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CHESTER CITY COUNCIL MEETING

COUNCIL CHAMBERS – CITY HALL

October 12, 2015

Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor Pro-Tempore Betty Bagley; Council Members, Angela Douglas, William Killian, Susan Kovas, Ike McBrayer, Annie M. Reid, Linda Tinker and Carlos Williams; City Administrator, Sandi Worthy; City Attorney, Megan Gaston; and Payroll Specialist, Sylvia Young.

ABSENT: Human Resources Director, Carla Roof and Mayor George Caldwell

CALLED TO ORDER: Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley called Council meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PRAYER: Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley led Council in prayer.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley and Council led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITIZENS FORUM:

Raymond Carter greeted Council and informed them that the truth and destruction in Chester will be revealed. He thanked Council for allowing him to speak as he walked away from podium.

Councilman McBrayer led Council into a brief discussion about business owners and citizens concerns about movie filming crew. Mrs. Worthy informed Council that businesses will be compensated by Outcast Movie Entertainment for closings of their businesses due to filming. She advised Council to let her know of any merchants that are not being compensated accordingly.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: September 14, 2015, September 28, 2015 and October 6, 2015 – After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve minutes with any necessary corrections. Councilman Kovas second motion. Motion carried with none opposing.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT: No report

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Commission Appointment – No Commission Appointments. Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley request to put Commission Appointment on agenda for next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

Final Audit Report – Rebecca Brendle, Camp, Moring and Brendle, LLC – Rebecca Brendle informed Council that audit findings were mailed to Joshua McNeil, Finance Director. Mr. McNeil was not available at meeting due to death in family. Rebecca Brendle presented a detailed outline on city audit findings to Council. Councilwoman Tinker asked Ms. Brendle about current audit findings. Ms. Brendle informed Council that current audit is not ready yet. After a brief discussion, Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley asked Ms. Brendle to return to Council after they review audit findings to answer any questions and/or concerns Council may have since copy of audit report was in Mr. McNeil's office and Council did not have a copy to review. Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley thanked Ms. Brendle for attending meeting. Also, she stated that that it would be necessary for her to return at the next meeting. After a continued brief discussion, Mrs. Worthy recommended to Council the need for a motion to be made to make a decision to choose Auditor. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion that the city stays with Moring and Brendle, LLC auditors for current year 2014-2015. Councilman McBrayer second motion. Motion carried with Council Members Angela Douglas and William Killian opposing.

Evergreen Cemetery Tour - Liz Anderson – Liz Anderson did not attend meeting as scheduled; however, Mrs. Worthy informed Council that Liz Anderson wanted Council's approval to have Evergreen Cemetery tours. Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley suggested that tours only be in the day time to prevent injuries due to road conditions.

Hospitality Tax Funds Request – CDDA - Karen Hutto – Ms. Hutto expressed Chester Downtown Development Association (CDDA) concerns about the cost of \$5,100 for 15 police officers for 8 hours during Hillarity Festival. Also, CDDA will be charged with city clean-up cost after the festival. She informed Council that expenses are creating a hardship on CDDA. After a brief discussion, Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley opened the floor for a motion. Councilwoman Douglas made a motion that the city helps CDDA with \$5,100 cost by taking monies from Hospitality Tax Fund. Councilman Killian second motion. Motion carried with none opposing.

Traffic Light – Saluda and Walnut Street – Councilman McBrayer made a motion to discuss the removal of street light on Saluda and Walnut Street. Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley seconded motion. Motion passed for discussion with none opposing. After a brief discussion, Councilman McBrayer made a motion to remove street light on Saluda and Walnut Street. Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley seconded motion. Council Members Annie Reid, Ike McBrayer and Betty Bagley voted in favor of motion. Motion failed with Council Members Angela Douglas, William Killian, Carlos Williams, Susan Kovas and Linda Tinker opposing motion.

Parking Signs Downtown – Mrs. Worthy – Mrs. Worthy requested that Council approve the extending of sign hours from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. and allow overnight parking. After a brief discussion, Councilwoman Reid made a motion to extend 2 hour parking signs to 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Monday thru Friday. Councilwoman Tinker second motion. Motion carried with Council Member Angela Douglas opposing.

Proclamation – Breast Cancer Awareness – Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley read Breast Cancer Awareness Proclamation to Council. Council Member Tinker made motion to accept Breast Cancer Awareness Proclamation. Councilwoman Douglas second motion. Motion passed with none opposing.

Tree Removal Request and Trimming – Mayor Pro-Tempore Bagley stated that Ms. Nancy Anderson had requested a removal of a tree at 139-141 Main Street at her expense and she would replace with a Savanna Holly. After a brief discussion, Mrs. Worthy recommended that Council take a look at plan for tree removal and trimming for the end of October. She expressed that tree uniformity is important for city image.

With no further discussion, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to adjourn meeting. Councilman Williams second motion. Motion carried with none opposing. Council meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Sincerely,

Sylvia Young

Payroll Specialist