



SPECIAL CALLED CHESTER CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Wednesday, January 20, 2021

VIRTUAL WEBINAR LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82728667700>

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:30 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow; Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Annie Reid, Susan Kovas, Linda Tinker, Robbie King-Boyd, and Mayor Pro Tempore Angela Douglas; Attorney LaTonya Edwards; Attorney Joannie Winters; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, and Director of Human Resources/Municipal Clerk Barbara L. Haggray.

ABSENT: None

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Stringfellow. Roll call, quorum established.

II. PRAYER

Councilwoman Douglas led Council in prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Stringfellow led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. OLD BUSINESS

Ward One Seat Vacancy

Discussion were made regarding the change of the filing date through the Election Commission due to the vacate seat in Ward One due to Councilman William Killian seat that has been vacated. This is an unexpired term that should be determined by a special election date or to be set with the General election dat. Attorney Edwards will research. Mayor Stringfellow discussed cost for each election whether Special or General election. Councilwoman Douglas discussed the choice type of election could affect Councilwoman Kovas. Attorney Winters recommended to wait before a decision is made for more information to be provide. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Councilwoman King-Boyd to withdraw the motion that was made. Council voted [7 - Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Councilwoman Kovas, Tinker, Campbell, King-Boyd, Reid]; Opposes – none.

V. EXECUTIVE SESSION
Personnel Matter – Police Department

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Tinker and seconded by Councilwoman King-Boyd, Council voted [Unanimous] to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter – Police Department. No action was taken.

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Reid, Council voted [Unanimous] to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:49 pm.

With no further discussion, upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [Unanimous] for meeting to adjourn. Council meeting adjourned at 7:55 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Barbara L. Haggray



CHESTER CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Monday, January 25, 2021

VIRTUAL WEBINAR LINK:

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/83177660947>

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow; Mayor Pro Tempore Angela Douglas, Council Members Chris Williams, TaTanish Campbell, Annie Reid, Susan Kovas, Robbie King-Boyd; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, Director of Human Resources/Municipal Clerk Barbara L. Haggray.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Linda Tinker.

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:35 p.m. by Mayor Stringfellow. Roll call, quorum established.

II. PRAYER

Councilwoman Reid led Council in prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Stringfellow led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. CITIZENS FORUM

Ken Lebbon

Mr. Ken Lebbon expressed concerns regarding the YMCA building, the Cummings Report, and that the inspection of the YMCA building should be done. He requested to Council to do their due diligence of the YMCA building. Mayor Stringfellow expressed thank you on behalf of the Council.

LaTonya Williams – Problems getting on the Zoom

V. PETITIONER - None.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES – Nov.23.20, Dec.3.20, Dec.21.20, Dec.21 (2nd meeting), Jan.7.21

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Douglas, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept Minutes as information. Opposes none.

VII. SPECIAL RECOGNITION

Resolution – Former Councilman William B. Killian – Resolution presented for years of service as City of Chester Councilman by Mayor Stringfellow.

Resolution – Former Fire Marshal Don Wood – Resolution presented for years of service with the City of Chester Fire Department.

VIII. DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administrative

Employee of the Quarter – City Administrator Jackson presented certificate for the Employee of the quarter to Marquita Fair, Finance Department, Accounts Payable.

LaTonya William – “Battered but Not Broken” Organization – She would like to request a letter from the City as a partner for the various projects.

Awarding of Bid – Public Works Garage Demolition- City Administrator Jackson discussed the schedule of the pre-bids for the six (6) companies that have submitted. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilman Williams, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept. Opposes none.

Proposal – Employee Reimbursement for RAPID COVID Tests – City Administrator Jackson discussed extra funds from the retirement budget be used to pay for RAPID test for employees so that the return to work can be expedite instead of employees being quarantined. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept. Opposes none.

SCDOT – Traffic Signal Removal – Intersection of Saluda and Walnut Streets – City Administrator discussed the three (3) year study of the removal of the traffic light replaced with a blinking light. Councilwoman Kovas inquires if they would reconsider due to increase in traffic and the complaints from the residents. City Administrator Jackson states that she has made a verbal appeal. Mayor Stringfellow stated that a follow-up will be done in writing.

CDBG-CV 1 Program- City Administrator discussed a major need for Senior Services due to COVID. No answer from Catawba Regional.

2021 Adult Drug Court Planning Initiative Training Award – City Administrator Jackson discussed that the City could apply for training and that it is free. Mayor Stringfellow reached out and the City received a grant for the City of Chester residence.

Approval to Apply for RIA Grant – Discussion for permission to apply for the Rural Infrastructure Authority Grant fund earmarked for FY21/22. DPW Director McBeth discussed floods across the City. Discussions about the maintenance issues, drainage, stormwater, foundation issues from resident homes, hospitality tax funds could be used for flooding in tourist areas. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Councilwoman King-Boyd, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept. Opposes none.

Letter of Intent 2014 CPST – Verbal approval was made to move forward with back lot, mailbox canopy covers, help with the elderly with repairs in each ward.

Finance – Discussion by Marc Wood that the budget is remaining at 60%. Councilwoman Douglas asked about the Summer Feeding program because of delayed payment and budget amendments.

Fire – Chief James Jackson informed the Council of the loss of fire employees family members.

Human Resources –

Agreement – First Sun EAP Services - Director of Human Resources/Municipal Clerk Barbara L. Haggray presented the new EAP agreement for approval for First Sun EAP services for the employees. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Douglas, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept. Opposes none.

Police Department – Councilwoman thanked the police department staff for helping to distribute 1500 mask that were donated for the community.

Public Works – Director of Public Works McBeth discussed the billing report for 2020. Mayor Stringfellow discussed new construction and home improvements.

Parks and Recreation –

PARD Grant Update – No funds were received per discussion from Director of Parks and Recreation Chris White. Delegation Grant Received - Director of Parks and Recreation Chris White discussed the amounts from \$75,000 to \$55,000, matching grant for play system and budget of \$5,000.

Play Core Grant - Discussed moving equipment out of Wiley Park.

Other – Duke energy Grant - \$5,000, for the walking trail, signage quote due to missing signs.

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [Unanimous] to accept Committee reports as information.

IX. COMMISSION REPORTS –

Finance – Update contract for vehicles and SHARP

Properties –

Approval – Bid Baseline – City Properties - Director of Public Works McBeth will have two (2) bids to remove property. He has discussed with volunteers regarding the damaged house at no cost to the City legally and safely. No committee minutes. Mayor Stringfellow discussed an ordinance for putting houses on properties. Councilman Williams discussed the city property list and placing bids. Councilwoman Reid and Mayor Stringfellow asked if the City could do something with the Housing Authority. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilman Williams, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept. Opposes none.

Public Safety – No Report.

Public Works – No Report.

Garland Building Reports – Tomlinson Preparer –

Economic Development – Councilwoman Douglas reported that there will be a demo website to be provided.

YMCA Ad-Hoc - Approval of Minutes – January 13, 2021 - Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [7-Mayor Stringfellow, Mayor Pro Temp Angela Douglas, Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Susan Kovas, Annie Reid, Chris Williams, and Robbie King-Boyd] to accept. Opposes none.

Parks and Recreation – No Report.

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Reid, Council voted [Unanimous] to accept Committee reports as information.

X. COMMISSION REPORTS – No Reports.

XI. COMMISSION APPOINTMENTS - Replacement Recommendations – Review in 2021; Natural Gas Authority - Dr. Holmes. The Historic Preservation Commissioner to be discussed at the February meeting; Mayor Stringfellow has requested that Council be prepared to bring new candidate for appointment at the next Council meeting for all committee and commission vacancies; No vote was taken.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – The City of Chester received 2020 Census Community Partnership and Engagement Program Appreciation Certificate.

The 2nd reading of Ordinance 2020-13 - Motion was made by Councilwoman Douglas and second by Councilwoman Kovas to accept the ordinance for the Historical Properties.

The Municipal Elections and Ward I vacancy filing for the election date of May 4, 2021.

XIII. NEW BUSINESS –

Council Committee Appointments – Mayor Stringfellow appointed Councilwoman Campbell as Chair of the Recreation Commission, Councilwoman King-Boyd was appointed to the Finance Committee, the Economic Development Committee, and the Recreation Committee.

Police Department Overtime – Councilwoman Reid discussed comp-time in the Police Department.

City Updates – Councilwoman Reid – Discussed the need for information for the Wards and the City for all Council members of updates from Director of Public Works McBeth.

XII. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Stringfellow announced that Council would entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss Contractual Agreement Proposal – 163 Gadsden Street and Contractual Agreement – Catawba Farm & Food
Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [3 with Council entered Executive Session at 935 p.m. Opposed 4.

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council voted [Unanimous] to return into open session at 10:05 p.m. No action was taken by Council while in Executive Session.

With no further discussion, upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [Unanimous] that Council adjourn. Council adjourned meeting at 10:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Barbara L. Haggray