

Chester City Council Special Called Meeting

November 16, 2015

Minutes

PRESENT: Mayor George W. Caldwell; Council Members Linda Tinker, Susan Kovas, Carlos Williams, Annie M. Reid, Betty B. Bagley, Angela Douglas, Ike McBrayer; City Administrator Sandi Worthy, Human Resources Director Carla Roof, City Attorney Megan Gaston.

ABSENT: Councilman William Killian.

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

PRAYER: Councilwoman Reid led in prayer.

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

NEW BUSINESS: Councilman Williams presented to Council to make a name change to the Brooklyn Park to LaDarius Wylie Park of Brooklyn. Councilman Williams made a motion to change the name. Councilman McBrayer seconded the motion. Palmetto State Armory has graciously agreed to fund the upgrades in the park. After much discussion, the motion carried unanimously. A representative from Palmetto State Armory spoke to Council stating they started about 8 years ago. We are here to be of assistance, we have money, labor and equipment.

Jeff Shacker, Field Services Manager Municipal Association of SC – Mr. Shacker spoke to Council concerning the Council form of government and the current ordinances. Council is responsible and normally delegates the authority to a manager or city administrator. I would strongly encourage you to revisit the ordinance and to follow your current ordinance that defines the role of the staff. If Council does not agree with the current ordinance, Council needs to revisit the ordinance. Discussed with Council that everyone stays in his or her lane, work as a team player. You have a game plan, follow the game plan, if you have any issues with the current ordinance and if you want to change it, revisit it. Mr. Shacker was open for questions. Councilwoman Tinker stated that she is only a policy maker. There is policy and administration, the Council makes the policy. Mr. Shaker stated the administration side varies from city to city. The highest and best use of Council, is you as a body not one member, you act as a body. Future thinking, broad thinking, etc. If Council is not doing this, who is? When you have a day- to- day staff, allow them to do the jobs. What is the best way to evaluate the performance of an administrator? Strategic Leadership is the key to a successful strategic plan with goals, objectives and tasks. How successful are we as a council, the staff? I am not sure how you hold the administrator accountable if you do not have this plan.

Executive Session – Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:05 p.m. for discussion of Personnel Matters – Police Department, Public Works Department and Administrative Department. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mayor Caldwell opposing.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:20 pm. Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley seconded the motion. While in Executive Session, Council discussed Personnel Matters – Police Department, Public Works Department and Administrative Department. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to offer the position of Police Chief to Tammy Levister. Councilman McBrayer seconded the motion. Much discussion took place. All in favor of the motion were Tinker, Reid, Caldwell, Kovas, Bagley, Williams and McBrayer. All opposed were Douglas. The motion carried.

With no further business, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to adjourn at 8::25 pm. Councilman McBrayer seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof