

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
APRIL 13, 2026 – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

Call to Order: The regular meeting for the Duquesne Board of Aldermen was called to order at 6:02 PM by Mayor Bill Sherman.

Roll Call: Answer roll call was Aldermen Jane Baine, Myra Gonzalez, Todd Stone, and Mayor Bill Sherman. Absent: Becca White. City Attorney Mike Talley, Chief White, city clerk and 3 guests were also present.

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 Todd, seconded by Jane, to approve agenda. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Approve Minutes: March 9 Regular Meeting: Motion made by Todd, seconded by Jane, to approve minutes. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Report received and filed for audit.

Bill Summary: Outstanding bills for General Funds: \$17,591.39; Memorial Park: \$15,111.27; Sewer and Wastewater Fund: \$729.00 and Street Fund \$1,850.00. Memorial Park outstanding bill was from RE Smith Construction for draw 4 for park restroom. Since restroom was not completed by March 31 deadline, Mayor has notified RE Smith and Truman Council that daily penalty was in effect. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Todd, to accept Bill Summary and pay outstanding bills. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Court Report: Report received and filed for audit.

Police Report: Chief gave report on department status. Department was keeping watch at 20th & Duquesne for dumping. Slabs of concrete and gravel pile had already been dumped on site.

Eric Colbert (Colbert Lawn Services) – Landscaping for Park Trees: Eric presented two options, strongly recommended option one because it was more durable, would look better and last longer. It called for Arkansas stone exterior border, filled with white rock, for \$4,500. Second option had basic metal border filled with pea rock for \$3,500. Motion made by Myra, seconded by Jane, to approve contract for Option 1 for \$4,500. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Business License: Motion made by Myra, seconded by Todd, to approve renewal and new license applications as listed. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Old Business: Update on Memorial Park: Restroom was not completed by March 31 deadline and Mayor notified RE Smith that daily penalty was imposed. Construction company had issues getting plumbing fixtures. There were issues with concrete sidewalk, and it needed to be removed and replaced.

Aldermen Interaction: 20th & Duquesne Roundabout Project: Mayor said Small Arrow engineering representative would come to May P&Z and Council meetings with proposal.

Mayor and Sergeant Wenberg were scheduled to attend Regional Animal Services in Joplin meeting on Wednesday.

Mayor received request to allow “She Shed” or “Granny Pod” on residential property. Currently, city code does not allow two residences on one property. Mayor suggested Council review this policy since current times often have need for elderly parents or similar situations reside in secondary small housing at primary residence.

Amanda Gaches’ Letter: Amanda submitted regulation clarification letter for property at 1107 Woodland. Property was currently in probate. She addressed P&Z who told her nothing could be done about rezoning until clear ownership was established. She claimed property had run different businesses at that location for years. She felt she was “grandfathered-in” and should be issued business license. It was pointed out that she had not held business license since December 31, 2023, when her original business license expired. Per city code, if property ceased continuous use of non-conforming use for more than 6 months, property must adhere to current requirements and restrictions. In addition, original license was issued for mobile auto repair with no work to be done at location, which she was in violation of.

Sam Hickey, 1808 S Duquesne Road: Section 404.030(g) required area subject to wheeled traffic be paved with portland cement concrete or asphaltic concrete. Mayor asked if code should be reviewed to allow for chip-and-seal. This location would be used as storage area.

OWN Engineering Master Service Agreement: OWN has asked city to draft Master Service Agreement ordinance. It would be non-exclusive agreement between city and OWN.

City Hall Parking Lot Repair: Mayor received one bid/quote from Hicklin Asphalt. City Attorney to draft ordinance. No work would begin until current sewer issues were resolved.

Jane asked if 4-plexes were complete. Final inspections were completed and Certificates of Occupancy were issued. She mentioned apparent construction debris on north side of 10th Street from construction site and asked contractor to be notified. Mayor agreed to do so.

Announce Certified Election Results: Ward I Alderman: One Year Term: Todd Stone received 68 votes; Two-Year Term: Becca White received 70 votes and Ward II Alderman: Jane Baine received 92 votes. Candidates were incumbents and unopposed. Motion made by Todd, seconded by Myra, to accept certified election results. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Adjourn Si-ne-die: Motion made by Myra, seconded by Todd, to adjourn meeting. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:28.

Administer Oaths of Office: Oaths were given to newly elected Board members present.

Recall to Order and Roll Call: Meeting readjourned at 7:30 and roll call was taken. Present Aldermen Jane Baine, Myra Gonzalez, Todd Stone and Mayor Bill Sherman. Absent: Becca White.

Elect Acting President of the Board of Aldermen: Mayor asked Jane if she would continue in position. She agreed. Motion made by Todd, seconded by Myra, to nominate Jane Baine. There were no other nominations. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried

Public Comments: Rick Gamboa, 4005 E 20th, submitted list of concerns and updates on Park Committee and P&Z Commission. Park Committee had no meeting scheduled and asked about seeking bid for Memorial Clock Tower. Status of park restroom had already been discussed earlier. He asked about status of park grant. Mayor said Olivia Spencer with Truman Council said Patti Hubbard with DNR was scheduled to do final inspection at ribbon cutting ceremony on May 30.

P&Z recommended implementation of Final Site Plan Review Checklist with boxes added to form. He also asked about sound system not working, update on Board of Adjustment members, asked if Board would consider painting tornado storm shelter, and posting population number and use 2,216 as latest number from most recent census. (Note: 2020 Census population total 2,159)

New Business: Waggoner Plumbing & Heating Estimate to Repair City Hall Sewer: City Hall recently had problem with toilets not flushing correctly. Mayor called Bob Waggoner with Waggoner Plumbing & Heating to fix or determine problem. Mayor has declared this to be an emergency. Bob Waggoner has submitted bid to repair city line for \$3,900 to repair and replace partial sagging of sewer line and install new cleanout T and cover. If weather conditions permit, he can come this Friday to make necessary repairs. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to authorize repairs. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Request for “No Littering” Sign: Mayor received letter requesting “No Littering” signs with fine amount posted be placed on Katherine Avenue and 13th Street.

Update of Commissions & Committees: Next P&Z scheduled Work Session for May 4 at 6 PM with Regular Meeting at 7 PM.

Other Business Deemed Necessary: none.

Schedule Next Meeting: Council Meeting scheduled for May 11 at 6 PM.

As there was no further business, motion made by Todd, seconded by Myra, to adjourn. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, Stone. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:53 PM.