

Chester City Council Meeting  
December 9, 2013, 6:30 pm  
Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow, Council Members Betty Bagley, Odell Williams, Susan Kovas, King D. Thompson, William Killian, George Caldwell, Annie M. Reid; City Administrator Sandi Worthy; Human Resources Director Carla Roof; City Attorney April P. Counterman.

ABSENT: Linda Tinker

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tempore Reid called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm.

PRAYER: Councilwoman Bagley led in prayer.

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

CITIZENS FORUM: Eddie Nunnery provided a letter to City Council that was read by Councilwoman Bagley in the absence of Mr. Nunnery, 124 York Street, and Greg Winters at 151 York Street. Mr. Nunnery's letter addressed Council concerning the closing of York Street on Halloween evening. The York Street residents were not notified of the street closing and when residents tried to get beyond the barricades to get to their homes, they was told they could not. Mr. Nunnery requested a copy of the permit from SCDOT requesting the blocking of York Street.

Frank Nash, Firefighter and Youth Minister in Training. Mr. Nash talked to Council concerning his concerns with curfew and dress code ordinances. Mr. Nash requested that Council enforce these codes.

David Peay addressed Council concerning a focal point, a five year plan called Chester 20/20. I will work with the Mayor and Mrs. Worthy and follow up with Council later.

Mayor Stringfellow took over the meeting.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to approve the minutes of the 10-14-13, 10-28-13 and 11-25-13, as presented. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Commission Appointments – Mayor Stringfellow requested that Council come prepared at the next scheduled meeting to appoint members to the open commission vacancies.

ADMINISTRATOR REPORT:

We currently have a curfew ordinance but do not have a dress code under disorderly conduct. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid stated the problem with the curfew ordinance, you have to put the teens in the presence of an adult and we do not have facilities to house them. We are looking at enhancing this ordinance. Mr. Nash stated that other states have ordinances in place to charge the adult in the amount of 25.00. Chief Williams stated that we have to release the juvenile with an adult.

Councilman Caldwell asked to be excused at 6:50 pm, from the meeting due to a matter with his mother.

Mrs. Worthy requested to present a vehicle rotation schedule to Council.

With no objection, Mayor Stringfellow added Item 4 under New Business, take home policy; Item 5 vehicle rotation list; Item 6 Committee Meeting Schedule.

NEW BUSINESS Preliminary Audit - Rebecca Brendle addressed council concerning the preliminary audit which has a finding on page 50. Mrs. Brendle reviewed with Council the preliminary review. Grant funds were not recorded on the City's financial statements.

Employee Safety Incentive – Mrs. Roof proposed to Council that a Safety Incentive be awarded to every full time and part time employee in the amount of \$400.00 for full time and \$200.00 for part time. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made the motion to approve \$400.00 for full time and \$200.00 for part time Safety Incentive to employees. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Filming in the City – Mrs. Worthy informed Council she received a request for filming on December 11 & 12, between the hours of 8-10 am and at a residence on Brawley Street and the streets will not need to be blocked. The filming will take place in front of Gene's. Mrs. Counterman indicated we are required to get an agreement if street closing takes place. Mrs. Worthy indicated there would not be street closing. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to allow filming crew to film in front of Gene's Restaurant. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Take Home Vehicle Policy – Police vehicle take home policy currently allows 5 miles from city. Proposing to re-write the policy and will bring back to Council for a vote. Councilman Thompson made a motion to allow the Administrator, Fire Chief and Chief Williams to re-write the take home vehicle policy for police and fire. Councilman Williams opposed the motion. The motion carried.

VEHICLE ROTATION – Mrs. Worthy provided Council with a proposed vehicle rotation schedule. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid motion to move forward with the leasing with the vehicles in police department as presented for \$163,888.00. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. Tahoe 2 detectives, Tahoe 2 road patrols, 1 Impala marked and 1 Impala not marked. The money will be budgeted in the upcoming budget which will be July 2014. It does not include the marking of the vehicles. The first payment will need to be allocated. The motion carried unanimously.

Committee Meeting Schedule – Council received as presented and was asked to adhere to schedule.

Closing of York Street – Chief Williams indicated that he was approached that the streets need to be blocked. Mayor Stringfellow indicated we need to require a permit be received and the person requesting they would need to get the residents to sign a petition that they agree with the blocking of the street. Councilman Williams indicated you cannot close any state maintained street without the states permission. Councilwoman Bagley stated this was done two years; you must get permission from

the SCDOT to close the street. Mr. Nunnery indicated he was not allowed to enter into his residence. After much discussion, Mayor Stringfellow stated that we have 10 months to get this rectified.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to go into Executive for discussion of a Personnel Matter – Administrative Department. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. Council convened in Executive Session at 8 pm. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:40 pm. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. Mayor Stringfellow stated while in Executive Session, Council discussed a Personnel Matter in the Administrative Department. No action was taken.

Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to offer a conditional offer of hire to Angela Killian for the position of Municipal Judge. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilman Williams opposing the motion.

With no further business, Mayor Pro Tempore Reid motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof