public comment, agenda items, CDBG grant, police cars, sewage authority, road conditions, traffic counting, economic development, animal control, city clerk vacancy, code enforcement, parking issues, fundraisers.

SPEAKERS

Pastor John Custer, Chief Dave Yuhasz, Joseph Dalfonso, Councilman John Nestor, Councilwoman Karen Cosner, Ernie Telegraphis, Mike Korposh, Karen Cosner, Mayor Ron Mozer

Mayor Ron Mozer 00:02

It's now 6:30 I'd like to call this city council meeting of August the 14th to order. Could I have a roll call please?

Mike Korposh 00:09

Council person Cosner here, Councilman Nestor present. Council person Thomas, Councilman Orzechowski, Mayor Mozer present. Mayor. We have three members present, two absent, and I note a quorum.

Mayor Ron Mozer 00:22

Thank you. At this time, I'd like to ask Reverend John Custer to lead us in prayer.

Pastor John Custer 00:34

Amen. Would you pray with me, Lord, we're grateful for the good things that you've done for this city and the relative peace and safety that we live in and we're so thankful for these things. I ask tonight for an outpouring on this particular work night, I pray for wisdom, things that we have never seen put into the minds of our leaders, concepts ideas that have never occurred. You have brand new things that nobody has seen. I pray that you would grant this type of wisdom to these good men and women who volunteer for this position. And I pray these new things you would just keep sending them into our minds so that all the people here could benefit. Thank you for the love you have for the citizens here, and I pray that these new things would just continue to sprout in the years to come. I'm asking for good things, not just for the people in this room and for our contemporaries right now, needs for the roads and the houses and the things that sustain our life here. But I pray that that people would look back on this generation, even on this night and on these leaders, and say, these are the people that called into existence blessings that are truly from God. Let this generation be spoken of like that by people in the future, all these things we just ask for because of your love and your generous care for the people in this city, I ask this now in your name, amen.

Mayor Ron Mozer 02:23

Amen. I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America and to the republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible with liberty and justice for all.

Mayor Ron Mozer 02:45

Let's see if the minutes of the previous July 10 and the fourth, 24th been circulated. Could I have a motion to approve the meeting minutes?

Councilman John Nestor 02:58

Motion to approve minutes of the previous session of July, 10 and July 24, 2025.

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:05

Is there a second?

Karen Cosner 03:05

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:05

Any questions? Call the roll please.

Mike Korposh 03:07

Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor, aye. Mayor Mozer, yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 03:10

At this time, I'd like to ask for public comment directed to myself on agenda items only.

Ernie Telegraphis 03:26

Ernest Telegraphs, 29 Rex, okay, this agenda is like incomprehensible. Here you got a motion for August 13, which passed yesterday, for a meeting that you got down for. What motion you referenced? CDBG, what item page two,.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:07

That's a discussion. And that was a meeting that you did not come to.

Ernie Telegraphis 04:12

I didn't know.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:14

You need to read the newspaper.

Ernie Telegraphis 04:15

Yes, did you put anything on the website? No, it's on the news because I checked your website so you don't put no information. That's why nobody comes down anyway, then we have You're making it sound like a done deal. You're applying for a grant to get two police office cars. That's a done deal. That is a discussion today. Yeah. Well, okay, so how could you have a discussion if it ain't a done deal.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:50

It's completed.

Ernie Telegraphis 04:52

It's all completed.

Mayor Ron Mozer 04:54

Well, it's a discussion.

Ernie Telegraphis 04:57

Okay, then I got you. Okay, it says COG from meetings from the Mon Valley Planning District, meetings of local communities over the last few months. So who are these people?

Mayor Ron Mozer 05:13

It's the Mid Mon Yough.

Ernie Telegraphis 05:15

Well, who are they? Did you just write down general statements?

Mayor Ron Mozer 05:21

I will get to that when we get to that.

Ernie Telegraphis 05:23

But okay, so you're gonna identify them. Okay, then this discussion on page six, be with Karen. Is this the Nehemiah group? What's that about? And if that is the same Nehemiah group, are they incorporated, and are they insured? If they're not, I don't know what you guys are doing, playing with fire.

Joseph Dalfonso 06:01

You're running out of pages.

Ernie Telegraphis 06:02

No, I'm not out of pages. It's your pages. You guys got all kind of generalization now this LSA grant application, what's that all about? We'll talk about that too, and you gotta spell that out.

Joseph Dalfonso 06:17

Yep, okay. Means Local Share Account.

Ernie Telegraphis 06:21

It happens every year, turns out every year.

Ernie Telegraphis 06:27

I'm just telling you what it is, okay? And then this vacancy of Linda Matthews, who's this Lloyd guy?

Mayor Ron Mozer 06:43
Where are you looking now?

Ernie Telegraphis 06:45
That's for code of course.

Councilman John Nestor 06:48
Yeah, Lloyd, that's, that's our current code enforcement officer.

Ernie Telegraphis 06:51
He's the current, yeah? Lloyd Aldridge, yes. I never saw him.

Ernie Telegraphis 06:54
Okay? The thing is, huh, I gotta read.

Ernie Telegraphis 07:00
That's Yoyo. His name is Lloyd Adridge. Came from England here? ?? I didn't. But anyway, one last thing you guys don't have city clerks.

Joseph Dalfonso 07:15
Agenda Items.

Ernie Telegraphis 07:21
That's the fourth. No, that's the third city clerk under your administration.

Mayor Ron Mozer 07:32
Ron Mozer, that's not the third.

Ernie Telegraphis 07:37
No, but the blonde treasurer.

Mayor Ron Mozer 07:41
She was the treasury clerk. We didn't get rid of her.

Ernie Telegraphis 07:50
Guys are going through people here, and somebody's not doing their job, or maybe they're getting frightful of what they see here.

Mayor Ron Mozer 08:01
None of the above.

Ernie Telegraphis 08:02
So I don't know. I'm just asking questions. But anyway, I hope you guys got all your dots and tees properly put together, because come January, there might be a new sheriff. I'm okay,

Ernie Telegraphis 08:27

Thank you

Mayor Ron Mozer 08:35

Let's continue. I don't believe. Well, let's see. I'm going to just talk for a very short minute about some of the things have been going on, because it has been three weeks since we had our last meeting, and it's been rather interesting last three weeks. It can be highlighted by a few things that include the sinkhole that we all are aware of, and early last week, the Mon Valley Sewage Authority came to the city of Monessen and said that they are moving forward with their EQ tank. Now bear in mind, this is the same EQ tank that we heard about in 2012 when it was a half million dollars. The same tank that in 2021 became \$4 million and they were coming to us and saying, it's now \$8 million we have another alternative to that. If we were to go with the \$8 million tank, it would mean that we'd have to add \$7 to everybody's line usage fee. That is not something that anybody is looking at doing. That is just not a thing as there is an alternative to that. Even back in 2012 they had a study done about what the difference between the EQ tank would be versus separation of sanitary water versus storm water coming down from the Marion Avenue down Grand Boulevard. At that time, that separation project would have cost \$1.2 million and the tank was only \$500,000. So of course, we said, let's go with the tank. But the economics have changed dramatically when you're talking about an \$8 million tank, and we've gotten new estimates from the engineer that it would be about three and a half million dollars for separation. Now it turns out that they've already got the \$4 million in line usage that they've been collecting from their part of the Line Usage fee that they get every month, they get five or \$7 I believe it's \$7

Joseph Dalfonso 10:48

No, I think it's \$5.50

Mayor Ron Mozer 10:51

That's right, they get \$5.50 out of that \$27 every month, they've been able to borrow money against and get grant money from, now they've got a pool of about \$4 million so what they came to us looking for was another \$4 million on top of what they already had. We're saying for that \$4 million that they have, we can probably separate the storm water from the sewage and actually have something that's superior to an EQ tank. In the end, not only will it be less expensive, but in the case of these micro storms that we have, where we come and we just get dumped with a lot of rain, all at one time, this water will go straight into the storm system and to the river. By separation, we have much better control of what goes to that satellite treatment plant, and it works better for far less money. The only hang up to this is it's all contingent on what we call a corrective action plan that the DEP has put on to the city of Monessen. We have to have that corrective action plan changed to allow us to do the separation. The solicitor myself and the engineer have been working with DEP, and we have scheduled a meeting on the 21st I believe to make our case, and I think that we've got a pretty strong case. But then again, they're the DEP, so I can't make any promises, but I do believe that it'll work. Time will tell. We have no other choice. DEP has mandated that we solve this problem. If doesn't work, we're stuck with a big bill.

Councilman John Nestor 12:42

I would say, continue on.

Mayor Ron Mozer 12:43

Yeah, I'm going to continue. One of the things that we all are very serious about here is figuring out ways to do something with our roads. And roads are really something that's a pretty, serious problem within the city of Monessen. We've got to come up with ways to do that. We don't have a lot of money to do road repairs, but from time to time, we get CDBG grants. We get some money in our streets department. We get some money to do roads one of the things that RVE did here a while back is they came to all the communities that they work with, which, in essence, we are only one of which of several. And they actually had a dinner over in Spears. But they had a presentation by a company out of Germany. They had, they had this program that you put on a car and you drive around, you use your cell phone, and it takes video of the roads, and it basically captures all the information. It sees everything from stop signs to potholes to street markings to parking problems to whatever. And it can mark things, but it's not a cheap thing. But all I'm really saying is we got to come up with a way that we can judge our roads and determine what the quality of road is. There are some roads in this town that are extremely bad. As an example, Delaware, Skoonmaker to Indiana, Crest from Helen to Hoover is bad along with Hoover. Evergreens bad. Those are some just absolutely, very bad roads. There's a couple of roads that have never been paved, as an example, Crest extension. There's a couple houses that are off of Crest that have no pavement whatsoever, that, uh, it's kind of an interesting problem. So there, there is a an issue for that I will donate to the city. So road condition of the road is something that we got to figure out a way to grade it. And I'm not saying I know how to do that, but I would like to ask our city engineer has a trip there, one of, I think, believes Adam has a has done a lot of study in traffic engineering, and I'd like to get him involved in coming up. Some way to rate our roads. But the next thing would be, how much traffic does a road get? That's got to be an important factor that goes into this equation. One of the things that I have left over from from days of Crystalline, are some cameras that I will donate to the city that will do traffic counting, and we can set those up beside the road, and we can count the number of cars that go through there and get some good traffic numbers. The third thing that would be important about it is, how do we pay for such a road? Some roads are easily paid for. Other roads are not easily paid for. But that has to go into the equation. And last but not least, when these go in the equation is, what does it do to the community? In other words, you put in a nice road, it should have some economic value to the community. Either it raises property value in the area, provides transportation for businesses. But there is an economic side to roads. And I think that if we started objectively rating our roads based upon those four criteria, we might be able to come up with a way to judge our roads; which ones we need to concentrate on first. And that's all I really wanted to say about that. We did get our new Xerox printers in today or yesterday. I guess it was. They seem to be working. Well, I don't know that there's any problem with them at all.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:23

I won't go into that, one of the things that the competition is Xerox offered was free OCR capability, so you can scan the document and take it directly to Word. Turns out Xerox can do the same thing, but they want to charge you \$228 for a license to do that. I want them to give that to us. I'm trying to trying to get them to give that to us. I don't know if I'll be successful, but I'm trying.

Mayor Ron Mozer 16:53

Everybody knows the city clerk gave us her notice. It's not because of anything other than the fact that she's got a grandchild that's going to be born in Butler. She wants to spend more time up there and do something up there. She's got a job that's in the middle and it seems to suit her well. She can work from

her house a couple days a week. It's a family reason why she left, not because she was not happy here. She wants to be very much involved with what's going on in the city. All I can say is, she's been an excellent city clerk. I have absolutely nothing against her. I've threatened to report that she's doing an alcoholic or something. Get something bad on her so she doesn't get another job, but I couldn't do that either. So anyway, she's a wonderful person.

Mayor Ron Mozer 17:52

The Mid Mon Yough is something that Karen and I have been spending a lot of time with. Mid Mon Valley is one of eight districts that were defined in the county of Westmoreland. The basis behind this is Westmoreland County. The commissioners looked at the county and said, you know what? The state of Pennsylvania is decreasing in population. Westmoreland County is decreasing faster than the rest of the state. Various districts within the county are even decreasing faster. What their concept was is to organize, to break it up into 8 smaller districts where you can work with other communities in your in your area. Monessen is part of the same one that's got Smithton in it. It's got West Newton. It's got Sutersville, Rostraver, and us. I think that's about it. Yeah, that's the only ones that are active

Ernie Telegraphis 19:00

Oh, I saw the map that it was sent out. I saw our cell phones on there.

Mayor Ron Mozer 19:04

But anyway, that's the district that we had and that we're participating in. COG's are normally things like the Sewage Authority, like the Refuge Authority, and things like that. Those are COGs that are well developed and were done a long time ago. They're very complicated to put together. They take a lot of paperwork. That's not what we're really saying. All that they're wanting to do is to have an open dialog between us and the other people in our district, to talk about common problems that we all have and how we might cooperate in order to address some of those problems. As an example, code enforcement or something like that might be something we could talk about. There's no strings attached with this COG. This agreement is that it opens the doors to allow us to communicate with other communities in the district in order to explore opportunities, and that's the only thing behind that.

Mayor Ron Mozer 20:15

We did have a meeting yesterday, and we talked a little bit about some of the CDBG things, and we will do this again. Don't worry, those people that didn't get here yesterday can still have a voice in it. But as an example, there's lots of things that are really challenging. We have things with the fire department; fire station number one has the fire hose, I'm not going into all this, because it does need to be done in a public hearing with CDBG but there are a lot of opportunities for CDBG money that will help the city in in some big ways. We also have a \$75,000 LSA grant that's Local Share Account for your information that is done by the casinos. The casinos, by law, take a portion of their profits, and they set it up for the communities in the area. You can use that for lots of things, but you have to define it. It's typically used for things like the fire departments and police departments and so forth. The point being is, we have an LSA grant that's for economic development that we got last year. It is to improve the economic conditions of the city, and we are also part of the STMP program right now with Dennis Martinak. It's my strong suggestion that council seriously consider using the same person to manage that LSA grant as is doing the STMP program, because they're so closely related and intertwined that it just makes a lot of sense. I them. We've got this, these houses that are part of Westmoreland community action. And

there's been talk about these modular homes. They look like mobile homes. They've done lots of things, but the fact of the matter is, they're there. Nobody's yet to buy any of those houses. That's a problem. That's a problem in many different ways, that is stifling us in other avenues as well, including NPP program, a perfect partner. What does NPP stand for? Partnership Program, oh, the Neighborhood Partnership Program. And that's a program whereby businesses who have a \$50,000 liability to the state for taxes can use that money invested in the local community and get tax credits for it. It's about 95% which means they can invest money into this community, like Monessen and to develop something that even benefits their business, potentially. But the problem is, you have to have somebody such as Westmoreland Community Action to run the program, and they've run the program for other places such as New Kensington and they have been very successful. It's all intertwined.

Mayor Ron Mozer 23:36

I think I pretty much covered the things I want to talk about a couple of other things. September the 13th, the church that wants to do another parade like they did last year. And this is something that will be on the agenda, because Council's got to endorse this so that we can get a parade permit through.

Ernie Telegraphis 23:59

It's all about celebrating religion.

Mayor Ron Mozer 24:06

That's all it is. It's a church celebration.

Mayor Ron Mozer 24:08

One thing that's kind of interesting to me is, this is a billboard that Dr Motte of the School District sent that says the "New Modern Monessen, where innovation meets tradition. Monessen School District." They're actively working at trying to promote the school district, and they've got several different programs that you're going to start hearing more about. But you know what the point being is, if we don't survive, the school doesn't survive, if school doesn't survive, we don't survive. We got to work together. And this is just something that they are saying they're trying to do. I think that we ought to do something similar, that promotes the city. We have the same goal in the bottom line. If we improve the city, it'll help the school. They improve the school, it'll help the city. We're all in this together. That's the reason why we got this economic development grant. I think that does it for me. Let's continue on.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 25:23

I think the 21st is the day before the teachers start back, they're having Open Houses. There's one at the high school and one at the elementary center to show off the new renovations.

Mayor Ron Mozer 25:44

That'd be very good. Yeah, very good.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 25:46

I think it is from 5:30 to 8:00; they're different segments.

Mayor Ron Mozer 25:59

We've had one meeting with the Mon Valley EMS. I really gave a challenge to them to improve their services and so forth within the city of Monessen, and get them up to a 90% level. And to that end, I appointed five people to the advisory board. Our police chief is one of them; fire chief is another. We have representation from Mike Singel, our Emergency Coordinator, and you're on this as well. The point being, is that we need to continue with this, and we need to have another meeting. Were you at the last meeting? Can you give us a synopsis of that?

Councilman John Nestor 26:46

So, we sat down, both chief Yuhauz, Chief Delmar Hepple, myself, two members of their board. Unfortunately, EMS, Chris Delmar Hepple was not there at the time. We went over the information. We definitely gave out our grievances. If I'm right, Chief, you lost. We gave out, you know, situations that we feel that impact the city, that need to be changed and fixed, and it's hindering. For example, yes, they might have an 81% rate of showing up there, but with one person being the one showing up, what's that really doing to our city? How's that helping our community? We gave up some situations where, you know, they're relying more on our fire department or municipal police department to do some of the actions and really what they're offering. So we gave out some grievances. Chief Hepple, the fire chief, did not mince words. He gave out his grievances as well. We plan to sit down, all of us, when Mike Singel gets back from vacation to maybe have another meeting, and I just put him on a program to see what's going to be changing in the next month and a half or so before we start looking at other avenues. Okay, I don't know, Chief Yuhasz, if you had anything you want to add to that, in reference to the mobile EMS.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 28:17

Well, the improvements that we want and ultimately, everyone has the same goal.

Councilman John Nestor 28:26

Then I would suggest to Mayor our next meeting, if we can kidnap Mike and have him come to our meeting too, because it's nice to have someone that's there at the city building, that's there all the time, be part of that. It's someone who knows the ins and outs of what's going on with Single. Mike Korposh, our city administrator, it'd be nice maybe if Mike, if he's available to give us answers to our questions, some things that happen here at the city building that I didn't have the answers to.

Mayor Ron Mozer 28:59

Well, good, no problem. In fact, I think I probably want to be at the next one as well. Okay, the next thing on the list is a discussion about Dennis Martinak. We've got his contract. He's been approved for DCED for STMP program. Excuse me. Does anybody have anything they want to comment about as far as moving forward?

Councilman John Nestor 29:30

No, mayor.

Mayor Ron Mozer 29:31

Okay, it will be on the agenda. The chief has asked for that civil service testing, so that'll be on the agenda as well. There was a discussion about animal control. Did you ever hear any more about that?

Councilman John Nestor 29:56

I'm sorry. Actually, I do have one question about agenda E. Okay, this would be for a part time or full time.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 30:03

I potentially could be losing an officer shortly, another place is going to be hiring. I actually have officers and other people interested in working here. I'm just waiting for your blessing before I can advertise.

Councilman John Nestor 30:33

I wasn't sure if it was going to be a part time officer.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 30:37

Okay, you know, there's lots of officers out there where we have one by that, a plethora of part time officers.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 30:51

Yeah, officers are not there anywhere in this state or anywhere.

Mayor Ron Mozer 30:58

Okay, sorry about that. No problem. That's what we're here for, is discuss this stuff. Back to animal control. Do you have anything you would like to add? It? Does officer Shrader have any comments?

Chief Dave Yuhasz 31:13

She was off the last few days on vacation days, so I didn't really want to bother her with that, but there hasn't been any movement to my knowledge, other than recommendations. I'm lying to you, because I know they have someone in mind to potentially speak **if they will be interrupting either you do stay associated with our existing**. What we have right now are maybe two other animal control companies to possible look at.

Mayor Ron Mozer 31:51

Well, if they can get that information to us early enough, we can get it on the agenda for our next meeting, I do believe.

Councilman John Nestor 31:58

it seems like Jeanette just hired an animal control officer over there, and I forget the name of the company.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 31:59

It's the one we have now, there are some issues. We're depending on state agencies and outside agencies which is part of our problems.

Mayor Ron Mozer 32:25

Okay, let me try to explain this a little bit. Mike can correct me or kick me if I say something wrong. But we had worked pretty hard with some of our senators and congressmen to apply for a state LSA grant.

We didn't get much the first year, or nothing the first year, and they were really going to make it up to us, and they were going to do some good things for us. The goal was that they were doing basically a half million bucks. It was police cars, fire trucks, it was all kinds of things that were being done, Street Department equipment, and to that, we added the asphalt zipper, which took it up to about three quarters of a million dollars, which is a little bit higher than what they initially said. So that is what they're coming down to. And everybody that's watching the news right now knows that the state is still arguing about the budget, so there's still lots of things up in the air, but what they're really suggesting to us now, if we pull the two police cars out of that and drop it by \$150,000 we might be able to get it all, and we can do this \$150,000 through a different program that they have.

Mike Korposh 33:40

It is absolutely is and I apologize to everyone for last time mangling this saying \$50,000 and I confused Council member Orzechowski, and I think the entire panel, I apologize. Thank you. It's a guaranteed \$150,000 stipend for two police cars, and the mayor described it exactly. If you're going over the allotted amounts in the LSA grant, they do this to ensure that those cars are given. But we could also get four.

Councilman John Nestor 34:13

Is this \$150,00 per purchase/

Mayor Ron Mozer 34:17

No, for two cars.

Mike Korposh 34:21

We allocated \$142,000 and change, I believe, chief in the LSA grant, so this gives us a little extra for tweaking.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 34:40

Yes, there's some equipment that we can probably add.

Mike Korposh 34:40

It's been going on there.

Mayor Ron Mozer 34:41

But that's the basics. This includes all the bells and whistles; everything is a fully loaded police car.

Mayor Ron Mozer 34:44

I apologize everybody That the \$50,000 that would not have been enough.

Mayor Ron Mozer 34:53

Yeah, no, I hope to get everything that we want. But along comes this next one, which is the upcoming LSA, which closes in September. The first is open right now for submission, and I think. What kind of money are we talking about now? It's only \$20,000 or \$30,000.

Mayor Ron Mozer 35:16

And we're going to talk again tomorrow in the 35 to 40,000,

Mayor Ron Mozer 35:22

Okay, these are local and I'm asking council to think about this, but we have some serious problems with the fire departments. As example, fire department number Number 2 has the hose tower separating from the building. That's a major problem. We've got the floor being fixed right now. We found the problem with the plumbing, and we've got that all addressed. So, we've got all those problems solved, but we still have some other issues that are not. There's a long list that Karen provided to us. Those are the kinds of things LSA is good for. Also, LSA would be good for things like the doors at the fire station number 1, that are so opaque you can't see through them.

Councilman John Nestor 36:13

My question, Mayor. I apologize for jumping ahead, but there was an email that was sent out that gave us some options that our engineer was able to help us with, grants, and one of them was for our public buildings. Do you remember what the email mentioned about Karen? There was an attachment that gave a list of what they were be willing to help us out for grants, and one of them was for public buildings. And even Tony was like, why don't we maybe try to aim for that, for that grants that we can use LSA and CDBG for things like the roads. You only use so much for roads, I get that. But for like the properties that we have issues with, there was, I could look at the email. Yeah, I can find it to circulate around. I think it was mayor. If I was correct, I think maybe you might have sent it out. You gave out a list of what our engineers were able to help us do.

Mayor Ron Mozer 37:12

LSA was one of them. CDBG was another one. There may be some others.

Councilman John Nestor 37:18

I don't want to to hold everybody up, but I thought about it.

Mayor Ron Mozer 37:43

I'll find it okay and then we can talk about those things as well. But we do need to put together what we want for this year, LSA, that comes up to about \$35,000 or \$40,000 apparently, we did have a meeting yesterday on the CDBG, and there was not a lot of public participation.

Mayor Ron Mozer 38:14

Hopefully we'll figure out ways to improve that next time. I want you to explain to me what you're talking about with the utilization of Life's work for the Shade Tree Commission, what is this?

Mike Korposh 38:30

Yeah, they would like to utilize Life's Work, and it would be through the Shade Tree Commission and Mark Bellora to do some watering projects at Eastgate and at Madison Park. So what we requested the solicitor, and we are going to utilize a waiver that we have used in the past to do that work, and that's being circulated and signed now by Mr. Bellora and the Life's Works folks, looks like in the next few days, they'd like to do the projects, maybe over the weekend or in the next week, and it will utilize their residents and folks that utilize their programs on a daily basis to help.

Councilman John Nestor 39:11

I apologize. I don't mean to go back, but I found the email, okay? It's for the community facilities, Direct Loan and Grant, which is underneath the rolling grant, and it's not LSA, okay? And RVE is the one that sent out the email. It was under their cover, yeah, and it was called the rolling grant, okay?

Mayor Ron Mozer 39:36

Aaron's on vacation right now. You'll be back next week. We can get it out.

Councilman John Nestor 39:40

Community facilities, Direct Loan and Grant, and that's where it would well, that's the thing. Is, the match requires between 85 to 25 though, but improvement to public facilities such as town halls, libraries, fire departments and police stations. So that's what I was saying. We could maybe try to have, you know, we're supposed to get that freebie, maybe have them go for that and we use LSA grant for something else, like roads or something of that nature. Okay. Sorry, I am losing my voice.

Mayor Ron Mozer 40:16

No problem. Good idea. I like it. Thank you.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 40:22

Lifse Work, helped us a couple years ago when we planted those trees at the Boat Kaunch. They liked doing it.

Mayor Ron Mozer 40:32

Did it help us out a lot?

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 40:35

They liked helping us. And I think they have a van. Well, they walked over there. They helped before. I know they liked doing projects like that.

Mayor Ron Mozer 40:48

Well, good for them. I hope it's good for us as well. We talked a little bit about the COG already in my opening remarks. Does anybody want to talk anymore about that?

Mayor Ron Mozer 41:07

There is a Pension Board meeting that we have coming up. Yes, I'm not sure there's much to discuss about that, but we do need to talk about the city clerk vacancy. One thing that I will point out is that we've got three people that have showed interest in coming to work for the city to fill the City Clerk position. One of them, I believe, was in the south part of Pittsburgh, and she wanted \$60,000 to come to work here, which is more than we're paying. The other one wanted \$55,000 and she was a little bit closer. And there's a third one that we just found out yesterday, and it's kind of interesting, because I took it to Linda, and I said, Do you know this person? And she said, Yes, she's my next door neighbor. So there's one that's local and may be a good person, and her resume is pretty good. I would like to

suggest that we do need to have an interview process as fast as we can possibly do one, and depending on what your schedule is, I would like to get one scheduled for early next week.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 42:23

I don't have my calendar here.

Mayor Ron Mozer 42:25

What about you? I'm not available Thursday and Friday of next week. What about Monday or Tuesday? I should be available? Yes. So as fast as we can get them to commit to coming in, I'd like to get them to come in.

Councilman John Nestor 42:38

I'm available anytime after six o'clock.

Mike Korposh 42:40

Okay, we'll call for some at six or 6:30 city clerk for this particular interview..

Mayor Ron Mozer 42:52

Okay, we'll contact them and tell them to arrange something after six o'clock. The other thing that I wanted to do was to get council to consider appointing Lloyd Aldridge as the interim code enforcement officer within the city of Monessen. I think he's been working with Marvin long enough, and he's our best shot.

Councilman John Nestor 43:10

I don't want to speak for Joey, but I think he's been working with you a lot too for the hearings we have coming up.

Joseph Dalfonso 43:18

Primarily why we need him to be there.

Councilman John Nestor 43:21

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 43:29

Okay, thought about city clerk position and the fact that we can't pay a whole lot of money. Maybe we need to think of other ways that we can entice people to stay here, other than money, maybe working from home a day. I'm just thinking, what is important to people today? What would make a young guy like you want to stay in a position? What's most important if you discount money? What else would be important to make you want to be employed in Monessen, other than money? We know we can't pay a whole lot. What else is attractive for people today? I'm retired.

Councilman John Nestor 44:04

You're asking a real person, because it's money and that's why I do all the overtime I can get.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 44:12

Would it be an enticement for them? Seriously, that is a good question. It's a tough one.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 44:19

We're never going to be able to compete with bigger cities. But what else can we give them to work here?

Mayor Ron Mozer 44:30

You're right, Karen, it'd be nice. So that's one of the reasons why our current clerk is leaving. She's not able to work, you know, from home on certain days. And something we would have to look into is a proper VPN. You know, the logistics of how it would work. It's a secured network.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 44:52

Again, that's what the people want.

Councilman John Nestor 44:57

Yes, that would be a benefit, though, is to work from home. Know that saves you on gas and saves you time.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 45:03

I understand that you would have to really think about it. You can't just leave it open ended. I just thought about what people want, other than the money.

Mayor Ron Mozer 45:20

We have some of the best benefits. All right. Well, let's move on and get some bills taken care of. I would like to make a motion to pay the following invoice, General Fund in the amount of \$38,292.89. Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 45:39

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 45:40

Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 45:42

Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Mayor Mozer, aye,

Mayor Ron Mozer 45:48

Motion to pay the following invoices from the Parks Fund in the amount of \$2,874.05. Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 45:56

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 45:57

Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 45:59

Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye, Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:05

Motion to pay the following invoices from the Line Usage Fund in the amount of \$52,380.59. Can I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 46:13

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:13

Any questions, call the roll.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:16

Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye, Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:17

Motion to pay the following invoice from the Grant Fund in the amount of \$11,250.28 Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 46:27

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:28

Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 46:31

Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye , Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:37

Motion to pay the following invoices from the Liquid Fuels Fund in the amount of \$14,233.70. Can I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 46:49

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:49

Any questions? Call the roll.

Mayor Ron Mozer 46:58

Motion to pay the following invoices from the Recreation Fund in the amount of \$988.25 Could I have a second?

Mike Korposh 46:59

Council person, Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor, aye. Mayor Mozer, Yes.

Councilman John Nestor 47:03
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:04
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 47:08
Council person Cosner Yes. Councilman Nestor aye, Mayor Mozer aye.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:14
Motion to approve the transfer of \$70,927.68 from the General Fund to the payroll account for payroll expenses for July 31 payroll. Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 47:24
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:25
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 47:27
Council person, Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor, aye. Mayor Mozer yes.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:31
Motion to approve the transfer of \$76,877.29 from the General Fund to the payroll account for payroll expenses for the August 14, 2025 payroll . Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 47:45
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:45
Any questions? Call the roll.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:48
Council person, Cosner, yes, Councilman Nestor aye, Mayor Mozer aye, with three weeks in between, we had two pay periods that occurred on in that period, Motion approved.

Councilman John Nestor 47:59
Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 47:59
The sewer rehabilitation project phase 3, payment requisition and certificate number 34 in the amount of \$295,114.86 for phase three, work performed by WEC engineers, Inc, from June 28, 2025, through August 2025, in the amount of \$36,946.60 and an invoice from Insight Pipe Contracting LLC, for work

performed from June 1, 2025 to July 23, in 2025, and the amount of \$258,168.26 Could I have a second?

Mayor Ron Mozer 48:08

Let me just clarify this, we've got numbers here, that if you have the two together, they come up with a third. It's not that we're spending \$300,000 twice. We're spending at one time. Just for clarity, call the roll.

Mike Korposh 49:00

Motion to approve resolution number 8 of 2025 a resolution of council of the city of Monessen County of Westmoreland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving and authorizing the modification of the FY 2024 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG application). Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 49:08

Second?

Mike Korposh 49:08

Council person, Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Mayor Mozer aye,

Mayor Ron Mozer 49:14

Let me explain this too. This is something that we did a long time ago, but we never did it properly with a Resolution. This was putting us at risk. Call the roll please.

Mike Korposh 49:30

Council person Cosner, yes. Councilman Nestor aye. Mayor Mozer aye,

Mayor Ron Mozer 49:35

Discussion or to approve Fire Escrow payments for 425 Reed Avenue, with payments made to the vendor All Dry Services of Rostraver Fay West, \$8,198.67 and the owner of the property Shelly Illig, \$7,207.31 and a \$100.00 to K-2 Engineering paid out of the Owner/Vendor proceeds for inspection and approval of the Fire Escrow payments on behalf of the Cit. Could I have a second?

Councilman John Nestor 50:08

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 50:09

Any questions? Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 50:13

Councilman Nestor, aye, motion Councilwoman Cosner, yes , Mayor Mozer yes,

Mayor Ron Mozer 50:18

Motion approve the purchase of the Kubota Tractor Model B2601HSD-1, 4 WD and 60- inch deck from Murphy Family, Inc. for the price of \$19,200.00. Could I have a second?

Mike Korposh 50:33

Second.

Mayor Ron Mozer 50:34

Any questions?

Councilman John Nestor 50:35

That is the one with the warranty?.

Mayor Ron Mozer 50:37

Well, they're all apples to apples. Everything's the same. They're the best price. Call the roll.

Mike Korposh 50:46

Council person, Cosner, yes. Council Nestor aye, Mayor Mozer, aye.

Mayor Ron Mozer 50:50

Does anybody have the Streets and Public Improvements they were going to defer to? Okay? John, your turn.

Councilman John Nestor 51:01

Thank you, honorable Mayor, members of Council, residents of Monessen, I will defer my report until the next council meeting. I do want to discuss the road safety related issues between Leeds Avenue, Grant and Graham Avenue. I've been getting more and more complaints now of the vehicle that are parked on Leeds. I'm having issues, though, with safety vehicles going through that area and being that they're going to hit a vehicle, or vehicles going to and from the other side. We spoke about this before, but I really feel that we don't need to make a motion. I believe there should be a yellow line painted on that side of the road. I can't find any ordinance or anything, so we got to go through the proper channels. And I believe there should be an ordinance to put up a stop sign for Leeds.

Mayor Ron Mozer 52:06

Chief, do you have any comments to make on that? We went out there and looked at it for quite a bit.

Chief Dave Yuhasz 52:15

The only thing was that the gentleman with that truck lived there.

Councilman John Nestor 52:20

There's no parking out back. But, I mean, I myself when looking around the streets after our council meeting, we talked about getting Leeds paved in that nature, when I decided to go take a ride up there, I almost got hit. This is on Leeds. This is between Leeds and Grant. This is Summit that we're talking about. That gentleman has his car parked on the corner.

Councilman John Nestor 53:02

I mean, I think there should be a line painted there. There's parking across the street, but, I mean, we could go ahead and discuss, but I don't know how Council feels.

Mayor Ron Mozer 53:12

My only concern is that I don't want to take a person's ability to have a vehicle in their house, if there's a place to park across the street, or we can find another place for him to park. I'm all for it, because I do know what the problem is. I do think that there are numerous very difficult, dangerous places in the city. Another one's coming down 12th Street right now. Or, excuse me, Ninth Street and you're coming down Ninth Street or from upper you have come to a stop sign. We need to put a stop sign on the lower as well. I do believe it's just as dangerous, but there's many dangerous places like that. If you're coming up Sixth Street and you come back to that hill, and you're going to turn left on the Crest, it's dangerous because of the terrain of the road. You can't see cars.

Councilman John Nestor 54:05

Correct me if I'm wrong, though, too. But on Ninth Street, you're crossing a lane, you're supposed to yield for the traffic that's coming towards you. So we could put a stop sign there.

Mayor Ron Mozer 54:18

I'm just saying that there's a lot of very, very dangerous places in the city of Monessen, and people that have been here must understand it, because we have not had just a phenomenal amount of accidents there, but we do need to address these things where we can.

Councilman John Nestor 54:37

I think, though, after the meeting, I'll drive past Summit. I believe there is ample parking. I mean, the Cro Club has been closed for quite a while. Alright, Linda, thank you. As much as we go forward, I'll move on to my next one. And it's again, about the parking downtown. It's been brought to my attention again that we're kind of dragging our feet about parking.

Mayor Ron Mozer 55:02

I don't know we're dragging our feet. I just don't have a solution.

Councilman John Nestor 55:07

I understand that, but I thought maybe we're talking about that corner section where the land bank owns that they tore down that property, the motel.

Mayor Ron Mozer 55:16

Yeah, from what I understand, you can Park about four cars there.

Councilman John Nestor 55:24

So does anybody own the garage, the maintenance garage where they have billboard signs that are falling down? Right next to Felicia.

Mayor Ron Mozer 55:31

I'm sure somebody owns it. I don't know who it is, though. I think we looked at that and said that might be a good place if we can get the Land Bank to get that property.

Councilman John Nestor 55:43

You probably have to worry about is the debris and materials falling off from Parkway as their vehicles were parked there. How to keep that, that wall from subsiding, right? But I wanted to get him to spring to attention because I don't want folks out there to think that their complaints are falling on deaf ears.

Mayor Ron Mozer 56:07

You know, it's not deaf ears. I just don't have a solution.

Councilman John Nestor 56:11

The next thing that was brought to my attention is that the loading zone for safety near the Third Street intersection, just to provide a location for couriers to drop off and pick up packages there at the Mon Valley phone repair shop. There's this parking I would suggest would be at the corner there on Schoonmaker, and it'd be about two parking spots or three probably possible, just like we did for the gentleman there on Donner, we have an issues with UPS and FedEx drivers parking, and our customers coming in to pick up equipment and then parking right on Schoonmaker, it's not creating a safe environment. I would just like to have a motion or next meeting to create a loading zone there. Have you talked to Turkovich about this? Actually, he's the one that's brought up this information to me, and also the nearby merchants.

Mayor Ron Mozer 57:13

I've seen the UPS truck pull into that parking lot.

Councilman John Nestor 57:21

Yeah, but it's just, it's hit or miss. There's not a lot of businesses there on that corner besides his. He also is the one that has the apartment above. There's nothing going on next door that they're still fixing on that property. It's adjacent to his, but it's becoming an issue where the couriers are trying to find a safe spot to park. This also goes for other vendors dropping off, you know, food or whatever, to nearby restaurants. Anyway, we're talking about the phone repair place again. Thank you for your thoughts anyway, Mayor, you know I feel that I'm going to put a motion on the agenda for a loading zone. We'll see if it passes Okay

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 58:11

Going back, can we see if that is something that the STMP program can look into because parking is an ongoing problem. I'm thinking of other projects they could work on.

Mayor Ron Mozer 58:27

That would definitely be something that I think, the County Land Bank can help us with too, through acquisition of the properties.

Councilman John Nestor 58:35

There's parking there, it's just a parking spot. There's two parking spots that can be turned into a loading zone. Is this something that we can have done by the next meeting?

Mayor Ron Mozer 58:59

To have ordinance, it takes two readings to start to get the ball rolling

Mayor Ron Mozer 59:07

Karen, do you have anything you'd like to talk about? I don't. Alright. Wait, are you finished?

Councilman John Nestor 59:17

Oh, yes, Mayor, I yield the floor. Thank you.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 59:22

Alright, I don't have my regular report. I'll defer that for the end of the month. But as far as the shower facility at hilltop Fire Department, I did contact three plumbers. We had gotten a quote a few months ago from a plumber who was not on our list of certified plumbers. I did get back to him with what he had to do to get on the list. I typed out what he said that he would do and I gave it to two other plumbers. So again, they could give us quotes. I learned my lesson- apples to apples comparison. So maybe we can get this done for these guys in a timely manner. Get that in there so that they'll have a shower for them. I got a call last week from Amy Barfield, who's involved in Nehemiah project. She and Linda Carson at the Civic Center talk a lot, and she said that the Nehemiah project wants to have fundraisers for the purpose of replacing those signs that are on the Civic Center, the one that faces Donner and the one that faces the parking lot, because both of them are old and ugly. She didn't have any thought as to what those signs would look like. I really don't know what to do if an outside organization has a fundraiser that they've earmarked for a project for us. Would it be like a donation that we get for the Shade Tree Commission? Or I said we need to meet and decide what kind of signs. Because I know there's a little manual up in my office, and it's about this thick with sign regulation. I hate to discourage anyone when they say, "Oh, I want to have a fundraiser." I never want to say no, but we have to have guidelines on who approves the sign, and I just didn't know what to do. I don't know if anybody has any thoughts. Has this ever been done before when anybody out there had a fundraiser to purchase something for a city owned building that would be permanent?

Councilman John Nestor 1:01:28

Because this is along the lines that Tony was talking about: having another line item for donations.

Joseph Dalfonso 1:01:35

I don't know what would be. I mean, you've accepted donations for your music in the park. Similar situation.

Mayor Ron Mozer 1:01:44

Just add a donation line item and tag it for the Civic Center.

Joseph Dalfonso 1:01:48

You want to make sure it's something compatible that the city is going to be able to operate and maintain.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 1:01:55

A few weeks ago, I had the guy who's in charge of Westmoreland County Parks and Rec. go through all the parks with me, including the Civic Center, and he says that when we start putting signs up, we

need to have everything be cohesive, that no matter it is, it should be the same color, the same style. He really liked the ones at City Park's main entrance He noticed every sign on our buildings is different. And I thought, "You know what, I like things that match." Maybe that's a thought when we plan not only for this sign, but moving forward into other areas, that the signs would match. Amy needs to come in and let us know what the plans are. I have no clue. I think it's a wonderful that they plan to replace the signs. I want to remind everybody again that we have our flea market coming up on Saturday in the vacant lot from nine to three. I think a few people may show up. I'll be at the Historical Society. I'll be there. The concert is Mon Valley push on August 24, which will be before our next meeting. So spread the word. We'd like to have a huge crowd for that.

Mayor Ron Mozer 1:03:05

That's a polka band. That ought to be a lot of fun.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 1:03:08

I think they were just at Epiphany's festival. If you have dancing shoes, come and polka.

Mayor Ron Mozer 1:03:19

That would be fun.

Councilwoman Karen Cosner 1:03:20

I don't think that I have anything else. Thank you for your attention.

Mayor Ron Mozer 1:03:26

Very good. I would like to make a motion to adjourn

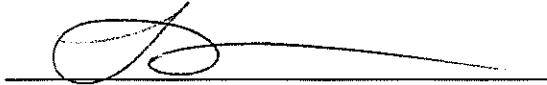
Councilman John Nestor 1:03:28

Second.

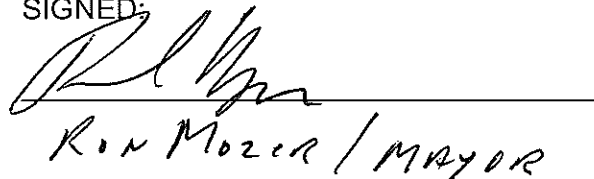
Mayor Ron Mozer 1:03:29

Any questions? All in favor. The meeting is adjourned. Thank you.

ATTEST:

A cursive signature, likely of a clerk or secretary, written over a horizontal line.

SIGNED:

A cursive signature of Ron Mozer, written over a horizontal line, with the text "Ron Mozer / Mayor" written in print below it.