CITY OF MONESSEN

COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 25, 2026 - 6:30 p.m. - City of Monessen Council Chambers

FINAL DRAFT - revised motion format, discussion summaries, votes, Treasurer Report, and proclamation incorporated

1. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Mayor Ron Mozer called the regular meeting of Monessen City Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, June 25, 2026, in the City of Monessen Council Chambers.

Roll Call: Present were Mayor Ron Mozer, Councilperson Karen Cosner, Councilman John Nestor, Councilman Bishop William Bass, and Councilman Anthony Orzechowski. Five members were present and a quorum was established.

Also Present: City Administrator Mike Korpash, City Solicitor Joseph DeFonso, City Treasurer Gerald A. Saksun, City Controller John Mandarino, and members of the public.

2. PRAYER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

In the absence of Pastor Mike Fisher, Mayor Mozer offered the opening prayer. The Pledge of Allegiance was then recited.

3. APPROVAL OF PRIOR MINUTES

Action 1 - Approval of Prior Minutes

Motion: To approve the minutes of previous City of Monessen Council sessions as provided by Mayor Mozer.

Moved by: Councilman John Nestor

Seconded by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT ON AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

Mayor Mozer opened the floor for public comment on agenda items only. The agenda-only public comment focused on clarification of costs, grant accounts, and whether proposed projects were practical for the City.

Earnie Telegraphis, 29 Rex Avenue, asked for clarification regarding the Travelers insurance item, asking about the stated 4% increase. Mayor Mozer stated that the motion would be corrected to reflect a decrease rather than an increase and that EHD Insurance would present the renewal. Mr. Telegraphis also asked about the Grant Account invoice item, and the City clarified that the Grant Account item was separate from the proposed multimodal grant. Mr. Telegraphis also questioned the proposed bike repair station at the Herman Mihalich Boat Launch, suggesting that it may be better located in a more central place such as City Park. Mayor Mozer stated that the boat launch location related to a broader bicycle/path program and noted that there is also a bike repair station at Evans Graphics.

No other agenda-item-only public comments were offered.

5. CORRESPONDENCE

No correspondence was reported.

6. SOLICITOR REPORT

City Solicitor Joseph DeFonso reported that he reviewed the EHD liability policies and that the policies were generally consistent with the prior year, excluding special coverage items associated with railroad crossings and the Cleveland-Cliffs sewage project. He reported that the Parente Boulevard multimodal resolution had been prepared and noted that the agenda language should have included a contingency based on the City receiving a match waiver. He also reported that the Comcast agreement was ready for Council consideration and reminded Council that the LERTA public hearing was scheduled for July 9, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, immediately before the July work session.

7. TREASURER REPORT

City Treasurer Gerald A. Saksun read the Treasurer Report dated June 25, 2026, for the month of May 2026. The report included garbage fee revenue, City real estate taxes, City real estate tax distribution, miscellaneous income, and the Line Usage Account.

Garbage Fees Revenue - May 2026

Item	May	Year to Date	2026 Budget
Garbage Fee - Current	$9,125.00	$482,065.45	$686,924.00
Garbage Fee - Delinquent	$6,709.91	$46,275.03	$75,000.00
Amount collected by Portnoff	$3,408.41	$6,988.68	Included in total above
Penalty and Interest - Portnoff	$149.66	$195.15	$2,500.00

Item	May	Year to Date	2026 Budget
Garbage collected for Next Year 2027	$20.00	$2,799.00	$5,000.00
TOTAL	**$16,004.57**	**$531,334.63**	**$769,424.00**

City Real Estate Taxes Revenue - May 2026

Item	May	Year to Date	2026 Budget
City Real Estate Taxes - Current	$347,509.63	$1,754,749.36	$1,487,000.00
City Taxes - Prior Year collected by City	$-	$9,156.04	$10,000.00
SUB TOTAL	**$347,509.63**	**$1,763,905.40**	
City Taxes - Collected by Westmoreland Tax Claim Bureau (Quarterly)	$-	$48,259.34	$250,000.00
TOTAL YEAR TO DATE TAXES		**$1,812,164.74**	**$1,747,000.00**

City Real Estate Tax Distribution as of May 31, 2026

Item	May	Year to Date	2026 Budget
General Fund		$1,227,150.99	$1,034,505.90
Debt Service		$333,025.34	$280,745.60
Library		$35,630.91	$30,037.40
Parks		$168,098.16	$141,711.10
TOTAL		**$1,763,905.40**	**$1,487,000.00**

Miscellaneous Income and Line Usage Account - May 2026

Item	May	Year to Date	2026 Budget
Real Estate Transfer Tax	$5,801.20	$43,421.07	$70,000.00
Earned Income Tax	$86,937.44	$332,894.23	$700,000.00
Mercantile Tax	$1,272.36	$11,894.72	$21,000.00
Local Services Tax	$13,665.16	$34,253.51	$70,000.00
Tax Certifications	$2,980.00	$9,720.00	$20,000.00
Municipal Lien Letters	$1,275.00	$5,625.00	$12,000.00
Unsewered Payments	$599.00	$8,425.00	
Line Usage Fee	$64,007.90	$369,779.39	
LINE USAGE ACCOUNT TOTAL		**$378,204.39**	

Action 2 - Acceptance of Treasurer Report

Motion: To accept the Treasurer Report regarding garbage fees and City real estate taxes collected for the month of May 2026.

Moved by: Councilman John Nestor

Seconded by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

8. CONTROLLER REPORT

City Controller John Mandarino presented the Controller Report for May 2026 for the General Fund CFS Bank checking account reconciliation. The ending balance as of April 30, 2026, was $1,586,916.73. Deposits were $526,245.71. Expenses were $944,966.26. The ending balance as of May 31, 2026, was $1,168,196.18. Outstanding checks were $62,040.01, outstanding deposits were $15,377.17, and the reconciled balance to the bank statement was $1,121,533.34.

9. EHD INSURANCE PRESENTATION AND TRAVELERS INSURANCE BINDER

Representatives Bryce Wilson and Ron Richwalls of EHD Insurance presented the City insurance renewal. EHD reported that the City had moved to Travelers Insurance after Selective Insurance was no longer available and that Travelers was again recommended for the July 1, 2026 to July 1, 2027 policy period. EHD reported that the overall premium was reduced from approximately $289,000 in the prior policy year to $266,168.00. The reduction was explained as resulting in part from removal of prior temporary or project-specific coverages associated with railroad matters and the Cleveland-Cliffs sewage project, along with improved claims and loss-control performance. EHD also discussed the workers compensation experience modification decrease, noting that the improved ratio reflected favorably on the City and was consistent with the City's safety meetings and safety efforts

having a positive effect. The presentation also addressed risk-control support, claims advocacy, updated equipment information, police vehicle information, volunteer coverage, and event-specific coverages when needed.

Action 3 - Travelers Insurance Coverage and Binder

Motion: Corrected motion to accept the insurance coverage and binder of Travelers Insurance Company as recommended by EHD Insurance for the City of Monessen for the period of July 1, 2026, to July 1, 2027, with an approximately 8% decrease in coverage cost for fiscal year 2026-2027 and a stated premium of $266,168.00.

Moved by: Mayor Ron Mozer

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Discussion: The agenda stated a 4% increase. During the meeting, the motion was corrected to reflect an approximately 8% decrease and to include the premium amount of $266,168.00. Council discussed that the decrease was tied in part to removal of prior railroad and Cleveland-Cliffs project-related coverages that were no longer needed, and that the workers compensation ratio had improved, suggesting that the City's safety meetings and related safety practices were helping reduce risk.

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

10. MAYOR'S DISCUSSION ITEMS AND ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Mozer read a proclamation honoring Jack Bergstein. Mayor Mozer stated that Mr. Bergstein had passed away the prior week and explained that he had reviewed historical City minutes from the 1970s and 1980s. Mayor Mozer noted that Mr. Bergstein served during a period of population decline and fiscal challenge, and that he took an active role in protecting the City tax base, including matters involving the former Wheeling-Pittsburgh Steel interests.

The proclamation read into the record is incorporated into these minutes as follows:

PROCLAMATION

Honoring Jack Bergstein

City of Monessen, Pennsylvania

WHEREAS, the City of Monessen has been shaped by generations of public servants who gave their time, judgment, and leadership to protect the welfare of the community; and

WHEREAS, Jack Bergstein served the City of Monessen as a member of City Council during an important period in the City's history, including service in Accounts and Finance, Streets and Public Improvements, and as Acting President and Acting Mayor when called upon; and

WHEREAS, the official records of the City show that Mr. Bergstein was not merely a passive member of Council, but an active and diligent public servant who worked on matters involving budgets, pensions, employee negotiations, public safety, infrastructure, sanitation, blight enforcement, and the protection of the City's tax base; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bergstein demonstrated fiscal responsibility through his work on City budgets, pension oversight, purchase order controls, tax anticipation financing, and careful review of expenditures at a time when sound financial judgment was essential to municipal government; and

WHEREAS, he supported important public safety and operational needs, including police communications, equipment purchases, worker protection issues, hazardous property concerns, and the enforcement of procedures designed to protect both the public and City employees; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Bergstein showed practical leadership in addressing neighborhood and infrastructure concerns, including street reconstruction, sewer problems, public works operations, salt purchasing, right-of-way matters, and dangerous or deteriorated properties; and

WHEREAS, his record reflects a consistent commitment to legal procedure, accountability, cooperation among members of government, and careful attention to the responsibilities entrusted to him by the citizens of Monessen; and

WHEREAS, the City of Monessen recognizes that public service is often measured not by one single act, but by years of steady, responsible, and faithful attention to the everyday work of local government;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Ron Mozer, Mayor of the City of Monessen and Director of Public Affairs, do hereby recognize and honor Jack Bergstein for his dedicated service to the City of Monessen, his commitment to fiscal responsibility, public safety, infrastructure, and accountable government, and his lasting contribution to the civic life of our community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the City of Monessen to be affixed this 25th day of June, 2026.

Ron Mozer, Mayor, City of Monessen, Director of Public Affairs

Action 4 - Police Department Resignation

Motion: To accept the resignation of Employee 414 from the City of Monessen Police Department, effective immediately.

Moved by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 5 - 3D Refuse Collection Proposal

Motion: To approve the 3D Refuse Collection proposal for the 2026-2027 calendar year at a first-year cost savings of $9,930.84 in the new service application.

Moved by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Discussion: Treasurer Saksun reported that the Treasury Department reviewed the comparison with the current billing system and favored the change. He stated that first-year savings would be approximately $9,930, future annual savings after the first year would be approximately $11,880, the new customer portal would be user friendly, and the cost to the City would be $750 per year for billing. He noted that several system features were not needed by the City, including meter reading, shutoff notices, and service orders.

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 6 - Redevelopment Authority Appointment

Motion: To appoint Jo Ann Rone to the City of Monessen Redevelopment Authority effective immediately.

Moved by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

11. MULTIMODAL TRANSPORTATION GRANT DISCUSSION AND MOTION

Council held an extended discussion regarding the proposed Multimodal Transportation grant application for the Parente Boulevard Road to Trail Conversion Project. Mayor Mozer stated that the concept image previously circulated was only one possible vision and not a final design. He emphasized that the project had not yet been designed and that Council and the City would need to participate in shaping a practical scope.

Mayor Mozer compared the multimodal requirements to grant requirements on playground projects, noting that supporting features such as ADA access do not detract from the main purpose of obtaining playground equipment. He stated that the same principle applied to Parente Boulevard: the central purpose was to address Parente Boulevard, while multimodal elements could be designed in different ways to satisfy grant requirements. Mayor Mozer stated that without this grant he did not know of another likely way to address Parente Boulevard and that residents had already experienced vehicle and wheel damage from road conditions.

Councilman Orzechowski raised concerns that the proposed $3,000,000 amount should not be treated as a blank check and stated that he wanted a realistic and specific plan before moving too far forward. He raised concerns about prior conceptual cost items, maintenance, winter plowing, green space, grass, bushes, and whether the City had manpower to maintain added improvements. Councilperson Cosner also expressed concern that prior well-intended improvements throughout the City had become maintenance burdens and stated her preference for a basic system that future generations could reasonably maintain.

Councilman Nestor raised concerns regarding the recent sewer work on Parente Boulevard and asked whether the project could affect existing sewage, overflow, and pipe infrastructure. City Administrator Korpash and Solicitor DeFonso discussed known water, sewer, and stormwater locations. Mayor Mozer stated that these would be design issues to be addressed during engineering. Discussion also included whether the road would be reduced from four lanes to two lanes, the possible location of lanes and paths, traffic calming, resident feedback, and whether Council would have the ability to review and participate before any final plan was accepted.

Solicitor DeFonso clarified that RVE would prepare the grant application at no cost to the City, and that if the grant were awarded, engineering work would be paid from grant proceeds as part of the project estimate. He further clarified that if Council did not want to pay a 30% match, the motion should be revised to make the project contingent on the City receiving a waiver of the match requirement. Councilman Bass stated that he was torn because the project appeared to offer significant benefit and could reduce labor-intensive patching, but he wanted clear assurance that there would be no City cost. Mayor Mozer stated that the motion would not authorize spending City money and that if the State required any local match, the project would not proceed.

Action 7 - Multimodal Transportation Grant Application

Motion: Corrected motion to approve Resolution No. ____ of 2026 authorizing the City of Monessen to apply for a Multimodal Transportation grant in the amount of $3,000,000 to be utilized for the Parente Boulevard Road to Trail Conversion Project; to authorize RVE Engineering to proceed with the application at no cost to the City of Monessen; and to make the project contingent upon the City receiving a waiver of the match requirement.

Moved by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Discussion: The motion was revised during discussion to add the contingency that the City must receive a waiver of the match requirement. Council discussed design flexibility, maintenance obligations, winter plowing, green space, bicycle and walking components, sewer and stormwater impacts, resident feedback, and the ability to decline or adjust the project if the final design or funding terms were unacceptable.

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

12. COMCAST CONTRACT

Council discussed the updated Comcast contract. Mayor Mozer explained that the contract would lock the City into a 38-month term but would provide lower cost, better speeds, updated equipment, and improved protection against cyber-related concerns.

Councilman Orzechowski asked about the relationship between Comcast service and PA Connect/firewall services. Mayor Mozer explained that Comcast was the internet provider and that PA Connect provided IT/router/firewall support, and that Comcast IT support pricing had previously been too high.

Action 8 - Comcast Services Contract

Motion: To accept the updated contract for services with Comcast, providing a net 30 billing period, a 15-day grace period, a $250 credit for past late fees prior to acceptance of the new plan, consolidation of all bills out of the City of Monessen General Account, service approximately $50.00 per month cheaper than prior plans, a 38-month price lock with no increase during the period, and updated cyber security measures in addition to traditional connectivity upgrades.

Moved by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Discussion: Council discussed that Comcast provides the internet service while PA Connect provides IT/router/firewall support. Mayor Mozer stated that the Comcast contract would provide improved speed and equipment at a lower cost, and that Comcast IT support costs had previously been too high.

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

13. DIRECTOR OF ACCOUNTS AND FINANCE - COUNCILMAN ANTHONY ORZECHOWSKI

Councilman Orzechowski presented the Accounts and Finance motions for payment of invoices and transfers. The motions were presented separately.

Action 9 - General Fund Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the General Fund in the amount of $71,257.14, as listed in Attachment A to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Discussion: Councilman Nestor questioned whether the invoice list included West Penn/utility charges for streetlights that had not been repaired. He stated that several lights remained out, including areas of Third Street, Rostraver, Summit, and other locations, and expressed concern that the City was paying while lights were still not fixed. Mayor Mozer stated that he had emailed Randy Durr regarding the issue, received a response listing some repairs, and would complain again and copy Council. Councilman Nestor stated that the outages were becoming a safety problem.

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 10 - Grant Account Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the Grant Account in the amount of $7,044.60, as listed in Attachment B to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 11 - Parks Fund Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the Parks Fund in the amount of $1,400.75, as listed in Attachment C to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 12 - Recreation Board Fund Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the Recreation Board Fund in the amount of $38.13, as listed in Attachment D to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 13 - Liquid Fuels Fund Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the Liquid Fuels Fund in the amount of $11,844.37, as listed in Attachment E to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 14 - Line Usage Fund Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the Line Usage Fund in the amount of $3,825.00, as listed in Attachment F to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 15 - Refuse Fund Invoices

Motion: To pay invoices from the Refuse Fund in the amount of $236.00, as listed in Attachment G to the agenda.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 16 - Payroll Transfer

Motion: To approve the transfer of $79,165.77 from the General Fund to the Payroll Account for payroll expenses for June 18, 2026.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Action 17 - TAN Note Payment

Motion: To transfer $100,000.00 from the General Fund to CFS Bank for payment on the TAN Note obligation.

Moved by: Councilman Anthony Orzechowski

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

14. DIRECTOR OF STREETS AND PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS - COUNCILMAN BISHOP WILLIAM BASS

Councilman Bass reported that the Streets Department worked hard during May despite limited manpower. Reported work included downtown garbage pickup, cutting City lots, planting flowers for Memorial Day, cold patching, using the asphalt zipper, work on Evergreen, cutting fallen trees after storms, trimming bushes downtown, and assisting the Parks Department as needed.

Councilman Bass also reported that he and Councilperson Cosner walked an alley between Reed Avenue and McKee Avenue. He described significant overgrowth, garbage, abandoned vehicles, junk-filled garages, and areas that were nearly impassable. He specifically noted concern for a resident who had previously addressed Council and who had difficulty accessing her garage due to surrounding blight. Council discussed that the alleys, overgrowth, and nearby structures were part of the City's broader blight and maintenance challenge.

15. DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC SAFETY - COUNCILMAN JOHN NESTOR

Councilman Nestor presented the Public Safety report for May 2026. Police Department receipts included parking fines and forfeitures of $225.00 and copies of police accident reports of $345.00. District Justice Office receipts included vehicle code fines of $761.79, crime code fines of $220.34, and City ordinance collections of $154.94, for District Justice receipts totaling $1,133.07. Total receipts for May 2026 were $1,723.07. Current citations for May totaled 78, with 255 year to date.

Councilman Nestor reported code activity including five habitation permits, two habitation reinspections, 38 correction letters, one animal/vermin complaint, five miscellaneous complaints, six health inspections, one hearing, five building permits, and three zoning permits. He also thanked the Monessen Police Department and both fire houses for their work at the high school event.

16. DIRECTOR OF PARKS AND PUBLIC PROPERTY - COUNCILPERSON KAREN COSNER

Councilperson Cosner presented the Parks Department report for May 2026. Reported work included cutting City parks and ball fields, cutting and cleaning pavilions for rentals, preparing parks and memorials for the holiday weekend, changing lights in the police station, repairing Columbus Park ball field lights with assistance from the Mayor, adding seasonal help, and assisting the Streets Department as needed.

Councilperson Cosner thanked the Police Chief for his work with the recent school event and recognized a Parks/Streets Department employee for repairing a seesaw component at Madison Park in-house, saving the City approximately $750.00. She also discussed the need to repair and seal the walking track and reported that residents had contacted her regarding possible donations.

Action 18 - Public Bike Repair Station

Motion: To approve the Mon Valley Trainer's Club to install and maintain a public bike repair station at the Herman Mihalich Boat Launch.

Moved by: Councilperson Karen Cosner

Seconded by: Councilman John Nestor

Vote: Roll Call Vote: Councilperson Cosner - yes; Councilman Nestor - aye; Councilman Bass - yes; Councilman Orzechowski - yes; Mayor Mozer - yes. Motion carried unanimously, 5-0.

Councilperson Cosner announced the upcoming Billy Price/Broom concert scheduled for Saturday, June 27, 2026, from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., and noted the recent police department cornhole tournament at Herman Mihalich Park.

Mayor Mozer raised concerns about lights and plumbing issues at the library and recommended that the City obtain a quote for Council consideration. Council also discussed Parks budget availability and obtaining quotes for repairs at Columbus Park, including a restroom door and frame repair estimated at approximately $3,400. Councilperson Cosner stated that she had contacted three contractors and received one estimate. Discussion included whether that was sufficient and the potential liability of an unsecured restroom door.

17. PUBLIC COMMENT ON ANY ITEM RELATING TO CITY BUSINESS

Mayor Mozer opened the floor for public comment on any item relating to City business, ordinances, statutes, resolutions, or the daily work product and attention of the City of Monessen. The comments reflected concern over follow-through on public works projects, enforcement, road conditions, stormwater, blight, and accountability, while also returning to the practical design of Parente Boulevard.

Earnie Telegraphis commented on the asphalt zipper, the condition of Evergreen, and whether the City was realizing the intended savings from the equipment. Councilman Orzechowski responded that Evergreen still needed compaction and asphalt work and that use of the zipper could reduce a portion of contractor cost. Mr. Telegraphis also raised concerns about enforcement against larger entities, including a condition he described as oil or dark runoff on streets, and asked for accountability on projects including Donner Avenue, Community Gate, and Motheral Street. He also commented on the Parente Boulevard concept and suggested maintaining two travel lanes with a center area or lane for disabled vehicles or passing, with walking and bicycle accommodations at the sides.

Brett LaPresti, 28 Montrever, asked what the asphalt zipper was and asked about its use on cemetery road. He also questioned a $4,320 payment to Purdy, Wade, and Yo-Yo for emergency snow removal, asking who approved it, whether there was insurance documentation, whether reimbursement was involved, and whether a potential conflict of interest existed. Councilman Orzechowski stated that he had not signed the checks and would obtain background information regarding approval, rate, and reimbursement before doing so.

John Poprosky, 1440 Meadow Avenue, asked whether residents on Meadow Avenue would be able to tap into the stormwater system after the sanitary/stormwater separation project. Mayor Mozer and Solicitor DeFonso stated that the City would need to review the question with the engineer. Mayor Mozer explained that the project involved installing a new sanitary line, while the existing combined line would become the stormwater system, subject to engineering and MS4 considerations. Mr. Poprosky also raised concerns about high grass at 1426 Grand Boulevard, stating that the property had not been cut regularly. Mayor Mozer and Councilman Bass discussed the need for code enforcement attention once the City has an officer in place.

18. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Councilman Nestor moved to adjourn. The motion carried by voice vote. Mayor Mozer adjourned the meeting at approximately 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Approved:

Ron Mozer, Mayor

Attest:

Terry Taylor, City Clerk