

Chester City Council Meeting
Minutes
November 12, 2012

PRESENT: Mayor Wanda Stringfellow, Council Members; Annie Reid, George Caldwell, King Thompson, Susan Kovas, Betty Bagley, Linda Tinker, Odell Williams, City Attorney April Counterman and Carla Roof, Human Resource Director.

ABSENT: Councilman William Killian

CITIZENS FORUM: Mrs. Kellerhals updated Council concerning the Christmas Parade, November 30, 2012, at 4:00 pm and the Tree Lighting Ceremony will follow at 6:30 pm.

Administrative Report: Mayor Stringfellow publicly congratulated Alex Underwood and stated the City of Chester looks forward to working with Sheriff Underwood and his staff.

Mayor Pro Tempore Reid read a letter addressed to Donnie Wade, Chester County Auditor, from Barbara Swierszcz requesting to deed over the following properties currently held by the Chester County Forfeit Land Commission to the City of Chester; Map 201-11-05-006, 108 Oakland Avenue and 201-11-05-007, 110 Oakland Avenue. Councilwoman Reid made a motion to request these properties to be deeded to the City of Chester. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Approval of Minutes: Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to approve the minutes of the 10-8-12, 10-17-12, and 10-22-12 as presented. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Grazier Rhea – Provided Council with an update on the East Chester Project. The application was submitted in March 2011. The project is called the East Chester Project Phase II. The estimated cost will be 171,000.00. The SCDOT will probably want the city to make the drainage issues. The Hydrology study will be submitted to the state this week. Councilman Caldwell had questions concerning the facades in East Chester. Mrs. Rhea indicated that she is afraid the state will not do the facades. They want to address infrastructure first, phase III will include sewer lines. Mayor Stringfellow stated to the East Chester Residence not to give up. Mrs. Rhea informed Council the Pinckney Street project is completed and we need to have a final public hearing on that project.

NEW BUSINESS: Ordinance 2012-05 Amending the Business License Ordinance Provisions for Insurance Companies. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid read the ordinance as presented. Attorney Counterman explained the ordinance. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to approve the first reading of Ordinance 2012-05, as presented. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore Reid read the agreement concerning the Business License Ordinance Provisions for Insurance Companies as presented. Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to approve as read. Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to add an item to the agenda. No objection was made.

Holiday Schedule – Mayor Pro Tempore Reid made a motion to cancel the second meeting in November and December Councilman Thompson seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

The public safety Committee met last week and the committee proposed that Chief Williams be given a salary increase in the amount that was left over from the funds used to increase other employees in the police department Councilwoman Reid seconded the motion. After much discussion, this position will have to be approved to be put in the budget for next year. The position that the funds were used will not be filled this year. The motion carried with Councilman Williams opposing the motion.

Mayor Pro Tempore Reid informed Council the credit cards are in place and are working.

Mayor Stringfellow made a motion to go into Executive Session for discussion of Personnel Matters, Administrative, Finance, and Recreation Department. Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to go into Executive Session, Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried with Caldwell opposing. 7:30 pm

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to reconvene from Executive Session at 8:05 pm. Councilwoman Tinker seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Stringfellow stated while in Executive Session, Council discussed Personnel Matters, Administrative, Finance, and Recreation Department. No action was taken.

Councilwoman Bagley made a motion to post the position of City Administrator for 30 days. Councilman Williams seconded the motion with Caldwell opposed the motion. The motion carried.

With no further business, Councilwoman Tinker made a motion to adjourn. Councilwoman Bagley seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:45 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carla Roof, CMC