

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
JUNE 9, 2025 – 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, Becca White, Chris Ellsworth and Mayor Bill Sherman. Absent: none. Also present were City Attorney Mike Talley, police chief, city clerk and 8 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: May 12 Regular Meeting:** Motion made by Becca, 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: \$52,019.95, Memorial Park: \$141.08, Sewer & Wastewater: \$7,263.83, Stormwater/Park: \$1,130.75 and Street: \$324.75. Motion made by Becca, seconded by Chris, to accept Bill Summary and pay outstanding bills. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Play by Design Invoice:** Payment withheld last month due to cracking issues. Discussed making partial payment. State law allows for 5%. Motion made by Becca, seconded by Chris, to pay invoice of \$180,100 in full. Yea: Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: Baine. Motion carried.

**Court Report:** There will be no further InCode Court Reports. Report received and filed for audit.

**Police Report:** Chief White gave report on department status. Department was planning surprise retirement party for Flo on her last day, June 26 from 10 to 11:30 AM. She has spoken to LAGERS about her ability to work for department after retirement. LAGERS said, as long as she worked less than 19 hours per week, she could continue to work part-time.

New Glock Red Dot firearms came in and Sgt. Wenberg will hold training class.

**John Bolte – Small Arrow Engineering: 5-Year Street Maintenance Plan:** Joplin Special Road District (JSRD) could be used for overlay / chip & seal. Joplin Road Department (JRD) could be used for micro-sealing, which Joplin submits for bidding in August. City might be able to piggy-back off JSRD and JRD contracts. Flood Study meeting was held last week to determine ownership of Duquesne Road south of Belle Locke.

Southard Construction had submitted bid estimate to do saw-cut, pothole repairs for segment of 10<sup>th</sup> Street (\$2,898) and Rex Avenue (\$2,772) at \$126 sq/yd. Motion made by Myra, seconded by Chris, to approve Southard Construction's pothole repairs on 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Rex Avenue. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Chris Ellsworth was concerned by shoulder deterioration on Duquesne Road and no repair reference to roundabout on 5-year plan.

**Final Site Plan for 1001 S Duquesne (4-Plex):** OWN engineering had submitted final letter approving stormwater plan for 4-plex. Project had been preapproved pending OWN's review.

**Bill 25-06 Amend Chap 430 Floodplain Management:** Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place 25-06 on first reading by title only. Since bill impacts Chapter 430, public hearings were required. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Chris, to refer bill to Planning & Zoning for public hearing and postpone to July Board meeting. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Bill 25-07 "Blair's Law" – Unlawful Discharge of Weapon:** Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place 25-07 on first reading by title only. Bill authorizes PD to pursue anyone who discharges weapon outside city limits but shoots into city.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-07 by title only and move to second and final reading of 25-07 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of 25-07 and assign it Ordinance 548. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Bill 25-08 OWN Letter of Agreement to Update Mapping for 2025 for \$750.00:** Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place 25-08 on first reading by title only. No discussion.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-08 by title only and move to second and final reading of 25-08 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of 25-08 and assign it Ordinance 549. 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: Stephens Boulevard Stormwater Project:** ATS Construction granted Notice to Proceed on June 5. Businesses were notified of pending closures.

**Update on Splashpad & Park Grant Project(s):** Splashpad had already been addressed earlier in meeting. Bid opening for restroom project was scheduled for July 10 at 10AM.

**Aldermen Interaction:** Question over easement(s) of record information requirement for Lot Consolidation or Lot Split. SOP for consolidations and lot splits only required easement(s) of record for lot consolidation. Board agreed that easement information should be required for both. It remained unnecessary for lot line adjustments.

Piper Glen: Ordinance 482 had rezoned Piper Glenn 4 as R-4, pending final plat approval. Since final plat was never approved, area would remain R-1 Single Family Residential.

Becca handed out AI generated job description for administrative assistant position.

**Public Comments:** Donna Grady, 1120 Katherine, said her drainage ditch had collapsed. New house built at 1126 Katherine by Michael Lowry has increased water retention. Her water pressure has also dropped. Missouri-American Water was responsible for water issues and Spire was responsible for gas concerns.

Kerry Devine, 314 Morgan Court, expressed concerns about illegal discharge of fireworks and tall weeds. She asked who to contact after regular business hours for non-emergency matters. Letters had been sent out regarding tall weeds. Call PD line after hours and call is routed to Joplin. She asked about abandoned trailer on Katherine. Demo permit had been picked up but utility disconnects had not been received (as required prior to issuance of permit).

Rick Gamboa, 4005 E 20<sup>th</sup>, P&Z recommended adding easement information required to Lot Split and any revision to any application included revision date. He suggested applications be added to city website with job descriptions for job openings.

**New Business: Temporary Employment Service:** Information and potential cost to hire temporary employee through agency. As an example: if city paid \$16 per hour, agency would charge city \$24 per hour for that employee, covering all employer related expenses. Board discussed potential to combining Code Enforcement Officer with maintenance position. Other sources for finding employees for needed positions included "Hire a Lion" program at MSSU, Ozark Christian College, Indeed.

**Update of Commissions & Committees:** Park Committee down to two members, Rick Gamboa and Becca White. Denny and Sonya White resigned. Denny also resigned from P&Z.

**Other Business Deemed Necessary:** none

**Schedule Next Meeting:** Council Meeting scheduled for July 21 at 6 PM. P&Z's next meeting is scheduled for July 7 at 6 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 8:24 PM.