

**DUQUESNE BOARD OF ALDERMEN
NOVEMBER 11, 2024 – 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 were 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 5 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 4015 E 13th Street from R-1 to C-1: Public Hearing was opened at 6:03 PM. SD Homes owner Sam Hickey was not present. Ray Brown, P&Z Chairman, said commission held its public hearing (November 4) and by vote 6-2 recommended Board deny rezoning. City Attorney said because City Comprehensive Plan called for future use of 13th Street to be commercial, explanation was needed. Ray said 3-4 people all spoke against its approval.

Rick Gamboa (also P&Z member) said man who lived across street did not want fenced, gravel parking lot with construction equipment storage in residential area. He felt it would reduce property values. Several others expressed some concern. Sam Hickey, real estate investor, bought, renovated and resold properties, planned on building 40'x50' shop/storage building at back of property and convert existing house at front of property into office space. However, he also said 2 dumpsters and truck would be stored outside. There was also some concern about future use of property if it ever sold.

Jane Baine, whose residence was about one block away, felt area was residential with two churches and needed to stay that way. As there was no further discussion, public hearing closed at 6:18 PM. Since Mr. Hickey failed to appear as required by Ordinance, no action was taken.

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

Financial Report: Wells Fargo \$100,000 CD was redeemed. Proceeds, including earned interest, were deposited into General Funds for pending park expenses. October report received and filed for audit.

Bill Summary: Outstanding bills for General Funds: \$184,237.64; Sewer & Wastewater: \$1,611.00; Storm Water / Park: \$5,868.75; Street: \$708.75. Becca asked PlayPower FT Farmington invoice payment, which included playground equipment, be withheld until after Park meeting on Monday. Committee needed to confirm equipment was ADA compliant. Invoice for splash pad had not been received. Splash pad project was on hold until water and sewer utilities were available. Only one bid was received for remaining projects. Fence bid was rejected because no wire gauge was listed. Motion made by Chris, seconded by Becca, to accept Bill Summary, withhold payment to PlayPower

FT Farmington check for \$175,609.29 and pay remaining outstanding bills. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Court Report: Received and filed for audit.

Police Report: Chief White gave report on department status. Chief presented information on FLOCK Safety program for two stationary cameras and asked Board to approve program and grant process. Motion made to approve FLOCK Safety opt-out program and Law Enforcement Block Grant application process. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

Bill 24-18 Noise Ordinance: Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to place Bill 24-18 on first reading by title only. Board discussed seating capacity of Celebration Church to make sure proposed ordinance was sufficient to cover location.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the first reading of Bill 24-18 by title only and move to second and final reading of Bill 24-18 by title only.

Motion made by Jane, seconded by Becca, to accept the second and final reading by title only of Bill 24-18 and assign it Ordinance 540. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried.

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

Old Business: Park Update: Bid information given earlier in meeting. Park Committee needed to review open projects' specifications to establish fence wire gauge requirement, restroom fixtures requirement and state all projects must be compliant with City Code.

Aldermen Interaction: S&S Computers had provided outline for new website. Copies of January 8 Ordinance and contract were also provided.

Jane said she had received several text messages regarding political sign in front of city park. Given current atmosphere of sign removal and conversation Mayor had with County Clerk Charlie Davis, who is election authority, sign should not be removed if in right-of-way. She also asked about use of old Duquesne Auto site at 1507 S Duquesne Road. Animal Aquamations, alternative to pet cremation, was remodeling building and had already obtained business license.

Mayor Sherman attended AsfpM. He was now CFM, Certified Floodplain Manager. Congratulations. City adopted floodplain ordinance in 2012 when required freeboard was one foot above base flood elevation (BFE). Effective January 2025, all HUD mortgages will require two-foot freeboard. He suggested city ordinance be updated to meet new requirements.

Jane asked about placement of storage building on side of yard. City has already sent letter to landowner requesting building be moved to backyard or removed from property. Owner had spoken to Mayor to request time to empty and sell building. She also asked about lot cleanup at 10th & Duquesne. DNR did not require land disturbance permit for logging but would for stump removal.

Public Comments: Ray Brown, 3615 Johnson Drive, asked about website development, since old site was no longer available. Chris said pictures of old websites were available online. He asked about Duenweg Fire Department satellite station in Duquesne. Subject had been discussion before.

New Business: none.

Update of Commissions & Committees: Park Committee meeting was scheduled for Monday, November 18 at 6PM. Next P&Z meeting should be last Work Session needed to review proposed Comprehensive Plan. P&Z would present its recommendations to Amanda (HSTTC) when review was completed. City would need to hold public hearing before new plan could be adopted.

Other Business Deemed Necessary: Becca made motion, seconded by Chris, to terminate contract with S&S Computers for development of new city website. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried. Chris would develop bid notice for advertising with bids due by November 22 at 5PM and bid opening for November 25 at 10AM.

Schedule Next Meeting: Next Council Meeting scheduled for Tuesday, December 10, at 6 PM. P&Z's next meeting is scheduled for December 2, with Work Session at 6 PM and meeting at 7 PM.

As there was no further business, motion made by Chris, seconded by Becca, to adjourn. Yea: Baine, White, Ellsworth. Nay: none. Motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 PM.