

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
MAY 12, 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, Becca White, Chris Ellsworth and Mayor Bill Sherman. Absent: Myra Gonzalez. 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 Chris, to approve agenda. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Public Hearing to Rezone 3639 E 7th Street from Undeveloped to C-2: Mayor opened hearing at 6:03 PM. Jim Hunter, 1514 S River, Carthage, was present to represent property owner. He said as requirement to sale property to interested persons, property must be rezoned commercial. Purchaser was interested in opening carryout only pizza restaurant and would consolidate current three driveways into one. No other questions or comments, hearing was closed at 6:09 PM.

Approve April 14 Regular Meeting Minutes: Motion made by Jane, seconded by Chris, to approve minutes. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

April 17 Special Meeting Minutes: April 14 meeting was continued to Special Meeting on April 17 for certified election results of April 8 General Election. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Chris, to approve minutes. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Financial Report: Wells Fargo CD that matured April 30 was redeemed and proceeds deposited in SMB. Report received and filed for audit.

Bill Summary: Outstanding bills for General Funds: \$205,044.45, Sewer & Wastewater: \$7,400.00, Memorial Park: \$182.18, Stormwater/Park: \$1,567.50 and Street: \$270.92. Play by Design, contractor for splashpad, \$180,000 amount was original \$177,500 plus change order \$2,500 that split cost to run water to park. Mayor said splashpad already has crack in concrete and requested payment be withheld for now. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Chris, to accept Bill Summary and pay outstanding bills except for Play by Design. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

After some discussion, Board asked Mayor to obtain estimates for repair and discuss it with Play by Design. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Chris, to authorize Mayor Sherman to negotiate adjusted payment with Play by Design, to be determined by Bill. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Court Report: Report received and filed for audit.

Police Report: Chief White gave report on department status. Federal hold on grants has been lifted. Officer Meador submitted 2-week notice. May 16 will be his last day. Cellphones needed to be updated. Motion made by Chris, seconded by Jane, to authorize Chief to purchase up to two new cellphones for up to \$3,000. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Flo's last day to work is June 20. Job description was ready to advertise. Chris will place it on Facebook and city's website.

Bill 25-05 Rezone 3639 E 7th St from Undeveloped to C-2: Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place Bill 25-05 on first reading by title only. Planning & Zoning held its public hearing on May 5 and recommended approval of rezoning. No further discussion.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-05 by title only and move to second and final reading of Bill 25-05 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of Bill 25-05 and assign it Ordinance 547. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

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

Old Business: Repair Kenser Lift Station Pump: Estimate was \$6,924.71 to repair old pump. New pump just purchased was \$7,004 with shipping/handling. If repairs were not made, cost to access repairs was \$250. Two lift station locations must use different types of pumps and each station operates on redundant system to divide pump usage. Board discussed need to have backup pump readily available. Motion made by Chris, seconded by Jane, to purchase backup pump for up to \$7,500. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Aldermen Interaction: Mayor said John Bolte (Small Arrow Engineering) had suggested city try to piggyback with Joplin to repair Duquesne Road. If agreement can be reached, Board may need special meeting to approve/disapprove agreement. Mayor planned to attend Joplin Special Road District's next board meeting on May 27 at 8:30 AM to discuss extending current contract with road district.

Preliminary 5-Year Street Maintenance Plan had been received and distributed to Board members. Chris was concerned about missing streets from plan. Plan rated roads and had suggested repairs for next 5 years. Chris thought all streets should be listed on plan and gave Bill list of some streets missing from plan.

Public Comments: Rick Gamboa, 4005 E 20th Street, asked whose staff position was available. Police Secretary needed to be filled by June 20. Administrative Assistant's job description was not ready yet. He also suggested city contact Technology Center for updating/repairing sound system.

Kerry Devine, 314 Morgan Court, said Efird Auto or All Season's had not yet paved their parking lots, per ordinance they had 5 years to comply. Employee parking area would not be included.

New Business: none

Update of Commissions & Committees: Park Committee members needed to be reappointed. Mayor appointed Rick Gamboa (4-year term), Becca White (3-year term), Sonya White (2-year term) and Denny White (1-year term) and serve from May to May. At its next meeting, committee would need to elect President and Secretary.

Other Business Deemed Necessary: Chris requested copy of Play by Design contract for splashpad be sent to Board members for review.

Schedule Next Meeting: Council Meeting scheduled for June 9 at 6 PM. P&Z's next meeting is scheduled for June 2 at 6 PM for Regular Session.

As there was no further business, motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to adjourn. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:37 PM.