

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
FEBRUARY 11, 2025 – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Call to Order:** The regular meeting for the Duquesne Board of Aldermen was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Bill Sherman.

**Roll Call:** Answer roll call was Aldermen Jane Baine, Myra Gonzalez, Becca White, Chris Ellsworth and Mayor Bill Sherman. Absent: none. Also present were City Attorney Mike Talley, police chief, city clerk and 7 guests.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation:** The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States of America was led by Mayor Bill Sherman followed by invocation prayer given by Mayor Bill Sherman.

**Agenda:** Motion made by Becca, seconded by Myra, to approve agenda. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Approve Minutes: January 13 Regular Meeting:** Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to approve minutes. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Financial Report:** Report received and filed for audit.

**Bill Summary:** Outstanding bills for General Funds: \$9,748.92 and Sewer & Wastewater: \$40. CARS (Community Action Ride System), that offers free rides, had reduced MAPS costs. Axon licensing was for Pro with admin access and Basic. Motion made by Becca, seconded by Myra, to accept Bill Summary and pay outstanding bills. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Court Report:** Report received and filed for audit.

**Police Report:** Chief White gave report on department status. Although LEST Grant to purchase new firearms with optics, two new computers and two body armors were approved for \$15,263.92, official Letter of Award had not been received yet.

**Business License:** Motion made by Becca, seconded by Myra, to approve license applications and renewals. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Jasper Products Parking Lot Review:** Jasper Products has requested to be allowed to install gravel parking lot. Ordinance (Section 404.030(G.5) allowed Board to grant up to 5 years for temporary surface if paving now would cause unnecessary hardship, was in city's best interest and did not adversely affect adjacent properties. Lot would need to be paved after 5 years. Motion made by Chris, seconded by Becca, to temporarily waive pavement requirements for 5 years.

**Bill 25-01 OWN Amendment 1 to Letter Agreement for Stephens Blvd Stormwater Project:** Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place 25-01 on first reading by title only. This was continuation of original Stephens Blvd Stormwater Project for OWN to supervise and manage project on behalf of City. Scott Wagoner, with OWN, was present to answer questions. Timeframe to start project was dependent on utility companies to move lines. Contractor was ready to begin project as soon as Notice to Proceed was executed. Project was estimated to take up to 12 weeks to complete once construction began.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-01 by title only and move to second and final reading of 25-01 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of 25-01 and assign it Ordinance 543. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Bill 25-02 New Sewer Rate for 2025:** New rate reflected Joplin's increase in charges. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place 25-02 on first reading by title only. No discussion.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-02 by title only and move to second and final reading of 25-02 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of 25-02 and assign it Ordinance 544. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Old Business: City Website:** Website was working but remains work-in-progress.

**Park Trees:** Rick Gamboa had placed order for only 8 trees, but park grant required 10 trees. Order was amended to update order and was estimated to be \$4,400. Motion made by Myra, seconded by Becca, to approve up to \$4,400 for 10 trees to be installed by nursery providing trees. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Aldermen Interaction:** Construction dumpsters at 20<sup>th</sup> & Duquesne Casey's location was for store remodeling project to add kitchen to location. If drivers approached and drove through roundabout according to posted speed limits, use of roundabout was not hampered by dumpsters on Casey's parking lot.

Stop and street signs at 10<sup>th</sup> & Crampton were run over and needed replaced. Driver was ticketed for property damage.

10<sup>th</sup> & Duquesne: Contractor was clearing land. Stormwater plan was still in review with OWN. No building permit would be issued until stormwater plan was approved.

**Dead Animals:** City would remove only dead animals in roadway or city's right-of-way.

1119 Katherine: Sandra Radcliff gave Mayor and Building Inspector permission to have property inspected. Property has not had utilities since fire. Housing Connect (Economic Security) has been working with Mayor to find her alternative housing. Property must be condemned first, making her homeless, to trigger process. Mayor spoke with Attorney Nate Dally, Lauber Municipal Law, for their services in this process.

**Public Comments:** Mike Hargis, 800 Van Winkle, approached Board about CARDS dumpsters on Katherine that were across from his property. He stated there were about 250 full dumpsters that presented health hazards, noxious odors and rodent and insect infestations. Legal process was explained that landowner, Sonny Garman, would be responsible for maintenance of his property. Mayor said he would speak with Mr. Garman. Ordinance also required fence between commercial and residential properties, which lot did not have.

**New Business:** none.

**Update of Commissions & Committees:** none.

**Other Business Deemed Necessary:** none

**Schedule Next Meeting:** Council Meeting scheduled for March 10 at 6 PM. P&Z's next meeting is scheduled for March 3 at 6 PM for Work Session and 7 PM for Regular Session.

As there was no further business, motion made by Becca, seconded by Myra, to adjourn. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.