

Chester City Council Meeting
Budget Workshop 5:30 pm
May 23, 2016

Call to Order Budget Hearing – Mayor Caldwell called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor George Caldwell, Council Members Ike McBrayer, Betty Bagley, Carlos Williams, Linda Tinker and Susan Kovas, Angela Douglas, William Killian, City Administrator Sandi Worthy and Human Resources Director Carla Roof; City Attorney Megan Gaston

Mrs. Worthy provided a proposed budget for Council's review \$6,439,250. for, 3% general salary increase and 5% for public works employees.

Councilwoman Douglas requested the website be changed to reflect that facilities fall under Administrative and not a separate facilities department. Public Works should be focusing on garbage collection and storm water. Much discussion took place. Mrs. Worthy informed Council that currently David Ford and Jack McGillis are serving as Auto Mechanics for the city. Since we have two mechanics, we should not be out sourcing the mechanic work. Fire Trucks due to the level of the requirements, certification, etc., are still being outsourced. Councilwoman Douglas requested a report on what percentage of work is being outsourced out. Councilwoman Tinker stated that she has received nothing but great reviews on a job well done with the downtown, streets, etc. Discussion took place concerning the discretionary funds; do we need this since we have hospitality tax? Discussion took place concerning the process for applying for Hospitality Tax. We need request that applicants apply for hospitality tax. We need documentation of who applies and where the money is being spent. We need structure as to how we award money requested. This will give us control as to whom we give money to and how they are spending. Much discussion took place, no action was taken.

Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley made a motion to adjourn at 6:30 pm Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Council Meeting Call to order – Mayor Caldwell called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm.

Prayer-Councilman Killian led in prayer.

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

Citizens Forum – Catina Feaster requested a monetary donation for a Summer Enrichment Camp, ages 5-17 that she is doing at the SL Finley Center. Information was provided for Council's Review.

Michael Halsey – Hospitality Grant Application Grant Application – 2016 Greek Festival in the amount of 4,213.20. This festival will charge \$1.00 for adults and anyone that participates in the job fair will get in free. Councilman Williams commended Mr. Halsey for all that he does for the city, we need to support his project. Mr. Halsey will work with Mrs. Worthy on revising the application.

Departmental Reports

Administrative – Mrs. Worthy requested that Mrs. Tobias provide an update for Council concerning her newly added duties concerning code enforcement. Mr. Douglas provided a listing to Mrs. Tobias, then Mrs. Tobias sends a letter to the citizens and quotes the ordinance, they have 15 days to correct. We are having problems with finding property owner who lives out of town. If the property owner does not live at the residence, we will go through the court system. Requesting that in the event they do not receive the notice or refuse notice, they will be charged through setoff depot. We currently have 17 cases.

Finance – Finance Committee has been scheduled to meet Wednesday, June 1, 2016, at 2 pm. Council requested to have another budget workshop. June 6, 2016, Budget workshop beginning at 5:30 pm.

Fire – no comments

Human Resources – no comments

Police – discussion took place concerning trucks coming through the city. SCDOT will not create a Truck Route. Please include in the Police Monthly report how many trucks are stopped and fined for coming into the City.

Public Works – no comments

Recreation – Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley stated the Recreation Building sure does look good.

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

COMMISSION REPORTS

Mrs. Worthy informed Council the Evergreen Cemetery and Historic Preservation met and she is working on minutes. Planning Commission met and Robbie Moody who provided an update on the comprehensive plan. Zoning Board of Appeals, Housing Authority and Recreation met but did not have a quorum and were unable to conduct business.

Unfinished Business

Commission Appointments – Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley motion to appoint Greg Winters to HPC. Councilman McBrayer seconded the motion. The motion carried.

City Logo – Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley made a motion to resend the motion to have the cannon as the logo. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried with Councilwoman Kovas opposed the motion.

Councilman McBrayer made a motion to approve the blue and green logo. Councilwoman Douglas stated that she would like to have minor adjustments to the proposed logo. Councilwoman Tinker

stated that we should keep the citizens informed. Mayor Pro Tempore seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance 2016-07 set off Debt Collection Act – Mayor Caldwell read the title of the proposed ordinance. Mrs. Worthy requested that Attorney Gaston review and get back with Council.

New Business

Proclamation – Peace Officers Memorial Day and Police Week – Mayor Caldwell read the proclamation as presented. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve as presented. Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

First Reading Ordinance Title Only 2016-06 Fiscal Year Budget Ordinance 2016-7 – Councilwoman Reid read as presented. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve first reading as presented. Councilman McBrayer seconded the motion. The motion carried. A Public Hearing will be held on June 13, 2016.

Second Reading Ordinance 2016 01, Movie Ordinance – Councilwoman Kovas made a motion to approve the second reading of Ordinance 2016-01, Movie Ordinance as read. Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

East Lacy Street Shoulder Rail – Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley addressed concerns with the shoulder rail on East Lacy Street. Mrs. Worthy has contacted SCDOT and nothing has been done. Council needs to take action and have a guardrail placed; this is very dangerous and needs to be fixed. Mrs. Worthy stated that SCDOT indicated they would follow up with railroads and they will be responsible to place a guardrail. Councilman McBrayer stated that he will follow up with SCDOT right of way and will get with Mrs. Worthy.

Fire District Approval – Mayor Caldwell read as presented. Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve as presented. Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Clinton Global Initiative – Councilwoman Mrs. Douglas updated Council concerning her travel to Atlanta. Since she was personally invited, there is no entry fee, which is \$1200.00. The fee will be waived because former President Clinton invited Councilwoman Douglas. Only one representative from each agency can attend. The per diem will be \$1209.58. Councilwoman Tinker stated this was a wonderful opportunity and stated the county should participate in funding. Councilwoman Douglas stated she is going as a City Councilmember, representing the City of Chester. This will be an opportunity to learn, there will be other governments there as well as Mayor's. This opportunity does not come often and easy. This could be a three-year commitment, which will move to different areas. After much discussion, Councilwoman Reid made a motion to fund the trip for Councilwoman Douglas from the travel line item. Councilman Killian seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Executive Session - Councilman McBrayer made a motion to go into Executive Session at 8:05 pm for discussion of a Personnel Matter – Administrative Department – Evaluation. Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. The motion carried with Mayor Caldwell opposing.

Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:30 pm. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. While in Executive Session, Council discussed a Personnel Matter in the Administrative Department, Evaluation. No action taken.

With no further business, Councilwoman Douglas made a motion to adjourn at 8:30 pm. Mayor Pro Tempore Bagley seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof