

Chester City Council Meeting
January 27, 2020, 6:30 pm
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Annie Reid, Linda Tinker, Angela Douglas, Susan Kovas and Carlos Williams; City Administrator Jackson and HR Director Carla Roof.

Absent: City Attorney Edwards; Councilwoman Bagley, Councilman Killian and Councilman King.

Call to Order: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Prayer: Chief Jackson led in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens Forum: Karen Hill provided Council with a Hospitality Grant application requesting funding for Light It Up Blue. Mrs. Hill would like the Police and Fire departments to decorate City vehicles with puzzle pieces the month of April. We will be adding a Mayor's walk this year to the event. Light It Up Blue will be held on Friday, April 4, 2020, 5pm -9 pm.

Petitioners – Potting Shed Garden Club – Mark Cockrell presented to Council a request to plant a tree donated by Rolling Hills Nursery in Connor Park. This will be discussed later in the meeting.

Approval of Minutes – Councilwoman Reid made a motion to approve as presented with necessary corrections. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Departmental Reports – Employee of the Quarter – LT. Brian Sanders received the Employee of the Quarter. Mayor and Council congratulated Mr. Sanders.

Jeffery R. Orr Photography – Mr. Orr has offered his services free of charge to Council to take updated photos of Council at his studio.

Ordinance Sale of Certain City Equipment – Mrs. Jackson provided Council with an update on the auction and the process. There will be a 10% charge to the auction company. With no objection, Mrs. Jackson will move forward with a contract.

HGTV is looking for one American town to do a makeover. Requires submitting a video and pictures, We will be submitting. Ken Lebbon, Cures for Chester, has already started an application for the City of Chester and we are currently making videos.

Lights on Trees on Gadsden Street – Mrs. Jackson contacted the company that installs the lights and requested that they train Public Works employees to wrap and unwrap the trees in September. This will save the City a lot of money.

Holiday Schedule – Mrs. Jackson provided the Holiday Schedule for Council's approval. Much discussion took place concerning Public Works working on the day before and after Thanksgiving. After discussion, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Opportunity Zone Prospectus - Mrs. Jackson provided an update to Council. After much discussion, Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to keep the original color, bright orange for the prospectus. The motion carried with Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas opposing.

City Donation to Census 2020 – Mr. Earl Moore requested funding to do a Census Campaign. After discussion, Mr. Moore indicated he is working on the application and will bring back as soon as possible. Mr. Moore would like to have a group photo of Council to include in the video for the grant.

Finance Department – Mrs. Jackson informed Council the trial balance has the incorrect date on it. Discussion took place concerning the encumbrance line item. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas wanted to know if there was anything that needed to be handled from the special called meeting where a quorum wasn't present.

Fire Department – no comments

Human Resources Department – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas wanted to know the status of the Employee Survey. Mrs. Roof provided Council with an update and informed Council the survey is ready and waiting on funding approval. Mrs. Jackson informed Council the Council trip to Columbia for Legislative Action Day exhausted the funding and as soon as funding is available, Mrs. Roof can move forward.

Police Department – Chief Williams recognized two employees in the police department that received awards during their Christmas party. Supervisor of the year was awarded to Tyrel Graham and Officer of the Year awarded to MaKeesharia Tobias.

Councilman Williams had questions concerning the Interceptor car. What is the status of the vehicle? Much discussion took place concerning the contract and the concerns that was addressed by the Municipal Association. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas requested that she receive all communication concerning the car and to share it with all of Council, since it was a full council form Council.

Mayor Stringfellow wanted to know if the Chief had any information concerning the shooting at Walmart. Chief Williams stated that SLED is currently investigating and will notify Council as soon as the report has been released.

Public Works – Mayor Stringfellow indicated that she spoke to Mr. McBeth concerning the leaves. Both trucks have been repaired. The City has paid a total of \$36,000.00 for repairs of both trucks. Are the personnel that operate the vehicles being properly trained? Councilwoman Reid stated that she will be sending pictures of Murray Springs area which has become a dumping ground again.

Recreation – no report.

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to accept as presented. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session - With no objection –Councilwoman Reid made a motion to move Executive Session up on the agenda. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Council convened in Executive Session at 7:50 pm, for discussion of a Legal Matter – Opioid Litigation.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session for discussion of a Legal Matter – Opioid Litigation. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the Recreation and Public Works and Recreation Committee minutes. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Unfinished Business – Resolution – Take Home Vehicles – A Resolution was presented to Council. Councilman Williams indicated that he thought this would come back to Public Safety to review. Mayor Stringfellow stated that at the last meeting a motion was made it was motioned that Mrs. Roof prepare a Resolution for Council, which has been done. Much discussion took place. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated that she feels that Public Safety needs to review before a decision is made. Councilwoman Reid requested to allow the Public Safety Committee to review and bring back to Council. No action was taken.

With no further discussion, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to adjourn at 8:20 pm. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

Chester City Council Meeting
November 25, 2019
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Annie Reid, Linda Tinker, Angela Douglas, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams; City Administrator Jackson and HR Director Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Bagley, Councilman King and Councilman Killian. City Attorney Edwards.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order.

PRAYER: Rev. Kevin Taylor led in Prayer.

CITIZENS FORUM - Ken Lebbon – 119 Sunset Drive, Executive Director of CURES indicated they were forced to remove the temporary banner on the CURES building. Chair of HPC stated that the temporary banner was ok. I would like the record to reflect my concern.

Susan Nazian – President, Cures Board - We are well on the way of opening the building which will be an Event Center.

PETITIONER: Mr. Ernest Brown provided Council with an update on North Central Medical Clinic, located in the City of Chester. Mr. Brown explained the pharmacy program they provide to the community at a discounted price. North Central does a lot for Chester and we want you to be supportive of what we offer. Take advantage of what we have to offer. We are not here to make a profit, we are here to serve this community.

2nd Thursday Blues, Mr. David Claytor, 119 Pinckney Street – Mr. Claytor provided Council with and update concerning the upcoming Martin Luther King Blues Festival. Mr. Claytor requested financial support of \$2,700.00 to help fund the event. The County Council has committed to provide financial funding. Councilwoman Kovas informed Mr. Claytor to complete a Hospitality Application.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Mrs. Jackson announced that we have been awarded the \$100,000.00 CDBG grant for the Pavilion. Mrs. Jackson requested Council's approval to move forward with this project.

Lighting – 18 poles from Lands Tire to Stadium Drive. Once the contract is signed, the lights will be ordered, and the process will begin.

Calendar of events was provided to Council for their review.

Christmas Parade - we currently have 65 entries and you can contact City Parks and Recreation Department, Shelley Watts for additional information.

The second bid to repair the City Hall roof has been processed. We are hopeful that we receive bids.

Springsteen Mill Site – A letter was provided for Councils review. No coronium was found.

Request for Administrator to submit an RFP for an Auditor for the City of Chester. 2019-20 audit and two additional years. Councilwoman Reid made a motion to initiate an RFP for 3 years for an auditor. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Previous request from Brenda McBrayer – Hospitality Application to allow Mrs. McBrayer to receive \$5000.00 to wrap the trees coming from Hospitality Tax. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated we cannot give hospitality funds for decorations. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion that the \$5000.00 be used for the festival from Hospitality fund. Councilwoman Tinker second the motion. Discussion took place concerning keeping the trees lit all year round. The motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development Plan – Mrs. Morphis is ready to present the final presentation which should last 45 minutes to 1 hour. This will be available for the community and the committee that worked on the plan. Discussion took place to do it prior to the meeting, beginning at 5:30 pm on December 9, 2019.

Capital Sales Tax - December 16, 2019 first choice and December 10, 2019.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Second Reading 2019-09 Comprehensive Plan 2019-2029 10-year update of the City of Chester. Mayor Stringfellow read the ordinance as presented. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. Ordinances can be updated by ordinance. The motion carried unanimously.

Second Reading Ordinance 2019-08 – Amend Zoning Ordinance Manufactured Homes 6:12 roof pitch – Mayor Stringfellow read the ordinance as presented. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve. Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Second Reading Ordinance 2019-06 – Establish Standing Committee – Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

TAKE HOME VEHICLE POLICY – Mayor Stringfellow wanted to know how much we spend in fuel each month. The amount is approximately is \$14,000.00 per month.

Property Gift – 163 - 165 Gadsden Street has been processed and belongs to the City of Chester. Thanked Mr. Elton Todd for the gift of this property. A letter of thanks will be provided to Mr. Todd.

NEW BUSINESS:

Comprehensive Fee Schedule – Agribusiness Center – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas – Council previously set a schedule for the Kitchen. Mayor Pro Douglas stated that we have not been getting a lot of rental and people indicated it was not affordable. Much discussion took place. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to adopt the additional fee schedule as discussed for caterers and event space. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. Discussion took place, the motion carried unanimously.

Financial Matters – Review of Financial Agreements – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas – We continue to get dinged on financial oversight. Currently, who signs checks? Council Members Reid, Tinker, Bagley, Mayor and Mrs. Jackson. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas discussed the \$75,000.00 PARD grant. Discussed the landfill. Met with the auditors, we are currently behind when we get the monthly report. This makes it difficult for me to understand what it being spent.

Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated that we need to not focus on what is essential, we need to look at the bigger picture such as salaries, travel, etc. Chief Williams stated that there are things that we have requested, and our requests are in the process of being honored. Have there been delays in the past? Yes, there have been delays. Councilwoman Reid stated we are in the process to streamline departments to help with our financial situation. Finance is working on things to help with our current financial situation. I reviewed our audits for the last 10 years and I have questions on the sewer escrow accounts. Much discussion took place. There should be \$195,000.00 in that account. McAlliley Apartments, October 1998, developers renovated the apartments. \$6630.00 paid annually for 30 years with 2% interest. Much discussion took place. Mayor Stringfellow requested that Mrs. Jackson contact Dwayne Anderson, Landmark Financial, request these documents. Discussed properties that we own that all not recorded on our assets. Discussed repairs to City Hall. Co-owned property was discussed. When the police move there will be 7 people left in this building. Mayor Stringfellow stated that she believes that building is too big for the police department, we need to put the entire city hall staff there. If City Hall is renovated it could be a venue for weddings, etc. The police department needs to be back at the LEC where they should be. Finance needs to keep in mind the large late fees that we are paying. We need to pay a lot more attention to our finance.

Cancellation of December 23, 2019, Council Meeting – Councilwoman Reid made a motion to cancel the December 23, 2019 meeting. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried.

City of Chester Council Meetings – Councilman Williams requested that Committees work throughout items and have it prepared when we come to the Council meeting where we are not at the meeting all night. Williams motion to only meet on the 4th meeting of the month. Mayor Pro Tempore Tinker seconded the motion. The Committee Chair will bring back to the Council Meeting. After discussion, the motion carried unanimously. This will become effective January 27, 2019.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:53 pm for discussion of a Contractual Matter, 125 Pinckney Street. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Contractual Matter – 125 Pickney Street. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to move forward with condemning the property located at 125 Pinckney Street. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, Councilwoman Reid made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 9:16 pm. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried. No action was taken.

With no further business, Councilwoman Reid made a motion to adjourn at 9:20 pm. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

Chester City Council Meeting
March 2, 2020
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Stringfellow; Council Members Annie M. Reid, Linda T. Tinker, William Killian, Angela Douglas, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams; City Attorney Edwards; City Administrator Jackson; HR Director Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Councilman King.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Tinker led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION: Mayor and Council recognized the family of former Council Member Betty B. Bagley and presented a Proclamation, nameplate, photo and rose to the family in her memory.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORT:

Fire Department – Captain Ricky Grant was recognized and presented a watch for his 37 years of service to the City of Chester Fire Department.

HR Department – Mrs. Roof provided Council with an update concerning the Employee Survey.

Police Department – no comments

Public Works - no comments

Recreation Department – Discussed kickball and exercise program.

Public Works – no report

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve as presented. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance –The Committee is still working with Mr. Wood and a report was provided at the meeting. Discussion took place concerning a grant writer for the City of help bring in more money for the City.

Properties- no report

Public Safety – Committee will meet the 3rd week of every month. Discussed concerns with radios and tasers. Committee discussed the take home vehicle policy and did not think it was a big issue.

Discussed the COVID-19 virus and discussed the reverse 911 calls. We currently have 26 officers in the police department. All are patrolling except 9, which are in special units.

Public Works – Currently, all equipment is working in Public Works. Discussed lawn care, partnering with the Career Center for planting, mulch yard is not to capacity and we are currently recycling cardboard.

With no objections, Item #3 was added under New Business – Contract to sell City owned Property.

Recreation - A request was provided to Council by Councilman Killian with recommendations coming from the Committee. The Committee would like to use the \$75,000.00 for the projects. The request consisted of ADA swings and access to Park, DHEC required fence for Pool, Tennis Courts – Drainage, Upgrade concession/RR – Joe Collins, Roof – RR on Football site, vent for Concessions, Restrooms door stalls (9 @ \$400), Counters for Concessions, Paint for Concession, Widen Softball Fields to Regulation size, new light post and 3 lights, restore baseball fence of SB Field, Baseball nets (outbound & back catch). Councilwoman Killian made a motion to allocate the \$75,000.00 from Senator Mike Fanning. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas seconded the motion. Much discussion took place, the motion carried unanimously.

Economic Development - Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas provided Council with an update. The Census Food Truck Roundup has been cancelled due to the COVID-9 Virus. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas indicated that she met with each department and asked where they would like to see the City? Fire would like to improve the ISO Rating. Met with Mrs. Watts to discuss the website. The master plan website design needs to be updated and discussed a Chester live Portal. Asked Mrs. Jackson to coordinate with our software company to see if we can develop an Intranet. Mrs. Jackson will be providing quotes for this. We currently don't have a Social Media Policy for the purpose of doing business in the City. Committee would like approval to work with Administrator and Attorney and staff to formulate the Social Media Policy and Website. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Bailey Bill – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas discussed with the Committee concerning the Bailey Bill which freezes the property taxes when people perform work on historic property. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to give authorization to Economic Development Committee to work with the City Attorney to draft a Bailey Bill Ordinance and bring back to Council. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. After much discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Evergreen Cemetery – no report

Historic Preservation – no report

Planning Commission – no report

Zoning Board of Appeals – no report

Housing Authority -no report

Recreation – no report

No Commission reports submitted.

UNIFINISHED BUSINESS

One Cent Sales Tax Projects – Mrs. Jackson informed Council that she has met with Department Heads concerning One Cent Sales Tax Proposed projects. Council reviewed the project by departments that was submitted by Mrs. Jackson. Much discussion took place. Councilwoman Douglas wanted to know was there other areas that we can utilize. Council will provide Mrs. Jackson with their priority listing one through ten. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the list as presented with removing Masonic Building. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. Amend motion to include the fire ramp. The motion was amended, and the motion carried with Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas opposing.

NEW BUSINESS

MASC Hometown Legislative Action Day Report – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas – Most of the Legislators were in Committee sessions, but able to leave notes with some. Business License Bill was discussed. Discussed branding for our City. Harassment training, Campaign funds and other areas Council needs to be careful about. The City of Chester was highlighted as to how many members of Council that the City currently has. We may need to revisit the ward counts and rebalance in some way. Statement of Economic Interest – due in March 2, 2020

Commission Appointments – Recreation Commission and Zoning Board of Appeals – Defer to next meeting.

Attorney Edwards informed Council that The Ligon Company has revised the contract as previously requested by Attorney Edwards. Everything is ok to proceed. The auction has been scheduled for March 21, 2020.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the Ligon Company as revised. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. Much discussion took place the motion carried with Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas opposing.

Hospitality Tax – Workability and Light It Up Blue - Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve \$5500 for the Light it up Blue. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. After much discussion, the motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to adjourn at 9:10 pm. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

City of Chester Emergency Called Meeting
Thursday, March 19, 2020, 6:00 pm
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Susan Kovas, Linda Tinker, Annie M. Reid, William Killian; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson and HR Director Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Attorney Edwards; Council Members Douglas, Williams and King.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Reid led in prayer.

NEW BUSINESS: 2020-01 Emergency Ordinance to Temporarily Suspend the Normal Operating Procedures of the City of Chester Council, Committee and Commission Meetings and Authorize the City Administrator to Develop and Enact a Plan to Provide as an Option Electronic Council Meetings during the COVID-19 Pandemic. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business Councilwoman Reid made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 pm. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

Chester City Council Meeting
April 27, 2020, 6:30 pm
Minutes

Present: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Susan Kovas, Angela Douglas, Carlos Williams, Annie M. Reid; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, City Attorney Edwards and HR Director Carla Roof.

Absent: Council Members Linda Tinker, Councilman Killian and Councilman King.

Call to Order: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

Prayer: Councilwoman Kovas led in prayer.

Administrative Report

Mrs. Jackson provided Council with an update on the Pavilion Project.

Request for permission to go forward with the mortar work and the remaining money that is in the One Cent Sales Tax to be used to fix the one side of the clock that is not working. Also, if money is left over, would like to paint the front doors of the entrance. Councilman Williams made a motion to allow the Administrator to make the additional repairs on City Hall with the \$10,250.00 that is remaining in the roofing project. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. With no objection, the motion carried.

Evergreen Cemetery Lawncare – Mrs. Jackson requested that Council extend the contract RFP, May through November and then pick up again in April. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to submit an RFP for the 8 months in the range of \$4500.00 to \$4800.00 per month. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Finance – no report

Human Resources – no report

Police Department – Councilwoman Douglas wanted to know if the increase in the cases has been increased in the department due to the COVID-19. Chief Williams indicated there has been an increase in cases. Ms. Kovas would like to let everyone know that Counselors are available just like they are when school is in. Chief Williams stated that his staff is wearing masks and taking all precautions necessary. Chief indicated the citizens are following the curfew.

Fire Department – Chief Jackson indicated that he has not seen any increases in incidences since the COVID 19

Public Works – no comments

Recreation – Mayor Stringfellow had questions concerning the planning of the summer programs and the pool. Mr. White has indicated that as soon as we get the ok, we are lined up to move forward regarding the fence, he is working on getting it fixed. The tennis courts have been cleaned and he has reached out to the company that surfaced the courts, they are no longer in business. Mayor Stringfellow questioned about the drainage. We currently have two companies that we are working with on drainage. Mr. White wanted to know about when we will be able to get started with the

summer program. Ms. Douglas forwarded an email from the state guidelines for reopening. Please get with Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Roof to advertise and when ready, move forward.

Mayor Stringfellow stated that the County is working very well with making sure everyone has the equipment needed.

Councilwoman Douglas had questions for Mr. Wood concerning the Financial report. 300-56106 is the line item. Discussion took place concerning the expenses for the Windows 10 update. Mrs. Jackson stated that the upgrade to Windows 10 was split between departments. However, Ms. Fair is working to see if there has been any miscoding. We currently have 3 payments that are IT payments. Mr. Wood indicated he will explain at the budget workshop with recommendations going forward.

Approval of February 2020 Departmental Reports Mayor Stringfellow made a motion to approve the Departmental Reports for February 2020 and March 2020. Kovas seconded the motion.

Committee Reports

Finance – Report included

Properties – no report

Public Safety – Mayor Stringfellow indicated the monthly report had typos and to send back to Mrs. Tobias.

Public Works – Mayor Stringfellow indicated the monthly report had typos and to send by to Mrs. Young.

Recreation – no report

Economic Development - no report

Councilman Williams had concerns with residents in the Ward 3 area with debris pickup. Mr. McBeth indicated that he has a truck down which has caused a delay. Councilman Williams stated that communication is key with the public. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas had questions concerning the mulch yard and could we have something in place concerning give away mulch and bring back at Thursday's meeting. Discussion took place concerning the replacement of the trees on the Columbia Street side of City Hall.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve as presented. The motion carried unanimously. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion took place concerning Committees meeting virtually.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve the Committee Reports as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

New Business – Emergency Business License Penalty Waive Ordinance – Mrs. Jackson has requested to waive business license penalty for late fees temporarily which will expire in 60 days, expiring June 22, 2020. Mayor Stringfellow read the Ordinance as presented. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Re-Scheduling of the May 25, 2020, Council meeting. The meeting was rescheduled to Tuesday, May 26, 2020.

Budget Workshop April 30, 2020 and May 11, 2020 – Council will meet on these dates to review the 2020-21 Fiscal Year Budget.

Executive Session – Councilwoman Reid made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:42 pm. for discussion of a Legal Matter – Commission and Contractual Matter – Employee Health Clinic. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to reconvene form Executive Session at 8:19 pm. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Legal Matter – Commission and Contractual Matter – Employee Health Clinic. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to move forward with Employee Health Clinic for the City of Chester Employees. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, Councilwoman Reid made a motion to adjourn. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

Chester City Council Special Called Meeting
Budget Workshop
May 11, 2020, 6:00 pm
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Annie M. Reid, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams, Angela Douglas, City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, HR Director/Municipal Clerk Carla Roof and Marc Wood.

ABSENT: Councilman Killian, Councilman King and Councilwoman Tinker.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Reid led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor and Council recited to Pledge of Allegiance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget Expenses - Administrator Stephanie Jackson - Administrator Jackson informed Council that at the last workshop, we had a shortfall of 273,000.00. Mr. Wood and Administrative Jackson went back to each Department Head and made cuts. A review of the cuts was presented to Council in the amount of \$227,388.62. Last week we discussed that eliminating these positions and not providing a salary increase that we would be able to balance the budget. After going back to the drawing board, some expenses had to be changed and the revenue coming from the County would be less as well. Mr. Wood will review with Council and make recommendations to Council.

Discussion took place concerning outsourcing Public Works. Mayor Stringfellow discussed the use of inmates for grass cutting and partnering with the County Recreation. Much discussion took place. Mr. McBeth joined the meeting and discussed options of contracting out Sanitation and CND. We would do backyard service, street sweeping and leaves. We would have half of the employees that we have now, and this would be a tremendous savings. An RFP would have to be submitted. Much discussion took place.

Administrator Jackson stated that several municipalities will be working the month by month and may have to adjust each month. Discussion took place concerning the pool. At this time the pool is closed, and we are trying to move forward with opening the pool.

Mr. Wood indicated the Governor indicated that public pools are on the list that can be re-opened on Monday, May 18, 2020.

Mrs. Jackson informed Council the bidding for Evergreen Cemetery will need to be approved and a request to have a special called meeting on Monday, May 18, 2020, to approve. The emergency ordinance for meeting electronically will expire and if Council would like, we can revise the ordinance on May 18, 2020.

Opening bids for grass cutting and to discuss the emergency meetings. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to meet on May 18, 2020 Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated that we can take fireworks and Christmas Lights from Hospitality Funds. This will be a savings. We have money in Way finding for signage, this will be a savings. Discussion took place concerning Hillarity and other community events. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas had questions concerning the one patrol position that is currently open. Chief Williams indicated he has adjusted to fill the gaps. We have 4 officers who are going to the academy and one patrol position that is currently open. So, we are filling the void of 5 people.

Councilwoman Susan Kovas discussed the Commercial Kitchen and people are wanting to rent. We need to get this fixed, the grease trap. Discussed having food trucks come into the City. Mr. McBeth indicated that he has quotes for both issues to fix the grease trap problems. Much discussion took place concerning the grease traps.

Mr. Wood stated that he is still currently doing a lot of cleanup work and will he will try to hold his fee down as much as he can but there is still a lot of work to be done. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas wanted to know where are we financially? Mr. Wood indicated that he is training the two ladies in the front office. We are still running into some issues with coding. We are still clearing up issues and hope to pull back and do some work one or two days a month. Councilman Williams previously requested that Mr. Wood provide Council with an update on do we have the correct personnel. Councilman Williams stated that we need to know. Mr. Wood stated that we have the right personnel, they have not received the right training needed. Mr. Wood stated that he feels we are moving in the right direction.

FY 2020-2021 Proposed Budget Revenue - Mr. Marc Wood, Internal Auditor/Finance Director – Mr. Wood provided Council with an update-on areas that have been adjusted. Taxes, business license, moving police fines 606 to general fund, residential disposal fees, Local government fund – not sure if there will be a decrease or remain the same. Local options sales tax has been trending down. A 10% across the board was put in the budget. Mr. Wood stated that it is important the upcoming budget be reviewed each month.

Mr. Wood proposed, to get the \$130,000.00 shortage, to do a budget reserve out of fund balance to get the budget balanced. If we end up outsourcing services, we can come back and amend the budget.

Mrs. Jackson informed Council that Chief Jackson is making the senior engineer as a paid position. 1 retire, 1 leaving today and the last 8 that left to Flint Hill. These are two changes that are being made. ‘

Discussion took place concerning the mulch. Mrs. Jackson stated that she will meet with Mr. Douglas to discuss this and will bring back at the May 18, 2020 meeting.

Council Budget - Discussion took place concerning the Annual Meeting and how we can save money with numbers with one from each Ward participating. Mrs. Jackson will bring back at the May meeting these costs. Discussion took place concerning other training line items.

Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas announced that Senator Fanning and MUSC, by the end of the month, we will have a drive-up testing at MUSC, free of charge.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Contractual Matter – Springsteen Mill Site

Councilwoman Reid motion to go into Executive Session at 8:17 pm for discussion of a Contractual Matter – Springsteen Mill Site. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Contractual Matter – Springsteen Mill Site. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to give the Administrator the authority to move forward with an appraisal on said property. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Council will meet on Monday, May 18, 6 pm

With no further business, Councilwoman Reid made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

Chester City Council Special Called Meeting
Budget Workshop
May 18, 2020, 6:00 pm
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Annie M. Reid, Susan Kovas, William Killian, Carlos Williams, Angela Douglas, City Administrator Stephanie Jackson, HR Director/Municipal Clerk Carla Roof and Marc Wood.

ABSENT: Councilman King and Councilwoman Tinker.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

PRAYER: Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor and Council recited to Pledge of Allegiance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Budget Review – Council

Administrator Jackson reviewed Council's budget as presented. Discussion took place concerning only one member from each Ward attending the Annual MASC Meeting. After discussion, the annual meeting attendance will remain as it currently is in the budget. Councilwoman Reid stated that she would like to see it changed to one person per Ward next year. Discussion took place concerning the Economic Incentive. Mrs. Jackson stated that she and Mr. Wood would like to list this item as, Economic Incentive/Grant Match. After much discussion, Council agreed to place \$15,000.00 for Economic Development and \$10,000.00 for Grant Match. Councilman Williams addressed his concerns with the shootings in the City and overtime in the Police Department. Also discussed the police officer's position that is currently open. Discussion took place concerning having police cars marked and more visible in the City. Mayor Stringfellow stated that we should look at the structure of the Police Department and see if there are areas that administrative officers can be moved to the street. Discussion took place concerning the review of other departments as well. Councilman Williams stated that it is the responsibility of the Council to make these decisions. Councilman Killian stated that Police Officers are always parked talking to each other and why are they not in the community? Mayor Stringfellow requested that Mrs. Jackson, Chief Williams and Mrs. Roof meet to discuss if there are officers that can be used for patrolling. Councilwoman Douglas asked who all do you have working patrol? Chief Williams stated that he as well as his other staff has currently been out patrolling. The police department has one vacancy and 4 officers currently taking courses for Class 1 certification. The four officers taking the classes are not allowed to be on the streets. Discussion took place concerning staggering the officers who are going to the academy. Chief Williams stated that he does have personnel within the building that is currently patrolling. Councilwoman Reid made a motion to approve Councils Budget as presented. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS:

Emergency Ordinance 2020-03 to Renew Ordinance 2020-01 and Authorize the City Administrator to Develop and Enact a Plan to Provide Electronic Commission and Committee Meetings as an Option during the COVID-19 Pandemic – Mayor Stringfellow read the Ordinance as presented. Discussion took place concerning moving back to normal meetings and/or ways that we can provide other options for meetings. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2020-03 as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas opposing. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated that she would like the record to reflect that re-opening of Government has started to take place and that also means Municipal Government.

Employee Medical Insurance Renewal Rates – Mrs. Jackson presented the insurance renewal rates with requesting the City absorb the 4.76% increase on medical insurance and to place a freeze on the dependent and spouse coverage at 50% and that all new hires will pay 75% of dependent and spouse coverage. Councilwoman Kovas approved as proposed. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Evergreen Cemetery Bid Award – Mrs. Jackson informed Council she received only one bid from R&R Lawn Care in the amount of \$4,500.00 per month. Mayor Pro Douglas made a motion to approve the bid from R&R Lawn Care in the amount of \$4,500.00 for 6 1/2 months. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Advertisement of Mulch – Mrs. Jackson informed Council that Mr. McBeth will transport the mulch from the mulch site to Public Works Site and allow residents of the City of Chester to access at no charge. Placing the mulch at the Public Works Site will allow control. Mrs. Jackson also informed Council that the Public Works Department will be launching the Beautification Program and will bring back details at the next meeting. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated that we must present on emergency ordinance to change the fee schedule for mulch.

Ward II – Postponement Election Date – The Election has been postponed to July 14, 2020.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Contractual Matter – Springsteen Mill Site – Councilwoman Reid made a motion to convene in Executive Session at 7:45 pm, for discussion of a Contractual Matter – Springsteen Mill Site. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 9:10 pm. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Contractual Matter – Springsteen Mill Site. No action was taken. The motion carried with Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas opposing the motion, due to not having an opportunity to read. The motion carried.

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to allow the City Administrator to provide a letter of intent concerning the Springsteen Mill Site. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas informed Council that COVID-19 testing will take place May 27, 29, 2020 and June 3, 5, 2020, at no charge in the backlot of City of Chester.

With no further business, Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to adjourn at 9:25 pm. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof

Chester City Council Meeting
May 26, 2020, 6:30 pm
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams, Annie M. Reid, Councilman Killian, Angela Douglas; City Attorney Edwards; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson and HR Director/CMC Carla Roof.

ABSENT: Councilwoman Linda Tinker and William King.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:38 pm.

PRAYER: Councilman Williams led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS FORUM: No one present to speak.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT:

Administrator Jackson informed Council that a request was received for a drive-up prayer service in the backlot. Discussion took place concerning making sure the social distancing is followed as required.

Reimbursements have been received from the MASC for PPE purchase.

Cares Act – EDA Funds for Drainage Projects. Mrs. Jackson informed Council that she has submitted funds for these projects.

City Hall Roofing – Mrs. Jackson informed Council the roofing project has been completed.

City Hall Lighting System for City Hall with a cost of \$16,00.00 Kovas motioned Douglas seconded the motion.

Pavilion Update -Mrs. Jackson provided Council with and update on this project.

Census – Mr. Earl Moore has indicated the numbers for the City is currently down and he would like to advertise to the citizens of the City of Chester by placing notices on the green rollout garbage bins. This will allow the opportunity to get the numbers up for the City of Chester. Discussion took place concerning paying for this advertising from the Public Works Budget. After discussion, Council agreed to use Council's budget for this funding and allow the administrator to pay \$648 .00 for Census advertisement. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve. Councilman Williams amended the motion to allow up to \$700.00. Councilwoman Kovas agreed to the amendment. The motion carried unanimously.

Opportunity Zone was launched today and has been sent to perspective vendors.

Housing Authority is in the process of doing their housing reviews. Mrs. Jackson has informed Council that a request has been made to the Housing Authority to provide Council with a monthly report.

Finance – no discussion

Fire – no discussion

Human Resources – no report

Police Department – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas had a question concerning the Criminal Investigation Report and questions concerning the attempted murder case noted on the monthly report. Chief Williams stated that was apparently an error on the report. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas publicly thanked the Police Department concerning the community outreach the department has been providing.

Public Works – no comments.

Parks and Recreation – Discussion took place concerning the challenges that Mr. White faces with summer programs and the pool. The Recreation Committee Meeting will be June 2, 2020. Councilwoman Reid will fill the vacancy of former Councilwoman Bagley until the election takes place.

Mayor Pro Tempore talked with Council concerning grants for the Recreation Department for upgrades at Wylie Park. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas would like for the Committee to work with Mr. White on obtaining funding. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to allow Mr. White to pursue the Duke Energy Nature Cycle Grant. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. There is no match on this grant. The motion carried.

Mayor Stringfellow requested an update on the fencing. Mr. White stated that quotes have been provided to Mrs. Jackson. Mrs. Jackson discussed the \$75,000.00 project. Due to the COVID-19, this has been postponed. Discussion took place indicating the pool cannot open without the fence being installed. The fencing should have already been placed. Mrs. Jackson indicated that she previously passed this project over to the Recreation Director and she is ready to move forward. Council previously voted to place the swings and to install the fencing at Wylie Pool. Mr. White informed Council that he has provided a rough draft to Mrs. Jackson and she has not gotten back with him. Mrs. Jackson stated that she will take the ball and run with it and get the projects done. Mayor Stringfellow stated this project needs to be handled. Mrs. Jackson stated that she is ready to go and will have a report ready for the Recreation Committee. Much discussion took place concerning the fencing at Wylie Pool. Please get the fence up and place one or two swings at the park. This will show the public that this Council is moving forward. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas, stated for the record, Mr. White came to her and the Recreation Committee. Mrs. Jackson stated for the record, she does have estimates and can move forward.

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Public Safety Committee – Councilwoman Kovas commended Chief Jackson and Chief Williams on working through this Pandemic. Chief Jackson has lost 7 Firemen in 7 months. Commended the Police for the community involvement during the Pandemic. The Police department is currently down five staff members. Discussed the frozen Patrol Position and if there is any opportunity to add this position back. Chief Williams informed Council that officers are not working at Wal-Mart any longer. Discussion took place concerning the cost of the radio upgrades. No action was taken.

Public Works – no comments

Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve as presented. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

COMMISSION REPORTS: No Commission reports submitted.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Rental Registry Ordinance Draft – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to approve 2020-05 as presented. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. After discussion, this will be enforced by the Public Works Director. Mayor Stringfellow and Councilwoman Reid addressed concerns with Public Works enforcing this ordinance. Discussion took place concerning adding Commercial Properties in the ordinance. Much discussion took place. The motion carried with Mayor Stringfellow and Councilman Killian opposing.

Council Compensation Policy – Councilman Williams addressed with Council the attendance of Council Members with members of Council. Councilman Williams indicated that Council currently meets once a month and members need to attend. If Council does not come to meetings, we need to be held accountable, we are being paid to do this job and we need to attend. A policy needs to be implemented concerning attending meetings. Attorney Edwards stated that she will investigate this and bring back to Council.

Commission Appointments - Mayor Stringfellow made a motion to reappoint Diane Simpson, Tabatha Strothers and Wyonia Hinton to the Planning Commission to serve a 4-year term, expiring June 2023. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried. Council deferred all other appointments to the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Summer Feeding Service Program - Anita Springs was unable to be present. Mrs. Jackson read a report provided by Mrs. Springs. Mayor Stringfellow addressed using DJJ candidates with Summer Feeding Program. Discussion took place concerning a separate policy for DJJ from what we currently have in place. Mrs. Jackson and Attorney Edwards will review this and bring back to Council. Mayor Stringfellow also informed Council that Mrs. Springs addressed her concerns with requiring SFSP paying utilities when others do not. Currently, there is not money available for the SFSP for utilities. Mrs.

Jackson informed Council that Mrs. Springs indicated as of this year, she will be able to place utilities in the SFSP budget. Mrs. Jackson stated that she is not aware of anyone in the building every day. SFSP is permitted to assume some of the cost for utilities and Mrs. Springs was aware of this. Requested that the Properties Committee and Mrs. Jackson meet with Mrs. Springs to discuss her concerns.

The Properties Committee will meet to discuss and review the current contract. SFSP stated that a recommendation came from Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas that they receive a credit card for their purchases. Mrs. Jackson informed Council that we do have a credit card policy in place. Much discussion took place. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas stated that she did not tell Mrs. Springs that she needed her own credit card. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas informed Council that our Community Partners have stepped up to help with PPE supplies. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas provided Council with information concerning free COVID-19 testing. Public Employees will be tested between 9 and 10 am. May 27, 29, June 3 and 5, 2020. A special thanks to all who have volunteered to make this a successful event.

First Reading of Ordinance 2020-04 – Temporally Suspend Compost and Mulching Fee for City Residents. Mayor Stringfellow read as presented. Councilwoman Reid motion to approve as presented. Councilman Williams seconded the motion. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas requested to change “Free of charge” to “No charge”. The motion carried with Douglas stated the ordinance indicate at no additional charge.

Executive Session

Mayor Stringfellow stated that Council would convene in Executive Session for discussion of a Contractual Matter – Finance Consulting – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas, Personnel matter – Employee Survey – Attorney Winters, Personnel Matter – Evaluation – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas, Legal Advice regarding Administrative Department. Councilwoman Reid made a motion to convene in Executive Session at 9:41 pm. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilwoman Reid made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Contractual Matter – Finance Consulting – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas, Personnel matter – Employee Survey – Attorney Winters, Personnel Matter – Evaluation – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas, Legal Advice regarding Administrative Department. No action was taken.

With no further business Councilwoman Reid made a motion to adjourn at 10:32 pm. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof



**CHESTER CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL CALLED MEETING
MONDAY, JUNE 8, 2020**

VIRTUAL WEBINAR LINK:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83029739435>

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 PM

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

ABSENT: Council Members Linda Tinker and William King; and HR Director Carla Roof.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order at 7:35 PM by Mayor Wanda Stringfellow. Roll call, quorum established.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Kovas led Council in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Stringfellow led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Stringfellow asked Council if there were no objections, she would like to add to the agenda the Juneteenth Proclamation. The Juneteenth Proclamation was added to the agenda.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Motion made by Councilwoman Kovas to enter into Executive Session to discuss Legal Advice – Procurement. Motion seconded by Councilman Killian. Council voted unanimously to enter into Executive Session for the discussion of Legal Advice - Procurement. Council entered into Executive Session at 7:39 PM.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tempo Douglas to move out of Executive Session at 8:25 PM. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Kovas. Council voted unanimously to move out of Executive Session.

Mayor Stringfellow stated that no action was taken in Executive Session. Mrs. Jackson stated that Attorney Edwards joined Council in Executive Session.

Mayor Stringfellow read to Council the Juneteenth Proclamation.

Motion by Mayor Pro Tempo Douglas to accept Juneteenth Proclamation. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Reid. Motion roll call, Council voted unanimously to accept the reading of Juneteenth Proclamation.

Motion by Mayor Stringfellow to suspend contract with R & R Lawn and Landscape, LLC. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Reid. Motion roll call, Council voted unanimously to suspend contract with R & R Lawn and Landscape, LLC.

There being no further business, motion to adjourn by Mayor Pro Tempo Douglas. Motion seconded by Councilwoman Kovas. Council voted unanimously to adjourn meeting. Council meeting adjourned at 8:33 PM.

Respectfully submitted by,

Sylvia Young

Chester City Council Special Called Meeting
June 29, 2020, 6:30 pm
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Susan Kovas, William Killian, Carlos Williams, Annie Reid and Angela Douglas; City Administrator Stephanie Jackson and HR Director/CMC Carla Roof.

ABSENT: City Attorney Edwards; Councilwoman Tinker and Councilman King.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Stringfellow called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRAYER: Councilman Williams led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Second Reading Ordinance 2020-05 Rental Housing Regulations – Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion carried with Kovas, Williams, Reid and Douglas approving. Mayor Stringfellow and Councilman Killian opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Second Reading Ordinance 2020-06 Fiscal Year 2020-2020 Fiscal Year Budget – Councilwoman Reid made a motion to approve as presented. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried with Reid, Killian, Stringfellow and Kovas in favor of the motion. Williams and Douglas opposed the motion. The motion carried.

Second Reading 2020-07 – Establish a Citizens Review Board – Councilman Williams made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried with no vote from Councilwoman Reid, due to losing connection during the vote.

Second Reading Ordinance 2020-08 - Sale of Certain Equipment Belonging to the City of Chester. Councilwoman Reid made a motion to approve as presented. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Second Reading 2020-10 - Name June 19th as a Paid Holiday for City of Chester – Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas made a motion to approve as presented. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Community Organizers' Request for Community Events During Pandemic – Mrs. Jackson informed Council of two Event Applications received, Drive up Movies and Hog on the Hill. After discussion, Mayor Stringfellow made a motion not to permit the Hog on the Hill to take place due to the current Pandemic and the passing of an Emergency Ordinance which does not allow events in the City of Chester during the Pandemic. Councilwoman Kovas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

Emergency Ordinance 2020-11 – Requiring Face Masks to be Worn in Public during COVID-19 Pandemic. Mayor Stringfellow read the Ordinance as presented. Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. Discussion took place concerning the consequences. After much discussion, Council agreed to a \$25 fee for violators. Council requested that Mrs. Jackson send a letter to all business informing them of the approved Ordinance requirements. The enforcement will be extended a week in order to communicate to the public, local newspaper and social media. Discussion took place concerning adding verbiage to the public concerning age limits and medical conditions exempting from wearing masks and exempt group. After much discussion, the motion carried with Councilman Killian and Councilman Williams opposing.

City of Chester Fire District Contact Approval – The contract provided by Fire Chief was incorrect. Mrs. Jackson provided the correct contract on the screen for Council to review. Mayor Stringfellow read the contract as resubmitted. Mayor Stringfellow made a motion to approve as presented. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Julia Beatty - USC - The month of July will be designated for elementary age children who can participate in activities with their families. This will be a contest among participants and winners will be selected and announced. A total of 500 packages will be delivered to the Parks and Recreation Department and the program will begin in July. This will be a great opportunity for the children in our City.

Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas informed Council that MUSC will be providing free COVID -19 testing on June 30th and July 2nd at Great Falls Elementary School, Dearborn Street, Great Falls, 10 am to 3 pm.

Councilman Williams indicated that he has received a lot of calls and texts since the last meeting and he wanted to state for the record that not voting on previous items was to allow us time to review items. A Public Safety Committee Meeting has been scheduled for June 30, 2020 at 3 pm, and the Committee will review the previous items of concern.

With no further discussion, Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to adjourn at 7:52 pm. Mayor Pro Tempore Douglas seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof