

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN  
JULY 21, 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 6 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.

**Public Hearing: Update Chapter 430 Floodplain Management:** Hearing was opened at 6:02 PM. Mayor summarized major changes and why it was necessary. No comments, hearing closed at 6:10 PM.

**Approve Minutes: June 9 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: \$19,590.56, Memorial Park: \$27.89, Sewer & Wastewater: \$612.89, Stormwater/Park: \$840.00 and Street: \$7,863.85. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, 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. Three bids from TEC (Total Electronics Contracting) for CCTV (server) plus 6 cameras (\$5,595.00); one camera in Evidence Barn (\$1,395.00) and three “panic buttons” (\$1,272.00); totaling \$8,262.00. Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to accept proposals, authorize purchases and authorize Chief to execute agreements with TEC. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Chris Parker – OWN: Glory Village Plan Review Proposal:** Chris presented work authorization agreement for engineering review of plans. City had already received \$2,000 deposit for plan review. Mayor would execute agreement.

**Bill 25-06 Amend Chap 430 Floodplain Management:** Bill was postponed from June meeting for public hearings with P&Z (held July 7) and Board (held earlier in meeting). Motion made by Jane, seconded by Myra, to place 25-06 on first reading by title only. Updating chapter would make HUD backed mortgages possible.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 25-06 by title only and move to second and final reading of 25-06 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of 25-06 and assign it Ordinance 550. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

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

**Old Business: Stephens Boulevard Stormwater Project:** Project was almost completed. Some rip-rap was needed to prevent soil erosion. Until vegetation was established, 3-5% of project total could be withheld.

**Update on Park Grant Project(s):** City received two bids for concrete pads for park benches and trash bins: Nelson Enterprises for \$4,200.00 and Midwest Concrete Solutions for \$5,880.00. After some discussion, motion made by Myra, seconded by Becca, to award contract to Nelson Enterprises as Change Order to fence project if he could complete concrete pads within 90-day window of original contract. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Motion made by Myra, seconded by Becca, to award concrete pad contract to Midwest Concrete if Nelson Enterprises was unable to complete project in 90-day window. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Restroom Bid for Park Grant:** Bid opening was held on July 10. Only one bid was received from RE Smith Construction for \$204,502.00. Estimated cost for project with grant application was less than \$50,000. Becca, as member of Park Committee, requested Olivia be asked to attend Thursday's park meeting at 5:30 PM.

**Aldermen Interaction:** Becca asked about status of sound system update/repair. Mayor had contacted several businesses, including those suggested by Becca, without any results. Chief will contact TEC to seek bid for upgrade of new system. Becca asked about resurfacing city hall parking lot.

Board discussed Bell Tower for park. Wayne Stephenson with GB Engineering had volunteered to design tower at no charge. Mayor agreed to ask him to come to park meeting on Thursday. Bell Tower project was ineligible for park grant and would be funded entirely by city. Motion made by Myra, seconded by Jane, to solicit design and bids. Yea: Baine, Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Jane asked about truck on jacks on southside of 13<sup>th</sup> Street at 13<sup>th</sup> & Katherine. Chief said letter had already been sent and landowner has 10 days to comply before citation can be issued.

**Public Comments:** Kerry Devine, 314 Morgan Court, asked if any actions had been taken about complaints from prior meetings about businesses in residential areas and multi-families living in R-1 residence. Jane said if multi-family situation was culturally driven (i.e.: multi-generational occupants) it was prohibited by law for city to interfere. Kerry said they were "white-bred Americans" living there.

Facebook page for The Violent Gentleman at 605 Walnut Ridge advertised classes and had picture(s) of classes with more than 10 individuals in class.

Gary Heilbrun, 4015 E 25<sup>th</sup>, complained about dirt bikes on city streets. Bikes were not street-legal and some riders were under 16 years of age. They were seen on streets as late as 11 PM, with no lights. Police were able to identify some riders and spoke with their parents. Usually,

department was contacted after bikers had left area. Best number to call for police is "911" or non-emergency number that goes through Joplin Dispatch.

At 7:36 PM, Mayor Sherman excused Jane from remainder of meeting.

**New Business: Purchase Storage Container:** Two bids for new 20' container were presented. One for \$3,350.00 and one for \$3,450.00, including delivery. Mayor said additional storage space was needed for equipment and sign inventory, among other things. Container would be installed on railroad ties and remain portable. Item postponed for ordinance review.

**Update of Commissions & Committees:** Park Committee will meet Thursday at 5:30 PM.

**Appointments for P&Z and Park Committee:** Mayor had received one application for P&Z and two for Park Committee. Jessica Hilton, 2415 S Duquesne Road, submitted application for Park Committee. Motion made by Becca, seconded by Chris, to approve appointment of Ms. Hilton to four-year term, expiring July 2029. Yea: Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Caleb Lewis, 4222 University Circle, had submitted applications for both Park Committee and P&Z. Motion made by Becca, seconded by Chris, to approve appointments of Mr. Lewis to 3-year term on Park Committee, expiring July 2028; and 4-year term on P&Z, expiring July 2029. Yea: Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

**Other Business Deemed Necessary:** none

**Schedule Next Meeting:** Council Meeting scheduled for August 11 at 6 PM. P&Z's next meeting is scheduled for August 4 at 6 PM for Regular Session.

As there was no further business, motion made by Becca, seconded by Myra, to adjourn. Yea: Gonzalez, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.