



CHESTER CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Monday, August 24, 2020

VIRTUAL WEBINAR LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89953597064>

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 6:36 P.M.

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow; Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Annie Reid, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams and Mayor Pro Tempore Angela Douglas; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, City Attorney Latonya Edwards and Payroll Specialist Sylvia Young.

ABSENT: Council Members Linda Tinker and William Killian (Councilman Williams exit meet during the Approval of Minutes).

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:36 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. Lebbon informed Council that building located at 120 Gadsden Street had roof failure caused by heavy rain. He stated that as a licensed contractor he advised Council to make sure that this type of structural damage never happens again. He emphasized on the importance of inspecting all downtown buildings to prevent structural damages. Also, he stated that the City should make it a requirement to inspect buildings. He informed Council that in order to have a valid inspection, an inspection must be performed by a commercial contractor or a structural engineer. He informed Council that Lebbon & Company, LLC, which he owns, is offering their services free of costs to downtown property owners for the inspection of buildings roofing structures. He stated that his company will work with City building code enforcer. Mr. Lebbon provided his contact number for interested downtown property owners. Mayor Stringfellow thanked Mr. Lebbon for his offer and stated that the City will pass on his information to building owners in downtown Chester. She stated that Council will work to make sure that City buildings are safer.

V. Special Recognition – Human Resource Director Carla Roof, Retirement

Mayor Stringfellow announced that Mrs. Jackson and herself would leave the screen momentarily to go to the Council Chambers for a special recognition for the retirement of Mrs. Carla Roof, Human Resources Director. After a few moments, Mrs. Jackson greeted the public and stated that it was an honor to recognize Mrs. Roof on her retirement. Mrs. Jackson gave Council a brief background history in reference to the number of department heads Mrs. Roof has worked with during her years of tenure with the City. Afterwards, Mayor Stringfellow presented to Mrs. Roof a watch as a token of appreciation from the City for her 28 years of service. Mrs. Roof accepted the gift of recognition from the City in the presence of her husband Ronnie Roof, City Council and the viewing virtual public. She stated that today marks the date of her 28th year anniversary with the City and she was very grateful for the time she has had with the City of Chester.

VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

July 27, 2020 and August 10, 2020 - Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Reid, Council voted [Unanimous] to accept July 27, 2020 and August 11, 2020 Minutes with necessary corrections. Councilwoman Douglas stated that July 27, 2020 Minutes needs the following correction: \$11,000 from the Waterworks Account to the Sewer Escrow Account, instead of the recorded \$15,000 from the Waterworks Account to the General Fund Account.

VII. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Administrative Report – City Administrator Stephanie Jackson – Mrs. Jackson gave Council the following highlights from report:

Free COVID Testing – Mrs. Jackson announced to Council that DHEC sponsored a free of cost COVID-19 testing in the backlot on Saturday, August 22, 2020. Also, North Central Family Medication is sponsoring another free of cost COVID-19 testing in the backlot on Tuesday, September 1, 2020 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. She informed Council that for their review a flyer has been included within their Council package and has also been posted onto City media sites. In conclusion, she encouraged the citizens of Chester to come out to be tested if they desire.

100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote – Mrs. Jackson informed Council about the 100th Anniversary of Women's Right to Vote celebration. She stated that August 26th marks the centennial date for the women's right to vote. A letter from Mayor Benjamin from Columbia, South Carolina is included within Council package that address all other Mayors of Municipalities. Mayor Benjamin is asking that other Mayors join the City of Columbia to commemorate this special day. The City will be displaying lights in the windows of City Hall, gold and purple lights to represent the centennial anniversary of women's rights to vote. Mayor Stringfellow stated that she received correspondence asking women to dress in purple or gold clothing on Wednesday, August 26th to commemorate the Woman Suffrage Act. Also, she will provide web site to submit your pictures. She stated with enthusiasm that on this date, Members of Council will have their picture taken at City Hall while wearing purple or gold clothing to submit onto the web site.

Census 2020 – Mrs. Jackson encouraged citizens to submit their census report if they haven't already. She gave Council an update concerning Census 2020. Afterwards, she asked citizens to encourage others by asking five other people if they have submitted their census report and to do so if they have not. Discussion took place concerning Census 2020. It appears that certain communities need encouragement to get their census report completed.

Street Law 101 – Mrs. Jackson announced that the City have had two successful and well attended Street Law 101 classes. The most recent class featured City Municipal judges' as panelist, and she thanked Ms. LaJessica

Stringfellow for serving as a moderator for each class session. She informed Council that she continues to receive positive feedback in reference to the session. Discussion took place concerning topics for next class sessions.

August Spending Freeze – Mrs. Jackson announced that August spending freeze has gone well and she asked Council to continue freeze for another month. Mrs. Jackson gave Council an update concerning spending freeze.

Christmas in Chester - Mrs. Jackson gave Council an update concerning Christmas in Chester. Discussion took place concerning Christmas in Chester. After much discussion, Mayor Stringfellow request that Councilwoman Campbell forward to Mrs. Jackson a list of ideas to consider for Christmas events for the community.

Finance Report – Financial statement in package for Council’s review and discussion. Discussion took place concerning the Summer Feeding Program budget, grant fund balances, donations, fees and health care account.

Fire Report – Fire report in package for Council’s review and discussion. Mrs. Jackson informed Council about a huge fire at Carolina Poly. She provided Council with a detailed report concerning the fire at Carolina Poly.

Human Resources Report – Human Resources report in package for Council’s review and discussion. Brief discussion took place concerning open positions.

Police Report – Police report in package for Council’s review and discussion.

Public Works Report - Public Works Report in package for Council’s review and discussion.

Recreation Report – Mr. White informed Council that the Recreation Department will be sponsoring a “Back to School Bash” on Saturday, August 29th from 10 a.m. to 12 noon or until all supplies are given out. He informed Council that event will be a drive-thru event to keep social distancing. The Recreation Department has planned for 200 visitors; however, donations were still being received to extend plan to 250 visitors. He gave Council a detailed itinerary for the “Back to School Bash” event.

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

VIII. COMMITTEE REPORT:

Finance Report – No report in package.

Properties Report – No report in package.

Public Safety Report – No report in package.

Public Works Report – Councilwoman Kovas gave Council an update concerning Public Works Committee Minutes for June 1, 2020 and July 6, 2020. Also, Councilwoman Kovas reported that the Committee had an August 3rd meeting.

Recreation Report – Report in package for discussion; however, Chairperson was not available for report discussion.

Economic Report – Councilwoman Douglas reported that the Committee met on August 10th no report available within Council package.

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

IX. COMMISSION REPORTS:

No reports in package.

X. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

First Reading Ordinance 2019-09 – Vacancy Property Registry - Attorney Edward gave Council a report concerning the vacancy property registry outline draft. Discussion took place concerning first draft of vacancy property registry. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Councilwoman Reid, Council voted [Unanimous] to table item for discussion.

Commission Appointments - Mrs. Jackson gave Council a detailed report concerning Commission profiles received and the Citizens Review Board Checklist. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Mayor Stringfellow, Council voted [Unanimous] to reappoint Dellaree B. Lann to the Evergreen Cemetery Commission. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Kovas and seconded by Councilwoman Douglas, Council voted [Unanimous] to reappoint Rev. W. T. Holms on the Chester Natural Gas Authority. Upon motion made by Mayor Stringfellow and seconded by Councilwoman Douglas, Council voted [Unanimous] to reappoint Peggy Hopkins to the Chester Zoning Board of Appeals. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Mayor Stringfellow, Council voted [Unanimous] to appoint Kenneth A. Lebbon to the Chester Zoning Board of Appeals. Council discussed Mary Beth Carr resigning from the Chester Zoning Board of Appeals. Discussion took place concerning the Citizens Review Board. Upon motion made by Mayor Stringfellow and seconded by Councilwoman Douglas, Council voted [Unanimous] to table appointments to the Citizens Review Board.

XI. NEW BUSINESS:

Approval of Fire Lieutenant/Training Officer/Fire Inspector Job Description – Mrs. Jackson gave Council a very detailed report concerning the job description revisions for approval. Discussion took place concerning job description revisions. Upon motion made by Mayor Stringfellow and seconded by Councilwoman Reid, Council voted [Unanimous] to table the approval of the Fire Lieutenant/Training Officer/Fire Inspector Job Description revisions until Council receive the update job description.

Wylie Park & Senate Allocation – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas - Councilwoman Douglas made a request to discuss Wylie Park and Senate Allocation together, Council had no objections. Councilwoman Douglas gave Council a report concerning the Senate Allocation in reference to state budget. Discussion took place concerning Wylie Park upgrades. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council voted [3 (Councilwoman Douglas, Councilwoman Kovas and Councilwoman Campbell) to 2 (Mayor Stringfellow and Councilwoman Reid)] to amend the March 2nd vote to scale down the project to upgrades at Wylie Park, the roof and restrooms at the football site, vent for concessions, and restrooms at Joe Collins. Also, to include the reimbursement for fence around the pool at Wylie Park as requested by Mrs. Jackson.

First Reading Ordinance 2020-13 Rehabilitated Historic Properties – Attorney Latonya Edwards gave Council an update concerning the First Reading Ordinance 2020-13 Rehabilitated Historic Properties. Discussion took place concerning Ordinance 2020-13. Council request that Attorney Edwards revise draft, Section 1: Special Tax Assessment Created: A special tax assessment is created for eligible rehabilitated historic properties for a period of ten (10) years instead of twenty (20) years, equal to the assessed value of the property at the time of preliminary certification. Upon motion made by Councilwoman Douglas and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council

voted [Unanimous] to accept the First Reading Ordinance 2020-13 Rehabilitated Historic Properties. Councilwoman Douglas wanted the public to know that Ordinance 2020-13 is part of the Bailey Bill.

Workers Comp – Police Department – Mayor Stringfellow gave Council an update concerning workers comp paid by the City for Police Department in reference to shooting at Wal-Mart. Discussion took place concerning the shooting incident at Wal-Mart. Upon motion made by Mayor Stringfellow and seconded by Councilwoman Reid, Council voted [Unanimous] that the City request a reimbursement for workers comp paid by the City for the officers that were involved in the Wal-Mart shooting of Adrian McCree. Mayor Stringfellow amend motion to include, based on the results from the judication and seconded by Councilwoman Reid.

XIII. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council voted [4 - (Mayor Stringfellow, Councilwoman Kovas, Councilwoman Reid, and Councilwoman Campbell) to 1- (Councilwoman Douglas)] to go into Executive Session to discuss Legal Matter – Project New Life – Michael Kozlarek, Personnel Matter – Employee Survey – Attorney Winters, Personnel Matter – Public Works Department – Attorney Winters, Legal Matter – Off Duty Officers – Attorney Edwards, Contractual Matter – City Properties, Contractual Matter/Personnel Matter – Human Resources – Administrator Jackson, and Personnel Matter – Administrative, Police, Fire, Recreation, Public Works, HR Department Evaluations. Council went into Executive Session at 8:31 p.m. Due to lack of quorum Council reconvene from Executive Session at 10:30 p.m.

With no further discussion, Mayor Stringfellow made a motion that Council adjourn. Councilwoman Reid seconded. Motion carried unanimously. Council meeting adjourned at 10:31 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Sylvia Young



SPECIAL CALLED CHESTER CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Tuesday, October 13, 2020

VIRTUAL WEBINAR LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89507805892>

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 4:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow; Council Members TaTanish Campbell, Annie Reid, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams and Mayor Pro Tempore Angela Douglas; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, and Payroll Specialist Sylvia Young.

ABSENT: Council Members Linda Tinker and William Killian

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mayor Stringfellow. Roll call, quorum established.

II. PRAYER

Councilman Williams led Council in prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Stringfellow led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilman Williams, Council voted [Unanimous] to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter – Interviews for Human Resources Director Vacancy. Council went into Executive Session at 4:02 pm.

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilman Williams, Council voted [Unanimous] to reconvene from Executive Session at 6:57 pm.

With no further discussion, upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council voted [Unanimous] for meeting to adjourn. Council meeting adjourned at 6:58 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Sylvia Young



SPECIAL CALLED CHESTER CITY COUNCIL VIRTUAL MEETING

Wednesday, October 14, 2020

VIRTUAL WEBINAR LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89507805892>

MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL MEETING – 4:00 PM

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow; Council Members Annie Reid, Susan Kovas, TaTanish Campbell, William Killian, Carlos Williams and Mayor Pro Tempore Angela Douglas; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, and Payroll Specialist Sylvia Young.

ABSENT: Council Members Linda Tinker

I. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m. by Mayor Stringfellow. Roll call, quorum established.

II. PRAYER

Councilwoman Kovas led Council in prayer.

III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Stringfellow led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council voted [Unanimous] to go into Executive Session to discuss a Personnel Matter – Interviews for Human Resources Director Vacancy. Council went into Executive Session at 4:09 pm.

Upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Campbell, Council voted [Unanimous] to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:52 pm.

With no further discussion, upon motion made by Councilwoman Reid and seconded by Councilwoman Kovas, Council voted [Unanimous] for meeting to adjourn. Council meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Respectfully Submitted by,

Sylvia Young