

**Chester City Council Meeting**

**February 23, 2015**

**Minutes**

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Y. Stringfellow; Council Members Ike McBrayer, Betty Bagley, Susan Kovas, King Thompson, William Killian, Annie M. Reid, George Caldwell, Linda Tinker; City Administrator Sandi Worthy, City Attorney Megan Gaston; Human Resources Director Carla Roof.

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

PRAYER: Councilman Ike McBrayer led in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLIGANCE: Mayor and Council recited the Pledge of Allegiance

Citizens Forum: No one present to speak.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Administrative – CDDA sent a letter of thanks for the donation for Hog on the Hill.

Finance – no report

Fire – No report

Human Resources – no report

Police Department – no report

Public Works – no report

Recreation – no report

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Public Safety – no report

Recreation – no report

City Attorney Gaston will research the other parks and names and will bring back to council.

Economic Development – Mr. McBrayer stated that he would like to serve on this committee.

CDDA – Chiefs reception April 11, 2015, at the Memorial Building. There will be a book signing and many other activities planned.

Beautification Committee – no report

Properties Committee – Committee met but no minutes.

Finance – Committee met today and Mrs. Worthy will provide an update. We are currently at 99% with tax collections. Our auditors are currently working on our audit.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to accept reports as information. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Second Reading 2015 -01 Drinking Alcoholic Beverages – Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve second reading as read. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Second Reading Ordinance – 2015-02 Procurement Policy – Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve the second reading as read. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid seconded the motion. After discussion, the motion carried with Stringfellow opposing due to wording of ordinance.

Second Reading Ordinance – 2015-03 Local Hospitality Tax – Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve second reading as read. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid seconded the motion. Councilwoman Tinker indicated that she voted against this and she does not know who is going to police this tax. Mrs. Worthy indicated that our Finance Department would handle this process. Mrs. Worthy also indicated if she has to manage it, she would. Discussion took place concerning caterers. Mrs. Worthy stated that caterers would pay a hospitality tax. This tax will be added on any prepared food or beverages. The motion carried with Tinker opposing.

Second Reading Ordinance – 2015-04 Annexation - Councilman Thompson made a motion to approve second reading as read. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS - Council Committee – Mayor Stringfellow appointed Mr. McBayer to serve on the Properties Committee and Economic Development Committee to fill the vacancy of Councilman Williams.

Councilman Killian stated that we have to come up with something for kids to do; we have to get them off the streets. These kids in Chester do not have anything to do. Mayor stated that we have done things in the past for kids such as a pool party, movie in the park, etc. After discussion, Councilman Killian stated that we have to put our differences aside when it comes to children; we have to work together. Mr. White is currently searching for grants for the department.

Black History Month – Mayor Stringfellow read the proclamation as presented. Councilman Thompson motion to accept as presented. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilman Killian stated that he would like to see the softball fields at the stadium be named after Mr. Jeff Brown. Some of our parks are named after people that I do not even know Councilman Killian stated. Mrs. Worthy indicated the softball fields would be a part of the renovations. After much discussion, Councilman Killian made a motion to that the fields on the other side of the Joe Collins Stadium named the “Jeff D. Brown Sports Complex”. The motion carried with Councilman McBayer opposing.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Stringfellow stated that Council would convene in Executive Session for discussion of Contractual Matters – Administrative Department. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to go into Executive Session at 7:20 pm. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilman Caldwell opposing.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 7:45 pm. While in Executive Session, Council discussed Contractual Matters – Administrative Department. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

With no further business, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to adjourn at 8 p.m. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof