

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MARCH 20, 2025 – SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES**

Call to Order: The special meeting for the Duquesne Board of Aldermen was called to order at 6:00 PM by Mayor Bill Sherman. Members had been contacted to call special meeting to complete monthly business, scheduled for March 10, which was called due to lack of quorum.

Roll Call: Answer roll call were 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 4 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: February 11 Regular Meeting: Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to approve minutes. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes: March 10 Regular Meeting: Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to approve minutes. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Report received and filed for audit.

Bill Summary: Park trees were planted and have been watered regularly. Lift station had pump motor and starter go out and repair estimated between \$3,000 to \$5,000; Mayor waiting for estimated costs for new pump and to repair old pump. Warranty expired in September 2024.

Outstanding bills for General Funds: \$2,491.75 and Storm Water/Park: \$22,905.44. 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. Since federal grants were currently on hold, Chief asked if Board would cover cost of FLOCK cameras if grant funding did not go through. Motion made by Chris, seconded by Myra, to pay FLOCK invoice of \$6,800 when due whether grant funding was received or not. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Bill 25-03 Lauber Municipal Law Letter of Engagement as Special Council: City Attorney recommended Board formally grant the mayor authorization to sign agreement for special council for 1119 Katherine process to declare property as dangerous building. RSMo allowed for demolition of dangerous buildings, which would make current resident homeless and allow for housing assistance process. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to place 25-03 on first reading by title only. No discussion.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-03 by title only and move to second and final reading of 25-03 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to accept the second and final reading by title only of 25-03 and assign it Ordinance 545. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

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

Old Business: Update of Park Grant Project: Recovery House residents had assisted with watering trees and installation of solar lighting in storm shelter for their required community service hours. Park benches and trash receptacles have been received. Missouri American Water scheduled to install water meter so Play by Design (splashpad contractor) can test splashpad. Contract required 70% of vegetation be established and rock cleanup before payment would be made. Once grading and seeding was complete, walking trail would be reopened.

Old Duquesne Elementary School sign would be installed between splashpad and playground. All Seasons Signs had offered to install sign. Park Committee had already approved park rules, which were posted at park entrance, and approved application to reserve park pavilion.

Aldermen Interaction: Single individual who had damaged signs at 13th & Crampton and 13th and Pine, had been charged for those damages. City was reimbursed by his insurance company.

Outfall Map Update: Mayor has been working with Sarah Simon (Allgeier Martin & Associates) to update city outfall maps. Definition had changed for what was considered as outfall since city's original mapping. Mayor felt that original map called for 26 locations, but only 3 existed in Duquesne. Once updated, 20'x30' wall map would be available.

Chris asked about project at 10th & Duquesne. Mayor said storm water review was pending.

Becca said she felt like position for office assistant and facility person positions need to be pursued. Office person would help with updating website and facility person assist with park.

Jane asked about CARDS update on storage containers. Mayor had spoken with landowner, Sonny Garman, who said containers were supposed to be removed by CARDS by end-of-month.

Lauber Municipal Law asked Mayor to send occupant at 1119 Katherine letter to immediately vacate, repair or demolish mobile home. Residence has not had utilities since fire last February. Housing Connect was working with homeowner to find alternative housing. Previous property owner had sold resident mobile home only.

Public Comments: Rick Gamboa, 4005 E 20th, asked about black camera at 7th Street. It was new FLOCK camera that can be used to track or record traffic for police purposes. He asked for copy of Comprehensive Plan, 2025, be made available on city website before public hearing scheduled for April 7. He offered to help with updating website.

Kerry Devine, 314 Morgan Court, reported Body by Ahmed had moved out of Foxfire neighborhood. However, he had advertised for renters. "The Violent Gentleman" was in violation of no-impact homebased business. Last week there were 15 cars on street.

New Business: none.

Update of Commissions & Committees: Comprehensive Plan Public Hearing: State statutes required one public hearing. Therefore, public hearing was scheduled for April 7 at 6PM before

P&Z. P&Z Commission would adopt plan by majority vote and recommend Board pass adoption by Resolution. Board of Aldermen would not hold public hearing.

5-Year Street Maintenance Plan: P&Z had suggested city revise plan. Allgeier Martin & Associates prepared last plan. Previous plan included roads not within Duquesne city limits. Last plan covered 2021 through 2025. Mayor recommended using Small Arrow Engineering (owners were former employees of MoDOT) for new plan. Board agreed to seek proposal from Small Arrow.

Other Business Deemed Necessary: Chris said road cut stakes were set at Davis Blvd. There is transportation meeting scheduled for Thursday at 9:30AM at Joplin Public Library.

Schedule Next Meeting: Due to scheduling conflict, next Council Meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 14, at 6 PM. P&Z's next meeting is scheduled for April 7, at 6 PM for Regular Session.

As there was no further business, motion made by Chris, seconded by Myra, to adjourn. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:10 PM.